

Pursuant to Article 31 of the Decision Amending and Modifying the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 53/05),

The Legislative Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, at its sitting held on 28 June 2005, has established the revised text of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia.

The revised text of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia comprises:

1. Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 32/02). Article 236 of this text, on the repeal of the previous Rules of Procedure, has not been included in the present revised text;
2. Decision Amending and Modifying the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 57/03), with the exception of Article 3, on the coming into effect of the Decision;
3. Decision Amending the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 12/04), with the exception of Article 2, on the coming into effect of the Decision;
4. Decision Amending the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 29/04), with the exception of Article 5, authorising the Legislative Committee to establish the revised text, and Article 6, on the coming into effect of the Decision, and
5. Decision Amending and Modifying the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 53/05), with the exception of Article 31, authorising the Legislative Committee to establish the revised text, and Article 32, on the coming into effect of the Decision.

The present revised text of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia has been harmonised with decisions of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia IU No. 61/01 of 20 February 2004 (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 16/04) and IU No. 312/94 of 22 April 2004 (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, No. 54/04).

06 No. 02-1374/05

Belgrade, 28 June 2005

**LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

CHAIRMAN

Milos Aligrudic

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA (REVISED TEXT)

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

The present Rules of Procedure shall regulate the organisation and work of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia ('the National Assembly') and the manner of exercising the rights and duties of Deputies.

Article 2

The National Assembly shall be represented by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

Article 3

The seal of the National Assembly shall be round with, the coat-of-arms of the Republic of Serbia at the centre, and with the inscription 'Republic of Serbia – National Assembly' in the Cyrillic script around it.

II. CONSTITUTING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. Convening the First Sitting of the National Assembly

Article 4

The first sitting of the National Assembly after a general election shall be convened by the Chairperson of the Assembly from the previous convocation on the date following the date of the submission of the report by the Republic Electoral Commission on the conducted elections.

Article 5

The first sitting of the National Assembly pending the election of the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall be chaired by the oldest Deputy (Acting Chairperson).

The Acting Chairperson or Chairperson of the National Assembly shall be assisted in his/her work by the youngest Deputy from each of the four electoral lists that polled the largest number of seats, and by the Secretary of the National Assembly.

Article 6

At the first sitting of the National Assembly the mandates of Deputies shall be verified, the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairpersons and the members of the working bodies of the National Assembly shall be elected and the Secretary of the National Assembly shall be appointed.

2. Verification of Deputies' Mandates

Article 7

Deputies shall acquire rights and duties in the National Assembly on the date of verification of their mandates.

The mandates of Deputies shall be verified on the basis of certificates attesting to election as Deputy and the report of the Republic Electoral Commission on the conducted elections within thirty (30) days from the date of the elections.

The National Assembly shall, at its constituting sitting, and at the proposal of the Chairperson, by a majority of votes of Deputies, set up a three-member Commission, comprised of one member from each of the three electoral lists that polled the largest number of seats in the National Assembly. The Commission shall be chaired by the oldest member.

Based on the report of the Republic Electoral Commission, the Commission shall establish whether data from certificates attesting to the election of each Deputy are identical to those contained in the report of the Republic Electoral Commission, and shall submit a report thereon to the National Assembly.

Article 8

Based on the report of the Commission defined in Article 7, Paragraph 4 of the present Rules of Procedure, the person chairing the constituting sitting of the National Assembly shall note that the Republic Electoral Commission has presented a report on the conducted elections and indicate which certificates attesting to the election of Deputies are in accordance with the report, whereby the mandates of these Deputies shall be verified.

3. Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons; Appointment of the Secretary of the National Assembly

a) Election of the Chairperson of the National Assembly

Article 9

At least thirty (30) Deputies may nominate a candidate for the office of Chairperson of the National Assembly.

A Deputy may take part in the nomination of only one candidate.

The nomination shall include the name and surname of the candidate, the curriculum vitae and party affiliation of the candidate, as well as the first name and last name of the Rapporteur, an explanatory note, and the written consent of the candidate.

Article 10

The nomination of a candidate for the office of Chairperson of the National Assembly shall be submitted to the Acting Chairperson in writing.

