



Podgorica, 19 January, 2011

DEDICATION TO COOPERATION WITH THE CIVIL SECTOR IS SHOWN THROUGH CONCRETE DECISIONS

CCE urges the Ministry of Finance to adopt a final Decision on appointment of the president and the members of the Commission for allocation of revenue from portion of lottery games, since the deadline for appointment of its members has expired.

CCE points out that any delay in the appointment of Commission members would raise a number of additional problems in the allocation of funds from lottery games, which would maintain the continuity of a bad practice open for a variety of manipulative actions. First of all, this would lead to delays in the announcement of competition for allocation of revenue from portion of lottery games, which by current Regulation must be issued by 31 January of this year.

Apart from the fact that the delay in making the decision on the appointment of Commission members entails delay of the announcement of the competition, it will cause the delay in making decisions about the allocation of funds for the supported programmes and projects, as well as the delays in the implementation of the approved projects, which would question the effectiveness of these funds and their purpose, and directly violate the existing legal framework. Deadlines must be strictly observed, and there are no reasons to be late with the implementation of the Regulation, after all the promises that this area will be regulated.

The budget for 2011 allocates for this purpose 2.53 million euro. These are funds, which allocated on the basis of objective and existing regulations that provide defined criteria and evaluation sheet, may significantly affect the quality of certain services provided by NGOs, sustainability of genuine NGOs, but also show a different attitude of this Government towards the NGO sector and money from the Budget.

CCE urges once again that during the formation of this Commission the same persons from the Government do not get appointed, because they have so far been involved in the allocation of resources that are very controversial, and in some cases should be of concern to the relevant investigating authorities. With appointment of completely new members, the Government would show a true commitment in accepting the positions, for which we have provided arguments more than once, and which were presented within the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee in April 2010, and which, among other, contributed to the obligation of the Government to improve cooperation with the civil sector.

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