

ISSN 1512-7508 - Serbian language

ISSN 1512-7486 – Bosnian language

ISSN 1512-7494 - Croatian language

Pursuant to on Article IV. 4.a) of the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina, at the 16th session of the House of Representatives held on October 11th and 30th, 2007 and at the 9th session of the House of Peoples held on October 29, 2007, the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted the following

LAW

ON AGENCY FOR PRE-SCHOOL, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

PART ONE – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

(Subject of the Law)

This law establishes the Agency for pre-school, primary and secondary education (hereinafter referred to as the Agency), regulates the legal status thereof, organization, competences, ways of establishing it technical and managing bodies and defining their competences, funding and other issues relevant for the work of the Agency.

PART TWO – STATUS AND ORGANIZATION OF THE AGENCY

Article 2

(Status and the Seat of the Agency)

- (1) The Agency shall have the status of an independent administrative organization, acting in the capacity of a legal entity.
- (2) The Agency shall have the seal and the stamp in line with the Law.
- (3) Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall determine the seat of the Agency by a special decision.

Article 3

(Establishing of branch offices)

- (1) Apart from the main office, the Agency shall establish branch offices.
- (2) Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall determine, by a special decision, the places in which the branch offices of the Agency shall established.

PART THREE – COMPETENCES OF THE AGENCY

Article 4

(Establishing standards in pre-school, primary and secondary education)

The Agency shall be in charge of establishing the standards of knowledge, assessment of the results achieved and development of common core curricula in the pre-school, primary and secondary education, as well as the

standards for other technical affairs in the field of knowledge standards and education quality assessment regulated by special laws and other regulations.

Article 5

(Establishing standards of knowledge and assessment)

When it comes to establishing the standards of knowledge and assessment of the results achieved in pre-school, primary and secondary education and the standards for other technical affairs in the field of knowledge standards and education quality assessment, the Agency shall be in charge of:

- a) establishing standards of students' knowledge and assessment of the results achieved,
- b) conducting research aimed at evaluating students' knowledge standard development, assessment of the results achieved and publishing the research results,
- c) providing advice to competent education authorities in relation to prescribed standards of knowledge and application thereof,
- d) establishing and maintaining reporting mechanisms on the state of education in Bosnia and Herzegovina in collaboration with the competent education authorities,
- e) collecting, consolidating, processing and publishing of data on knowledge quality and quantity,
- f) conducting external assessment,
- g) providing guidelines for conduct of teacher and associate training programs in the field of knowledge standards and external assessment,
- h) establishing contacts with the bodies of similar functions in other countries, as well as with international organizations and institutions for the purpose of harmonizing education standards,
- I) providing assistance in terms of recognition of local certificates and diplomas in other countries and recognition of foreign certificates and diplomas in Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- j) conducting other activities related to establishment and application of knowledge standards and assessment.

Article 6

(Development of common core curricula)

As for the development of common core curricula in the pre-school, primary and secondary education, the Agency shall be in charge of:

- a) monitoring the implementation of a common core curricula,
- b) monitoring, evaluating, advancing and developing the common core curricula in line with the standards defined in the Framework Law on Primary and Secondary Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina ("Official Gazette of B&H", No. 18/03),
- c) establishing cooperation with pedagogical institutes and other institutions focused on support, modernization and development of pre-school, primary and secondary education,
- d) providing advice to education authorities regarding development and implementation of the new syllabuses,
- e) providing guidelines for preparation of training programs on application of curricula for teachers and other educational experts,
- f) collaborating with the Curriculum Agency on developing extra-curricula courses - so-called national courses - for the students of primary and secondary schools, citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina studying abroad,
- g) implementing other activities in line with this Law and other laws pertaining to standards in pre-school, primary and secondary education.

PART FOUR – EXPERT AND MANAGEMENT BODIES OF THE AGENCY

CHAPTER I – EXPERT BODY OF THE AGENCY

Article 7

(Agency Board)

- (1) Agency Board for pre-school, primary and secondary education (hereinafter referred to as the Board) is an expert body established within the Agency.
- (2) The Board shall comprise seven (7) members, two from each constituent people and one member from the others.
- (3) Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall announce a public competition for election of the Board members, make a single list of registered candidates who meet the requirements and obtains opinion from the Conference of the Education Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (4) The Board shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- (5) A representative of the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall participate in the work of the Board but shall not have the right to vote.
- (6) Members of the Board shall be appointed for a three-year tenure.

