



**Parliament of Montenegro**

**Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role  
of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013**

**Implementation Report**

Podgorica, January 2014

## **Introduction**

The third and final Report on the implementation of the Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013 contains an overview of implementation of measures and activities with regard to the Plan, covering the period from the Plan's adoption on 19 March to 31 December, although implementation of some continuous activities was monitored from the beginning of the year.

The Report comprises a text section, with a brief description of the activities implemented in the reporting period, and a table overview with indicators and status, i.e. degree of implementation.

At the meeting held on 19 March 2013, the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013. The Plan was designed to serve as a guideline for planning and implementing activities at all levels in the Parliament, and provide a planned, systematic and coordinated action of all stakeholders in the work of the Parliament, intended to contribute to a more efficient exercise of its competences as stipulated by the Constitution. This paper is also based on the findings of the European Commission set out in the 2012 Progress Report on Montenegro, being at the same time the implementation plan of the European Commission's recommendations.

Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013 contains 68 activities and measures, with explanations, stakeholders, implementation deadlines and performance indicators. For better overview, activities and measures provided by this Action Plan are grouped in three parts. The first part is directly related to the strengthening of the legislative and oversight role of the Parliament of Montenegro, through drafting and adoption of acts, frequent use of oversight mechanisms, work of plenum and working bodies. The second segment comprises activities and measures aimed at strengthening the administrative and technical capacities under the responsibility of the Service of the Parliament. The third part is dedicated to the activities intended to further improve the openness and transparency of the Parliament towards the citizens and civil organisations. The findings and recommendations of the European Commission's 2012 Progress Report, related to a given segment and taken into account in defining the planned activities, are provided at the beginning of each section.

The last measure of the Parliament's Action Plan stipulates that the Parliamentary Service is due to prepare quarterly reports on the implementation of the Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro and submit them to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament for consideration.

The Service of the Parliament prepared two Reports on the implementation of the Action Plan – for the period until 30 June and for the period until 30 September.

## **Summary**

Out of a total of 68 activities and measures contained in the Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, 46 measures have been fully implemented or have been continually implemented, as envisaged by the Plan.

Continuous implementation has been envisaged for 25 activities in the Action Plan, out of which the implementation of one measure is delayed, while the implementation of two measures has begun in 2013 and will continue in 2014. Two measures, for which quarterly implementation is envisaged, have been fully implemented.

Out of 41 measures, which have been termed for 2013, 22 measures have been fully implemented; implementation of six measures is ongoing or partial, while implementation is delayed for 13 measures, which are to be implemented in 2014.

The Report provides, below, a detailed overview of implementation of the Action Plan in 2013, as well as a table showing implementation by deadlines and defined performance indicators.

## **Overview of activities planned in the Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro to be implemented by the end of December 2013**

### **Activity 1: Work on amending the Constitution**

At the 12<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session, on 31 July 2013, the 25<sup>th</sup> Parliament of Montenegro adopted and proclaimed Amendments I to XVI to the Constitution of Montenegro and Constitutional Law on the Implementation of Amendments I to XVI to the Constitution of Montenegro.

At the sitting of the Eight Extraordinary Session of 24 September 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Law on Amendments to the Law on the Judicial Council, Law on Amendments to the Law on Courts, Law on Amendments to the Law on the Constitutional Court and Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Prosecution Office, with the aim of harmonizing the laws with the Amendments I to XVI to the Constitution of Montenegro. With the aim of defining certain provisions related to the procedure of election of Constitutional Court judges and of a member of the Judicial Council from among eminent jurists, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Law on Amendments to the Law on the Constitutional Court and the Law on Amendments to the Law on the Judicial Council at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session on 29 October 2013.

Following the adoption of the constitutional amendments and subsequent adoption of the amendments to the Law on the Constitutional Court of Montenegro, at its meetings (15-19) the Constitutional Committee carried out the procedure for determining the proposal for election of five judges of the Constitutional Court of Montenegro, and submitted it to the Parliament, in accordance with the defined competences. At the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2013, on 27 December 2013, the 25<sup>th</sup> Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Decisions on election of judges of the Constitutional Court of Montenegro.

Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration carried out the procedure for determining the proposal for election of four members of the Prosecutorial Council from among eminent jurists, as well as the procedure for determining the proposal for election of four members of the Judicial Council from among eminent jurists.

At the resumption of its 37<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 23 December 2013, the Committee determined the Proposal for election of four members of the Prosecutorial Council from among eminent jurists and submitted it to the Parliament. At the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2013, held on 27 December 2013, the 25<sup>th</sup> Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Decision on election of four members of the Prosecutorial Council from among eminent jurists.

At the 37<sup>th</sup> meeting that started on 17 December as part of a consolidated discussion, members of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration expressed different views in relation to a possible conflict of interest regarding candidates who are practicing law and who applied for the position in the Judicial Council. Upon reconciliation of positions, the

Committee unanimously decided not to propose to the Parliament candidates for election of four members of the Judicial Council. The Committee, also, unanimously decided to issue a new public notice for the election of four members of the Judicial Council from among eminent jurists.

In accordance with the amendments to the Law on Public Prosecution Office and upon completion of the procedure for determining proposal for election of the Supreme Public Prosecutor of Montenegro, the Prosecutorial Council determined and submitted to the Parliament the Proposal to elect Mr Branko Vučković, president of the Basic Court in Kotor, as the Supreme Public Prosecutor of Montenegro. At its 34<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 11 December 2013, the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration held a consultative hearing of candidates for elections of the Supreme Public Prosecutor. At the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session, held on 27 December 2013, the Proposal for election of the Supreme Public Prosecutor of Montenegro did not obtain the required majority.

**Activity 2: The adoption of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and MPs in accordance with the OSCE/ODIHR and Venice Commission recommendations, in particular with regard to the dissolution of coalitions and their financial obligations, as well as extension of the mandate of the State Election Commission to local elections. The law should regulate the issue of years of residence as a condition for electoral right and provide penalties for violation of certain provisions, particularly with regard to restrictions in participation of public officials in election campaigns**

At the Seventh Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of 31 May 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted Conclusions on Building Trust in the Election Process. A special working group was set upon the basis of the Conclusions with the task to analyse and evaluate the need to prepare proposals for amendments to: Electoral Register Law, Law on Identity Card, Law on Registers of Temporary and Permanent Residence, Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives, Law on Financing of Political Parties and Law on Montenegrin Citizenship, based on their own observations and recommendations of the OSCE/ODIHR and the Council of Europe, and taking into account the standards of the European Union in this field.

Following the adoption of proposals for amendments to the concerned laws, the Parliament of Montenegro will constitute the Working Group as a temporary working body, which will have competences of parliamentary oversight over the work of state authorities, state administration bodies and local self-government bodies.

Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process held 34 meetings by the end of 2013. The meetings were open to public, with a constant press coverage and reporting in Montenegro.

Starting from the defined methodology of work, a sub-group was formed with the aim to consider in more detail remarks, suggestions and proposals for amending the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives, and to prepare, after a comprehensive analysis, the draft amendments to the law. At the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 8 November 2013, the Working Group determined a part of the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives. The draft does not contain transitional and final provisions, while certain provisions were conditionally accepted by some members of the Working Group. Substantial

amendments that were proposed and the issues that dominated during the consideration of this law refer to the composition and jurisdiction of the State Election Commission and different ways of identifying voters at the polling station. Electronic identification of voters was proposed, though its effective implementation is subject to the procurement of AFIS system, which will be at the same time useful for the Ministry of the Interior to carry out its responsibilities. The draft of this law was submitted to the Ministry of the Interior and the Agency for Data Protection and Free Access to Information, so they could examine the proposed standards and deliver an opinion. The mentioned institutions submitted their opinions to the Working Group. The Working Group did not determine the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives by the end of 2013.

### **Activity 3: Adopting the Law on Financing of Political Parties**

At the Seventh Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of 31 May 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted Conclusions on Building Trust in the Election Process. A special working group was set upon the basis of the Conclusions with the task to analyse and evaluate the need to prepare proposals for amendments to: Electoral Register Law, Law on Identity Card, Law on Registers of Temporary and Permanent Residence, Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives, Law on Financing of Political Parties and Law on Montenegrin Citizenship based on their own observations and recommendations of the OSCE/ODIHR and Council of Europe and taking into account standards of the European Union in this field.

Following the adoption of proposals for amendments to the concerned laws, the Parliament of Montenegro will constitute the Working Group as a temporary working body, which will have competences of parliamentary oversight over the work of state authorities, state administration bodies and local self-government bodies.

Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process held 34 meetings by the end of 2013. The meetings were open to public, with a constant press coverage and reporting in Montenegro.

When it comes to activities on amending the Law on Financing of Political Parties, with the aim of comprehensive consideration of this matter, at one of the meetings members of the Working Group interviewed Mr Radoje Žugić, Minister of Finance, and members of the Government's working group previously formed in this respect within the Ministry of Finance. Also, the co-chairs of the Working Group sent a letter to the Ambassador Mr Mitja Drobnič, Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro, requesting EU expert assistance for the Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process in the final drafting of the Draft Electoral Register Law, as well as the draft law that should regulate the financing of political parties, financing of election campaigns and other issues relating to the financial operation of political parties.

After the consideration and comprehensive analysis of the Law on Financing of Political Parties and submitted proposals and suggestions, the Working Group formed a sub-group consisting of members of the parliamentary Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget with representation of all parliamentary groups in the Parliament of Montenegro. This sub-group held six meetings, where it was presented with proposals and suggestions submitted with the aim to amend the Law on Financing of Political Parties, as well as with the working version of the Law on Financing of Political Entities and Election Campaigns submitted by the Ministry of Finance. Five possible proposals, in the form of amendments, were agreed

upon by the sub-group for the amendment of the Law on Financing of Political Parties, though it was emphasised that some of the amendments should be further developed.

Consolidated text of the draft law, which would regulate the issue of financing of political entities and election campaigns in a new manner, or the amendments to the existing legislation in this area were not determined by the mentioned sub-group and the Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process. The Working Group did not determine the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Financing of Political Parties.

#### **Activity 4: Adopting the Plan on Greater Consideration of Gender Aspects through Work of the Parliament**

At its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21 October, Gender Equality Committee agreed on the methodology for drafting the plan for greater consideration of gender aspects through the work of the Parliament, considered given proposals, agreed on adopting the plan by the end of February 2014 and authorized the chair and deputy chair of the Committee to discuss this issue with the Vice President of the Parliament tasked by the Collegium of the President of the Parliament to follow the work of this Committee. Overview of the composition of the working bodies and standing delegations of the Parliament of Montenegro was prepared for the meeting.

Also, in order to increase the impact on the political participation of women, for the second time with the support of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, UNDP to Montenegro and the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights, the Gender Equality Committee conducted a research on awareness and implementation of the Law on Gender Equality in the Montenegrin institutions. The research results will be presented in February 2014. The Committee's 2013 Work Plan established the obligation to implement this project, since a research from 2010 precisely detected the points where the least progress in achieving the gender equality was made in the sphere of political life and where the instruments the state uses to give effect to its constitutional obligation to pursue the policy of equal possibilities were missing.

For greater consideration of gender aspects through the work of the Parliament, and in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro – Democratisation Department and support of the experts of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE/ODIHR) from Warsaw, the Committee organised a seminar, on 19 and 20 July, for members of the Committee and representatives of other working bodies, namely: Defence and Security Committee, Administrative Committee, Anti-corruption Committee, Committee on European Integration and Committee on International Relations and Emigrants. Participants had an opportunity, inter alia, to discuss mechanisms for strengthening gender equality as well as obstacles and challenges for participation of women in political life. Activity Plan for reaching gender equality 2013-2017 (PAPPR), a developing document for implementation of gender equality policies, was presented during the seminar.

On 31 December, the 25<sup>th</sup> convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro comprised of 12 (14.8%) female MPs and 69 male MPs. By the end of May 2013, there were 14 females or 17.2%, and by 18 December 2013, 13 women or 16%. The number of female MPs in the composition of the standing delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe increased, which now includes two female MPs. Also, for the first time a female MP was elected as the member of the Committee on Security and Defence.

**Activity 5: Preparation of the Resolution that would precisely define the role of the Parliament of Montenegro in the accession negotiation with the EU and provide guidelines to the Government of Montenegro in leading the negotiation process**

Proposal for the Resolution on Manner, Quality and Pace of the Integration Process of Montenegro to the European Union was unanimously adopted by the Parliament on 27 December 2013 at the Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session.

Working Group for drafting the Proposal for the Resolution on European Integration was previously founded based on the Conclusions of the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, where Mr Branko Radulović was elected Chairperson of the Group, while the following MPs were elected members of the Group: Mr Miodrag Vuković, Mr Aleksandar Damjanović and Mr Damir Šehović. The first meeting of the Working Group was held on 31 January 2013.

The Working Group held numerous meetings, among others, with representatives of parliamentary parties not included in the Working Group, chairpersons and deputy chairpersons of the Parliament's working bodies, Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, representatives of academic community and non-governmental sector and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Montenegro as well.

Proposal for the Resolution on Manner, Quality and Pace of the Integration Process of Montenegro to the European Union was submitted to the Parliament on 23 July. Upon the request of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integrations, and in line with the agreement reached with the President of the Parliament and MPs - members of the Working Group for drafting the Resolution, the Proposal for the Resolution was excluded from the agenda of the Tenth Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session and postponed for autumn session.

MPs Mr Branko Radulović, Mr Miodrag Vuković, Mr Aleksandar Damjanović and Mr Damir Šehović, upon withdrawal of the Proposal for the Resolution delivered in July, submitted a new Proposal for the Resolution on Manner, Quality and Pace of the Integration Process of Montenegro to the European Union on 17 October 2013. The Proposal for the Resolution was considered by the Legislative Committee and Committee on European Integration and then included in the agenda of the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session of the Parliament. Prior to voting on that item of the agenda, the Proposal for the Resolution was withdrawn from the procedure by the proponent.

Eventually, at the Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session on 27 December, the Parliament unanimously adopted the Proposal for the Resolution on Manner, Quality and Pace of the Integration Process of Montenegro to the European Union, proposed by MPs Mr Ranko Krivokapić and Mr Srđan Milić on 18 December 2013.

**Activity 6: Assessment of the need to adopt the Law on the Parliament of Montenegro and possible preparation of necessary information material for preparing the Draft Law**

Service of the Parliament, that is the Research Centre, made a research paper on the topic of the law on parliament, where the experience of 31 parliaments was analysed in terms of normative regulation of parliament's work, particularly that of the countries that have the law on parliament. This paper would serve as the basis for adopting a decision on the possible preparing of the Draft Law on the Parliament of Montenegro.

### **Activity 7: Adopting Code of Conduct for Members of the Parliament of Montenegro**

Service of the Parliament, that is the Research Centre, made a research paper on the topic of code of conduct, providing information and comparative experience of all 10 parliaments from the EU countries, including the European Parliament, which have Code of Conduct for MPs, as well as nine countries in which ethical principles were included in the rules of procedure, which might be useful in preparation of Code of Conduct of Members of the Parliament of Montenegro.

### **Activity 8: Working bodies shall, at least once every half year, hold a meeting where the representatives of the competent ministries shall be invited, and if necessary, representatives of other state administration bodies and organisations, with the goal of consideration of conducting the policies in the fields within their competences**

A total of 26 meetings was held in 2013 where working bodies considered implementation of policies, which fall under their competences; some of the meetings were joint meetings of two committees attended by 74 representatives of the Government and state administration bodies.

**Security and Defence Committee** considered the Information on the state of security on the territory of Municipality Bar, during the first continuation of the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of 25 July, which was closed to public. The meeting was attended by the Minister of Interior. At the second resumption of 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 19 November, the Committee considered the Information in relation to the affair "Listing" in light of the arrest of Mr Naser Kelmendi. Minister of the Interior, Director of the Police Administration, Director of the National Security Agency, Deputy Supreme Public Prosecutor and the Basic Public Prosecutor in Podgorica, informed the Committee about the measures and actions taken by the competent national authorities regarding the affair "Listing", which was the subject matter of the control hearing held at 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of this working body of 24<sup>th</sup> convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro.

At the meeting held on 17 October, the **Committee on European Integration** was presented with the 2013 Progress Report on Montenegro. Beside the members of the Committee, the meeting was attended by certain chairs of the working bodies of the Parliament. In addition, at the sixteenth meeting held on 26 December, members of the Committee were informed on the proposal for Montenegro's EU Accession Programme f, a comprehensive plan of European integration activities for the period 2014-2018. At the meeting, representatives of MFAEI presented information on bilateral cooperation of Montenegro with the EU member states.

At its tenth meeting of 27 May, **the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** considered the Information on operations of electric power subjects taken upon orders of the Energy Regulatory Agency (No. 00-63-7/13-6/29), and including the proposal for urgent Amendments to the Energy Law. At the same meeting, the Report of the State Audit Institution on auditing of state guarantees of the Government of Montenegro issued in 2010 and 2011 was considered with recommendations of the Institution structured in four parts: earlier recommendations of the SAI relating to the issuance of the state guarantees, analysis of regulations with the proposal for amendments, analysis of economic indicators and risks, and oversight function. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economy, State Aid Control Commission and Energy Regulatory Agency. At the meeting held on 10 June, on the occasion of considering the Report of the State Audit Institution on auditing of state guarantees of the Government of Montenegro issued in 2010 and 2011, the Committee formulated its assessments and positions.

As a result of considering the Information on operations of electric power subjects taken upon orders of the Energy Regulatory Agency (RAE), of 16 April 2013, and Information on the current situation in the electric power system of Montenegro due to unresolved issue of electricity supply of KAP, of 6 June 2013, and with the aim to resolve instability at the energy market in amore quality and comprehensive manner, the Committee prepared the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Energy, in cooperation with RAE. The proposal for the Law was submitted by a group of six MPs – members of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget. The Proposal for the Law has been under the parliamentary procedure since 26 July 2013. At the 27<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 30 September 2013, the Committee considered and supported the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Energy.

**The Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms** considered the Information on proceeding of the Police Administration in accordance with the Recommendations of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro provided in the Special Report on the state of detention facilities of the Police Administration from 2011, at the fourth meeting of 6 February. The Committee accepted the Information and by the Conclusion ordered the Police Administration to intensify activities and take measures with the aim of implementing the remaining outstanding Recommendations of the Protector, emphasised in the Information.

At the same meeting, the Committee considered the Report on Sexual Abuse of Children in Montenegro, submitted by the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro (to the Committee level), composed within the regional project “Improvement of the Position of Children for Protection from all Types of Exploitation”, implemented by the institution of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms in cooperation with children’s ombudsmen in the region, and with the support of the organisation Save the Children. The Committee accepted the Report, reached the Conclusion supporting the Recommendations of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, given in the Report, and decided to submit the Conclusion to the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Tourism and Sustainable Development as well as the Head of Delegation of Montenegro to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, which has been implementing the campaign “One in Five”, in which Montenegro also participates. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of Justice, Ministry for Human and Minority Rights and Police Administration.

At the eighth meeting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms of 29 March, the following was considered: National Report on Human Rights in Montenegro within the second cycle of the United Nations Universal Periodic Review (period 2008-2012), Report on Human Rights by the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro for the purpose of the Universal Periodic Review and Report on Child Rights Protection composed by 10 non-governmental organisations for the purpose of drafting the National Report on Human Rights in Montenegro within the second cycle of the UN Universal Periodic Review (period 2008-2012).The meeting was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of the Interior and Directorate for the care of refugees.

Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms held a control hearing, on 17 May 2013, of ECRI National Coordinator for Montenegro and Assistant Minister for Human and Minority Rights on the topic: “Compliance with the Obligations of Montenegro in the Part of

Recommendations Given in the ECRI Report on Montenegro, from February 2012“.

Following the hearing, the Committee decided to draft the Report with proposals for conclusions on control hearing and to submit it to the Parliament of Montenegro, pursuant to Article 77 paragraph 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro. The meeting was attended by the Assistant Minister for Human and Minority Rights and ECRI National Coordinator for Montenegro and the representative of the Police Administration.

The Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms considered the Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro on Abuse of Children via the Internet, at 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of 6 June. The Committee accepted the Report with the Conclusion, thus supporting Recommendations of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro sent to relevant public authorities, which need to take steps to create a safer virtual environment to the best interest of a child. The Committee decided to submit the Conclusion to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and competent ministries that recommendations are related to: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry for Information Society and Telecommunications and Ministry of Education.

At the same meeting, the Committee also considered the Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro as National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) on the state of play in the Remand Prison Podgorica. The Committee accepted the Report with the Conclusion, thus supporting the Recommendations of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro sent to Ministry of Justice and Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions (ZIKS). The Committee decided to submit the Conclusion to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Delegation of the Parliament of Montenegro to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Ministry of Justice and Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the Institute for Execution of Criminal Sanctions and Ministry of Education.

At the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of 17 July, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms considered the Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro on protection against discrimination (to the Committee level), and unanimously accepted it. The committee drafted the Proposal for Conclusions, which was submitted to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro and Ministry for Human and Minority Rights.

Additionally, the Committee considered Information on the implementation of the Strategy for improving the position of RAE population in Montenegro 2012-2016 (Implementation of the Ombudsman’s Recommendations in respect of education – providing textbooks and Roma Assistants). The Committee accepted the Information and composed a Proposal for Conclusions, and submitted it to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro and Ministry for Human and Minority Rights.