The Acting Chairperson shall communicate to the Deputies all the received nominations of candidates for the office of Chairperson of the National Assembly.

On behalf of the proposer, the proposer's Rapporteur shall be entitled to provide an explanation of the nomination.

A debate shall be opened on the nomination of a candidate for the office of Chairperson of the National Assembly.

After the debate is over, the Chairperson shall prepare a list of candidates for the office of Chairperson of the National Assembly in the alphabetical order of their last names.

Article 11

Before proceeding to elect its Chairperson, the National Assembly shall decide whether to vote by secret or by open ballot.

A Deputy may vote for only one candidate.

Article 12

If the National Assembly should decide on open voting, the vote will be taken by a roll call of Deputies.

Article 13

Voting by secret ballot for the election of the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall take place according to provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on voting in the National Assembly by secret ballot.

The Acting Chairperson at the sitting of the National Assembly shall administer the vote by secret ballot, and shall be assisted by the youngest Deputy from each of the four voting lists that polled the largest number of seats, and by the Secretary of the National Assembly.

A candidate for the office of Chairperson of the National Assembly may not administer the vote nor assist in the administration process.

Article 14

The Deputy who polls the majority of votes cast by Deputies present shall be elected Chairperson of the National Assembly.

If two candidates have been nominated and neither should win the required majority of votes, the election procedure shall be repeated.

If more than two candidates have been nominated and none should win the required majority of votes, the vote shall be repeated on the two candidates who polled the largest number of votes, i.e. on several candidates who polled the largest equal number of votes.

If the Chairperson of the National Assembly should not be elected in the second round either, the election procedure shall be repeated.

b) Election of Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly

Article 15

The National Assembly shall have not more than six (6) Vice-Chairpersons.

Whenever the National Assembly is constituted, it shall determine the number of its Vice-Chairpersons by a special decision at the proposal of the Chairperson.

Article 16

At least thirty (30) Deputies may nominate one or several candidates for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly, but only up to the number to be elected.

The nomination shall include the first name and last name of the candidate, his/her curricula vitae and party affiliation, as well as the name of the Rapporteur, an explanatory note, and the consent of the candidate in writing.

Article 17

The nomination of a candidate for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the National Assembly in writing.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall communicate to the Deputies all nominations received.

On behalf of the proposer, the Rapporteur of the proposer shall be entitled to give an explanation of the nomination.

A debate shall be held on the nomination of a candidate.

After the debate, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall prepare a list of candidates for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly in alphabetical order of their last names.

Article 18

Before proceeding to elect Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly, the National Assembly shall decide whether to vote by secret or by open ballot.

Deputies shall vote openly for each candidate individually by a show of hands or by roll call.

If the Deputies should vote openly by roll call, and the number of nominated candidates should be greater than the number to be elected, each Deputy shall vote for not more than the number of candidates to be elected.

Article 19

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall administer the vote by secret ballot for the election of Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly, and shall be assisted in doing so by the youngest Deputy from each of the four electoral lists polling the largest number of seats, and by the Secretary of the National Assembly.

A candidate for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly may not assist the Chairperson of the National Assembly in administering the vote.

Article 20

The vote by secret ballot for the office of Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly shall take place under provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on voting by the National Assembly by secret ballot.

One may vote for not more than the number of candidates to be elected, from among the candidates whose names are indicated on the ballot paper.

Article 21

The candidate who wins the majority of votes cast by Deputies present shall be elected Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly.

If the number of candidates nominated should equal the number to be elected, and the envisaged number of Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly should not be elected, the election procedure shall be repeated for the number of Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly who have not been elected.

If the number of candidates nominated should exceed the number to be elected and the envisaged number of Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly is not

elected, the vote shall be repeated for the number of Vice-Chairpersons who have not been elected, from among the remaining candidates.

If not even in the second round the envisaged number of Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly should be elected, the election procedure shall be repeated for the number of Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly who have not been elected.

c) Appointment of the Secretary of the National Assembly

Article 22

Candidates for the office of Secretary of the National Assembly shall be nominated by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

The nomination shall include the first name and last name of the candidate, his/her curriculum vitae, an explanatory note, and the consent of the candidate in writing.

