



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
Ministry of Justice

**Judicial Forum: Relations between Ministry of Justice and Judiciary
Bled, 7 and 8 March 2002**

MACEDONIA
(Unofficial translation)

Regarding the general comments of the funding of the courts I will like to say, that in the field of the funding of the courts there are some problems that the courts are faced with. I would like to mention some of the problems. For example, the presidents of the courts are responsible to prepare the courts budgets, but they have made many attempts to introduce additional line items in to their budgets in order to resolve problems faced by the courts in securing proper funding for their basic operations and work conditions. However these budgeted line items have never been accepted or have never been taken in the consideration. That is a real problem. Right after the approval of the national budget by the assembly of the Republic of Macedonia the law on implementation of the budget for the current year is also enacted. This law regulates the manner of utilisation of budgeted refunds, but it doesn't contain any provisions relevance for the courts on their budgets. In the Republic of Macedonia is a general will for changing the system of funding. Therefore Ministry of Justice has established working groups associated by judges, university professors and representatives from Ministry of Justice and judicial council. Ministry of Justice has prepared the collaboration for independent judicial budget. The concept is strongly supported by Supreme Court of the Republic of Macedonia and other responsible institutions. All this relevant institutions had already approved it.

Second item is connected with the court information system. I would like to say a few words regarding the properties and goals of this integrated court information system.

The main goals of these systems are:

- We want to establish affective and modern court system, which will be opened for new technology and available to the public, with whole possibility of integrations and complete penalty system.
- We have found the premises for this successful implementation. These are: active and quality projects, control management, court system capacity for new idea acceptances, the finding of maintenance plan, completion of the budget, and other technical activities in the area of network-connections between courts and standing procedures. New system to all court procedures must also be implemented, as well as a system of all user-trainings.
- We want to build more efficient court system and it is our idea to support the court procedures, which will be focused on elimination of redundant processes, automatization of the repeated processes, locating and minimizing bottlenecks. Practically we build the integrated, distributed and authorised access to quality information and we will be continuing with analysing the court process. Last year a working group of Ministry of Justice made a big quantity of activity. Current situation at the moment, is for example: local area network

satisfies 60% of total needs, purchased hard-wear satisfies only 40% of the targeted users, and tailored soft-wear applications will satisfy 60% of the needs by all activities at the moment.

Finally, the expected results: we want to build further for the development of the system to cover all processes, we want to increase the efficiency of the court administration, we want to maximize information availability and its distribution to where it is needed, and enable public access to information.