At the same meeting, in line with 2013 Activity Plan of the Committee, the Committee also considered 2013 - 2018 Strategy for improving quality of life of LGBT persons, unanimously supported the Information and composed the Proposal for Conclusions, which was subsequently submitted to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro and Ministry for Human and Minority Rights.

In line with its Activity Plan, the Committee considered and accepted the 2012 Performance Report of the Centre for Preservation and Development of Minority Cultures of Montenegro. The meeting was attended by two representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, representative of the Ministry for Human and Minority Rights, director of the Centre for Development and Preservation of Culture of Minorities of Montenegro and Assistant Minister of Education.

At the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of 25 September, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms held a control hearing of the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare and Coordinator of the Coordination Committee for monitoring the implementation of the Strategy for permanent resolution of the issue of displaced and internally displaced persons in Montenegro with a particular focus on Konik I and II, on the topic: "Implementation of the Strategy for permanent resolution of the issue of displaced and internally displaced persons in Montenegro with a particular focus on Konik I and II". The Committee unanimously decided to submit the Report on the control hearing to the Parliament.

At the same meeting, members of the Committee were presented with the Information on the implementation of the Strategy for Combating trafficking in human beings for the period 2012-2018 with the Action Plan for 2012-2013 in the focus of GRETA (CE) Recommendations in terms of implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. The Committee decided to compose the Report on consideration of the Information, which was to be submitted to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro and Office for Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. The meeting was attended by the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Advisor to the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Head of the Office for Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, Advisor to the Office for Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and Director of the Directorate for the Care of Refugees (DCR).

In line with the 2013 Activity Plan, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, at the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of 25 September, considered the Information on the Implementation of Measures from the Action Plan for Improving the Prison System with reference to the Information on proceeding of the Police Administration in accordance with the Recommendations of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro provided in the Special Report on the state of detention facilities from 2011, submitted by the Police Administration to the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, in accordance with the Conclusion submitted by the Committee on the meeting of 6 February 2013. Following the discussion, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms unanimously supported the Information and decided to draft the Conclusion, which would be submitted to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior and Police Administration. The meeting was attended by the Director of the Institution for the Enforcement of Criminal Sanctions to the Ministry of Justice and Head of the Operations and Communication Centre of the Police Administration.

Pursuant to Article 68 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, at the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 17 December 2013, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, considered: Information on implementation of the National Action Plan for Children for 2013-2017, Information on Implementation of the Strategy of the Social and Child Protection System in Montenegro for 2013-2017 and Information on the Exercise of Children's Rights in relation to inclusion of children in the educational system, particularly the children with disabilities, in the focus of the capacity of institutions competent for exercising of these rights. Pursuant to Article 67 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, the

meeting was attended by the representatives of competent ministries as well as the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms and three non-governmental organisations.

At the eighth meeting of 10 June, **the Gender Equality Committee** considered the Report on Human Rights in Montenegro, adopted at the plenary sitting of the Council for Human Rights, held in Geneva on 7 June, within the second cycle of the United Nations Universal Periodical Review (UPR). The Committee pointed out to the fact that Montenegro supported the recommendation to complete the procedure of ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence. The meeting was attended by the Minister of Human and Minority Rights.

At the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting of 24 July, the Gender Equality Committee was informed of the activities from the 2010 IPA Programme on Gender Equality, implemented jointly by UNDP Office to Montenegro, Ministry for Human and Minority Rights – Gender Equality Department and the EU Delegation to Montenegro. Representatives of the Committee have been participating in the implementation of the project through the work of the advisory bodies according to programme fields and in the Administrative Committee of the project. Continuation of cooperation between the Committee and UNDP was agreed regarding the implementation of the remaining planned activities of the Programme.

The Gender Equality Committee organized the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting on 18 October, on the topic – Exchange of views on improvement of the current legislative solution regarding quotas for underrepresented gender in the electoral legislation and finding mechanisms to make them more effective. The meeting was attended by experts dealing with the political participation of women, representatives of international organisations as well as representatives of civil society. The Committee submitted conclusions from this meeting to the Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process, in order to select a model that would enable 30% of underrepresented gender among MPs.

At the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25 November, the Gender Equality Committee held a control hearing of the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Director of the Police Administration and Assistant to the Minister of Health, on the topic - Implementation of the Strategy on Protection against Domestic Violence 2011 - 2015. Following the discussion, in which, apart from the members of the Committee, the representatives of the following NGOs also participated: NGO “Bona Fide”- Pljevlja, Women’s Rights Centre - Podgorica, “Women's Safe House”-Podgorica and “SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence - Nikšić”, the Committee adopted the conclusions by a majority of votes. The meeting was organised during the campaign “16 Days of Activism against Gender Violence”. The meeting was also attended by the representatives of the United Nations, the EU Delegation to Montenegro, OSCE Mission to Montenegro, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and Police Administration.

At the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 26 November, the Gender Equality Committee was presented with the Report on Women’s Rights in the Western Balkans in the accession process to the EU. The Report was presented by the Member of the European Parliament Ms Marije Cornelissen. In recommendations given to Montenegro, the European Parliament welcomed the efforts made by the Parliament of Montenegro to methodically investigate the implementation of legislation in the field of equality.

The Gender Equality Committee organized the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting on 4 December, on the topic – Political participation of women in the accession process to the EU. The meeting was attended

by Ms Alexandra Cas Granje, Director of the Directorate General for the EU enlargement. Model of efficient quotas and model resulting from dialogue that would be the most appropriate for the Montenegrin context in order to meet international standards and respect gender equality, were discussed at the meeting. The session was attended by representatives of the EU Delegation to Montenegro, UNDP to Montenegro, other international organizations and civil sector.

At the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 27 December and in accordance with the Work Plan of the Committee, **the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning** considered the Information on activities regarding the harmonisation of the national legislation with the European Union acquis for the chapter 27 - Environment and Climate and Information on activities regarding the harmonisation of the national legislation with the European Union acquis for the chapter 11 - Agriculture and rural development; 12 - Food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy; 13 – Fisheries. The Committee decided to determine assessments and positions on considering information at one of its future meetings. The meeting was attended by the representatives of competent ministries and Phytosanitary Administration.

At the fifth meeting of 27 March, **the Anti-corruption Committee** considered the role of the Government in fight against corruption and organised crime in the light of obligations from the European Commission's 2012 Progress Report on Montenegro as well as in the light of the Screening Report for Chapters 23 and 24. The meeting was attended by the Prime Minister and Minister of Justice.

At their joint meeting held on 20 December, **the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** held consultative hearing on the topic: "Providing independence of the Council and local misdemeanour offices through amending legal framework in part relating to appointments and dismissal from duty of magistrates". At this meeting, the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration of the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Decision on forming the sub-committee. The sub-committee would consider all the issues regarding normative framework of the misdemeanour system in Montenegro. That is the first time that a sub-committee has been formed in the Parliament of Montenegro.

At their joint meeting held on 25 October, **the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare** held a control hearing of the Minister of Health and the Director of the Public Procurement Administration on the topic "Public Procurement in the Health Sector". The hearing was held at the initiative of the group of MPs, which was submitted to the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare. The meeting was attended by the Director of the Pharmacy Institution of Montenegro "Montefarm", Director of the Health Insurance Fund, Director of the Clinical Centre of Montenegro and representatives of non-governmental organisations- the Institute Alternative and the Centre for Monitoring.

At their joint meeting held on 11 November, **the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** held a control hearing of the Minister of Finance and the Minister of the Interior, on the topic: "Analysis of functioning of local self-governments". On the basis of the discussion from consultative hearing, the committees reached seven conclusions.

At their joint meeting held on 14 October, **the Gender Equality Committee and Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare** considered the Strategy for preservation and improvement of reproductive and sexual health in Montenegro 2013-2020 with the Proposal for Action Plan 2014-2015. Upon the discussion, the committees adopted conclusions. The meeting was attended by the representative of the Ministry of Health.

In addition to the aforementioned, during this period, the working bodies considered reports submitted to the Parliament and working bodies in line with the law, which was also an opportunity for considering the implementation of policies in those fields.

**Activity 11: Pursuant to Article 12 of the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette no 25/12), committees shall, once during the ordinary session of the Parliament, reach a decision on control hearing upon the request of one third of a committee members, with one item on the agenda**

On 6 February 2013, **the Anti-corruption Committee** held a consultative hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor and Director of the Administration for Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing Terrorism regarding the Affair Telekom. The decision on holding a consultative hearing was reached at the first meeting of the Anti-corruption Committee on 26 December 2012, pursuant to Article 12 of the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro.

At the sixth meeting of 24 July, one third of Committee members (five MPs) submitted the request to the Anti-corruption Committee, pursuant to Article 75 paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, for holding a special meeting of the Anti-corruption Committee with the following item of the agenda: Control hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor on measures and activities taken by the State Prosecutor's Office regarding the publishing of audio-recordings and transcripts from the meetings of DPS authorities and bodies, relating to the period from their publishing up to holding the meeting of the Committee. Pursuant to Article 75 paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, on 11 October, the Anti-corruption Committee started the control hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor on measures and activities taken by the State Prosecutor's Office on the occasion of publishing audio-recordings and transcripts from the meetings of DPS authorities and bodies, relating to the period from their publishing up to holding the meeting of the Committee. Control hearing was not completed, because Mr Veselin Vučković, Deputy Supreme State Prosecutor left the meeting.

On 30 December, pursuant to Article 75 paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, the Anti-corruption Committee started the control hearing regarding the acquisition of the motel "Zlatica" with contiguous land required to provide facilities for the special and separate unit of the Police Administration. Upon the hearing of Mr Raško Konjević, Minister of the Interior and Mr Igor Lukšić, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the meeting was adjourned due to the absence of Mr Veselin Vučković, Deputy Supreme State Prosecutor.

In line with Article 12 of the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro from 2012, and pursuant to Article 75 paragraph 1, 2 and 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette of MNE, no. 51/06 of 04.08.2006, 66/06 of 3.11.2006, Official Gazette of MNE, no. 88/09 of 31.12.2009, 80/10 of 31.12.2010, 39/11 of 4.08.2011, 25/12 of 11.05.2012), the **Committee on Political System,**

**Judiciary and Administration**, at the resumption of the sixth meeting of 26 March 2013, reached a decision to hold a control hearing of the Minister of Interior, Supreme State Prosecutor and chairs of the Supreme Court and Judicial Council, on the topic: “Acting of the Police, Prosecutor’s Office and Judiciary in cases which have characteristics of organised crime with special reference to cases “Škerović” and “Šarić-Lončar”. Control hearing planned for 9 April 2013 was postponed due to the absence of MPs from the parliamentary minority, who had submitted the initiative for holding a control hearing. Upon the invitation, the Minister of Interior and Supreme Public Prosecutor attended the meeting.

On the initiative of five MPs, **the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants**, at the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of 1 October, held a control hearing of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration and Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Montenegro Mr Igor Lukić, regarding the decision of the Government of Montenegro to join the Joint Statement on Syria.

Upon the initiative of three MPs, at the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of 30 September, the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare**, held a control hearing of the Minister of Health, while the following attendees answered MPs questions: Director of the Public Health Institute; President of Municipality of Berane; Director of Water Supply Utility Berane, Assistant Director for Transportation, an epidemiologist and infectious disease specialist from Berane and inspector for water on the topic “Epidemiological Situation in Berane”. The meeting was attended by the representative of the Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector.

At their joint meeting of 25 October, the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare** and the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget**, in line with the concerned Article of the Rules of Procedure, held a control hearing “Public procurement in the Health Sector”. The hearing was held upon the initiative of a group of MPs and submitted to the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare.

**Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports**, at its 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of 27 November, upon the request of one third of the Committee members, held a consultative hearing of the Minister of Education, on the topic:”Exploitation of Preschool-age Children for Political Party Purposes in the Kindergarten “Zvezdani vrt”, Golubovci”.

At the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of 10 December, the **Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning** supported the initiative of a group of MPs, reaching a Decision on holding a control hearing of the following: Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Minister of Health, President of Municipality of Berane, Director of the Public Utility Company and Acting Director of the Environmental Protection Agency with regard to the waste disposal in the area of Vasove vode, Beranselo, municipality of Berane.

**Activity 14: Committee on European Integration shall, at least quarterly, organise meetings where the progress in pre-accession negotiation will be considered for each opened negotiation chapter, where, if necessary, interested members of the lead committees shall be invited.**

Committee on European Integration held a meeting on 8 February, where one of the items on the agenda was related to presentation of the state-of-play in the negotiations for membership to the European Union.

At the Committee meeting of 17 June, the State Secretary for European Integration and Chief Negotiator for Negotiations on Montenegro's Accession to the EU presented the state-of-play in the negotiation process.

At the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee of 23 October, the following was considered: Report on Negotiation Chapter 3 – Right of establishment and freedom to provide services, the Report on Honouring of Commitments in Negotiation Chapter 25 – Science and Research, the Report on Honouring of Commitments in Negotiation Chapter 26 – Education and Culture.<sup>1</sup>

**Activity 17: Adoption of the Annual Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament together with the Plan for Harmonisation of the Legislation with the EU Law and Plan for considering the reports which certain bodies, in accordance with the law, submit to the Parliament on the state and activities in certain fields.**

Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, at the meeting of 19 March 2013, adopted the Annual Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament, which was drafted by the Parliamentary Service on the basis of the Government's 2013 Agenda as well as Action Plan for fulfilment of the recommendations from the European Commission's 2012 Progress Report. The plan includes an overview of proposals for laws to be considered during the Spring and Autumn Session in 2013 as well as oversight activities of the Parliament through consideration of reports that some bodies, in line with the law, submit to the Parliament.

The Legislative Work Plan covers 128 proposals for laws, 54 of which are proposals for laws planned to be adopted for the alignment with the EU law, as well as 31 reports submitted to the Parliament by certain bodies, in accordance with the law.

The Parliamentary Service prepared two Reports on implementation of the Legislative Work Plan – for the period until 30 June and for the period until 30 September, that were, as envisaged, the basis for the Revised Legislative Work Plan for Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session. The Third Report on implementation of the Legislative Work Plan in 2013 will be prepared in January 2014. The Plan and all Reports are available at the website of the Parliament.

**Activity 18: Consideration of the Information on fulfilling the Legislative Work Plan following the Spring Session along with revising the plan for the Autumn Session**

As envisaged by the Plan, Service of the Parliament of Montenegro prepared the Report on the implementation of the Legislative Work Plan for the period until 30 September, covering information on legislative activities for the period until the end of the Spring Session as well as sittings of extraordinary session held in August and September.

, The Revised Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament of Montenegro for the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2013, adopted by the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro on 3 October, was prepared based on the information on the implementation of the Legislative Work Plan. The Report on implementation of the Legislative Work Plan for 2013, including the Revised Plan, will be prepared in January 2014.

---

<sup>1</sup>Negotiations for Negotiation Chapter 3 have not been opened yet

### **Activity 19: Adoption of the Calendar of Activities for Spring and Autumn Session**

At the meeting of 19 March 2013, the Collegium of the President adopted the Calendar of Parliament's Activities for the period 1 January – 31 July 2013.

Calendar of Activities for the Autumn Session from 1 October to 31 December was adopted by the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, at the meeting of 30 September.

The calendar specifies dates for holding the sittings of the Parliament, meetings of working bodies as well as MP's days, intended for the work of MPs in MPs Groups and with citizens.

Calendar of Activities is available at the Parliament's web pages:

<http://www.skupstina.me/index.php/me/kalendar-zasijedanja>

### **Activity 20: Adoption of Annual Work Plans of working bodies**

Annual Work Plans for 2013 were adopted by all working bodies of the Parliament, except for the Legislative and Constitutional Committee, having in mind specific competences of the two committees. In addition, the Security and Defence Committee adopted the Plan of Parliamentary Oversight for 2013, in line with Article 12 paragraph 1 and 2 of the Law on Parliamentary Oversight in Security and Defence Field.

### **Activity 29: Creating a conceptual design for providing permanent adequate space for the needs of the Parliament of Montenegro**

The Commission for evaluation of designs for the new building of the Parliament of Montenegro was formed in June 2013, comprising of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Parliament, and architecture and civil engineering experts. Members of the Evaluation Commission met on 16 and 17 July 2013 to exchange opinions on the forthcoming activities. It was agreed to initiate the procedure for expanding the planned construction site of the new Parliament building.

### **Activity 30: To provide and equip additional office space as a short-term solution of the lack of space**

Additional office space, as a short-term solution for the lack of space, is provided in street Novaka Miloševa 8a on the second floor, measuring 146 m<sup>2</sup> (five offices); on the third floor the space measuring 147 m<sup>2</sup> (five offices) and in the attic the space of 102 m<sup>2</sup> (four offices) as well as in the street Novaka Miloša 6a on the third floor the space of 307 m<sup>2</sup> (12 offices).

In cooperation with the Property Administration, the office space in street Novaka Miloševa 6a was completely refurbished, and from 5 May 2013 this space has accommodated the offices of committees' chairpersons and services that function within the Sector for Support to Legislative and Oversight Functions of the Parliament that were previously located in street Vuka Karadžića, namely:

- Offices of chairpersons of the parliamentary working bodies (five offices):
  - Security and Defence Committee;

- Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget;
  - Committee on European Integration;
  - Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning and
  - Inquiry Committee, with the staff.
- Offices of the Parliamentary Service (seven offices):
    - Security and Defence Committee;
    - Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget;
    - Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning;
    - Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration;
    - Committee on European Integration;
    - Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure and
    - Section for audio and written records (lectors)

Renovation of office space in street Novaka Miloševa no 8a, with a total of 14 offices, is finished and tender procedure for procurement of office furniture is on-going.

**Activity 31: Preparation of the Terms of Reference for the development of the information support to legislative process, which should be a basis for preparation of tender documentation**

The Parliamentary Service prepared the “Initial Terms of Reference: Development of Legislative Process Support System” as well as “Terms of Reference for the design, development and implementation of parliamentary information and legislation system in the Parliament of Montenegro”. On the basis of these documents, ToR for expert support in the development and application of legislative information system within the Strategic Framework of the Parliament of Montenegro was done.

In the period from 2 to 20 September 2013, the expert mission for the support of the development of the legislative information system was carried out with the support of EU Delegation to Montenegro and financed from IPA 2011 funds. The aim of the mission was to prepare ToR for the development and application of the legislative information system, as a part of the Strategic Framework, which would be the basis for conducting the tender procedure in 2014.

**Activity 32: Adopting the set of rules – policies for governing the information system of the Parliament (Information systems security policy, Internet usage policy, Mail server usage policy, Computer virus policy, etc.)**

IT Section of the Parliament of Montenegro initially prepared 18 rules and procedures for governing information system:

1. Change Management Procedure
2. Project Management Procedure
3. Computer virus policy
4. Statement of employees on understanding and accepting obligations for access and use of Information System
5. Plan for Users in accordance with Security Policy and Procedures
6. Internet usage policy
7. Information systems security policy

8. Rulebook on competencies and accountability
9. Rulebook on managing passwords
10. Procedure on Disposal of Equipment
11. Procedure on Deleting Data from Medium
12. Procedure for Reporting on Information System, Incidents and IT Risks
13. Procedure on Classification of Information System Data
14. Procedure on the Control of External Access to Information System
15. Procedure on Access Control to IT resources
16. Procedure for Monitoring System Events
17. Back-up Managing Procedure
18. Risk Management in Information Environment of the Parliament of Montenegro.

The documents have the status of working documents.

### **Activity 33: Development of Intranet portal**

IT Section of the Parliament of Montenegro developed and in early April launched the Intranet portal of the Parliament of Montenegro. The portal can be accessed by registered users from the Parliament's network. On 30 September 2013 the portal had 109 registered users.

Information and documents important for the work of the Parliamentary Service, such as various documents necessary for daily work (application forms, tutorials), news from the EU institutions, tables of concordance of laws with the EU acquis, Progress Editor, Eurovoc etc, are available on the portal.

Intranet portal is continually developed and improved.

### **Activity 34: Initiate creation of digital documentation/archives**

Preparation activities are on-going and creation of digital documentation remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence this will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.

### **Activity 35: Adopting the "Rulebook on Organisation and Systematisation of the Parliamentary Service"**

"Rulebook on Organisation and Systematisation of the Parliamentary Service" was adopted in July 2013. The Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro, at the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of 26 December 2013, positively assessed the application of the act. On the basis of proposals of Committee members and the need for amending the Rulebook to some extent, the Administrative Committee gave its consent on the Rulebook on Amendments to the Rulebook on Organisation and Systematisation of the Parliamentary Service.

### **Activity 36: Revise Human Resources Strategy**

In line with the regular parliamentary practise, the Human Resources Development Strategy will be revised in the first quarter of 2014.

### **Activity 37: Adopting 2013 Trainings Plan**

2013 Trainings Plan was adopted together with the revised Human Resources Development Strategy 2012-2015. Trainings Plan envisages 11 trainings for employees of the Parliament of Montenegro. For each training the following is determined: target group, time schedule and a partner for the implementation of training – if it is implemented in cooperation with other organisations. Seven out of 11 planned trainings were implemented by 31 December 2013, with a total of 104 attendees.

### **Activity 39: Adopting documents for development of internal communication**

Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.

### **Activity 40: Adopting documents for development of external communication**

Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.

### **Activity 41: Drafting the Welcome Book for new employees**

Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.

### **Activity 42: Drafting the Welcome Book for MPs**

Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.

### **Activity 44: Adopting the “Rulebook on advertisements for recruiting to the Parliamentary Service”**

“Rulebook on advertisements for recruiting to the Parliamentary Service” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.