4. Formation of Deputies' Groups

Article 23

Deputies' Groups in the National Assembly shall be formed, as a rule, not later than seven (7) days after the date of the election of the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

A Deputies' Group shall comprise Deputies of a political party, other political organisation, or group of citizens, that has at least five (5) Deputies.

A Deputies' Group of at least five (5) members may also be established by the association of Deputies belonging to several political parties, other political organisations, or groups of citizens that have less than five (5) Deputies each.

A Deputies' Group shall be established in the following manner: a list of members signed by each member of the Deputies' Group shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the National Assembly. The list shall indicate in particular the chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Deputies' Group.

A Deputy may be a member of only one Deputies' Group.

5. Formation of National Assembly Committees

Article 24

Deputies' Groups shall nominate members of each Committee in proportion to the number of Deputies they have in the National Assembly.

If a Deputies' Group should not nominate candidates for the election of Committee members, the Committee shall be formed as it has been elected based on the proposals of the Deputies' Groups that nominated their candidates. This composition, if more than a half of the Committee members have been elected as stipulated by the present Rules of Procedure, shall be considered as full composition when it comes to establishing the quorum for work and decision-making.

A Deputy may serve on several Committees.

Article 25

The proposed list for the election of Committee members shall be discussed and voted on as a single unit, by open voting.

The Committee shall be elected if the majority of the Deputies present vote for it.

If the Committee is not elected, the procedure shall be repeated.

Article 26

The first sitting of a Committee shall be convened by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

Pending the election of the chairperson of the Committee, the first sitting shall be chaired by the oldest Committee member.

At its first sitting, the Committee shall elect its chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members.

III. CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSONS, AND SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. Chairperson of the National Assembly

Article 27

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall:

- Perform duties envisaged by the Constitution;
- Chair sittings of the National Assembly;
- See to the application of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly;
- See to the timely and coordinated work of working bodies of the National Assembly;
- Also perform other duties foreseen by law and by the present Rules of Procedure.

Article 28

The term of office of the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall terminate prior to its expiry upon his/her resignation, by his/her being relieved of duty, or through the termination of his/her mandate of Deputy.

In case the Chairperson of the National Assembly should tender his/her resignation, his/her term of office shall terminate on the date of holding the sitting at which he/she does so, i.e. at the first next sitting of the National Assembly if he/she should tender his/her resignation between the holding of two sittings.

No debate shall be held about the tendered resignation, nor shall it be voted on; rather, the termination of office of Chairperson on these grounds shall only be taken note of.

Article 29

The National Assembly may relieve of duty the Chairperson of the National Assembly before the expiry of the term of office for which he/she has been elected, under procedure foreseen for the election of the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

Article 30

In case the term of office of the Chairperson of the National Assembly should terminate prior to its expiry, the National Assembly shall, at the same sitting, or at the at the first next sitting, initiate the procedure for the election of the Chairperson of the National Assembly under provisions of the present Rules of Procedure.

If the term of office of the Chairperson of the National Assembly has been terminated prior to its expiry, the duty of Chairperson of the National Assembly, pending the election of a new Chairperson, shall be performed by the oldest Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly.

If the Chairperson of the National Assembly should be elected by secret ballot, the voting shall be administered by the oldest Vice-Chairperson, who shall in so doing be assisted by other Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly and by the Secretary of the National Assembly.

The candidate for Chairperson of the National Assembly may neither administer the vote nor assist in its administration.

2. Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly

Article 31

Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly shall assist the Chairperson of the National Assembly in performing duties from within his/her purview.

In case the Chairperson of the National Assembly should be temporarily absent, one of the Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly designated by him/her shall stand in for him/her, of which the Chairperson shall inform all Vice-Chairpersons and the Secretary of the National Assembly.

If the Chairperson of the National Assembly should not designate any of the Vice-Chairperson to stand in for him/her in case of temporary absence, the oldest Vice-Chairperson shall stand in for him/her.

Article 32

The term of office of a Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly shall be terminated before its expiry upon his/her resignation, or through termination of mandate of Deputy, under the procedure and in the manner foreseen for the termination of office of Chairperson of the National Assembly.

