



Centar za građansko obrazovanje



Podgorica, 09.06.2009

DESPITE RESISTANCE STEPS FORWARD HAVE BEEN MADE

Centre for monitoring (CEMI) and Centre for civic education (CGO) hereby wish to praise and support the Ministry of Education and Science for creating the Action plan for combating corruption in the field of education, which envisages measures to be undertaken from 01 June 2009 until 31 December 2012.

CEMI and CGO welcome the decision of the Ministry to accept and to incorporate into the Action plan obviously the majority of the recommendations that CCE and CEMI representatives proposed at the recently held conference in order to start efficient fight against corruption in the field of education. These recommendations are created during the implementation of the project "Fight against corruption in education" in cooperation with different stakeholders and supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Germany.

Proposed recommendations are related to the research that the Ministry should carry out in order to identify forms, causes and mechanisms of emergence of corruption, as well as the necessary measures in raising awareness and encouraging students, teachers and administrative staff to report any suspicion of the existence of corruption.

Special importance is the acceptance of measures that teaching staff and managers of administrative bodies have to submit annual reports on their assets, with the obligation to make these publicly available, as well as in the case of public officials. CCE and CEMI consider that this measure must be incorporated in the legal framework and become binding with sanction for those who disrespect it.

The project which was implemented by CCE and CEMI encountered a sharp criticism within certain structures at the University of Montenegro, which felt (in)directly affected, and that paralyzed them in devotion to the actual fight against corruption. Therefore, it is even more important that the Ministry of Education and Science expressed maturity in an attempt to fight corruption and accepting constructive approach through the creation of the Action plan.

CGO and CEMI express the hope that, in future, will cooperate even closer with all institutions that wish to tackle the corruption in the education system, despite strong resistance from certain subjects. Long term development of the country depends on the quality of our educational system.

Centre for civic education (CGO)

Centre for monitoring (CEMI)