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5. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT

As far as the public administration is concerned, ÈSSD intends to control the tendency towards the ungrounded growth and similarly the bureaucratization of the public administration by means of the following provisions:

- precise and publicly controllable definition of the competencies of both parts of the public administration, i.e. selfgovernment and state administration at the central, territorial and municipality levels. To let the state administration have only those competencies that ensure an exact performance of precisely defined activities within the whole country. In order to reach an rational division of competencies we will proceed from the citizens and their needs towards the government and the Parliament and not the other way round;

- to reinforce the conceptual function of government and make it in fact responsible for the general state of the society and the enforcement of positive development trends in the economic, social and political level of the country.. To achieve this function of government without any increase in the number of employees through a new division of competencies between the central, territorial and local governments;

- to reduce the excessive stress on departments in favour of the responsibility of separate authorities for the standard and development of individual aspects of the society, not only for the functioning of a given industry. To prevent further increase in number of state authorities; if there is a need for co-ordination, to create government committees on Cabinet level without any management system;

- to create and consistently implement a single state information system accessible to both the citizens and institutions. To co-ordinate fully the state information system with the competency definitions of separate authorities on all levels of the public administration;

- together with the establishment of the state information system to prepare in detail a comprehensive system of professional and public control. To increase its efficiency substantially without any new authorities or employees.

- within the system of central authorities to authorize only one ministry to take care of the general quality of the public administration and its co-ordination of separate regulations in the public administration; or possibly to create a government committee for this purpose. One of the first and foremost tasks is to create and carry out a program of change in the public administration related to our preparation for admission to the EU.

- to stop the tendency to underestimate or even despise the public administration and to contribute to the conversion of the public administration as a bureaucratic authority provoking citizens to one serving them in creating conditions for their individual private lives and also their lives as members of society. In order to achieve this state ÈSSD will contribute as follows:

- to accept a law on civil service and law on public service that on the one hand will be very demanding as far as the professionals in the public administration are concerned but at the same time will protect them during performing their difficult tasks;

- to elaborate a system of the public administration officials education, both of the future employees at high schools and universities and the current employees in the system of life-time education. To manage this education system by an authority authorized to take care of the quality public administration.

On the level of the territorial public administration authorities to focus on the quality elaboration of the division of competencies in the public administration i.e. both in the self-government and the state administration and their central, regional and local authorities. Upon division of these competencies to observe strictly the following rules:

- the division of work between the state administration and the self-government may be objectified based on the rule saying that the state administration should manage all that needs to be arranged in the same manner in the whole society and within the whole country. All the rest can be in power of the self-government.

- when dividing the competencies among different levels of management in the self-government it is wise to take into consideration the fact that the decision-taking process should take place on the management level with an objectively

highest level of information on the given problem area, able to assess the consequence of its decision in all its aspects and being the most motivated level as far as the quality is concerned.

Local authorities of the public administration:

- to reinforce substantially and directly in the law on municipalities their competencies so that they can generate, or as the case may be intervene into, more efficiently the creation of the conditions to satisfy the citizens needs. First of all this concerns of the process of setting and execution of the territorial plan, approval of business activities and using the equipment of social and technical infrastructure. To broaden the space for the possibilities to amend ways of performing certain activities by local regulations. These activities are generally everything related to the public order.

- to define by law the term "equity of municipality" and make the rules for managing the municipality property substantially stricter and more transparent. To define by name those kinds of equipment that cannot be sold or mortgaged by the municipality without a corresponding compensation of the equipment et cetera. To prevent the process of "appropriation" of the municipalities regardless its reasons. To set the limit of the municipality indebtedness;

- to define by law the relations between the citizen, board of representation, representation and its commissions in order to extend the possibilities to influence the activities of the representation and the possibilities of the representation to influence the decisions of the Board;

- amending the tax law in the Czech Republic to define the way of the tax assessment in order to increase the absolute amount of the municipalities income (in respect of increase in their competencies) and to increase the probability ratio that the tax liability will occur, i.e. that the municipality will have the money. To extend the choices of collecting local taxes and fees. To elaborate a system of the municipality business activities support;

- to support associations of municipalities in order to do certain activities with the support mainly from the regional authorities of the self-government, to gradually create conditions for a voluntary joining of the municipalities into larger units and thus lower the existing scattered structure of municipalities in favour of better performance of their competencies, based on the will of the citizens themselves.

Management of the public sector by the public administration:

- to work out a general conception of the public sector and its separate parts and branches and to evaluate the conditions of its effectiveness. Based on this conception to proceed with the program of changes in ownership relations and rules of funding. This processed and continuously up-dated conception then becomes the decisive material for creating long-term budget programs;

- to stop tendencies to widen the differences among different regions through creation of a system of standards of equipment of the territory with the equipment of social and technical infrastructure guaranteed by the public administration. To analyse these standards continuously and to treat them as dynamic;

- to re-elaborate the tax system so that it supports the accepted conception of the development of the public sector and to reinforce the financial independence of the territorial and local self-governing authorities, i. e. to start the policy of derivation of the public income from the accepted conception of public expenses;

- to enforce into the creation of the public budgets on all levels the method of comparison of costs and effects. This means to match any approved expense item with the factual effect to be reached by activities thus funded, i.e. an effect to the economic development, living standards level and first of all to the development of human potential as the main prerequisite of live.