

The Special Developmental Program on Regional Development

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The Ministry of Interior expects, with the hiring of 2.500 new employees until the forthcoming June and the application of the Special Developmental Program on Regional Development which amounts to 1 trillion drs. (to be distributed within the next 5 years), to apply the Program on the Unification of the Organizations of Local Government.

This special developmental program includes the following five subprograms which are briefly stated along with their targets:

A' subprogram: it refers to the few necessary expenses required for the functioning of the Organizations of Local Government and also to the way that these expenses are covered.

B' subprogram: it covers the expenses on organization, computer information systems and the modernization of the administrative services as well as the training of employees etc..

C' subprogram: it covers the expenses of basic works on technical infrastructure and on the protection of the environment.

D' subprogram: it covers the expenses of administrative, social and other kinds of infrastructure.

E' subprogram: it refers to the Municipalities of South Attica, South Thessaloniki and it provides for the regulations on matters of organization, environment etc..

The "formal" schedule of applying the "I. Kapodistrias" Program along with the accompanying Developmental goes as follows:

Actions during the year 1998 a.d.

10 February: the completion of recording the necessities and the infrastructures of the Organizations of Local Government

20 February: the completion of recording the available resources of the OTA.

10 March: the Greek Company of Local Development and Local Government completes the processing of data on the needs and on the current infrastructures of the Organizations of Local Government.

15 March: processing the criteria for the distribution of debits from a group of Labor.

20 March: the completion of evaluating the proposals of the Region.

10 April: approval of the distribution criteria.

20 April: The Region completes the evaluation of proposals

1 May: Sending the files of the draft of the Local Government's Special Program to the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization.

3 May: The Greek Company of Local Development and Local Government receives the files for processing.

8 May: completing the research on the criteria, specifications.

29 May: final processing of criteria, specifications.

1 June: the Greek Company of local Government completes the processing of the proposals for works and the submission of data to the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization.

20 June: determining the draft of the Special Program of Local Government concerning Regions, Prefectures, and Municipalities and also the financial limit.

30 September: suggestions by the Ministries to the Committee concerning the works of the Special Program of Local Government and approval by the Committee.

Actions for the year 1999 a.d.

1 February: setting the deadline for the processing of proposals by the Municipal Councils.

28 February: completing the procedure on proposals by the Municipal Councils.

30 April: discussion of the proposals in Regional Councils.

10 May: the Regions should submit the draft on the Special Developmental Program of Local Government to the Ministry of Interior, Public Administration and Decentralization.

15 June: the processing of the proposals by the various Ministries in Athens.

30 June: completing the setting up of the Program.

We note here that the new law on the unification refers according to article to the following matters:

Article 1 provides for the formation of the new Organizations of Local Government per Prefecture: Prefectures 51, new Organizations of Local Government 1033.

Article 2 regulates matters concerning the eligibility of the Authorities and matters on the function of the Organizations of Local Government.

Article 3 determines the Democratic Principles, the way to run for the candidacy and the distribution of seats.

Article 4 provides for the formation of Local Councils.

Article 5 regulates the election of the Members of the above mentioned Local Councils.

Article 6 refers to the jurisdictions and to the function of the Local Councils as well as of their President.

Article 7 provides for the Deputies (election, service, installation, voting system).

Article 8 refers to the Deputy's jurisdictions, rank, expenses, obligations and participation to the Municipal and Communal Councils.

Article 9 regulates matters relating to Local Councils and Deputies in previous Organizations of Local Government.

Article 10 provides for the convocation of the Common Assembly for the discussion of matters related to the Municipal or Communal District.

Article 11 refers to the administrative ways of serving the Citizens.

Article 12 provides for the checking of the accounts of the Organizations of Local Government.

Article 13 provides for the elaboration of the Special Program of Local¹ Government (of a developmental character, article 71, par.4, of the L.1622/1986).

Article 14 regulates matters related to the Budget of the new Organizations of Local Government, whose function ends at the 31.12.1998 as well as the fate of the until that date granted loans to the under unification Organizations of Local Government.

Article 15 brings forward some changes in the Municipal and Communal Code in force.

Article 16 regulates matters related to Institutions, Corporate bodies under public law, Unions of the Organizations of Local Government, Enterprises united with the Organizations of Local Government and the abolishment of the Regional Councils.

Article 17 regulates such matters of the Organizations of Local Government as consigning works, transportation, and commissions.

Article 18 includes provisions concerning the Personnel of the Organizations of Local Government.

Article 19 provides for the abolishment of the Province's role as the unit of administrative division from 1.1.1999.

Article 20 allows the enforcement of various taxes for the benefit of the Organizations of Local Government.

Article 21 provides for the same favorable regulations, for the benefit of the Citizens of the small Organizations of Local Government, that are abolished due to the unification.

Article 22 introduces new ways of serving the Citizens on matters of administrative character (issue certificates etc.).

Article 23 regulates matters on contracts of inter-municipal collaborations.

Article 24 adjusts the regulations of L. 2508/1997 to the newly introduced regulations

Article 25 includes provisions of a temporary character.

Article 26 refers to the way of covering expenses created by the application of the new regulations.

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And finally, article 29 regulates matters concerning the validity of the new regulations².

1. See Const. GE. ATHANASSOPOULOS: *Regional development organization. SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL I.P.A./ Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Athens, 1992, p.166 ff. REVIEW OF DECENTRALIZATION LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT. Athens, 1996, issue 5, p. 3ff.*

2. *Unification matters etc. see : Const. GE. ATHANASSOPOULOS: Regional Administration-Local Government. Athens, 1998, vol. B', D' ed. p. 60 ff.*