### **Activity 45: Adopting the “Rulebook on assessing skills and knowledge”**

“Rulebook on assessing skills and knowledge” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.

### **Activity 46: Adopting the “Rulebook on the content, preparation and adoption, as well as drafting of a special programme for professional training and development”**

“Rulebook on the content, preparation and adoption, as well as drafting of a special programme of professional training and development” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.

**Activity 47: Adopting the “Decision on special advisers in the Parliament of Montenegro”**

“Decision on special advisers in the Parliament of Montenegro” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.

**Activity 48: Adopting “Decision on type of award and awarding procedure”**

“Decision on type of award and awarding procedure” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.

**Activity 49: Determining the “Criteria and methods for evaluation of civil servants and state employees of the Parliamentary Service”**

“Criteria and methods for evaluation of civil servants and state employees of the Parliamentary Service” were determined at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.

**Activity 50: Adopting the Book/List of knowledge, skills and conduct**

Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.

**Activity 51: Establishing procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms in the part of competences relating to consideration of and taking positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities in respect of exercising the citizens’ rights.**

At the meeting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, held on 30 May 2012, with regard to amendments to Article 44 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro –Official Gazette of Montenegro, no. 25/12, of 11 May 2012), which stipulates that the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms “considers and takes positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities in respect of exercising the citizens’ rights”, the Committee concluded that petitions and addressing of citizens and legal entities to the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms would be considered only upon their consideration by the relevant institution- Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, and discontent of citizens with the Protector’s processing of such petition; in which case, the Committee would act in line with its control and oversight function.

The Parliament of Montenegro asked for expert support of TAIEX to establish procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and Anti-Corruption Committee regarding petitions and complaints of citizens and legal entities. On 29 August, TAIEX sent a letter to the Parliament confirming the approval of the expert help upon the request of the Parliament of Montenegro with regard to providing support for formulating written procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms in the part of competences relating the consideration of and taking positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities, in respect of exercising rights of citizens as well as procedures for activities of the Anti-corruption Committee in the part of competences of considering petitions and

forwarding them to relevant bodies, in accordance with the Committee's scope of work. TAIEX is expected to organize the expert mission in 2014 to finalize the process.

In 2013, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms received two petitions.

**Activity 52: Establishing procedures for acting of the Anti-Corruption Committee in the part of competences relating to the consideration of and taking positions on petitions and forwarding them to relevant bodies, in accordance with the Committee's scope of work**

At the fifth meeting of 27 March, the Anti-Corruption Committee discussed its competences in line with Article 48, paragraph 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, reaching a conclusion that an act regulating acting of the Committee evidently did not exist. Having in mind the significance of considering petitions in fight against corruption and organised crime, the Committee reached a conclusion to address this issue to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament for consideration and help in regulating it. In this regard, the Chairperson of the Committee sent a letter to the Collegium on 28 March, stating that it was necessary that the Collegium establish a working group or engage experts for drafting such an act.

The Parliament of Montenegro asked for expert support of TAIEX to establish procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and Anti-Corruption Committee regarding petitions and complaints of citizens and legal entities. On 29 August, TAIEX sent a letter to the Parliament confirming the approval of the expert help upon the request of the Parliament of Montenegro with regard to providing support for formulating written procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms in the part of competences relating the consideration of and taking positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities, in respect of exercising rights of citizens as well as procedures for activities of the Anti-corruption Committee in the part of competences related to considering petitions and forwarding them to relevant bodies, in accordance with the Committee's scope of work. TAIEX is expected to organise the expert mission in 2014 to finalise the process.

During 2013, six petitions were submitted to the Ant-corruption Committee.

**Activity 53: Improve procedures for citizens' addressing to the Parliament of Montenegro**

Redesign of the website has provided easier procedure for citizens' addressing to the Parliament, and all inquiries are regularly answered to. Additionally, the Parliament of Montenegro asked for expert support of TAIEX to establish procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and Anti-Corruption Committee regarding petitions and complaints of citizens and legal entities. The expert help should include an examination of possibilities for simplifying the procedure of citizens' addressing to the Parliament. On 29 August, TAIEX sent a letter to the Parliament confirming the approval of the expert help upon the request of the Parliament of Montenegro with regard to providing support for formulating written procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms in the part of competences relating the consideration of and taking positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities, in respect of exercising rights of citizens as well as procedures for activities of the Anti-corruption Committee in the part of competences of considering petitions and forwarding them to relevant bodies, in accordance with the

Committee's scope of work. TAIEX is expected to organise the expert mission in 2014 in order to finalise the process.

#### **Activity 61: Redesign of the website of the Parliament of Montenegro**

As of 21 May 2013, the redesigned website of the Parliament of Montenegro has been active. The website has been redesigned and significantly enriched in content, in accordance with the current technical achievements, significantly increased parliamentary activities and, primarily, with the needs of the citizens and other users for easier search of information.

The redesigned website, as well as its maintenance, has been completely implemented by the Service of the Parliament with its human, technical and financial resources, mainly by the IT Section in cooperation with other organisational units.

As of 21 May, it has been possible to track the number of visits to the website; since then until 31 December 2013 the website was visited 144,837 times, out of which 40,875 were unique visits. The average time spent on the website was 5 minutes and 50 seconds. Additionally, in the reporting period there were 624,542 visits to web pages, out of which 437,788 were unique visits. The average time spent on a webpage was 1 minute and 46 seconds. Visits to the new website were recorded from 130 countries.

#### **Activity 64: Parliamentary TV channel introduced on the cable networks**

The procedure of introducing the Parliamentary TV channel has been initiated in cooperation with the Broadcasting Agency, and will be continued in 2014.

#### **Activity 65: Analysis of conditions and assessment of the need for introducing the broadcasting Parliamentary TV channel**

Analysis and assessment of the need for introducing the broadcasting Parliamentary TV channel remain one of the priorities for the year to come, and will be included in the 2014 Action Plan.

#### **Activity 66: Printing of collections of research papers**

The public procurement procedure for printing services for research papers was completed and the best offer was selected. The printing of collections of research papers is on-going.

#### **Activity 67: Preparing and publishing the Annual Performance Report of the Parliament of Montenegro**

The Annual Performance Report of the Parliament of Montenegro for 2012 was prepared and published on the website of the Parliament<sup>2</sup>. Having in mind that the Performance Report of the 24<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the Parliament had been previously published, encompassing the overall scope of activities of the Parliament for 2012, and was available in electronic and printed form, in Montenegrin and English languages, and in order to rationalise the expenses, the annual Report was published only in electronic form, in Montenegrin language.

---

<sup>2</sup>The report is available at: [http://www.skupstina.me/images/dokumenti/izvjestaji-o-radu/Izvjestaj\\_o\\_radu\\_u\\_2012.pdf](http://www.skupstina.me/images/dokumenti/izvjestaji-o-radu/Izvjestaj_o_radu_u_2012.pdf)

Additionally, the Semi-annual Performance Report of the Parliament of Montenegro was published in July.

### **Activity 68: Reporting on implementation of the Plan**

Parliamentary Service prepared two Reports on the implementation of the Action Plan – for the period until 30 June and for the period until 30 September, while the third Report on the implementation of 2013 Legislative Work Plan will be prepared in January 2014. All reports are available at Parliament’s website, in Montenegrin and English Language.

### **Review of activities for which continuous implementation was envisaged in the Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro**

### **Activity 9: Working bodies shall regularly consider the implementation of conclusions previously adopted by the working bodies and/or the Parliament**

As of 1 January 2013, when, in accordance with the Action Plan, regular and systematic monitoring of implementation of conclusions of the Parliament began, 86 conclusions of the Parliament were published in the Official Gazette of Montenegro, out of which 42 conclusions were adopted in 2013.

In the reporting period the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** considered the implementation of the conclusions of the Parliament that fall under its competencies (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 39/12) during consideration of the annual Performance Report of the Public Prosecutor’s Office for 2011. Following the consideration and approval of this Report at the Committee meeting held on 14 June, the Committee, at its 21<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 23 July, proposed to the Parliament to adopt eight conclusions regarding the Performance Report of the Public Prosecutor’s Office and the Performance Report of the Prosecutorial Council for 2012. At the 10<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the First Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, the Report did not obtain the necessary majority of votes.

With regard to the Annual Performance Report of Courts for 2011, the Committee did not propose conclusions, because its consideration and explanation was not stipulated by the prior provisions of the Law on Judicial Council. Following the amendments to the Law on Judicial Council in 2012, the Annual Performance Report of Courts was returned for reconsideration to the Committee and the plenum. Following its consideration at the Committee meeting, also held on 14 June, this Report did not obtain the necessary majority of votes.

Additionally, at its 20<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 18 July, the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration proposed to the Parliament to adopt 11 conclusions regarding the 2012 Annual Report of Judicial Council on Performance of Courts in Montenegro. At the 10<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the First Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, the 2012 Annual Report of Judicial Council on Performance of Courts in Montenegro did not obtain the necessary majority of votes.

At their joint meeting of 11 November 2013, the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** and **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget**, proposed to the Parliament to adopt seven conclusions following the control hearing of Mr Raško Konjević, Minister of Interior, and Mr Radoje Žugić, Minister of Finance, on the topic: “Analysis of functioning of local self-governments”.

In the reporting period, the **Security and Defence Committee** adopted 38 conclusions and considered implementation of 12 previously adopted conclusions of the Committee, relating, among other things, to the control hearing on the subject Listings “Keljmendi” and “Šarić”, control hearing on murder case of Mr Duško Jovanović, road safety status and operations of the traffic police, information on the state of safety in the territory of the Municipality of Bar, and the work and technical equipment of the Department for Special Verification at the Police Administration, work of the Ministry of Defence with regard to destruction of excess of weapons and military equipment, as well as the integrated system of see surveillance, and equipping the members of the traffic police, the status of protection and rescue systems, with focus on strengthening the capacities of the Aviation and Helicopter units of the Ministry of the Interior and the work of the National Security Agency.

At its third meeting held on 19 February, the **Committee on European Integration** adopted five conclusions, which were later reconsidered to some extent at the fifth meeting, held on 17 June, when two initiatives addressed to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament were also adopted (*for more details see Activity 13*). With reference to conclusions adopted at the third meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 19 February, the Committee renewed the initiative from its seventh meeting held on 16 September, with regard to reconsideration of the need for determining the degree of secrecy of documents.

At its tenth meeting of 7 October, the Committee on European Integration adopted a conclusion that secretaries of lead committees should be included in consideration of draft negotiating positions to provide their expertise and suggestions and distribute the positions to the members of their committees. This approach of the Committee is based on the Conclusion adopted by the Committee on its third meeting (of 19 February), emphasising the need for enabling MPs and staff of lead committees to attend the meetings of the Committee on European Integration where negotiating positions within their competencies are considered, as well as to provide them information on draft negotiating positions under the same terms valid for the Committee on European Integration; the approach is also based on the initiative from the fifth meeting of the Committee held on 17 June regarding the participation of Parliament’s staff in the negotiation structures.

At its sixth meeting (resumption) of 29 March, the **Committee on International Relations and Emigrants** reached five conclusions relating to control hearing of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Montenegro and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Mr Igor Lukšić regarding the Platform of the Government of Montenegro for dialogue on permanent delimitation with the Republic of Croatia in the region of Prevlaka.

At the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of 1 October, apart from control hearing of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Montenegro and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Mr Igor Lukšić on Decision of the Government of Montenegro to join the Joint Statement on Syria, the Committee also discussed implementation of the conclusions adopted on its sixth meeting regarding delimitation with the Republic of Croatia in the region of Prevlaka, taking unanimous position that in 2014 a special meeting should be organised in order to discuss the implementation of the reached conclusions.

At its Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2012, held on 28 December, convened to consider proposal for financial plans with work plans of the independent regulatory bodies for 2013 (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 04/13), , the Parliament adopted three conclusions for rationalisation of spending related to the independent regulatory bodies and the Central Bank of Montenegro. The **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** considered the implementation of these conclusions in three stages, at three of its meetings, and proposed the measures to reduce spending, which resulted in amendments to the financial plans of six independent regulatory bodies. The Committee supported the proposals for amendments to the plans, adopted by the Parliament on 28 May, thus implementing the conclusions adopted in December 2012.

Bearing in mind an adverse socio-economic environment predicted for the following year, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, during consideration of proposals of financial plans with work plans for 2014 of six independent regulatory bodies (40<sup>th</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> Committee meeting, held on 16 and 27 December 2013 respectively), requested regulators to correct the proposals for 2014 financial plans following the conclusions adopted by the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro no. 04/13), which relate to 2013 plans. The regulators acted according to the requests of the Committee. The Parliament of Montenegro, at the Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of 27 December 2013, adopted proposals for financial plans together with work plans of six independent regulatory bodies for 2014.

Additionally, at its fourth meeting held on 4 February 2013, the Committee recommended to the Central Bank of Montenegro to further cut executive salaries in order to streamline business expenses. At the meeting held on 4 June, 2012 Annual Performance Report of the Central Bank was considered and the Committee was informed that the Central Bank observed the conclusion of the Parliament (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 04/13), as well as the previous recommendations of the Committee.

At its Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2012 of 28 December 2012, convened to consider the Proposal for the 2013 Budget Law of Montenegro, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted ten conclusions (Official Gazette of Montenegro no 4/13), out of which the consideration of implementation of eight conclusions was planned for the special meeting of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, as a lead working body of the Parliament in charge of issues covered by conclusions.

On 2 April 2013, the Chairperson of the Committee sent letters to the Government of Montenegro and the Ministry of Finance requesting information on action undertaken in accordance with these conclusions. With that regard, the Committee received: Information on the implementation of the parliamentary conclusions (12 April 2013), Information on indicators of financial state of local self-government in 2012 (29 May 2013), and Information on the level of earnings of employees in legal entities, joint-stock companies and limited liability companies where the state has a majority share (29 May 2013). Following the re-address of the Chairperson of the Committee to the Ministry of Finance of 27 June requesting the Information on the implementation of previously cited conclusions for the second quarter of the current year, the updated Information on the implementation of parliamentary conclusions was delivered on 10 July, along with the Analysis of effect of fiscal adjustment measures on the revenue and the expenditure side, Urging of the Ministry of Finance addressed to municipalities to deliver fiscal consolidation plans and the Decision on establishing the working group for the analysis of the existing model of taxation of natural

persons' income, profits and real estate in terms of considering the introduction of a progressive taxation model.

At its 19<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 12 July, after examining the above information and the discussion, the Committee tackled the first stage of consideration of implementation of conclusions 3-10 and stated that conclusions were implemented with a delay, partly implemented, were still under implementation or that they were not implemented. With regard to the conclusion nine, the Minister of Finance notified the Committee that there was no reference to this conclusion in the Information, since its implementation fell under the competencies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. Chairperson of the Committee addressed a letter to the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare on 24 September and requested that Information on the level of implementation of conclusion nine be submitted to the Committee by 5 October and communicated to the Ministry of Finance. It was agreed that the Committee would continue to monitor the implementation of the mentioned conclusions and determine the final position pending the submission of the Proposal for 2014 Budget Law of Montenegro.

The second phase of implementation of conclusions was considered by the Committee members at the 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of 28 November, based on the Information on implementation of Parliament's conclusions for the third quarter of 2013. Based on the submitted information and discussion carried out in two phases, the Committee evaluated the degree of implementation of conclusions regarding the consideration of the Proposal for the 2013 Budget Law of Montenegro, stating that the conclusions were not completely observed. With that regard, the Committee stated that out of eight conclusions two were implemented, two were in the final phase of implementation, two were being continuously implemented, while one conclusion was not implemented. It was noted that due to a dispute over the competences between the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, the submitted materials had no reference to the level of implementation of conclusion number nine, which recommended to the Government, inter alia, to undertake concrete measures with the aim of settling claims of employees based on final and enforceable court decisions, as was the case with former workers of "Radoje Dakić". The Committee assessed that the Government needed to continue monitoring the implementation of all Parliament's conclusions – which were not implemented or were in the drafting phase.

At its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of 27 December, following the consideration of the Proposal for 2014 Budget Law of Montenegro, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget proposed to the Parliament to adopt two conclusions. At its Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2013 of 27 December, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted these conclusions.

Additionally, at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2012, held on 28 December 2012, regarding the consideration of the Proposal for 2011 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro and the Annual Report on Performed Audits and Activities of the State Audit Institution for the period October 2011 – October 2012, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted conclusions structured into 17 items, supporting findings and recommendations of the State Audit Institution and pointing to deficiencies that needed to be eliminated before the submission of the 2012 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 1/13). These conclusions, among other things, envisage that the Government should report quarterly to the Parliament on the implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution, which was the reason the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget requested the Government to report on the level of implementation of overdue conclusions. On 24 June 2013, the Government submitted to the

Committee the Information on the implementation of the Action Plan for implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution.

In order to implement parliamentary conclusions, the Government adopted the Action Plan for Implementation of Recommendations of the State Audit Institution, appointed relevant institutions and determined the implementation deadlines. In accordance with the conclusion 15, the Government submitted to the Committee two quarterly information on the implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution, while the information for the third quarter is expected. The Committee also requested from the State Audit Institution to submit the Report on the implementation of the mentioned parliamentary recommendations in order to examine the level of implementation at a special meeting.

Audit of the 2011 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro covered 22 subjects, with total of 47 recommendations within 14 areas, which, according to the State Audit Institution, would contribute to the improvement of business operations of budget beneficiaries and solidification of financial discipline. The conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro are structured into 17 items. The Committee stated that, in accordance with conclusion 15, the Government of Montenegro adopted the Action Plan for implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution, structured into 14 areas, and also determined relevant institutions and set deadlines for the implementation, at its meeting of 29 November 2012. On 24 June, 23 September and 6 December 2013, the Ministry of Finance submitted to the Committee the information on implementation of the Action Plan for implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution for first, second and third quarter of 2013. In the light of annual report of the State Audit Institution for the period October 2012 - October 2013, which in chapter II included a detailed report on the implementation of the conclusions, and bearing in mind three quarterly reports of the Ministry of Finance on the implementation of the Action Plan for implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution as well as discussions from the 36<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> Committee meetings held on 28 and 29 November and 9 December, the Committee stated that out of the total 47 recommendations, seven were fully implemented, 25 partially implemented and 12 were not implemented. Two recommendations were in the drafting phase, while it was not possible to implement one recommendation during the reporting period. The Committee assessed that the Government needed to continue monitoring the implementation of all parliamentary conclusions supporting recommendations of the State Audit Institution – which were not implemented or were in the drafting phase.

At the Third Sitting of the First Ordinary Session held on 30 April, regarding the consideration of the Information on manner of implementation of the parliamentary conclusions related to the Aluminium Plant Podgorica AD, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted nine conclusions (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 21/13). In order to implement the conclusions, the meeting of the delegation of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget (four MPs) with the members of the Senate of the State Audit Institution was held on 11 June, where modalities of involvement of the State Audit Institution were discussed. Following the meeting, it was concluded that in order to make conclusions operational, it would be necessary for a member of the Board of Directors of KAP, the representative of the Government of Montenegro, to provide conditions, in accordance with Article 32 of the Law on Business Enterprises, for submitting the necessary documents upon the request of the State Audit Institution in order to perform the requested audits.

At the meeting held on 10 June regarding the consideration of the Report of the State Audit Institution on the audit of the “State Guarantees of the Government of Montenegro issued in

2010 and 2011”, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, apart from the conclusions of the Parliament, determined seven assessments and positions, which, among other things, envisaged holding of a control hearing regarding the escalation of the problem with functioning of the energy system of Montenegro. At the meeting held on 14 June, the Committee adopted the Decision on Holding of the Control Hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor in order to collect information on the possible existence of illegal actions and violation of state interests with regard to the ongoing problem of the functioning of the energy system of Montenegro. The control hearing was held on 3 July. Apart from the two deputies of the Supreme State Prosecutor, the meeting was also attended by the representatives of State Audit Institution. Among other things, the Committee concluded that KAP was facing major problems due to 2009 Settlement Contract; that it had not been possible to stop supplying the electricity to KAP, having in mind the Rulebook on Buildings, Facilities and Devices; no relevant economic analysis had been conducted that could confirm the justification of issuing guarantees to KAP; also that it would be necessary to review the circumstances under which the KAP guarantees had been issued, as well as the circumstances under which the unauthorised electricity supply from the European interconnection had occurred. On 1 October 2013, the Chairperson of the Committee sent a letter to the Deputy Supreme State Prosecutor where he highlighted that three months had passed since the control hearing and requested that the Committee be notified on the further course of action and undertaken activities regarding the illegal electricity supply to KAP and procedure of issuing the state guarantees, to the extent which could not jeopardise the course of the investigation.

Under the item 3 of the assessments and positions, the audit subjects (Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance and the State Aid Control Commission) were tasked to notify the Committee on the implementation of the State Audit Institution recommendations within 45 days from the day of the consideration of the Audit Report on “State Guarantees of the Government of Montenegro issued in 2010 and 2011”. Only the State Aid Control Commission notified the Committee on the possibilities of implementation of these recommendations. The deadline expired on 26 July.

At the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 4 November, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget considered the implementation of conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro related to the Aluminium Plant JSC Podgorica (KAP), published in the Official Gazette of Montenegro No 21/13. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the following: Ministry of Economy, Senate of the State Audit Institution, Bankruptcy Administration of KAP, Montenegrobonus LTD, Trade Union Organisation of Workers in Aluminium Production, Trade Union of Steelworkers of Montenegro - Trade Union of the Aluminium Plant Podgorica, Independent Trade Union of Bauxite Mine, and Trade Union of Bauxite Mine.

