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ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSITIVE CHANGES IN THE WORK OF COMMISSION

Centre for Civic Education (CCE) welcomes certain actions in the direction of transparency of the work of the Commission for allocation of portion of the lottery games income, during this year's allocation of means, assessing that it is addressed in more serious and strict manner.

CCE is for years closely monitoring the allocation of funds via competition conducted by the Commission for allocation of portion of lottery games income. Our findings were used by the European Economic and Social Committee in drafting the "Opinions on the role of civil society in the relations between the EU and Montenegro" evaluating that the work of the Commission was followed by "general lack of transparency in the work and the serious flaws in the allocation of funds". CCE will continue to monitor the work of the Commission within established methodology and to inform domestic and foreign stakeholders.

CCE insists that the provisions of the new Regulation on the criteria for determining the users and the manner of the allocation of portion of the lottery games income ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", br.44/10), which removed most of the ambiguity and imprecision should be strictly respected. We expect that the cases of violations, ambiguous interpretation and application of the old bad practices of the Regulation, which resulted in a number of omissions, irregularities and controversy in the work of the Commission for the allocation of portion of the lottery games income during distribution of funds in 2009, will be past that will not be repeated.

The decision of the Commission to take more professional approach in processing the application through making difference already on the technical level between those organizations that have met and have not met the requirements prescribed by the Regulation is good. The decision of the Commission that the scoring criteria for evaluation of the submitted programmes and projects for Call for proposals must be strictly implemented in order to distribute the funds to the most quality is encouraging. That is proved by today's publication of a list of 162 projects and programmes that have not passed the technical verification http://www.infomladi.me/index.php?IDSP=19817&jezik=lat. In this way, space for manipulation is limited, sector is genuinely strengthened, but also important steps in the process of regulating allocation of the funds, which are not small at all within Montenegrin context, has been made. Although aware that there was a larger number of already declined 164 projects and programmes with technical shortcomings of small-scale, we believe that this is the announcement of changes in decision-making





by which certain organizations were misusing this fund with considerable assistance of some members of the Commission.

CCE appeals to the Commission members to respect the scoring criteria for evaluation of submitted programmes and projects based on Call for proposals within all evaluation phases in order to truly support the most quality ones. That will help the NGO sector itself and mark the break with the party, familiar and often other earlier prevailing criteria.

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