Article 8

(Method of work and bylaws of the Board)

- (1) The Board shall make decisions in line with this Law.
- (2) Other issues relative to method of work of the Board shall be regulated by the Rulebook of the Board of the Agency for pre-school, primary and secondary education (hereinafter referred to as Rulebook).
- (3) Members of the Board shall elect a chairman among themselves and appoint him/her to a one-year tenure in accordance with the Rulebook.
- (4) The Board shall decide on all matters by majority votes of all members, provided that in the majority vote there is a minimum one vote from each of the constituent peoples.

Article 9

(Board Dismissal)

- (1) If established that the Board does not meet its function, Minister of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina can propose to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina to dismiss the Board or a member even before the expiry of the tenure to which the Board or a member was appointed.
- (2) Conference of the Education Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall provide its opinion about the proposal for dismissal of the Board or a member.

Article 10

(Board Competence)

The Board is in charge of:

- a) establishing standards of knowledge and assessments of the results achieved,
- b) approving a common core curricula for the primary and secondary education and publishing it in the Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- c) providing advice, interpretation and recommendations to competent educational authorities concerning the issued under its competence,
- d) establishing and maintain the information and reporting mechanisms on the issues under its competence,

- e) considering the research conducted within the Agency and publishing the results thereof,
- f) establishing and maintaining the contacts with the bodies of similar functions in other countries as well as with international organizations and institutions in order to make the educational standards comparable to the standards of European countries,
- g) adopting guidelines for implementation of teacher and associate training programs.

CHAPTER II. AGENCY MANAGEMENT

Article 11

(Director of the Agency)

- (1) The Agency shall be managed by a Director appointed in accordance with the B&H Law on ministry appointments, appointments of the Council of Ministers and other appointments ("Official Gazette of B&H", No. 37/03). The Director shall have two deputies, who shall be in charge of regional units and appointed in the same manner as the Director.
- (2) The Agency Director and his/her Deputies shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina to a four-year tenure.
- (3) The Agency and his/her Deputies cannot be elected from the same constituent people.
- (4) The Agency Director shall be fully and completely responsible to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Article 12

(Competences of the Director)

The Agency Director shall:

- a) Manage and direct the affairs under the competence of the Agency;
- b) Be responsible for implementation of Board decisions and decisions of the other competent bodies;
- c) Prepare materials to be discussed and decided upon by the Board;
- d) Prepare the work plan of the Agency and submit report on the work of the Agency;
- e) Prepare financial plan of the Agency and submit financial report;
- f) Be responsible, in accordance with the law, for the issues deriving from the labor relations;
- g) Establish necessary cooperation with the competent educational institutions in the entities, cantons and Brčko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- h) Submit annual report on work to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- i) Perform other tasks in accordance with the Law and bylaws, and the regulations of the Agency.

Article 13

(Rulebook on internal organization of the Agency)

- (1) The Agency Director shall, in consultation with the managers of the regional units and upon prior consent of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, adopt the Rulebook on internal organization.
- (2) The Rulebook on internal organization shall define the competences of the regional units.

PART FIVE - FINANCING

Article 14

(Financing and self-financing of the Agency)

- (1) Funding for the work of the Agency shall be ensured in the Budget of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina and International Obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina as of January 1, 2007.
- (2) The Agency can generate its own income or income from other sources.

PART SIX - SUPERVISION

Article 15

(Supervision)

Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall supervise the implementation of this Law.

PART SEVEN – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 16

(Termination of the Agency for Standards and Assessment of Education for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska)

- (1) Termination of work, takeover of the archives, equipment and employees of the Education Standards and Assessment Agency for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska (hereinafter referred to as: Education Standards and Assessment Agency for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska) shall be regulated by an Agreement, which will be concluded by and between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Government of Republika Srpska.
- (2) The procedure of concluding the Agreement from paragraph (1) of this Article shall be conducted within three months from the effectiveness of this Law at the latest.

Article 17

(Harmonization of law)

- (1) By entering of this Law into force Articles 46, 47 and 48 of the Framework Law on Primary and Secondary Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina ("Official Gazette of B&H" No. 18/03) shall no longer be valid.
- (2) In accordance with this Law and within three months from the day of effectiveness of this Law, the entity governments shall put out of force the Decision on establishing the Education Standards and Assessment Agency for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette of the Federation of B&H ", No. 28/00) and the Decision on establishing the Education Standards and Assessment Agency for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette of Republika Srpska", No. 42/01).

Article 18

(Entering into force)

This Law shall enter into force on the eighth day after its publication in "the Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina".

B&H PA No. 123/07
October 30, 2007
Sarajevo

Chairman
of the House of Representatives
of the Parliamentary Assembly of B&H
dr. **Milorad Živković**, s. r.

Chairman
of the House of Peoples
of the Parliamentary Assembly of B&H
Ilija Filipović, s. r.
