



26 July 2013, Prizren

PRESS RELEASE

Mamuşa/Mamushë Municipality to control expenditures in the second half of the year

Within the project of overseeing the work of the executive of Mamuşa/Mamushë Municipality, EC Ma Ndryshe, in July, has reviewed the issue of expenditures made by the municipal administration within the first six months of this year.

Properly to the request submitted for access to public documents, monitoring staff have obtained a half-yearly financial report of the municipality of Mamuşa/Mamushë, which provides a general overview on the revenues and expenditures of the municipality. After pulling out the data, the monitors again have consulted the officials of the Directorate of Finance to confirm the authenticity of the records, which are disclosed below.

In the first six months of this year, Mamuşa/Mamushë Municipality has spent over 2,000 EUR for travels abroad. The sum is approximate on the expenditures for official meals, where the Municipality has spent about 2,670 EUR for this purpose.

In the first half of the year 2013 the municipality has spent 3,660 EUR for vehicle fuel. Substantial expenses have also been made on mobile telephones. According to the financial report, phone expenses incurred by the municipality of Mamuşa/Mamusha for Vala operator were 3,130 EUR for the first six months. Meantime, expenses of fixed telephony are significantly lower than those of mobile phones. As per fixed telephones (PTK), during this period were spent close to 730 EUR.

An interesting monitoring finding relates to the per diem allowances for travelings abroad during the first semester. While the expenses in travels abroad are considerable, per diem allowances received from the officials of the municipality of Mamuşa/Mamushë are only 160 EUR, which seems to be an encouraging indication.

However, EC Ma Ndryshe has compared financial data with the published expenditures for previous years. This comparison has revealed the fact that in the first six months of this year the municipality of Mamuşa/Mamushë has spent more than double of the funds that had spent during the entire 2012 on the official meals; to be exact 2,670 EUR in the second half of 2013 juxtaposed to 1,270 EUR of the entire year 2012.

Yet, vehicle fuel expenses were slightly lower than those of the last year when the municipality had spent for the entire year 9,000 EUR on fuel, while in the first semester of 2013 it spent 3,660 EUR.

While the mobile phone expenses are in a same level to that of previous year, at the fixed telephone expenses there is a huge difference marked. While in the year 2012 the municipality

of Mamuşa/Mamusha has spent close to 4,900 EUR for fixed phones, in the first half of the year 2013 the municipality spent just 730 EUR for this category.

Taking into account the above findings, EC Ma Ndryshe recommends Mamuşa/Mamushë municipality to be more cautious when spending public money, in line with good governance principles and features Mamuşa/Mamushë as a locality is borne with.

EC Ma Ndryshe herein calls upon the municipality of Mamuşa/Mamushë that the cutbacks in the expenditures for fixed telephones to demonstrate in other spending categories as well.

EC Ma Ndryshe considers that municipal leadership should be more careful in the second half of the year on the spending for official meals. Obviously this principle should also be applied in terms of other expenses under the category of Goods and Services.

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.

Thank you for your cooperation,

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British Embassy
Pristina

Starting from May 2013 the "Online Transparency of Mamuşa/Mamushë Municipality" project is financially supported by the British Embassy in Pristina.