At the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 27 December, based on the discussion from the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Committee proposed to the Parliament to adopt the conclusion “to form an expert team made up of domestic and international experts, who would submit the study on long-term sustainability and development of the aluminium industry in Montenegro for adoption by 20 October 2013 to the Parliament of Montenegro; provide all necessary conditions for the full respect of legal obligations and obligations envisaged in the collective agreement to the KAP and Bauxite Mines employees, as well as for settlement of existing obligations incurred based on the employment rights; and that the State Audit Institution, in accordance with the law, perform an audit of debts of KAP and submit a special report to the Parliament and the Government by 31 May 2013. Since the above conclusions were not implemented in due time, the Parliament insisted that the Government of Montenegro or the State Audit Institution fully complied with the conclusion of the Parliament. On 27 December, at the Eighth Sitting

of the Second Ordinary Session in 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the conclusion.

At the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 26 July, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget proposed to the Parliament five conclusions regarding the consideration of 2012 Performance Report of the Commission for Concessions, which the Parliament adopted at the Eighth Sitting of the First Ordinary Session held on 30 July.

At the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 19 and 20 November and 6 December 2013, regarding the consideration of the following: Performance Report of the Investment and Development Fund JSC for 2012 with the Report of the Independent Auditor on Auditing of Financial Statements of the Fund for 2012, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget proposed to the Parliament to adopt six conclusions, for the Performance Report of the Financial Stability Forum of Montenegro in 2012 the Committee proposed to the Parliament to adopt six conclusions, and for the Performance Report of the Deposit Insurance Fund for 2012 the, Committee proposed to the Parliament to adopt five conclusions. On 20 November, at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the above conclusions.

At the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 27 December, regarding the consideration of the Decision on accepting the annex to the long-term land lease agreement, signed between the Government of Montenegro and the Northstar Consortium JSC Podgorica and the Equest Capital Limited Jersey, UK, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget proposed to the Parliament to adopt the conclusion. On 27 December, at the Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the above conclusion.

In accordance with the 2013 Activity Plan, at the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September, the **Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms** considered the Information on implementation of the Action Plan measures for promotion of the prison system with regard to the Information on action of the Police Administration in accordance with recommendations of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro provided in the Special Report on the state of the facilities of the Police Administration for detaining arrested persons from 2011, which the Police Administration had submitted to the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, in accordance with the Conclusion that the Committee had adopted at its 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 6 February. Following the discussion, the Committee unanimously supported the Information and decided to draft a conclusion, which would be submitted to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Interior and the Police Administration.

At the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 22 October, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms held a control hearing of the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare. The topic of the control hearing was: "Implementation of Conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette MNE, No 36/11) adopted on the occasion of consideration of the Special Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro on the State of Mentally Ill Persons Placed in Institutions against the Background of CPT report (advisory body of the Council of Europe) following the visit of CPT to Montenegro in February 2013". In accordance with Article 77 paragraph 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, the Committee drafted and submitted to the Parliament the Report on the Control Hearing of the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, with the proposal for conclusion.

At its second meeting held on 25 March, the **Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports** formulated three conclusions, one of which referred to holding of the consultative hearing of the Minister of Education, held on 5 June on the topic: "Current situation in pre-school education, with special emphasis on the kindergarten in Golubovci".

Following the control hearing of the Minister of Health Mr Miodrag Radunović, at its 20<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 30 September on the topic "Epidemiological Situation in Berane", the **Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare** adopted five conclusions. At its meeting held on 3 December, the Committee adopted the Control Hearing Report with conclusions. As the conclusions (one and four) relate to specific institutions, the Report was addressed to the Supreme State Prosecutor, Basic State Prosecutor's Office in Berane and Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development in order to inform the Committee on the undertaken activities.

At the resumption of the fifth meeting held on 16 September, the **Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure** adopted four conclusions with regard to the control of the privatisation procedure of HTP "Onogošt" AD Nikšić. Subsequently, the Commission implemented two conclusions, number 2 and 3, by addressing the authorised state bodies – through submitting initiatives to Supreme State Prosecutor's Office and Police Administration, as well as the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism and bankruptcy administrator in the concerned bankruptcy process.

**Activity 10: Working bodies shall organise consultative/control hearings dedicated to consideration of implementation of laws which, according to the assessments of working bodies' members, have been crucial or current in the relevant area, and which have been adopted in the previous one-year period or earlier**

The implementation of the Law on Research and Production of Hydrocarbon with reference to fiscal policy for production of hydrocarbon was considered at the seventh meeting of the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget**, held on 12 and 18 March 2013, although the meeting was not convened as a consultative hearing.

At its 30<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21 October and 11 November, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget held a consultative hearing on the topic: "Implementation of the Law on NGOs regarding their funding". The meeting was attended by the representatives of Ministry of Finance, Commission for Allocation of Games of Chance Revenue, Council for Cooperation of the Government of Montenegro and NGOs, "Civic Alliance", coalition of NGOs "Saradnjom do cilja" (Reaching the Goal through Cooperation), "Institute Alternative", and NGO "PK Visokogorci". Based on the held consultative hearing, at the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 19 and 20 November and 6 December 2013, the Committee formulated assessments and positions (six) and submitted them to the Parliament, Government and the participants in the discussion.

At their joint meeting held on 11 November, the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** and the **Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** held a control hearing of the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Interior on the topic "Analysis of functioning of local self-governments". The goal of the control hearing was to analyse functioning of local self-governments and review the implementation of legislation in this field as well as to define issues that would be corrected by the upcoming amendments to the normative acts, inter alia, the Law on Local Self-Government, which is being prepared.

At their joint meeting held on 20 December, the **Anti-Corruption Committee** and the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** held a consultative hearing on the topic: “Providing independence of the Council and local offices for misdemeanours through reforming legal framework in part relating to appointments and dismissal from duty of magistrates”. At their first joint meeting, the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration adopted the Decision on forming a subcommittee. The subcommittee will consider all issues relating to the normative framework of the misdemeanour system in Montenegro.

At its 16<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25 September, in accordance with the Work Plan of the Committee, the **Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms** considered the Information on Implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law, and submitted the Report with the proposal for the decision to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament and the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights.

At its fifth meeting held on 5 June, the **Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports** held a consultative hearing of the Minister of Education, on the topic: “Current situation in the field of pre-school education, with special emphasis on the kindergarten in Golubovci”.

**Activity 12: In accordance with Article 13 of the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 25/12), proposal of an act submitted by the members of the parliamentary minority shall be included in the agenda of the sitting of the Parliament**

In accordance with Article 13 of the Decision on Amendments of the Rules of the Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 25/12), the following proposals for acts submitted by members of the parliamentary minority were included in the agenda of the sitting of the Parliament in the reporting period:

- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Data Confidentiality, considered on the First Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of the Parliament in 2013, and adopted on 1 March;
- Proposal for the Law on Protection of Public Interests in Electric Power Sector of Montenegro, considered on 28 May, at the Third Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of the Parliament in 2013;
- Proposal for the Decision on amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, considered on 2 July at the Eighth Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of the Parliament;
- Proposal for the Law on amnesty of persons convicted of criminal offences prescribed by Montenegrin legislation and persons convicted by foreign criminal judgements executed in Montenegro, considered on the Tenth Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of the Parliament in 2013, and adopted on 26 July;
- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Administrative Fees, adopted at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament, on 20 November 2013;
- Proposal for the Law on Protection of Public Interests in Mining and Metallurgy Sector, originally adopted at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament, on 20 November 2013, and after being returned by the President of

Montenegro for re-vote, it was re-adopted at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament, held on 17 December 2013;

- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Tax on Insurance Premiums adopted at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament, held on 23 December 2013;
- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Games of Chance, adopted at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament, held on 23 December 2013;
- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Territorial Organization of Montenegro, adopted by the Parliament of Montenegro at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session, held on 23 December 2013;

**Activity 13: Considering draft negotiating positions by chapters at the meetings of the Committee on European Integration and giving opinions and suggestions, as well as, if necessary, holding meetings in order to obtain information on preparation of negotiating positions from negotiating structures of the Government; the Committee will define the model of participation of members of lead committees at these meetings.**

At the meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 19 February, positive opinion was adopted on the Draft negotiating position for Negotiation Chapter 26 – Education and Culture, which was under considered. The following conclusions were also adopted at the meeting:

- Urgently adopt a document which would define relation between the Parliament and the Government of Montenegro in the process of accession negotiation of Montenegro to the EU;
- Define the consequence of a possibly negative opinion of the Committee on the draft negotiating position, course of negotiation or the work of certain participants in the process;
- Reconsider the need for assigning the level of confidentiality to documents that do not contain any, or that in larger part do not contain information which would be the reason for classifying them in such category, in order to ensure greater transparency in negotiation process;
- Provide a reasonable period of time for presenting the members and service of the Committee on European Integration with the nature of the negotiating position;
- Enable MPs and service of a lead committee to attend the meetings of the Committee on European Integration where negotiating positions within its competencies are considered, as well as familiarize with the draft negotiating positions under the same terms valid for the Committee on European Integration.

At the meeting of the Committee held on 17 June, within the discussion relating to conclusions adopted at the Committee meeting held on 19 February, two initiatives were agreed and referred to Collegium of the President of the Parliament. The initiatives were related to the dynamics of work of a working group dealing with the preparation of the Resolution, which would precisely define the role of the Parliament in the accession negotiation and the level of participation and reporting of employees of the Parliament who are members of the working groups for preparation of negotiations.

At the eighth meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 16 September, draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 5 – Public Procurement was considered and

positive opinion on the mentioned document was adopted. The closed meeting of the Committee on European Integration, where negotiating position was considered, was for the first time attended by the members of the lead committee for the mentioned field, i.e. two members of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

At the seventh meeting of the Committee, held on 19 September, draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 6 – Commercial Law was considered and positive opinion given. The meeting was attended by a total of seven members of the lead committee, i.e. Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

At the ninth meeting of the Committee, held on 23 September, draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 10 – Information Society and Media was considered. The Committee unanimously adopted proposal for amending the draft negotiating position, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration was informed thereof. The meeting was attended by nine members of the lead committees – Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration.

At the first resumption of the sixth meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 25 July, activities within Negotiation Chapter 23 – Judiciary and Fundamental Rights were presented by representatives of the Negotiating Group in charge of negotiation chapters 23 and 24 and Working Group for Negotiation Chapter 23. At the second resumption of the sixth meeting of the Committee, held on 30 July, activities within Negotiation Chapter 24 – Justice, Freedom and Security were presented by the representative of the Working Group for Chapter 24.

At the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee held on 7 October, draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 23 - Judiciary and fundamental rights and draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for 24 - Justice, freedom and security were considered. After the Committee unanimously adopted the Proposal for amending the draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 23 - Judiciary and fundamental rights, and members of the negotiating team agreed, the position was changed accordingly. Furthermore, draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for 24 - Justice, freedom and security was unanimously positively assessed. Twelve members of the lead committees participated at the meeting – Security and Defence Committee, Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration, Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, Anti-Corruption Committee. At this meeting they adopted the conclusion that it was necessary to include the secretaries of the lead committees of the Parliament of Montenegro in the part of the negotiation process relating to the consideration of draft negotiating positions. Apart from providing their expert opinion and suggestions to the proposed text, the secretaries should also distribute the positions to the members of their respective committees. With this regard, a request was sent to the Secretary General of the Parliament concerning the adoption of a decision on the need to use confidential data, in accordance with the “need to know” principle.

At its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 8 October, the Committee considered draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European

Union for Chapter 7 - Intellectual Property Law. At the meeting, the Committee members unanimously voted in favour of the opinion on the draft negotiating position and informed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration thereof. The meeting was attended by 5 members of the lead committees – Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports.

**Activity 15: Committee on European Integration, in cooperation with the lead committees, will organize thematic forums under certain negotiating chapters, in the form of public debates, round tables, etc., where expert and other interested public would have an opportunity to express opinions and suggestions prior to establishing negotiating positions and considerations by the Committee**

With the aim of enhancing the role of the Parliament of Montenegro, in terms of providing transparent and inclusive negotiating process, the Committee organized the first public debate titled “Montenegro and European Union – Information Society and Media” on 17 September, where European and national legislation, covered by Chapter 10, were presented.

Beside the members of the Committee on European Integration and members of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration, the Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro, member of the negotiating group for Chapter 10 – Information Society and Media, Head and members of the Working Group for Chapter 10, as well as representatives of media, nongovernmental sector, Telekom of Montenegro and OSCE were among 44 participants of the public debate.

On 4 October, the Committee on European Integration organised the second public debate on the topic “Montenegro and the European Union – Negotiation Chapters 23 and 24”. On that occasion, the importance of promotion of the oversight role of the Parliament of Montenegro was emphasised in part of monitoring the implementation of the transposed acquis. A meeting was organised after the debate, where draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 23 - Judiciary and fundamental rights was considered and amended. Members of the negotiating team agreed with the amendments (*see Activity 13*).

Apart from the members of the Committee on European Integration, the debate was also attended by the representatives of the Committee on Security and Defence, Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Legislation, Anti-Corruption Committee, and the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, Secretary General of the Parliament, and the representatives of OSCE Mission, UNDP, NGOs and media.

**Activity 16: Committee on European Integration will regularly consider reports on fulfilling obligations from SAA and quarterly reports on overall activities within the process of stabilisation and association, which are being regularly submitted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration.**

At the meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 11 March, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> quarterly reports on overall activities within the process of stabilisation and association to the EU were considered, as well as 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> reports on the fulfilment of obligations arising from the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, submitted to the Committee by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration.

In addition, at the meeting held on 17 June, the Committee considered 31<sup>st</sup> quarterly report on overall activities within the Process of Stabilisation and Association to the EU.

At 14<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23 October, the Committee considered 32<sup>nd</sup> quarterly report on overall activities within the Process of Stabilisation and Association to the EU.

**Activity 21: Providing specialized training for Members of the Parliament and Service on certain fields of the EU law, particularly with regard to negotiation Chapters 23 and 24**

Members of the Security and Defence Committee participated at the seminar for members of the parliament on national security policy, held on 1 and 2 July in Garmisch-Partenkirchen (Germany), organized by the Centre George C. Marshall. The Seminar was attended by seven members of the parliament and one employee in the Service of the Parliament.

Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms participated at the international seminar “Relations between institutions of ombudsman and interested parties”, which was held on 10 and 11 September in Regional School of Public Administration in Danilovgrad, in organization of the European Commission, Directorate General for Enlargement, TAIEX, and in cooperation with the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA) and the Council for Regional Cooperation.

With the aim of greater consideration of gender aspects through the work of the Parliament, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro – Department for democratization and support of experts of OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) from Warsaw, Gender Equality Committee organized, on 19 and 20 July, a seminar for members of the Committee and representatives of certain working bodies of the Parliament, such as: Security and Defence Committee, Administrative Committee, Anti-corruption Committee, Committee on European Integration and Committee on International Relations and Emigrants. The seminar was attended by 15 members of the parliament as well as five employees in the Service of the Parliament.

Seminar “Fight against organized crime, corruption and money laundering”, held in Brussels on 4 and 5 March 2013, in organization of the European Parliament, was attended by eight members of the parliament, i.e. Chairperson and members of the Anti-corruption Committee, as well as two representatives of the Service.

On 4 October 2013, the members and the Service of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration attended the Public Debate “Montenegro and EU – Negotiation Chapter 23 and 24”, organised by the Committee on European Integration of the Parliament of Montenegro.

From 2 to 6 December 2013, the representatives of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration participated in the Study Programme intended for the MPs and the Service of the Parliament, held in Berlin and organised by the German Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS).

Three members of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports and one employee of the service of the Committee participated at the parliamentary seminar entitled “Youth and Education in the Balkans”, held on 6 and 7 November 2013 in the European Parliament in Brussels.

Employees of the service of the Committee on European Integration and Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget participated at the Regional Training dedicated to the parliamentary oversight of IPA funds in Skopje, on 29 and 30 November.

Upon proposal by the Anti-Corruption Committee, the expert support, was requested from TAIEX regarding the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Procurement, which was scheduled by the Government for IV quarter. However, the European Commission did not approve this request by the Parliament of Montenegro, with justification that there was no need for involvement of TAIEX experts because the Government had already been supported with EU funds for making the Draft Law on Public Procurement, with consultation of various EU experts. The European Commission's response also stated that the Directorate General for the Internal Market and Services would assess the harmonisation of this law with the EU acquis once the text of the Draft Law has been finalised, and that any duplication of effort and funding should be avoided.

**Activity 22: Provide adequate expert support through preparing quality reports and minutes and other materials from the sittings of the Parliament and meetings of working bodies**

The Service of the Parliament, i.e. the Service of the Sector for Support to Legislative and Oversight Functions of the Parliament prepared the reports and minutes from all the meetings of the working bodies, which can be found at the website of the Parliament. Apart from that, the secretaries of working bodies prepared briefings for the members of the working bodies for the proposals for the laws, as well as for other items of the agenda.

In order to achieve greater uniformity and improve quality of reports and minutes from the meetings of the working bodies, the activities for preparation of instructions for drafting reports and minutes have started. These activities will remain one of the priorities in 2014 and will be included in the Action Plan for the following year.

**Activity 23: According to dynamics of referring the acts towards the working bodies, draft briefings with the overview of harmonisation with the EU law and assessment of Preliminary Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) submitted by the Government with certain proposals for laws**

A total of 198 briefings were prepared for proposals for laws submitted by the Government, as well as for the other items of the agenda.

Committee for Political System, Judiciary and Administration prepared 43 briefings (of which 24 for proposals for laws), Security and Defence Committee 5 (for proposals for laws), Committee on International Relations and Emigrants 54 (of which 34 for proposals for laws), Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget 32 (of which 23 for proposals for laws), Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms 13 (of which 3 for proposal for laws), Gender Equality Committee 5 (for 5 proposals for laws), Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning 20 (of which 17 for proposals for laws), Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports 8 (for proposals for laws), Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare 6 (for proposal for laws) and Administrative Committee 12 briefings.

In the reporting period, the secretaries of working bodies prepared 91 briefings containing review findings of tables of concordance.

In 2013, the Government submitted 104 proposals for laws to the Parliament, of which 44 were defined by the Agenda of the Government and/or Action Plan for fulfilment of recommendations from Montenegro 2012 Progress Report of the European Commission, while drafting of Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) was planned for 37 of them. Out of this number of proposals for laws, only five were submitted to the Parliament with the RIA (Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Spatial Planning and Construction, Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Foreign Investments, Proposal for the Law on the Protection of the Natural and Cultural-Historical Area of Kotor, Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Anti-discrimination Law and Proposal for the Law on Construction Products).

Briefings carried out for these five proposals for laws contained findings of reviews of Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA).

#### **Activity 24: Efficient monitoring of harmonisation with the EU legislation**

Services of the committees in charge of monitoring and assessing the alignment of Montenegrin laws with the EU acquis continuously studied proposals for laws, explanations for adoption of laws and tables of concordance, which were submitted by the Government with proposals for laws.

In the reporting period, a total of 91 tables of concordance were reviewed and over 20 technical corrections made.

#### **Activity 25: Regular update of database with data from tables of concordance and available information on screening**

Regularly updated databases of tables of concordance and documents related to screening can be accessed via intranet portal. Database of tables of concordance had 1784 entries on 31 December 2013, containing data for 561 proposals for laws and 1223 celex, while the database of screening (*screening* lists, presentations, reports, etc.) had 1504 files. The data are available to all registered users of intranet portal, which counted 115 of them on 31 December 2013.

#### **Activity 26: Recruitment of experts for certain areas for checking of tables of concordance, primarily using the support of TAIEX. In consultation with chairpersons of committees, the Service will prepare general list of the most important proposals for laws, which, in accordance with the Legislative Work Plan, are expected to enter the legislative procedure in order to provide timely expert support for checking the tables**

The list of proposals for laws needing expert support was compiled following the consultation of secretaries and chairpersons of the committees.

Upon proposal by the Anti-Corruption Committee, the expert support for compliance analysis of the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Procurement, which was scheduled by the Government for IV quarter, was requested from TAIEX in 2013. However, the European Commission did not approve this request of the Parliament of Montenegro, with justification that there was no need for involvement of TAIEX experts, because the

Government had already been supported with EU funds for making the Draft Law on Public Procurement, with consultation of various EU experts. The European Commission's response also stated that the Directorate General for the Internal Market and Services would assess the harmonisation of this law with the EU acquis once the text of the Draft Law has been finalised, and that any duplication of engagement and funding should be avoided.

**Activity 27: Timely and adequate preparation of research papers, in accordance with requirements of beneficiaries**

Since the beginning of January until the end of December, Section for Research, Analysis, Library and Documentation Prepared and published a total of eight research papers, six of which at the request of members of the Parliament, and two at the initiative of the Section, containing 301 pages.

**Activity 28: Provide answers to questions submitted via ECPRD network**

Since the beginning of January until the end of December, the Section prepared and sent answers, in the form of brief information prepared in English, to 70 ECPRD requests. Section prepared and presented answers to 90% of ECPRD questionnaires sent to the Parliament of Montenegro. By comparison, the majority of parliaments members of ECPRD network answer on average to 70-80% of requests received.

**Activity 38: Implementation of planned trainings**

From 1 January to 31 December 2013, seven out of 11 trainings envisaged by the Trainings Plan for 2013 were implemented. There were 104 attendees in total.