In case of termination of the term of office of a Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly prior to its expiry, the election of a new Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly shall take place under the procedure and in the manner foreseen for the election of a Vice-Chairperson of the National Assembly.

3. Secretary of the National Assembly

Article 33

The Secretary of the National Assembly shall:

- Assist the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly in preparing and chairing sittings;
- Head the National Assembly Support Service;
- See to the implementation of conclusions of the National Assembly;
- Also perform other duties foreseen by law and by the present Rules of Procedure.

Article 34

The Secretary of the National Assembly shall be appointed by the National Assembly. His/her term of office shall terminate upon the constitution of a newly elected National Assembly, while he/she shall continue discharging his/her duties until the appointment of a new Secretary.

The Secretary of the National Assembly shall have an Assistant who shall assist him/her and stand in for him/her in case of absence. The Assistant Secretary shall be appointed by the National Assembly at the proposal of the Administrative Committee, and his/her term of office shall cease with the constituting of a newly elected National Assembly.

The Secretary shall report to the National Assembly.

Article 35

The term of office of the Secretary of the National Assembly shall be terminated prior to its expiry upon resignation or upon his/her being relieved of office.

Pending the appointment of a new Secretary of the National Assembly, the duty of Secretary shall be performed by the Assistant Secretary.

IV. DEPUTIES' GROUPS

Article 36

A Deputies' Group shall take part in activities of the National Assembly in the manner foreseen by the present Rules of Procedure.

Article 37

A Deputies' Group shall be represented by the chairperson of the Deputies' Group.

A Deputies' Group shall have its vice-chairperson, who shall stand in for the chairperson in case of his/her absence.

During a National Assembly sitting, a Deputies' Group may authorise one of its members to represent the Deputies' Group in relation with a particular item from the agenda, of which the Chairperson of the Deputies' Group shall notify the Chairperson of the National Assembly not later than before the opening of the debate on that particular item from the agenda.

If a Deputies' Group is represented by its vice-chairperson or authorised representative, he/she shall assume the powers of the chairperson of the Deputies' Group.

Article 38

The chairperson of a Deputies' Group shall notify the Chairperson of the National Assembly, in writing, of any changes in the composition of the Deputies' Group.

When new members join a Deputies' Group, the chairperson of the Deputies' Group shall communicate to the Chairperson of the National Assembly their signed statements of accession.

Article 39

Support and clerical duties required by Deputies' Groups shall be carried out by the National Assembly Support Service.

V. COMMITTEES AND OTHER WORKING BODIES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. General Provisions

Article 40

Committees shall be established to consider and review issues falling within the purview of the National Assembly, to propose official documents, as well as to carry out reviews of policies pursued, and laws, by-laws and other regulations implemented by the Government of the Republic of Serbia, to be done by each Committee for the field that falls within its purview; and also to perform other duties foreseen by the present Rules of Procedure.

A Committee may appoint its Sub-Committees.

The National Assembly may establish boards of inquiry and commissions.

Article 41

The number of members of a Committee shall be determined by the present Rules of Procedure, while the number of members of other working bodies shall be determined by the decision on their establishment.

Deputies who are at the same time Government Ministers may not serve on any Committee.

Article 42

During the term of office of a member of a Committee, and following a proposal from the Deputies' Group to which the member belongs, the National Assembly may relieve of duty the Committee member before the expiry of his/her term of office and may elect a new Committee member. The National Assembly shall decide on the dismissal and election of a new member of the Committee at the first next sitting following the communication of the appropriate motion from the Deputies' Group.

In case of termination of office of a Committee member of his/her own will, or by the will of the Deputies' Group he/she belongs to, it shall be deemed that the remaining members of the Committee, pending the election of a new member, represent the full membership of the Committee, with the provision that their number must be larger than half of the number of members of the Committee, as foreseen by the present Rules of Procedure.

