



Podgorica, 29 July 2007

WILL THE NEW MB HELP RTCG TO BECOME A GENUINE PUBLIC SERVICE?

On the eve of the 54th session of the RTM Council which is to be held on Monday, 30 July 2007, Centre for Civic Education (CCE) urges the members of the Council to finally stand up for the public interest, thus contributing to the transformation of RTCG into a public service.

CCE urges the Council to elect the remaining two new members of the Management Board in accordance with the objective criteria, introducing a significant novelty into their usual practice. At the same time, this would demonstrate their independence from the parallel power centres and their dedication to the Law and the best interests of RTCG.

Similarly, inspired by the statements of the Council president, Branislav Čalić (“People have understood that this job is not as simple as they thought and that this is a huge company which needs a recognisable management team”), as well as that of the former president of the MB, Rajko Cerović, which appeared in *Vijesti* after the last session of the Council (“When we realised that after the first call the voting machine in the Council voted without anyone raising the discussion on the results of our work, we understood that we are being boycotted by the Council and that there is no point in repeating our candidature. It was all already decided, before the Council, so why the call and why answer it?), CCE invites them both to speak up, in the best interest of RTCG, about the problems about which they were deliberately silent for so long. This would be the first necessary step towards resolving some of the accumulated problems in this house, and in transforming RTCG into a service to all Montenegrin citizens who dutifully, without a choice, keep paying, without receiving even the most basic information on RTCG.

CCE asks Čalić i Cerović whether the record of the Management Board was bad? Why no reports ever reached the public? Why were they silent for so long?

CCE hopes that the other former members of the RTCG MB will also speak up about their work in the previous four years, in order to preserve their personal and professional integrity. Keeping up the silence would be equal to unforgivable intellectual cowardice and participation in the further undermining of the RTCG, and its transformation into a service of the ruling coalition.

CCE reiterates its calls to the representatives of the civil society in the RTCG Council to uphold the Law on PBS RTCG in their work, and to use the opportunities granted to them by the Book of Regulations to share their differing or dissenting opinions with the public.