In the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013, 82 trainings were implemented in total, with 326 attendees. Seven trainings were envisaged by the Trainings Plan for 2013, 34 were organised by the Human Resources Administration based on the Trainings Implementation Plan, and the employees of the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro attended 41 more trainings, organised through cooperation with other national, foreign and international organisations.

**Activity 43: Creating handbooks**

Continuous work on handbooks based on the document "Managing jobs in the Parliament" is ongoing. Drafts of the following seven handbooks were completed so far:

- Basics of Management,
- Change Management,
- Increasing Performance and Motivation,
- Skills of conducting interviews with managers,
- Teamwork and Leadership,
- Planning and Evaluation of Trainings, and
- Mentorship.

**Activity 54: Continue to provide opportunities to representatives of interested public to participate in the work of working bodies**

Representatives of interested public have an opportunity to participate at the meetings of the working bodies, in accordance with Article 67 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament. In 2013, about 230 attendances of the representatives of the civil sector were recorded, including individuals and representatives of about 40 NGOs. About 70 representatives of international organisations in Montenegro attended the meetings of working bodies.

Additionally, six representatives of NGO sector participated in the work of the Working Group of Administrative Committee, founded with a task to continue the procedure of considering the proposal of non-governmental organisations for adopting the act that would determine the manner and procedure of election of NGO sector representatives in bodies formed by the Parliament of Montenegro.

**Activity 55: Respond regularly to all requests for free access to information submitted in accordance with the law**

All requests for free access to information are responded to regularly. During 2013, a total of 60 requests for free access to information were submitted to the Parliament (with 259 items), and they were responded to in the following manner:

- access was allowed for 35 requests,
- access was denied for 16 requests, since the Parliament did not have the requested information,
- response to seven requests was in a form of notification that the information was disclosed.

The responses to two requests received on 27 December 2013 will be sent in 2014.

**Activity 56: Organising “Children’s Parliament”**

“Children’s Parliament” was organized on 2 December 2013, on the occasion of 20 November, the Day of adoption of Convention on the Rights of the Child, in cooperation with the Centre for Children’s Rights of Montenegro, and the support of Save the Children for the North West Balkans. The topic of V Children’s Parliament was poverty, and 47 children in total participated at the session.

**Activity 57: Continuing with implementation of the project “Democracy Workshops” and establish another workshop related to the topic of the EU**

In the period January – December 2013, 224 workshops were implemented, where 5,184 students participated (15 from the primary school “Bernard Bolzano” from Tabor, Czech Republic) as well as 300 teachers (3 from the Czech primary school) from 60 primary schools from all over Montenegro and one primary school from the Czech Republic. During 174 workshops on the topic “Democracy and Parliament”, and 50 workshops on the topic “European Union”, a total of 175 children’s newspapers and 49 radio segments were created. A total of 13 Members of the Parliament of Montenegro from parliamentary majority and parliamentary minority participated as guests in democracy workshops. Guests of democracy workshops also included the President and Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro, as well as the President of the Parliament of Austria, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, a member of the European Parliament, Secretary General of Hellenic Parliament, and others.

Due to a large interest of schools, the number of workshops increased from September, from eight to nine workshops per week..

**Activity 58: Organising visits to the Parliament for groups of citizens and similar events (exhibitions, concerts, etc.)**

In the period January – December 2013, the following was implemented:

- Six visits of students of Montenegrin Association of Political Science Students – MAPSS (around 150 persons), and on 28 September 2013, a visit of MAPSS and IAPSS (International Association of Political Science Students) students has been organised;
- One visit of students of Montenegrin American Youth Alumni Association – MAYAA, on 29 October 2013. The visit was organised as part of the Week of Civic Education project;
- 170 visits of students, under the project “Democracy Workshops”, attended by 3893 students from 51 schools;
- Awarding of certificates to attendees of “Democracy Workshops” was organised in Villa Gorica on 11 June and 25 December;
- Exhibition on the occasion of awarding certificates to attendees of “Democracy Workshops”, containing photographs of participants, cover pages of newspapers and a selection of entries by students and teachers in the Guest Book;
- Exhibition of photographs from the previous four sessions of the Children’s Parliament on the occasion of 20 November - the Day of adoption of Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- Visit of the European Movement – France, 11 October 2013. European Movement is a French association that gathers, apart from political affiliation, both women and men that are advocating building of the European Union with a single federal perspective; and
- Twelve-year-old Nađa Janković, student of junior Music School from Tivat, in class of Professor Srđan Bulatović, who won first place at the International Classical Guitar Competition in Almeria (Andalusia) in October, performed on 30 December, during the award ceremony to the best employees.

**Activity 59: Continuing with implementation of Internship programme and developing a model that is going to be implemented in 2014**

The Parliament provided Internship for three students of final year of graduate and postgraduate studies in 2013, who expressed their interest in completing internship in the Parliament. Creation of the model that is going to be implemented in 2014 is ongoing, as well as consideration of opportunities for cooperation with other parliaments in this segment.

**Activity 60: Regularly publishing information on parliamentary activities on the website of the Parliament**

All information on the work of the Parliament is regularly published on the website. The website contains all information relating to legislative procedure, including proposals for laws, amendments, reports and minutes of working bodies, as well as voting listings. During

2013, a total of 4,690 information, announcements, press statements, with 1,739 accompanying photographs, were published on the website.

In the same period, Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol of the Parliament of Montenegro issued 375 permanent accreditations for journalists and cameramen/photo reporters from 25 electronic and printed media, eight out of which are editorial boards outside Montenegro. Additionally, 157 daily accreditations were issued. In the same period, 119 individual journalist's questions relating to parliamentary activities were processed and responded to.

From 21 May to 31 December 2013, the website of the Parliament was visited 144,837 times in total, out of which 40,875 were unique visits. The new website was visited from 130 countries in total.

**Activity 62: Informing the public on the most important parliamentary activities via the electronic newsletter "Open Parliament"**

From 1 January to 31 December 2013, eleven newsletters in total were published and sent (for the period December 2012 - November 2013). Furthermore, the new website of the Parliament has an electronic sign up form, through which all interested parties can sign up to receive the newsletter to their e-mail address.

"Open Parliament" is an electronic publication on the work of the Parliament of Montenegro, providing information about the most important parliamentary activities on a monthly basis. Publication of the newsletter began in January 2011, in cooperation of the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro with the NGO "Centre for Democratic Transition", with the financial support of the European Commission through the EU Delegation to Montenegro. As of March 2012, the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro has fully undertaken editing, translation, layout and publishing of newsletters. The newsletter is published on the website of the Parliament of Montenegro, in Montenegrin and English language, and it is sent electronically to nearly 900 domestic and international addresses, including the addresses of embassies in Montenegro and Members of the European Parliament. A total of 11 newsletters are published per year (excluding August due to annual leave).

**Activity 63: Regularly updating of listings of public voting on the website of the Parliament**

IT Section is continuously publishing listings of electronic voting from the sittings of the Parliament on the website of the Parliament. Listings of electronic voting are published no later than the following business day, and exceptionally, for detailed control purposes, the deadline for publishing may be prolonged to no longer than three business days when there are several instances of voting in one day.

Listings of electronic voting are published with the material the voting is related to, and the draft of a special software solution– voting base has begun in order to enable users (primarily citizens) better insight, and better and faster search.

# Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013

## Implementation Report

- Table overview -

### Legend:

Implemented
Ongoing implementation
Continuous implementation
Delay in implementation

STRENGTHENING THE LEGISLATIVE AND OVERSIGHT ROLE	
1.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> Work on amendments of the Constitution</p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Constitutional Committee</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Spring session</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> The number of meetings of the Constitutional Committee Constitutional Committee formulated Proposal for Amendments to the Constitution of Montenegro and Proposal for the Constitutional Law on the Implementation of Amendments to the Constitution of Montenegro.</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> At the 12<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session in 2013, on 31 July 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro of 25<sup>th</sup> Convocation adopted and proclaimed Amendments I to XVI to the Constitution of Montenegro and Constitutional Law on the Implementation of Amendments I to XVI to the Constitution of Montenegro.</p> <p>Following the adoption of the constitutional amendments and subsequent adoption of the amendments to the Law on the Constitutional Court of Montenegro, at its meetings (15-19), the Constitutional Committee carried out the procedure for determining the proposal for election of five judges of the Constitutional Court of Montenegro and determined and submitted the procedure to the Parliament, in accordance with the defined competences. At the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2013, the Parliament of</p>

	Montenegro of 25 <sup>th</sup> Convocation adopted on 27 December 2013, Decisions on election of judges of the Constitutional Court of Montenegro.
2.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>The adoption of the Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives in accordance with the OSCE/ODIHR and Venice Commission recommendations, in particular with regard to the dissolution of coalitions and their financial obligations, as well as extension of mandate of the State Election Commission to local elections. The law should address the issue of years of residence as a condition for voting rights and provide penalties for violations of certain provisions, particularly with regard to restrictions in participation of public officials in election campaigns</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Parliament</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  IV quarter</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Working group has been formed for preparation of the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives in accordance with the OSCE/ODIHR and Venice Commission recommendations.  Number of meetings of the working group  Compromise reached with regard to contentious provisions  Proposal for the Law put in procedure  Law adopted</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  At the Seventh Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of 31 May 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted Conclusions on Building Trust in the Election Process. A special working group was formed on the basis of the Conclusions, with the task to analyse and evaluate the need to prepare proposals for amendments to: Electoral Register Law, Law on Identity Card, Law on Registers of Temporary and Permanent Residence, Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives, Law on Financing of Political Parties and Law on Montenegrin Citizenship, based on their own observations and OSCE/ODIHR and Council of Europe recommendations, and taking into account the standards of the European Union in this field.</p> <p>Following the adoption of proposals for amendments to the concerned laws, the Parliament of Montenegro will constitute the Working Group as a temporary working body, which will have competences of parliamentary oversight over the work of state authorities, state administration bodies and local self-government bodies.</p> <p>Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process held 34 meetings by the end of 2013. The meetings were open to public, with a constant press coverage and reporting in Montenegro. Starting from the defined methodology of work, a sub-group was formed with the aim to consider in more detail remarks, suggestions and proposals for amending the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives, and to prepare, after a comprehensive analysis, the draft amendments to the law. At the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 8 November 2013, the Working Group determined a part of the Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives. The draft</p>

	<p>does not contain transitional and final provisions, while certain provisions were conditionally accepted by some members of the Working Group. Substantial amendments that were proposed, and the issues that dominated during the consideration of this law, refer to the composition and jurisdiction of the State Election Commission and different ways of identifying voters at the polling station. Electronic identification of voters was proposed, though its effective implementation is subject to the procurement of AFIS system, which will be at the same time useful for the Ministry of the Interior to carry out its responsibilities. The draft of this law was submitted to the Ministry of the Interior and the Agency for Data Protection and Free Access to Information, so they could examine the proposed standards and deliver an opinion. The mentioned institutions submitted their opinions to the Working Group. The Working Group did not determine the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives by the end of 2013.</p>
3.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b></p>
	<p><b>Adopting the Law on Financing of Political Parties</b></p>
	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliament</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> III quarter</p>
	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Working Group has been formed for drafting the text of the draft law Number of meetings of the Working group The text of the proposal for the law Prepared Law adopted</p>
	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> At the Seventh Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of 31 May 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted Conclusions on Building Trust in the Election Process. A special working group was formed on the basis of the Conclusions, with the task to analyse and evaluate the need to prepare proposals for amendments to: Electoral Register Law, Law on Identity Card, Law on Registers of Temporary and Permanent Residence, Law on Election of Councillors and Representatives, Law on Financing of Political Parties and Law on Montenegrin Citizenship, based on their own observations and OSCE/ODIHR and Council of Europe recommendations, and taking into account standards of the European Union in this field.</p> <p>Following the adoption of proposals for amendments to the concerned laws, the Parliament of Montenegro will constitute the Working Group as a temporary working body, which will have competences of parliamentary oversight over the work of state authorities, state administration bodies and local self-government bodies.</p> <p>Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process held 34 meetings by the end of 2013. The meetings were open to public, with a constant press coverage and reporting in Montenegro. When it comes to activities on amending the Law on Financing of Political Parties, with the aim of comprehensive consideration of this matter, the Working Group interviewed Mr Radoje Žugić, Minister of Finance, and members of the Government’s working group previously formed in this respect within the Ministry of Finance. Also, the co-chairs of the Working Group sent a letter to the Ambassador Mr Mitja Drobnič, Head of the EU Delegation to Montenegro, requesting EU expert assistance for the Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process in the final drafting of the Draft Electoral Register Law, as</p>

	<p>well as the draft law that should regulate the financing of political parties, financing of election campaigns and other issues relating to the financial operation of political parties.</p> <p>After the consideration and comprehensive analysis of the Law on Financing of Political Parties and submitted proposals and suggestions, the Working Group formed a sub-group consisting of members of the parliamentary Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget with representation of all parliamentary groups in the Parliament of Montenegro. This sub-group held six meetings, where it was presented with proposals and suggestions submitted with the aim to amend the Law on Financing of Political Parties, as well as with the working version of the Law on Financing of Political Entities and Election Campaigns submitted by the Ministry of Finance. Five possible proposals, in the form of amendments, were agreed upon by the sub-group for the amendment of the Law on Financing of Political Parties, though it was emphasised that some of the amendments should be further developed. Consolidated text of the draft law, which would regulate the issue of financing of political entities and election campaigns in a new manner or the amendments to the existing legislation in this area were not determined by mentioned sub-group and the Working Group for Building Trust in the Election Process. The Working Group did not determine the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Financing of Political Parties.</p>
4.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Adopting the Plan on Greater Consideration of Gender Aspects Through Work of the Parliament</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Collegium  Gender Equality Committee</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  III quarter</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of female MPs  Number of female MPs in delegations in international organisations and bodies</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  At its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21 October, Gender Equality Committee agreed on the methodology for drafting the plan for greater consideration of gender aspects through the work of the Parliament, considered given proposals, agreed on adopting the plan by the end of February 2014 and authorized the chair and deputy chair of the Committee to discuss this issue with the Vice President of the Parliament tasked by the Collegium of the President of the Parliament to follow the work of this Committee. Overview of the composition of the working bodies and standing delegations of the Parliament of Montenegro was prepared for the meeting.</p> <p>On 31 December, the 25<sup>th</sup> convocation of the Parliament of Montenegro comprised of 12 (14.8%) female MPs and 69 male MPs. By the end of May 2013, there were 14 females or 17.2%, and by 18 December 2013, 13 women or 16%. The number of female MPs in the composition of the standing delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe increased, which now includes two female MPs. Also, for the first time a female MP was elected as the member of the Committee on Security and Defence.</p>
5.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Preparation of the Resolution that would precisely define the role of the Parliament of Montenegro in the accession negotiation with the EU and provide guidelines to the Government of Montenegro in leading the negotiation process</b></p>

	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Working Group</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> II quarter</p>
	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of meetings of the Working Group Number of meeting participants outside the Parliament Resolution adopted Oversight mechanisms of the Parliament over accession negotiation defined Functionality of mechanisms checked (IV quarter)</p>
	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Proposal for the Resolution on Manner, Quality and Pace of the Integration Process of Montenegro to the European Union was unanimously adopted by the Parliament on 27 December 2013 at the Eight Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session.</p>
6.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Assessment of the need to adopt the Law on the Parliament of Montenegro and possible preparation of necessary information material for preparing the Draft Law</b></p>
	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Service of the Parliament</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter</p>
	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> The needs for adopting the Law perceived Defining further measures on the basis of perceived needs</p>
	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Service of the Parliament, that is the Research Centre, made a research paper on the topic of the law on parliament, where the experience of 31 parliaments was analysed in terms of normative regulation of parliament's work, particularly that of the countries that have the law on parliament. This paper would serve as the basis for adopting a decision on the possible preparing of the Draft Law on the Parliament of Montenegro.</p>
7.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting Code of Conduct of Members of the Parliament of Montenegro</b></p>
	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Collegium of the President Working Group</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter</p>

	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Working Group formed Service prepared necessary information material for drafting the Code Code adopted</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Service of the Parliament, that is the Research Centre, made a research paper on the topic of code of conduct, providing information and comparative experience of all 10 parliaments from the EU countries, including the European Parliament, which have Code of Conduct for MPs, as well as nine countries in which ethical principles were included in the rules of procedure, which might be useful in preparation of Code of Conduct of Members of the Parliament of Montenegro.</p>
8.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Working bodies shall, at least once every half year, hold a meeting where the representatives of the competent ministries shall be invited, and if necessary, representatives of other state administration bodies and organisations, with the goal of considering the conducting of policies in the fields within their competences</b></p> <p><b>Holder:</b> All competent committees</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> July/September January 2014</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of meetings of the committee that were held Number of representatives of the Government and state administration at these meetings</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> A total of 26 meetings was held in 2013, where working bodies considered implementation of policies, which fall under their competences; some of the meetings were joint meetings of two committees attended by 74 representatives of the Government and state administration bodies. In addition to the aforementioned, during this period, the working bodies considered reports submitted to the Parliament and working bodies in line with the law, which was also an opportunity for considering the implementation of policies in those fields.</p>
9.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Working bodies shall regularly consider the implementation of conclusions previously adopted by the working bodies and/or the Parliament</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> All competent committees</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of conclusion considered Ratio of the number of conclusions considered and number of conclusions adopted in the previous semi-annual/annual period</p>

**Level of implementation:**

As of 1 January 2013, when, in accordance with the Action Plan, regular and systematic monitoring of implementation of conclusions of the Parliament began, 86 conclusions of the Parliament were published in the Official Gazette of Montenegro, out of which 42 conclusions were adopted in 2013.

In the reporting period the **Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration** considered the implementation of the conclusions of the Parliament that fall under its competencies (Official Gazette of Montenegro no. 39/12) during the consideration of the Annual Performance Report of the Public Prosecutor's Office for 2011. Following the consideration and approval of this Report at the Committee meeting held on 14 June, the Committee, at its 21<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 23 July, proposed to the Parliament to adopt eight conclusions regarding the Performance Report of the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Performance Report of the Prosecutorial Council for 2012. At the 10<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the first ordinary session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, the Report did not obtain the necessary majority of votes.

With regard to the 2011 Annual Performance Report of Courts, the Committee did not propose conclusions because its consideration and explanation was not stipulated by the prior provisions of the Law on Judicial Council. Following the amendments to the Law on Judicial Council in 2012, the Annual Performance Report of Courts was returned for reconsideration to the Committee and the plenum. Following its consideration at the Committee meeting, also held on 14 June, this Report did not obtain the necessary majority of votes.

Additionally, at the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 18 July, the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration proposed to the Parliament to adopt 11 conclusions regarding the 2012 Annual Report of Judicial Council on Performance of Courts in Montenegro. At the 10<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the First Ordinary Session of the Parliament of Montenegro in 2013, the Annual Report of Judicial Council on Performance of Courts in Montenegro did not obtain the necessary majority of votes.

At their joint meeting of 11 November 2013, **the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** proposed to the Parliament to adopt seven conclusions, following the control hearing of Mr Raško Konjević, Minister of Interior and Mr Radoje Žugić, Minister of Finance, on the topic: "Analysis of functioning of local self-governments".

In the reporting period, **the Security and Defence Committee** adopted 38 conclusions and considered implementation of 12 previously adopted conclusions of the Committee, relating, among other things, to the control hearing on the subject Listings "Keljmendi" and "Šarić", control hearing on murder case of Mr Duško Jovanović, road safety status and operations of the traffic police, information on the state of safety in the territory of the Municipality of Bar, and the work and technical equipment of the Department for Special Verification at the Police Administration, work of the Ministry of Defence with regard to destruction of excess of weapons and military equipment, as well as the integrated system of see surveillance, and equipping the members of the traffic police, the status of protection and rescue systems, with focus on strengthening the capacities of the Aviation and Helicopter units of the Ministry of the Interior and the work of the National Security Agency.

At its third meeting held on 19 February, **the Committee on European Integration** adopted five conclusions, which were later reconsidered to some extent at the fifth meeting held on 17 June, when two initiatives addressed to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament were also adopted (*for more details see Activity 13*). With reference to conclusions adopted at the third meeting of the

Committee on European Integration held on 19 February, the Committee renewed the initiative from its seventh meeting held on 16 September, with regard to reconsideration of the need for determining the degree of secrecy of documents.

At its tenth meeting of 7 October, the Committee on European Integration adopted a conclusion that secretaries of lead committees should be involved in consideration of draft negotiating positions to provide their expertise and suggestions and distribute the positions to the members of their committees. This approach of the Committee is based on the Conclusion adopted by the Committee on its third meeting (of 19 February), emphasising the need for enabling MPs and staff of lead committees to attend the meetings of the Committee on European Integration where negotiating positions within their competencies are considered, as well as to provide them information on draft negotiating positions under the same terms valid for the Committee on European Integration; the approach is also based on the initiative from the fifth meeting of the Committee held on 17 June regarding the participation of Parliament's staff in the negotiation structures.

At its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting (resumption) of 29 March, **the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants**, reached five conclusions relating to control hearing of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Montenegro and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Mr Igor Lukšić ,regarding the Platform of the Government of Montenegro for dialogue on permanent delimitation with the Republic of Croatia in the region of Prevlaka.

At the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of 1 October, apart from control hearing of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Montenegro and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Mr Igor Lukšić on Decision of the Government of Montenegro to join the Joint Statement on Syria, the Committee also discussed implementation of the conclusions adopted on its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting regarding delimitation with the Republic of Croatia in the region of Prevlaka , taking unanimous position that in 2014 a special meeting should be organised in order to discuss the implementation of the reached conclusions.

