



**Non-governmental Organisation Emancipimi Civil Ma Ndryshe  
EC MA NDRYSHE**

*5 July 2013, Prizren*

#### **PRESS RELEASE**

#### **Mamuşa/Mamushë Municipality vows for improvement of online transparency**

Within the project of monitoring the work of the municipal executive of Mamuşa Municipality, EC Ma Ndryshe during the month of June has been focused on issues related to the transparency of local government.

Online transparency monitoring has revealed pronounced deficiencies in this regard. Municipal official website and communication with the public is not at the required level and it is characterized with the absence of communication of basic information to the citizens. Updating of the data on the website is not done in any of the official languages of the municipality of Mamuşa.

Decisions of the municipal government are not published online as there are numerous challenges also in the application of the practices for access to official documents, by not adhering strictly to the standards stipulated in the respective law.

On the other side, based on a Comprehensive Report on Public Institutions for exercising the right on access to public documents, issued by the Public Communications Office of the Office of the Prime Minister, the application of Regulation 04/2012 for official recording of the submitted requests for access to public documents at the municipal level is implemented by the municipality of Mamuşa; however, the Regulation requires that the requesting party be submitted with a Confirmation of admission of request, in which the municipality Mamuşa, among nine other municipalities, fails to issue such a confirmation.

Furthermore, Article 7 of the Regulation 04/2012 has put into application nine forms which are an integral part of the application process for access to public documents, but the municipality of Mamuşa stated that it only uses the registration form.

At the same time, evidence of the requests for access to public documents according to the law should be reported to the MLAG and to the Office of the Prime Minister and as for both these institutions Mamuşa Municipality remains on the negative side, among eight other municipalities, regarding the reporting channel, by carrying out this requirement through the Department of Municipal Administration which is contrary to the legal obligation.

Obligations deriving from the Law on Access to Public Documents related to capacity building, trainings, procedures and the execution of requests, according to the official of this municipality, he/she was not provided with any training arising from the obligations of the law.

EC Ma Ndryshe during this month has recorded these shortcomings and addressed to the municipal leadership. The latter have accepted their share of responsibility by justifying with insufficient human resources, due to a small number of staff.

Nonetheless, the mayor of the municipality, Arif Bütüç, has committed himself to endeavour in enhancing the transparency practices as well as for the online access to official documents. He offered collaboration to EC Ma Ndryshe and to other civil society organizations for supporting Mamuşa Municipality to increase the level of transparency with provision of the necessary expertise, and promising to make available the necessary documents and information.

EC Ma Ndryshe considers that Mamuşa Municipality, despite the limitations it has, should display higher commitment as regards to the implementation of the standards of good governance, which has the transparency as its main pillar.

EC Ma Ndryshe herein recommends Mamuşa Municipality to enforce the Administrative Instruction 2008/09 of the MLGA on the increase of transparency and to report more frequently on the website and in the media on the matters related to the use of municipal budget, economic development, the use of municipal property, urban planning, investments, municipal revenues, etc.

EC Ma Ndryshe also welcomes the readiness of the municipal leadership to cooperate with the civil society for increasing the level of transparency.

EC Ma Ndryshe's project for transparency oversight of the executive branch shall continue on publicizing the monitoring findings through regular press releases and project's website, where the findings shall be posted directly by the monitors. So far, all the monitoring findings, including regular press releases and other information relative to local governments of Prizren and Mamuşa/Mamushë municipalities, are published on regular basis on the project's website: [www.online-transparency.org](http://www.online-transparency.org).

Thank you for your cooperation,

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