At the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2012, held on 28 December, convened to consider proposals of financial plans with work plans of independent regulatory bodies for 2013 (Official Gazette of Montenegro no. 04/13), the Parliament of Montenegro adopted three conclusions for rationalisation of spending related to the independent regulatory bodies and Central Bank of Montenegro. **The Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget** considered implementation of these conclusions in three stages, at three meetings, and proposed measures to reduce spending, which resulted in amendments to the financial plans of six independent regulatory bodies. Also, the Committee supported proposals of amendments to the plans which the Parliament adopted on 28 May thus carrying out conclusions adopted in December 2012.

Bearing in mind an adverse socio-economic environment predicted for the following year, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget during consideration of proposals of 2014 financial plans with work plans of six independent regulatory bodies (40<sup>th</sup> and 42<sup>nd</sup> Committee meeting, held on 16 and 27 December respectively), requested regulators to correct proposals for 2014 financial plans following the conclusions adopted by the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro no. 04/13), which relate to the plans for 2013. Regulators acted according to the requests of the Committee. The Parliament of Montenegro, at the Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of 27 December, adopted proposals for financial plans together with work plans of six independent regulatory bodies for 2014.

Additionally, at its fourth meeting held on 4 February 2013, the Committee recommended to the Central Bank of Montenegro to further cut executive salaries in order to streamline the business expenses. At its meeting held on 4 June, 2012 Annual Performance Report of the Central Bank was considered and the Committee was informed that the Central Bank observed the conclusion of the Parliament (Official

Gazette of Montenegro No. 04/13), as well as the previous recommendations of the Committee.

At its Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2012 of 28 December 2012, convened to consider the Proposal for the 2013 Budget Law of Montenegro, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted ten conclusions (Official Gazette of Montenegro no 4/13), out of which the consideration of implementation of eight conclusions was planned for the special meeting of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, as a lead working body of the Parliament in charge of issues covered by conclusions.

On 2 April 2013, the Chairperson of the Committee sent letters to the Government of Montenegro and the Ministry of Finance requesting information on action undertaken in accordance with these conclusions. With that regard, the Committee received: Information on the implementation of the Parliamentary Conclusions (12 April 2013); Information on Indicators of Financial State of Local Self-Government in 2012 (29 May 2013); and Information on the Level of Earnings of Employees in Legal Entities, Joint-Stock Companies and Limited Liability Companies where the state has a majority share (29 May 2013). Following the re-address of the Chairperson of the Committee to the Ministry of Finance of 27 June requesting the Information on the implementation of Previously Cited Conclusions for the second quarter of the current year, the updated Information on the implementation of parliamentary conclusions was delivered on 10 July, along with the Analysis of the effect of fiscal adjustment measures on the revenue and the expenditure side, Urging of the Ministry of Finance addressed to municipalities to deliver fiscal consolidation plans and the Decision on establishing the working group for the analysis of the existing model of taxation of natural persons' income, profits and real estate in terms of considering the introduction of a progressive taxation model.

At the 19<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 12 July 2013, after examining the above information and the discussion, the Committee tackled the first stage of consideration of implementation of conclusions 3-10 and stated that conclusions were implemented with a delay, partly implemented, were still under implementation or that they were not implemented. With regard to the conclusion nine, the Minister of Finance notified the Committee that there was no reference to this conclusion in the Information, since its implementation fell under the competencies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. Chairperson of the Committee addressed a letter to the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare on 24 September and requested that Information on the level of implementation of conclusion nine be submitted to the Committee by 5 October, and communicated to the Ministry of Finance. It was agreed that the Committee would continue to monitor the implementation of the mentioned conclusions and determine the final position pending the submission of the Proposal for 2014 Budget Law of Montenegro.

The second phase of implementation of conclusions was considered by the Committee members at the 36<sup>th</sup> meeting of 28 November, based on the Information on implementation of Parliament's conclusions for the third quarter of 2013. Based on the submitted information and discussion carried out in two phases, the Committee evaluated the degree of implementation of conclusions regarding the consideration of the Proposal for the 2013 Budget Law of Montenegro, stating that the conclusions were not completely fulfilled. With that regard, the Committee stated that out of eight conclusions two were implemented, two were in the final phase of implementation, two were continuously implemented, while one conclusion was not implemented. It was noted that due to a dispute over the competences between the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, the submitted materials had no reference to the level of implementation of conclusion number nine, which, inter alia, recommended to the Government to undertake concrete measures with the aim of settling claims of employees based on final and enforceable court decisions, as was the case with former workers of "Radoje Dakić". The Committee assessed that the Government needed to continue monitoring the implementation of all Parliament's conclusions – which were

not implemented or were in the drafting phase.

At its 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of 27 December, following the consideration of the Proposal for 2014 Budget Law of Montenegro, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget proposed to the Parliament to adopt two conclusions. At its Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2013 of 27 December, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted these conclusions.

Additionally, at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2012, held on 28 December 2012, regarding the consideration of the Proposal for 2011 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro and the Annual Report on Performed Audits and Activities of the State Audit Institution for the period October 2011 – October 2012, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted conclusions structured into 17 items, supporting findings and recommendations of the State Audit Institution and pointing to deficiencies that needed to be eliminated before the submission of the 2012 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 1/13). These conclusions, among other things, envisage that the Government should report quarterly to the Parliament on the implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution, which was the reason the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget requested the Government to report on the level of implementation of overdue conclusions. On 24 June 2013, the Government submitted to the Committee the Information on the implementation of the Action Plan for implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution.

In order to implement parliamentary conclusions, the Government adopted the Action Plan for Implementation of Recommendations of the State Audit Institution, appointed relevant institutions and determined the implementation deadlines. In accordance with the conclusion 15, the Government submitted to the Committee two quarterly information on the implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution, while the information for the third quarter is expected. The Committee also requested from the State Audit Institution to submit the Report on the implementation of the mentioned parliamentary recommendations in order to examine the level of implementation at a special meeting.

Audit of the 2011 Final Budget Statement of Montenegro covered 22 subjects, with total of 47 recommendations, within 14 areas, which, according to the State Audit Institution, would contribute to the improvement of business operations of budget beneficiaries and solidification of financial discipline. The conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro are structured into 17 items. The Committee stated that, in accordance with conclusion 15, the Government of Montenegro adopted the Action Plan for implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution, structured into 14 areas and also determined relevant institutions and set deadlines for the implementation, at its meeting of 29 November 2012. On 24 June, 23 September and 6 December 2013, the Ministry of Finance submitted to the Committee the information on implementation of the Action Plan for implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution for first, second and third quarter of 2013. In the light of annual report of the State Audit Institution for the period October 2012 - October 2013, which in chapter II included a detailed report on the implementation of the conclusions, and bearing in mind three quarterly reports of the Ministry of Finance on the implementation of the Action Plan for implementation of recommendations of the State Audit Institution as well as discussions from the 36<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> Committee meetings held on 28 and 29 November and 9 December, the Committee stated that out of the total 47 recommendations, seven were fully implemented, 25 partially implemented and 12 were not implemented. Two recommendations were in the drafting phase, while it was not possible to implement one recommendation during the reporting period. The Committee assessed that the Government needed to continue monitoring the implementation of all parliamentary conclusions supporting recommendations of the State Audit Institution – which were not implemented or were in the drafting phase.

At the Third Sitting of the First Ordinary Session held on 30 April, regarding the consideration of the Information on Manner of Implementation of the Parliamentary Conclusions related to the Aluminium Plant Podgorica AD the Parliament of Montenegro adopted nine conclusions (Official Gazette of Montenegro No. 21/13). In order to implement the conclusions, the meeting of the delegation of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget (four MPs) with the members of the Senate of the State Audit Institution was held on 11 June, where modalities of involvement of the State Audit Institution were discussed. Following the meeting, it was concluded that in order to make conclusions operational, it would be necessary for a member of the Board of Directors of KAP, the representative of the Government of Montenegro, to provide conditions, in accordance with Article 32 of the Law on Business Enterprises, for submitting the necessary documents upon the request of the State Audit Institution in order to perform the requested audits.

At the meeting held on 10 June regarding the consideration of the Report of the State Audit Institution on the audit of the “State Guarantees of the Government of Montenegro issued in 2010 and 2011”, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget, apart from the conclusions of the Parliament, determined seven assessments and positions, which, among other things, envisaged holding of a control hearing regarding the escalation of the problem with functioning of the energy system of Montenegro. At the meeting held on 14 June, the Committee adopted the Decision on Holding of the Control Hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor in order to collect information on the possible existence of illegal actions and violation of state interests with regard to the on-going problem of the functioning of the energy system of Montenegro. The control hearing was held on 3 July. Apart from the two deputies of the Supreme State Prosecutor, the meeting was also attended by the representatives of State Audit Institution. Among other things, the Committee concluded that KAP was facing major problems due to 2009 Settlement Contract; that it had not been possible to stop supplying the electricity to KAP, having in mind the Rulebook on Buildings, Facilities and Devices; no relevant economic analysis had been conducted that could confirm the justification of issuing guarantees to KAP; also that it would be necessary to review the circumstances under which the KAP guarantees had been issued, as well as the circumstances under which the unauthorised electricity supply from the European interconnection had occurred. On 1 October 2013, the Chairperson of the Committee sent a letter to the Deputy Supreme State Prosecutor where he highlighted that three months had passed since the control hearing and requested that the Committee be notified on the further course of action and undertaken activities regarding the illegal electricity supply to KAP and procedure of issuing the state guarantees, to the extent which could not jeopardise the course of the investigation.

Under the item 3 of the assessments and positions, the audit subjects (Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance and the State Aid Control Commission) were tasked to notify the Committee on the implementation of the State Audit Institution recommendations within 45 days from the day of consideration of the Audit Report on “State Guarantees of the Government of Montenegro issued in 2010 and 2011”. Only the State Aid Control Commission notified the Committee on the possibilities of implementation of these recommendations. The deadline expired on 26 July.

At the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 4 November, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget considered the implementation of conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro, related to the Aluminium Plant JSC Podgorica (KAP), published in the Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 21/13. The meeting was attended by the representatives of the following: Ministry of Economy, Senate of the State Audit Institution, Bankruptcy Administration of KAP, Montenegrobonus LTD, Trade Union Organisation of Workers in Aluminium Production, Trade Union of Steelworkers of Montenegro - Trade Union of the Aluminium Plant Podgorica, Independent Trade Union of Bauxite Mine, and Trade Union of Bauxite Mine.

At the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 27 December, based on the discussion from the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting, the Committee proposed to the Parliament to adopt the conclusion “to form an expert team made up of domestic and international experts, who would submit the Study of Long-term Sustainability and Development of the Aluminium Industry in Montenegro by 20 October 2013 to the Parliament of Montenegro for adoption; provide all necessary conditions for the full respect of legal obligations and obligations envisaged in the collective agreement towards the KAP and Bauxite Mines employees, as well as for settlement of existing obligations incurred based on the employment rights; and that the State Audit Institution, in accordance with the law, perform an audit of debts of KAP and submit a special report to the Parliament and the Government by 31 May 2013. Since the above Conclusions were not implemented in due time, the Parliament insisted that the Government of Montenegro or the State Audit Institution fully complied with the conclusion of the Parliament. On 27 December, at the Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the conclusion.

At the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 26 July, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget proposed to the Parliament five conclusions regarding the consideration of 2012 Performance Report of the Commission for Concessions, which the Parliament adopted at the Eighth Sitting of the First Ordinary Session held on 30 July.

At the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 19 and 20 November and 6 December 2013, regarding the consideration of the following: Performance Report of the Investment and Development Fund JSC for 2012 with the Report of the Independent Auditor on Auditing of Financial Statements of the Fund for 2012, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget proposed to the Parliament to adopt six conclusions; for the Performance Report of the Financial Stability Forum of Montenegro in 2012 the Committee proposed to the Parliament to adopt six conclusions, and for the Performance Report of the Deposit Insurance Fund for 2012 the Committee proposed to the Parliament to adopt five conclusions. On 20 November, at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the above conclusions.

At the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 27 December 2013, regarding the consideration of the Decision on accepting the annex to the long-term land lease agreement, signed between the Government of Montenegro and the Northstar Consortium JSC Podgorica and the Equest Capital Limited Jersey, UK, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget proposed to the Parliament to adopt the conclusion. On 27 December, at the Eighth Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session in 2013, the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the above conclusion.

In accordance with the 2013 Activity Plan, at the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25th September, **the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms** considered the Information on implementation of the Action Plan measures for promotion of the prison system with regard to the Information on action of the Police Administration in accordance with recommendations of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro provided in the Special Report on the state of the facilities of the Police Administration for detaining arrested persons from 2011, which the Police Administration had submitted to the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, in accordance with the Conclusion that the Committee had adopted at its 4th meeting, held on 6 February. Following the discussion, the Committee unanimously supported the Information and decided to draft a conclusion, which would be submitted to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of the Interior and Police Administration.

At the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 22 October, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms held a control hearing of the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare. The topic of the control hearing was: “Implementation of Conclusions of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette MNE, No 36/11) adopted on the occasion of consideration of the Special Report of the Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of

	<p>Montenegro on the State of Mentally Ill Persons Placed in Institutions against the Background of CPT report (advisory body of the Council of Europe) following the visit of CPT to Montenegro, in February 2013”. In accordance with Article 77 paragraph 2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, the Committee drafted and submitted to the Parliament the Report on the Control Hearing of the Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, with the proposal for conclusion.</p> <p>At the second meeting held on 25 March, <b>the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports</b> formulated three conclusions, one of which referred to holding of the consultative hearing of the Minister of Education, held on 5 June on the topic ”Current situation in pre-school education, with special emphasis on the kindergarten in Golubovci”.</p> <p>Following the control hearing of the Minister of Health Mr Miodrag Radunović, at the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 30 September on the topic “Epidemiological Situation in Berane”, <b>the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare</b> adopted five conclusions. At the meeting held on 3 December, the Committee adopted the Control Hearing Report with conclusions. As the conclusions (one and four) relate to specific institutions, the Report was addressed to the Supreme State Prosecutor, Basic State Prosecutor’s Office in Berane and the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development in order to inform the Committee on the undertaken activities.</p> <p>At the resumption of the fifth meeting held on 16 September, <b>the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Procedure</b> adopted four conclusions with regard to the control of the privatisation procedure of HTP “Onogošt” AD Nikšić. Subsequently, the Commission implemented two conclusions, number 2 and 3, by addressing the authorised state bodies – through submitting initiatives to Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office and Police Administration, as well as the Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism and bankruptcy administrator in the concerned bankruptcy process.</p>
10.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Working bodies shall organise consultative/control hearings dedicated to consideration of implementation of laws which, according to the assessments of working bodies’ members, have been crucial or current in the relevant area, and which have been adopted in the previous one-year period or earlier</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  All competent committees</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of organized hearings  Number of adopted conclusions</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  The implementation of the Law on Research and Production of Hydrocarbon with reference to fiscal policy for production of hydrocarbon was considered at the seventh meeting of <b>the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget</b>, held on 12 and 18 March 2013, although the meeting was not convened as a consultative hearing.</p> <p>At the 30<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 21 October and 11 November, the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget held a consultative hearing on the topic: “Implementation of the Law on NGOs regarding their funding”. The meeting was attended by the representatives of Ministry of</p>

	<p>Finance, Commission for Allocation of Games of Chance Revenue, Council for Cooperation of the Government of Montenegro and NGOs, “Civic Alliance”, coalition of NGOs “Saradnjom do cilja” (Reaching the Goal through Cooperation), “Institute Alternative”, and NGO “PK Visokogorci”. Based on the held hearing, at the 34<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 19 and 20 November and 6 December 2013, the Committee formulated assessments and positions (six) and submitted them to the Parliament, Government and participants in the discussion.</p> <p>At their joint meeting held on 11 November, <b>the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration and the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget</b> held a control hearing of the Minister of Finance and the Minister of the Interior on the topic “Analysis of functioning of local self-governments”. The goal of the control hearing was to analyse functioning of local self-governments and review the implementation of legislation in this field as well as to define issues that would be corrected by the upcoming amendments to the normative acts, inter alia, the Law on Local Self-Government, which is being prepared.</p> <p>At their joint meeting held on 20 December, <b>the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration</b> held consultative hearing on the topic: “Providing independence of the Council and local offices for misdemeanours through reforming legal framework in part relating to appointments and dismissal from duty of magistrates”. At the first joint meeting, the Anti-Corruption Committee and the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration of the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Decision on forming a sub-committee. The sub-committee would consider all the issues regarding normative framework of the misdemeanour system in Montenegro.</p> <p>At the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 25 September, <b>the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms</b>, in accordance with the Work Plan of the Committee, considered the Information on the implementation of the Anti-Discrimination Law, and submitted the Report with the proposal for conclusions to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament and the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights.</p> <p>At the fifth meeting held on 5 June, <b>the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports</b> held a consultative hearing of the Minister of Education, on the topic ”Current situation in the field of pre-school education, with special emphasis on the kindergarten in Golubovci”.</p>
11.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Pursuant to Article 12 of the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro, no. 25/12), committees shall, once during the ordinary session of the Parliament, reach a decision on control hearing upon the request of one third of a committee members, with one item on the agenda</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  All competent committees</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  July  December</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of control hearings according to Article 12 of the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro  Number of adopted conclusions/recommendations</p>

Total number of control and consultative hearings

**Level of implementation:**

On 6 February 2013, **the Anti-corruption Committee** held a consultative hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor and Director of the Administration for Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing Terrorism regarding the Affair Telekom. The decision on holding a consultative hearing was reached at the first meeting of the Anti-corruption Committee on 26 December 2012, pursuant to Article 12 of the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro.

At the sixth meeting of 24 July, one third of Anti-corruption Committee members (five MPs) submitted the request to the Anti-corruption Committee, pursuant to Article 75 paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, for holding a special meeting of the Anti-corruption Committee with the following item of the agenda: Control hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor on measures and activities taken by the State Prosecutor's Office regarding the publishing of audio-recordings and transcripts from the meetings of DPS authorities and bodies, relating to the period from their publishing up to holding of the meeting of the Committee. On 11 October 2013, pursuant to Article 75 paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, the Anti-corruption Committee started the control hearing of the Supreme State Prosecutor on measures and activities taken by the State Prosecutor's Office regarding the publishing of audio-recordings and transcripts from the meetings of DPS authorities and bodies, relating to the period from their publishing up to holding the meeting of the Committee. Control hearing was not completed when Mr Veselin Vučković, Deputy Supreme State Prosecutor left the meeting.

On 30 December, pursuant to Article 75 paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, the Anti-corruption Committee started the control hearing regarding the acquisition of the motel "Zlatica" with contiguous land required to provide facilities for the special and separate unit of the Police Administration. Upon the hearing of the Minister of the Interior and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, the meeting was adjourned due to the absence of Mr Veselin Vučković, Deputy Supreme State Prosecutor.

**The Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration**, at the resumption of the sixth meeting held on 26 March reached a decision to hold a control hearing of the Minister of the Interior, Supreme State Prosecutor and chair of the Supreme Court and Judicial Council, on the topic: "Acting of the Police, Prosecutor's Office and Judiciary in cases which have characteristics of organised crime with special reference to cases "Škerović" and "Šarić-Lončar". Control hearing planned for 9 April 2013 was postponed due to the absence of MPs from the parliamentary minority, who had submitted the initiative for holding a control hearing. Upon the invitation, the Minister of the Interior and Supreme Public Prosecutor attended the meeting.

On the initiative of five MPs, at the 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of 1 October, **the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants** held a control hearing of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration and Deputy Prime Minister of the Government of Montenegro regarding the decision of the Government of Montenegro to join the Joint Statement on Syria.

Upon the initiative of three MPs, at the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of 30 September, **the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare** held a control hearing of the Minister of Health, while the following attendees answered MPs questions: Director of the Public Health Institute; President of Municipality of Berane; Director of Water Supply Utility Berane; Assistant Director for Transportation; an epidemiologist and infectious disease specialist from Berane and inspector for water on the topic "Epidemiological Situation in Berane". The representative of

	<p>the Network for Affirmation of Non-Governmental Sector attended the meeting.</p> <p>At their joint meeting held on 25 October, in line with the mentioned article of the Rules of Procedure, <b>the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare</b> held a control hearing of the Minister of Health and the Director of the Public Procurement Administration on the topic “Public Procurement in the Health Sector”. The hearing was held at the initiative of a group of MPs, which was submitted to the Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare.</p> <p>At the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting held on 27 November, upon the request of one third of the Committee members, the <b>Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports</b> held a control hearing of the Minister of Education, on the topic ”Exploitation of pre-schools age children for political party purposes in the kindergarten „Zvezdani vrt“ in Golubovci.</p> <p>At the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 10 December, <b>the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning</b> supported the initiative of a group of MPs and reached a Decision on holding a control hearing of the Minister of Sustainable Development and Tourism, Minister of Health, President of the Municipality of Berane, Director of the Public Utility Company Berane and Acting Director of the Environmental Protection Agency with regard to the waste disposal in the area of „Vasove vode“, Beranselo, Municipality of Berane. Date for holding the control hearing has not been determined yet.</p>
12.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>In accordance with Article 13 of the Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro, No. 25/12), proposal for an act submitted by members of the parliamentary minority shall be included in the agenda of the sitting of the Parliament</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Collegium</p> <hr/> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p> <hr/> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of considered proposals for acts submitted by members of the parliamentary minority in relation to the number of sittings of the Parliament</p> <hr/> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  In accordance with Article 13 of the Decision on Amendments of the Rules of the Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Official Gazette of Montenegro, No. 25/12), the following proposals for acts submitted by members of the parliamentary minority were included in the agenda of sittings of the Parliament in the reporting period:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Data Confidentiality, considered at the First Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of the Parliament in 2013, adopted on 1 March;</li> <li>- Proposal for the Law on Protection of Public Interests in Electric Power Sector of Montenegro, considered on 28 May, at the Third Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of the Parliament in 2013;</li> <li>- Proposal for the Decision on amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, considered on 2 July, at the Eighth Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of the Parliament;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposal for the Law on amnesty of persons convicted of criminal offences prescribed by Montenegrin legislation and persons convicted by foreign criminal judgments executed in Montenegro, considered on 26 July on the Tenth Sitting of the First Ordinary (Spring) Session of the Parliament in 2013 and which was adopted.</li> <li>- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Administrative Fees, adopted at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary of the Parliament of Montenegro, on 20 November 2013;</li> <li>- Proposal for the Law on Protection of Public Interests in Mining and Metallurgy Sector, originally adopted at the Third Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament on 20 November 2013, and then after being returned by the President of Montenegro to reconsideration, readopted at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session on 17 December 2013;</li> <li>- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the on Tax on Insurance Premiums, adopted at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session of the Parliament, on 23 December 2013;</li> <li>- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Games of Chance, adopted at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session, on 23 December 2013 and</li> <li>- Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Territorial Organisation of Montenegro, adopted by the Parliament of Montenegro at the Seventh Sitting of the Second Ordinary Session, on 23 December 2013.</li> </ul>
13.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Considering draft negotiating positions by chapters at the meetings of the Committee on European Integration and giving opinion and suggestions, as well as, if necessary, holding meetings in order to obtain information on preparation of negotiating positions from negotiating structures of the Government; the Committee would define the model of participation of members of lead committees at these meetings</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Committee on European Integration</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of considered negotiating positions  Number of meetings committed to preparation of negotiating positions  Number of members of lead committees at meetings</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  At the meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 19 February, positive opinion was adopted on the Draft negotiating position for Negotiation Chapter 26 – Education and Culture, which was under consideration. A number of conclusions was also adopted at the meeting, including enabling members and service of umbrella lead committee to attend the meetings of the Committee on European Integration where negotiating positions within its competencies are considered, as well as presenting with the draft negotiating positions under the same terms valid for the Committee on European Integration.</p> <p>At the eighth meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 16 September, Draft of the negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 5 – Public Procurement was considered and positive opinion on mentioned document was adopted. Closed meeting of the Committee on European Integration, where negotiating</p>

position was considered, was attended for the first time by the members of the lead committee for the mentioned field, precisely two members of the Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

At the seventh meeting of the Committee, held on 19 September, draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 6 – Commercial Law was considered and positive opinion given. The meeting was attended by seven members of the lead committee, i.e. Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget.

At the ninth meeting of the Committee, held on 23 September, draft negotiating position of Montenegro Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 10 – Information Society and Media was considered. The Committee unanimously adopted proposal for amending the draft negotiating position, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration was informed thereof. The meeting was attended by nine members of the lead committees – Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration. At the first resumption of the sixth meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 25 July, activities within Negotiation Chapter 23 – Judiciary and Fundamental Rights were presented by representatives of the Negotiating Group in charge for negotiation chapters 23 and 24 and Working Group for Negotiation Chapter 23. At the second resumption of the sixth meeting of the Committee, held on 30 July, activities within Negotiation Chapter 24 – Justice, Freedom and Security were presented by representative of the Working Group for Chapter 24.

At the 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee held on 7 October, draft negotiation position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 23 - Judiciary and fundamental rights and draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for 24 - Justice, freedom and security were considered. After the Committee unanimously adopted the Proposal for amending the draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 23 - Judiciary and fundamental rights, and members of the negotiating team agreed, the position was changed accordingly. Furthermore, draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for 24 - Justice, freedom and security was unanimously positively assessed. Twelve members of the lead committees participated at the meeting – Security and Defence Committee, Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration, Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, Anti-Corruption Committee. At this meeting they adopted the conclusion that it was necessary to include the secretaries of the lead committees of the Parliament of Montenegro in the part of the negotiation process related to the consideration of draft negotiating positions. Apart from providing their expert opinion and suggestions to the proposed text, the secretaries should also distribute the positions to the members of their respective committees. With that regard, a request was sent to the Secretary General of the Parliament concerning the adoption of a decision on the need to use confidential data, in accordance with the “need to know” principle.

At the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 8 October, the Committee considered draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on Accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 7 - Intellectual Property Law. At the meeting, the Committee members unanimously voted in favour of the opinion on the draft negotiating position and informed the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration thereof. The meeting was attended by 5 members of the lead committees – Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget and Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports.

The Committee held two meetings dedicated to preparation of negotiating positions, considered three draft negotiating positions, and 17

	members of lead committees participated in the meetings of the Committee on European Integration.
14.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Committee on European Integration shall, at least quarterly, organise meetings where the progress in accession negotiation will be considered for each opened negotiation chapter, where, if necessary, interested members of the lead committees shall be invited</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Committee on European Integration
	<b>Timescale:</b> Quarterly
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of chapters considered Number of meetings Number of conclusions adopted
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> Committee on European Integration held a meeting on 8 February, where one of the items of the agenda was related to the presentation of state-of-play in the negotiations for membership to the European Union. At the Committee meeting of 17 June, the State Secretary for European Integration and Chief Negotiator for Negotiations on Montenegro's Accession to the EU presented the state-of-play in the negotiation process.  At the 14 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the Committee of 23 October, the following was considered: Report on Negotiation Chapter 3 – Right of establishment and freedom to provide services, the Report on Honouring of Commitments in Negotiation Chapter 25 – Science and Research, the Report on Honouring of Commitments in Negotiation Chapter 26 – Education and Culture. In 2013, three chapters were considered and three opinions adopted.
15.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Committee on European Integration, in cooperation with the lead committees, will organize thematic forums under certain negotiation chapters, in the form of public debates, round tables, etc., where expert and other interested public would have an opportunity to express opinions and suggestions prior to establishing negotiating position and considering by the Committee</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Committee on European Integration, in cooperation with the umbrella committees
	<b>Timescale:</b> Continuous
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of thematic forums Number of chapters considered Number of opinions obtained Number of participants

	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  On 4 October, the Committee on European Integration organised the second public debate on the topic “Montenegro and the European Union – Negotiation Chapters 23 and 24”. On that occasion, the importance of promotion of the oversight role of the Parliament of Montenegro was emphasised in part of monitoring the implementation of the transported acquis. A meeting was organised after the debate, where draft negotiating position of Montenegro for Intergovernmental Conference on accession of Montenegro to the European Union for Chapter 23 - Judiciary and fundamental rights was considered and amended. Members of the negotiating team agreed with the amendments (<i>see Activity 13</i>).</p> <p>Apart from the members of the Committee on European Integration, the debate was also attended by the representatives of the Committee on Security and Defence, Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Legislation, Anti-Corruption Committee, and the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, Secretary General of the Parliament, and the representatives of OSCE Mission, UNDP, NGOs and media.</p>
16.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Committee on European Integration shall regularly consider reports on fulfilling obligations from SAA and quarterly reports on overall activities within the process of stabilisation and association, which have been regularly submitted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Committee on European Integration</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of meetings  Number of reports considered  Number of conclusions</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  At the meeting of the Committee on European Integration, held on 11 March, the 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> quarterly reports on overall activities within the process of stabilisation and association to the EU were considered, as well as the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> reports on the fulfillment of obligations arising from the Stabilisation and Association Agreement, submitted to the Committee by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration.</p> <p>Also, at the meeting held on 17 June, the Committee considered the 31<sup>st</sup> quarterly report on overall activities within the Process of Stabilisation and Association to the EU.</p> <p>At the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23 October, the Committee considered the 32<sup>nd</sup> report on overall activities in the Process of Stabilisation and Association to the EU.</p>
17.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Adoption of the Annual Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament together with the Plan for Harmonisation of the Legislation with the EU Law and Plan for considering reports which certain bodies, in accordance with the law, submit to the Parliament on the</b></p>

	<b>state in certain fields</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Collegium (the draft is prepared by the Secretary General's Office)
	<b>Timescale:</b> March
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Draft Plan prepared
	Legislative plan of the Parliament adopted Service is preparing quarterly reports on fulfilling the plan
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, at the meeting of 19 March 2013, adopted the Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament, which was prepared by the Parliamentary Service on the basis of the Government's 2013 Agenda as well as Activity Plan for fulfillment of the recommendations from the European Commission's 2012 Progress Report on Montenegro.  The plan includes an overview of proposals for laws to be considered during the Spring and Autumn Session in 2013 as well as oversight activities of the Parliament through consideration of reports that some bodies, in line with the law, submit to the Parliament.  The Parliamentary Service prepared two Reports on the implementation of the Legislative Work Plan – for the period until 30 June and for the period until 30 September, that were, as envisaged, the basis for the Revised Legislative Work Plan for Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session. The Third Report on implementation of the Legislative Work Plan in 2013 will be prepared in January 2014. The Plan and all Reports are available at the website of the Parliament.
<b>18.</b>	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Consideration of the Information on fulfilling the Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament following the end of the Spring Session along with revising the plan for the Autumn Session</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Collegium (the draft is prepared by the Secretary General's Office)
	<b>Timescale:</b> September
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Information prepared and proposed revision of the Plan Collegium adopted Information with revised Plan
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> As envisaged by the Plan, Service of the Parliament prepared the Report on the implementation of the Legislative Work Plan for the period until 30 September, covering information on legislative activities for the period until the end of the Spring Session as well as sittings of extraordinary session held in August and September.

	Revised Legislative Work Plan of the Parliament of Montenegro for the Second Ordinary (Autumn) Session in 2013, adopted by the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro on 3 October, was prepared on the basis of the information on the implementation of the Legislative Work Plan. The Report on implementation of the Legislative Work Plan for 2013, including the Revised Plan, will be prepared in January 2014.
19.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adoption of the Calendar of Activities for Spring and Autumn Session</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Collegium (the draft is prepared by the Secretary General's Office)
	<b>Timescale:</b> March September
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Draft Calendar prepared Calendar of activities for Spring and Autumn Session accepted
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> At the meeting of 19 March 2013, Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro adopted the Calendar of Activities for the period 1 January – 31 July 2013. The Calendar of Activities for the Autumn Session from 1 October to 31 December was adopted by the Collegium of the President of the Parliament of Montenegro, at the meeting of 30 September.  The calendar specifies dates for holding the sittings of the Parliament, meetings of working bodies as well as MP's days, intended for the work of MPs in MPs Groups and with citizens.
20.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adoption of Annual Work Plans of working bodies</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> All working bodies <sup>3</sup>
	<b>Timescale:</b> I quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Working bodies adopted annual work plans for 2013
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> Annual Work Plans for 2013 were adopted by all working bodies of the Parliament, except for the Legislative and Constitutional Committee, having in mind specific competences of the two committees.

<sup>3</sup>Apart from Legislative and Constitutional Committee, having in mind specific competencies of these two committees.

	In addition, the Security and Defence Committee adopted the Plan of Parliamentary Oversight for 2013 in line with Article 12, paragraph 1 and 2 of the Law on Parliamentary Oversight in the Fields of Security and Defence.
<b>21.</b>	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Providing specialised trainings for Members of the Parliament and Service on certain fields of the EU law, particularly related to negotiation Chapters 23 and 24</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Parliamentary Service</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of organised trainings  Number of trainings participants</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Members of the Security and Defence Committee participated at the seminar for members of the parliament on national security policy, held on 1 and 2 July in Garmisch-Partenkirchen (Germany), organized by the Centre George C. Marshall. The Seminar was attended by seven members of the parliament and one employee in the Service of the Parliament.</li> <li>- Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms participated at the international seminar “Relations between institutions of ombudsman and interested parties”, which was held on 10 and 11 September in Regional School of Public Administration in Danilovgrad, in organization of European Commission, Directorate General for Enlargement, TAIEX, and in cooperation with the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA).</li> <li>- With the aim of greater consideration of gender aspects through the work of the Parliament, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro – Department for democratization and support of experts of OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) from Warsaw, Gender Equality Committee organized on 19 and 20 July, a seminar for members of the Committee and representatives of certain working bodies of the Parliament, such as: Security and Defence Committee, Administrative Committee, Anti-corruption Committee, Committee on European Integration and Committee on International Relations and Emigrants. The seminar was attended by 15 members of the parliament as well as five employees in the Service of the Parliament.</li> <li>- Seminar “Fight against organized crime, corruption and money laundering”, held in Brussels on 4 and 5 March 2013, in organization of the European Parliament, was attended by eight members of the parliament, that is Chairperson and members of the Anti-corruption Committee, as well as two representatives of the Service.</li> <li>- On 4 October, the Committee on European Integration organised the second public debate on the topic “Montenegro and the European Union – Negotiation Chapters 23 and 24”, organised by the Parliament of Montenegro.</li> <li>- From 2 to 6 December 2013, the representatives of the Committee on Political System, Judiciary and Administration participated in the Study Programme intended for the MPs and the Service of the Parliament, held in Berlin and organised by the German Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS).</li> <li>- Three members of the Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports and one employee of the service of the Committee participated at the parliamentary seminar entitled “Youth and Education in the Balkans”, held on 6 and 7 November 2013 in the European</li> </ul>

	<p>Parliament in Brussels.  - Employees of the service of the Committee on European Integration and Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget participated at the Regional Training dedicated to the parliamentary oversight of IPA funds in Skopje, on 29 and 30 November.</p> <p>Upon proposal by the Anti-Corruption Committee, expert support, was requested from TAIEX regarding the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Procurement, which was scheduled by the Government for IV quarter. However, the European Commission did not approve this request by the Parliament of Montenegro, with justification that there was no need for involvement of TAIEX experts because the Government had already been supported with EU funds for making the Draft Law on Public Procurement, with consultation of various EU experts. The European Commission's response also stated that the Directorate General for the Internal Market and Services would assess the harmonisation of this law with the EU acquis once the text of the Draft Law has been finalised, and that any duplication of efforts and funding should be avoided.</p>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE AND MATERIAL CAPACITIES</b>	
<b>22.</b>	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Provide adequate expert support through preparing quality reports and minutes and other materials from the sittings of the Parliament and meetings of working bodies</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Sector for support to legislative and control function</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Instructions for drafting of the report and minutes given, along with the procedures for publishing  Uniformity reached and quality of the report and minutes from the meetings of working bodies improved</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  The Service of the Parliament, i.e. the Service of the Sector for Support to Legislative and Oversight Functions of the Parliament prepared the reports and minutes from all the meetings of the working bodies, which can be found at the website of the Parliament. Apart from that, the secretaries of working bodies prepared briefings for the members of the working bodies for the proposals for the laws, as well as for other items of the agenda.</p> <p>In order to achieve greater uniformity and improve quality of reports and minutes from the meetings of the working bodies, the activities for preparation of instructions for drafting reports and minutes started. These activities will remain one of the priorities in 2014 and will be included in the Action Plan for the following year.</p>
<b>23.</b>	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>According to dynamics of referring acts towards the working bodies, draft briefing with the overview of harmonisation with the EU law and assessment of Preliminary Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) submitted by the Government with certain proposals for</b></p>

	<p><b>laws</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Sector for support to legislative and oversight function</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of briefings Number of briefings containing RIA assessment</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> A total of 198 briefings were prepared for proposals for laws submitted by the Government, as well as for the other items of the agenda.</p> <p>Committee for Political System, Judiciary and Administration prepared 43 briefings (of which 24 for proposals for laws), Security and Defence Committee 5 (for proposals for laws), Committee on International Relations and Emigrants 54 (of which 34 for proposals for laws), Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget 32 (of which 23 for proposals for laws), Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms 13 (of which 3 for proposal for law), Gender Equality Committee 5 (for 5 proposals for laws), Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning 20 (of which 17 for proposals for laws), Committee on Education, Science, Culture and Sports 8 (for proposals for laws), Committee on Health, Labour and Social Welfare 6 (for proposal for laws) and Administrative Committee 12 briefings.</p> <p>In the reporting period, the secretaries of working bodies prepared 91 briefings containing review findings of tables of concordance.</p> <p>In 2013, the Government submitted 104 proposals for laws to the Parliament, of which 44 were defined by the Agenda of the Government and/or Activity Plan for fulfillment of recommendations set out in European Commission's Montenegro 2012 Progress Report , while drafting of Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) was planned for 37 of them. Out of this number of proposals for e laws, only five were submitted to the Parliament with the RIA (Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Spatial Planning and Construction, Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Foreign Investments, Proposal for the Law on the Protection of the Natural and Cultural-Historical Area of Kotor, Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Anti-discrimination Law and Proposal for the Law on Construction Products).</p> <p>Briefings carried out for these five proposals for laws contained findings of reviews of Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA).</p>
24.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Efficient monitoring of harmonisation with the EU legislation</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Sector for support to legislative and oversight function</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of tables of concordance</p>

	Number of corrections
	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Services of the committee in charge of monitoring and assessing the alignment of Montenegrin laws with the EU acquis continuously studied proposals for laws, explanations for adoption of laws and tables of concordance, which were submitted by the Government with proposals for laws.</p> <p>In the reporting period, a total of 91 tables of concordance were reviewed and over 20 technical corrections made.</p>
25.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Regular update of database with data from tables of compliance and available information on screening</b></p>
	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Sector for support to legislative and oversight function</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p>
	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Updated bases Number of users</p>
	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Regularly updated databases of tables of concordance and documents related to screening can be accessed via intranet portal. Database of tables of concordance had 1784 entries on 31 December 2013, containing data for 561 proposals for laws and 1223 celex, while the database of screening (<i>screening</i> lists, presentations, reports, etc.) had 1504 files. Data are available to all registered users of intranet portal, which counted 115 of them on 31 December 2013.</p>
26.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Recruitment of experts for certain areas for checking of tables of concordance, primarily using the support of TAIEX. In consultation with chairpersons of committees, the Service will prepare general list of the most important proposals for laws, which, in accordance with the Legislative Work Plan, are expected to enter the legislative procedure in order to provide timely expert support for checking the tables</b></p>
	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Service of the Parliament</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> March Continuous</p>
	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> List of proposals for laws is determined for which the expert support is needed Number of submitted and number of approved requests by TAIEX</p>

	<p>Number of experts missions Number of staff participants of trainings</p>
	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> The list of proposals for laws needing expert support was compiled following the consultation of secretaries and chairpersons of the committees.</p> <p>Upon proposal by the Anti-Corruption Committee, the expert support for compliance analysis of the Proposal for the Law on Amendments to the Law on Public Procurement, which was scheduled by the Government for IV quarter, was requested from TAIEX in 2013. However, the European Commission did not approve this request of the Parliament of Montenegro, with justification that there was no need for involvement of TAIEX experts, because the Government had already been supported with EU funds for making the Draft Law on Public Procurement, with consultation of various EU experts. The European Commission's response also stated that the Directorate General for the Internal Market and Services would assess the harmonisation of this law with the EU acquis, once the text of the Draft Law has been finalised, and that any duplication of engagement and funding should be avoided.</p>
27.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Timely and adequate preparation of research papers, in accordance with customer requirements</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Section for research, analysis, library and documentation</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of requests for research papers Number of research papers</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Since the beginning of January until the end of December, Section for Research, Analysis, Library and Documentation prepared and published a total of eight research papers, six of which at the request of members of the Parliament, and two at the initiative of the Section, containing 301 pages.</p>
28.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Provide answers to questions submitted via ECPRD network</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Section for research, analysis, library and documentation</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Percentage of provided responses above average in the ECPRD network</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b></p>

	Since the beginning of January until the end of December, the Section prepared and sent answers, in the form of brief information prepared in English, to 70 ECPRD requests. Section prepared and presented answers to 90% of ECPRD questionnaires sent to the Parliament of Montenegro. By comparison, the majority of parliaments members of ECPRD network answer on average to 70-80% of requests received.
<b>29.</b>	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Create conceptual design for providing permanent adequate space for the need of the Parliament of Montenegro</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Parliament  Directorate of Public Works</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  IV quarter</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Conceptual design created</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  The Commission for evaluation of designs for the new building of the Parliament of Montenegro was formed in June 2013, comprising of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Parliament and architecture and civil engineering experts. Members of the Evaluation Commission met on 16 and 17 July 2013 to exchange opinions on the forthcoming activities. It was agreed to initiate the procedure for expanding the planned construction site of the new Parliament's building.</p>
<b>30.</b>	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>To provide and to equip additional office space as a short-term solution of the lack of space</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Service of the Parliament</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  II quarter</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Office space provided and equipped  All committees chairpersons and their services as well have their own offices</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  Additional office space, as a short-term solution for the lack of space, is provided in street Novaka Miloševa 8a, measuring 702 m<sup>2</sup>. In cooperation with the Property Administration, a part of the office space was renovated, and from 5 May 2013 this space has accommodated the offices of five committees' chairpersons and seven offices of the Parliamentary Service. Renovation of office space in street Novaka Miloševa no 8a, with a total of 14 offices was finished on 27 December and tender procedure for procurement of office furniture is ongoing.</p>
<b>31.</b>	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Preparation of the Terms of Reference for the development of the information support to legislative process, which should be a basis for preparation of tender documentation</b></p>

	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> IT Section and Secretary General's Office</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> II quarter</p>
	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Terms of Reference prepared</p>
	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> The Parliamentary Service prepared the "Initial Terms of reference: Development of Legislative Process Support System" as well as "Terms of Reference for the design, development and implementation of parliamentary information and legislation system in the Parliament of Montenegro". On the basis of these documents, ToR for expert support in the development and application of legislative information system within the Strategic Framework of the Parliament of Montenegro was done.</p> <p>In the period from 2 to 20 September 2013, the expert mission for the support of the development of the legislative information system was carried out, with the support of EU Delegation to Montenegro and financed from IPA 2011 funds. The aim of the mission was to prepare ToR for the development and application of the legislative information system, as a part of the Strategic Framework, which would be the basis for conducting the tender procedure in 2014.</p>
32.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting the set of rules – policies for governing the information system of the Parliament (Information systems security policy, Internet usage policy, Mail server usage policy, Computer virus policy, etc.)</b></p>
	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> IT Section and Secretary General's Office</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter</p>
	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> A set of rules adopted</p>
	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> IT Section of the Parliament of Montenegro initially prepared a set of rules and procedures for governing the information system, which are still in the drafting phase.</p>
33.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Development of Intranet portal</b></p>
	<p><b>Responsibility of:</b> IT Section</p>
	<p><b>Timescale:</b> II quarter</p>
	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b></p>

	<p>Intranet portal set up Available bases Number of users</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> IT Section of the Parliament of Montenegro developed and in early April launched the Intranet portal of the Parliament of Montenegro. Information and documents important for the work of the Parliamentary Service, such as various documents necessary for daily work (application forms, tutorials), news from the EU institutions, tables of concordance of laws with the EU acquis, Progress Editor, Eurovoc etc, are available on the portal. On 31 December 2013, the Portal had 115 registered users.</p>
<b>34.</b>	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Initiate creation of digital documentation/archives</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> IT Section, Section for research, analysis, library and documentation</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Digitalisation started Percentage of digitalised materials</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Preparation activities are on-going and creation of digital documentation remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence this will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.</p>
<b>35.</b>	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting the “Rulebook on Organisation and Systematisation of the Parliamentary Service”</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Secretary General Administrative Committee</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> April</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> “Rulebook on Organisation and Systematisation of the Parliamentary Service” adopted</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> “Rulebook on Organisation and Systematisation of the Parliamentary Service” was adopted in July 2013. The Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro, at the 25<sup>th</sup> meeting of 26 December 2013, positively assessed the application of the act. On the basis of proposals of Committee members and the need for amending the Rulebook to some extent, the Administrative Committee gave its consent on the Rulebook on Amendments to the Rulebook on Organisation and Systematisation of the Parliamentary Service”.</p>

36.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Revise Human Resources Strategy</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Secretary General's Office and Human Resources Management Bureau
	<b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Revised Strategy The percentage of implemented activities with regard to the plan
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> In line with the regular parliamentary practise, the Human Resources Development Strategy will be revised in the first quarter of 2014.
37.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting 2013 Trainings Plan</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Secretary General's Office and Human Resources Management Bureau
	<b>Timescale:</b> I quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of implemented trainings with regard to total number of trainings envisaged by the Plan Number of employees who attended trainings from the 2013 Trainings Plan
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> 2013 Trainings Plan was adopted together with the revised Human Resources Development Strategy 2012-2015. Trainings Plan envisages 11 trainings for employees of the Parliament of Montenegro. For each training, the following is determined: target group, time schedule and a partner for the implementation of training – if it is implemented in cooperation with other organisations. Seven out of 11 planned trainings were implemented by 31 December 2013, with a total of 104 attendees.
38.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Implementation of planned trainings</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Human Resources Management Bureau
	<b>Timescale:</b> Continuous
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of implemented trainings Number of participants

	<p><b>Level of implementation:</b> From 1 January to 31 December 2013, seven out of 11 trainings envisaged by the Trainings Plan for 2013 were implemented, with a total of 104 attendees.</p> <p>In the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013, 82 trainings were implemented in total, with 326 attendees. Seven trainings were envisaged by the Trainings Plan for 2013, 34 were organised by the Human Resources Administration based on the Trainings Implementation Plan, and the employees of the Service of the Parliament of Montenegro attended 41 more trainings, organised through cooperation with other national, foreign and international organisations.</p>
39.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting documents for development of internal communication</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> III quarter</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Adoption of the strategic document for development of internal communication Percentage of implementation of the activities with regard to the plan</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.</p>
40.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting documents for development of external communication</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.</p>
41.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Drafting the Welcome Book for new employees</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter</p>

	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Drafting the <b>Welcome Book for new employees</b></p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.</p>
42.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Drafting the Welcome Book for MPs</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> The Welcome Book for MPs drafted</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.</p>
43.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Creating handbooks</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Continuous work on handbooks based on the document “Managing jobs in the Parliament” is ongoing. Drafts of the following seven handbooks were completed so far:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Basics of Management,</li> <li>- Change Management,</li> <li>- Increasing Performance and Motivation,</li> <li>- Skills of conducting interviews with managers,</li> <li>- Teamwork and Leadership,</li> <li>- Planning and Evaluation of Trainings, and</li> <li>- Mentorship.</li> </ul>
44.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting the “Rulebook on advertisements for recruiting to the Parliamentary Service”</b></p>

	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> I quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Adoption of the “Rulebook on advertisements for recruiting to the Parliamentary Service”
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> Rulebook on advertisements for recruiting to the Parliamentary Service” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.
<b>45.</b>	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting the “Rulebook on assessing skills and knowledge”</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> I quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Adoption of the “Rulebook on assessing skills and knowledge”
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> “Rulebook on assessing skills and knowledge” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.
<b>46.</b>	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting the “Rulebook on the content, preparation and adoption, as well as drafting of a special programme for professional training and development”</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> I quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Adoption of the “Rulebook on the content, preparation and adoption, as well as drafting of a special programme for professional training and development”
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> “Rulebook on the content, preparation and adoption, as well as drafting of a special programme of professional training and development” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.

47.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> Adopting the “Decision on special advisers in the Parliament of Montenegro”
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> I quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Adopting the “Decision on special advisers in the Parliament of Montenegro”
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> “Decision on special advisers in the Parliament of Montenegro” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013.
48.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> Adopting the “Decision on type of award and awarding procedure”
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> I quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Adopting the “Decision on type of award and awarding procedure”
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> “Decision on type of award and awarding procedure” was adopted at the meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013
49.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> Determining the “Criteria and methods for evaluation of civil servants and state employees of the Parliamentary Service”
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> I quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Adoption of the “Criteria and methods for evaluation of civil servants and state employees“ Adoption of the “Evaluation form“
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> “Criteria and methods for evaluation of civil servants and state employees of the Parliamentary Service" were determined at the meeting of

	the Administrative Committee of the Parliament of Montenegro of 24 July 2013. The Evaluation Form is an integral part of the document.
50.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Adopting the Book/List of knowledge, skills and conduct</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Adoption of the List of knowledge and skills for positions in the Parliamentary Service
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> Preparation of working version of the documents has been initiated, and its drawing up remains one of the priorities in 2014, hence it will be included in the Action Plan for the year to come.
<b>OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY</b>	
51.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Establishing procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms in the part of competences relating to consideration of and taking positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities in respect of exercising the citizens' rights</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms
	<b>Timescale:</b> II quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Procedures determined Public informed on procedures

**Level of implementation:**

At the meeting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms, held on 30 May 2012, with regard to amendments to Article 44 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro (Decision on Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro - Official Gazette of Montenegro, No 25/12, of 11 May 2012), which stipulates that the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms “considers and takes positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities in respect of exercising the citizens’ rights”, the Committee concluded that petitions and addressing of citizens and legal entities to the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms would be considered only upon their consideration by the relevant institution- Protector of Human Rights and Freedoms of Montenegro, and discontent of citizens with the Protector’s processing of such petitions; in which cases, the Committee would act in line with its control and oversight function.

The Parliament of Montenegro asked for expert support of TAIEX to establish procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and Anti-Corruption Committee regarding petitions and complaints of citizens and legal entities. On 29 August, TAIEX sent a letter to the Parliament confirming the approval of the expert help upon the request of the Parliament of Montenegro with regard to providing support for formulating written procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms in the part of competences relating the consideration of and taking positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities, in respect of exercising rights of citizens as well as procedures for activities of the Anti-corruption Committee in the part of competences of considering petitions and forwarding them to relevant bodies, in accordance with the Committee’s scope of work. TAIEX is expected to organise an expert mission in 2014, in order to finalise the process.

During 2013, the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms received two petitions.

52.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Establishing procedures for acting of the Anti-Corruption Committee in the part of competences relating to the consideration and taking positions on petitions and forwarding them to relevant bodies, in accordance with the Committee’s scope of work</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Anti-Corruption Committee
	<b>Timescale:</b> II quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Procedures determined Public informed on procedures
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> At the fifth meeting of 27 March, the Anti-Corruption Committee discussed its competences in line with Article 48a, paragraph 4 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro, reaching a conclusion on the occasion that an act regulating acting of the Committee evidently did not exist. Having in mind the significance of considering petitions in fight against corruption and organised crime, the Committee reached a conclusion to address this issue to the Collegium of the President of the Parliament for consideration and help in regulating it. In this regard, the Chairperson of the Committee sent a letter to the Collegium on 28 March, stating that it was necessary that

	<p>the Collegium establish a working group or engage experts for drafting such an act.</p> <p>The Parliament of Montenegro asked for expert support of TAIEX to establish procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and Anti-Corruption Committee regarding petitions and complaints of citizens and legal entities. On 29 august, TAIEX sent a letter to the Parliament confirming the approval of the expert help upon the request of the Parliament of Montenegro with regard to providing support for formulating written procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms in the part of competences relating the consideration and taking positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities, in respect of exercising rights of citizens as well as procedures for activities of the Anti-corruption Committee in the part of competences related to consideration of petitions applications and forwarding them to relevant bodies, in accordance with the Committee's scope of work. TAIEX is expected to organise an expert mission in 2014 to finalise the process.</p> <p>During 2013, six petitions were submitted to the Ant-corruption Committee.</p>
53.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Improve procedures for citizens' addressing to the Parliament of Montenegro</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Parliamentary Service</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  III quarter</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Procedures determined  Public informed on procedures</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  Redesign of the website has provided easier procedure for citizens' addressing to the Parliament, and all inquiries are regularly answered. Additionally, the Parliament of Montenegro asked for expert support of TAIEX to establish procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms and Anti-Corruption Committee regarding petitions and complaints of citizens and legal entities. The expert help should include an examination of possibilities for simplifying the procedure of citizens' addressing to the Parliament. On 29 august, TAIEX sent a letter to the Parliament confirming the approval of the expert help upon the request of the Parliament of Montenegro with regard to providing support for formulating written procedures for acting of the Committee on Human Rights and Freedoms in the part of competences relating the consideration of and taking positions on petitions of citizens and legal entities, in respect of exercising rights of citizens as well as procedures for activities of the Anti-corruption Committee in the part of competences of considering petitions and forwarding them to relevant bodies, in accordance with the Committee's scope of work. TAIEX is expected to organise an expert mission in 2014 to finalise the process.</p>
54.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Continue to provide opportunities to representatives of interested public to participate in the work of working bodies</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Working bodies</p>

	<p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of participations of civil society representatives in the work of working bodies</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> Representatives of interested public have an opportunity to participate at the meetings of the working bodies, in accordance with Article 67 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament. In 2013, about 230 attendances of the representatives of the civil sector were recorded, including individuals and representatives of about 40 NGOs. About 70 representatives of international organisations in Montenegro attended the meetings of working bodies.</p> <p>Additionally, six representatives of NGO sector participated in the work of the Working Group of Administrative Committee, founded with a task to continue the procedure of considering the proposal of non-governmental organisations for adopting the act that would determine the manner and procedure of election of NGO sector representatives in bodies formed by the Parliament of Montenegro.</p>
55.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Respond regularly to all requests for free access to information submitted in accordance with the law</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Secretary General's Office in cooperation with other organisational units</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of answered requests with regard to the number of submitted requests</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> All requests for free access to information are responded to regularly. During 2013, a total of 60 requests for free access to information were submitted to the Parliament (with 259 items), and they were responded to in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- access was allowed for 35 requests,</li> <li>- access was denied for 16 requests, since the Parliament did not have the requested information,</li> <li>- response to seven requests was in a form of notification that the information was disclosed.</li> </ul> <p>The responses to two requests received on 27 December 2013 will be sent in 2014.</p>
56.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Organising “Children’s Parliament”</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> “Children’s Parliament” held</p>

	<p>Number of students who participated in the “Children’s Parliament”</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  “Children’s Parliament” was organized on 2 December 2013, on the occasion of 20 November, the Day of adoption of Convention on the Rights of the Child, in cooperation with the Centre for Children’s Rights of Montenegro, and the support of Save the Children for the North West Balkans. The topic of V Children’s Parliament was poverty, and 47 children in total participated at the session.</p>
57.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Continuing with implementation of the project “Democracy Workshops” and establish another workshop related to the topic of the EU</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol  Section for research, analysis, library and documentation</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of workshops held  Number of participants in the Project  Number of guests  Reactions from schools</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  In the period January – December 2013, 224 workshops were implemented, where 5,184 students participated (15 from the primary school “Bernard Bolzano” from Tabor, Czech Republic) as well as 300 teachers (3 from the Czech primary school) from 60 primary schools from all over Montenegro and one primary school from the Czech Republic. During 174 workshops on the topic “Democracy and Parliament”, and 50 workshops on the topic “European Union”, a total of 175 children’s newspapers and 49 radio segments were created. A total of 13 Members of the Parliament of Montenegro from parliamentary majority and parliamentary minority participated as guests in democracy workshops. Guests of democracy workshops also included the President and Vice President of the Parliament of Montenegro, as well as the President of the Parliament of Austria, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, a member of the European Parliament, Secretary General of Hellenic Parliament, and others.</p> <p>Due to a large interest of schools, the number of workshops increased from eight to nine workshops per week as of September, while the workshops on the topic “European Union” started in June.</p>
58.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Organising visits to the Parliament for groups of citizens and similar events (exhibitions, concerts, etc.)</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p>

	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  Number of visits and similar events  Number of citizens who visited the Parliament</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  In the period January – Decembar 2013, the following was implemented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Six visits of students of Montenegrin Association of Political Science Students – MAPSS (around 150 persons), and on 28 September 2013, a visit of MAPSS and IAPSS (International Association of Political Science Students) students has been organised;</li> <li>- One visit of students of Montenegrin American Youth Alumni Association – MAYAA, on 29 October 2013. The visit was organised as part of the Week of Civic Education project;</li> <li>- 170 visits of students, under the project “Democracy Workshops”, attended by 3893 students from 51 schools;</li> <li>- Awarding of certificates to attendees of “Democracy Workshops” was organised in Villa Gorica on 11 June and 25 December;</li> <li>- Exhibition on the occasion of awarding certificates to attendees of “Democracy Workshops”, containing photographs of participants, cover pages of newspapers and a selection of entries by students and teachers in the Guest Book;</li> <li>- Exhibition of photographs from the previous four sessions of the Children’s Parliament on the occasion of 20 November - the Day of adoption of Convention on the Rights of the Child;</li> <li>- Visit of the European Movement – France, 11 October 2013. European Movement is a French association that gathers, apart from political affiliation, both women and men that are advocating building of the European Union with a single federal perspective; and</li> <li>- Twelve-year-old Nađa Janković, student of junior Music School from Tivat, in class of Professor Srđan Bulatović, who won first place at the International Classical Guitar Competition in Almeria (Andalusia) in October, performed on 30 December, during the award ceremony to the best employees.</li> </ul>
59.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Continuing with implementation of Internship programme and developing a model that is going to be implemented in 2014</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b>  Secretary General's Office and secretaries of certain working bodies</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b>  Continuous</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b>  The continuation of the Internship programme implemented  Number of college students–participants in the Programme</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  The Parliament provided Internship for three students of final year of graduate and postgraduate studies in 2013.</p>
60.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b>  <b>Regularly publishing information on parliamentary activities on the website of the Parliament</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b></p>

	Parliamentary Service (particularly Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol)
	<b>Timescale:</b> Continuous
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Number of visits to the website
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> All information on the work of the Parliament is regularly published on the website. The website contains all information relating to legislative procedure, including proposals for laws, amendments, reports and minutes of working bodies, as well as voting listings. During 2013, a total of 4,690 information, announcements, press statements, with 1,739 accompanying photographs, were published on the website.  In the same period, Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol of the Parliament of Montenegro issued 375 permanent accreditations for journalists and cameramen/photo reporters from 25 electronic and printed media, eight out of which are editorial boards outside Montenegro. Additionally, 157 daily accreditations were issued. In the same period, 119 individual journalist's questions relating to parliamentary activities were processed and responded to.  From 21 May to 31 December 2013, the website of the Parliament was visited 144,837 times in total, out of which 40,875 were unique visits. The new website was visited from 130 countries in total.
<b>61.</b>	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Redesign of the website of the Parliament of Montenegro</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol, and IT Section
	<b>Timescale:</b> II quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Internet pages have been redesigned Easier search of information on the work of the Parliament was enabled
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> As of 21 May 2013, the redesigned website of the Parliament of Montenegro has been active. The website has been redesigned and significantly enriched in content, in accordance with the current technical achievements, significantly increased parliamentary activities and, primarily with the needs of the citizens and other users for easier search of information. The redesigned website, as well as its maintenance, has been completely implemented by the Service of the Parliament, with its human, technical and financial resources, mainly by the IT Section, in cooperation with other organisational units.  As of 21 May, it has been possible to track the number of visits to the website; since then until 31 December 2013 the website was visited 144,837 times, out of which 40,875 were unique visits. The average time spent on the website was 5 minutes and 50 seconds. Additionally, in the reporting period there were 624,542 visits to web pages, out of which 437,788 were unique visits. The average time spent on a

	webpage was 1 minute and 46 seconds. Visits to the new website were recorded from 130 countries in total.
62.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Informing the public on the most important parliamentary activities via the electronic newsletter “Open Parliament”</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol and Secretary General’s Office
	<b>Timescale:</b> Continuous
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> 11 newsletters published (without August due to annual leave)
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> From 1 January to 31 December 2013, eleven newsletters in total were published and sent (for the period December 2012 - November 2013). Furthermore, the new website of the Parliament has an electronic sign up form, through which all interested parties can sign up to receive the newsletter to their e-mail address.
63.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Regular updating of listings of public voting on the website of the Parliament</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Department for Public Relations, International Affairs and Protocol, IT Section, and Secretary General’s Office
	<b>Timescale:</b> Continuous
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Listings of voting are published regularly on the website of the Parliament
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> IT Section is continuously publishing listings of electronic voting from the sittings of the Parliament on the website of the Parliament. Listings of electronic voting are published no later than the following business day, and exceptionally, for detailed control purposes, the deadline for publishing may be prolonged to no longer than three business days when there are several instances of voting in one day. Listings of electronic voting are published with the material the voting is related to, and the draft of a special software solution – voting base has begun in order to enable users (primarily citizens) better insight, and better and faster search.
64.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Parliamentary TV channel introduced on the cable networks</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Parliamentary Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> III quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b>

	<p>Parliamentary TV channel introduced on the cable networks  Number of networks where the channel is available  Number of households the channel is available to</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b>  The procedure of introducing the Parliamentary TV channel has been initiated in cooperation with the Broadcasting Agency and will be continued in 2014.</p>
65.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Analysis of conditions and assessment of the need for introducing the broadcasting Parliamentary TV channel</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Collegium
	<b>Timescale:</b> IV quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Completed analysis and assessment of the need for introducing the broadcasting Parliamentary TV channel
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> Analysis and assessment of the need for introducing the broadcasting Parliamentary TV channel remain one of the priorities for the following year and will be included in the 2014 Action Plan.
66.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Printing of collections of research papers</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Section for research, analysis, library and documentation
	<b>Timescale:</b> II quarter
	<b>Performance indicator:</b> Collections of research papers printed
	<b>Level of implementation:</b> The public procurement procedure for printing services for research papers was completed, the best offer was selected, and the procedure of concluding the contract was completed. The printing of collections of research papers is ongoing.
67.	<b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Preparing and publishing the Annual Performance Report of the Parliament of Montenegro</b>
	<b>Responsibility of:</b> Secretary General's Office in cooperation with all parts of the Service
	<b>Timescale:</b> March

	<p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Annual Performance Report published on the website</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> 2012 Performance Report of the Parliament of Montenegro was prepared and published on Parliament's website.</p>
68.	<p><b>Activity/measure:</b> <b>Reporting on Implementation of the Plan</b></p> <p><b>Responsibility of:</b> Secretary General's Office in cooperation with all parts of the Service</p> <p><b>Timescale:</b> Quarterly</p> <p><b>Performance indicator:</b> Implementation Reports prepared Conclusions of the Collegium</p> <p><b>Level of implementation:</b> The Service of the Parliament prepared two Reports on Implementation of the Action Plan – for the period until 30 June and for the period until 30 September, while the third Report on Implementation of the Legislative Work Plan for 2013 would be prepared in January 2014. All the reports are available at the website of the Parliament, in Montenegrin and English.</p>