2. Standing Committees

Article 43

The following shall be Standing Committees:

1. Constitutional Issues Committee;
2. Legislative Committee;
3. Committee on Defence and Security;
4. Foreign Affairs Committee;
5. Justice and Administration Committee;
6. Committee on Inter-Ethnic Relations;
7. Committee on Relations with Serbs Living Outside Serbia;
8. Committee on Development and International Economic Relations;
9. Finance Committee;
10. Industry Committee;
11. Committee on Transportation and Communications;
12. Committee on Urban Planning and Construction;
13. Agriculture Committee;
14. Committee on Trade and Tourism;
15. Privatisation Committee;
16. Committee on Kosovo and Metohia;

17. Committee on Health and the Family;
18. Committee on Environmental Protection;
19. Education Committee;
20. Youth and Sports Committee;
21. Culture and Information Committee;
22. Committee on Science and Technological Development;
23. Committee on Labour, Ex-Servicemen's and Social Issues;
24. Committee on Petitions and Proposals;
25. Economic Reforms Committee;
26. European Integrations Committee;
27. Poverty Reduction Committee;
28. Gender Equality Committee;
29. Local Self-Government Committee;
30. Administrative Committee.

Article 44

The Constitutional Issues Committee shall consider any proposals to amend the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, proposals to amend the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Statutes of Autonomous Provinces in the procedure of granting consent of the National Assembly, as well as proposals for initiating the procedure of impeachment of the President of the Republic, as well as any general issues concerning the application of the Constitution.

The Committee shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

The Committee shall be made up of twenty-five (25) members.

Article 45

The Legislative Committee shall consider Bills, proposals of other regulations and by-laws addressed to the National Assembly to assess compliance with the Constitution and the legal system. The Committee shall also consider proposals for

adoption of authentic interpretations of laws, other regulations, or by-laws adopted by the National Assembly, as well as issues of uniform legislative methodology and other issues of relevance to the uniform legal and technical processing of documents adopted by the National Assembly.

The Legislative Committee shall also consider reports submitted by the Constitutional Court on the state and problems of adherence to the Constitution and laws in the Republic, opinions and advice of the Constitutional Court about the necessity of adopting and/or amending laws and/or undertaking other measures to safeguard adherence to the Constitution and laws, and shall also review proposals and initiatives for initiating procedures for assessing whether laws, other regulations, and by-laws adopted by the National Assembly adhere to the Constitution.

The Committee shall monitor the development of the legal system and report thereon to the National Assembly.

The Committee shall be made up of twenty-one (21) members.

Article 46

The Committee on Defence and Security shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws from the fields of public and national security, activity reports on the security situation in the Republic of Serbia submitted by the Ministry of the Interior to the National Assembly upon its request; and shall exercise control over security services and monitor other issues in the field of security, in accordance with law.

The Committee shall be made up of seventeen (17) members.

Article 47

The Foreign Affairs Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws, as well as other issues in the field of foreign policy, review major issues in the field of international relations of particular interest to the Republic of Serbia, monitor and consider the status of immigrants and migrant workers abroad, examine appropriate documents so as to give its opinion to the National Assembly on whether the National Assembly should grant its consent for the conclusion of international agreements, propose to the National Assembly aims and objectives for National Assembly delegations in establishing co-operation with relevant representative bodies of other nations, and review reports on visits made.

The Committee shall be made up of seventeen (17) members.

Article 48

The Justice and Administration Committee shall consider Bills, proposals of other regulations and by-laws, as well as other issues in the field of organisation of judicial authorities and actions taken by such authorities and magistrates, enforcement of sentences, international legal aid, organisation and work of government agencies and performance of public duties, organisation of administrative bodies, the electoral system, and the association of citizens into bodies.

The Committee shall provide its opinion on the appointment of presiding judges of courts, of public prosecutors and assistant public prosecutors, and of other judicial and administrative officials foreseen by law, and shall propose decisions on the termination of their office, or dismissal.

The Committee shall be made up of seventeen (17) members.

Article 49

The Committee on Inter-Ethnic Relations shall consider Bills, other regulations and by-laws and other issues from the point of view of the exercise of rights of ethnic communities and interethnic relations in the Republic.

The Committee shall be made up of twenty-one (21) members.

Article 50

The Committee on Relations with Serbs Living Outside Serbia shall consider issues from within the purview of the National Assembly relating to the establishment and maintenance of relations, and fostering relations with Serbs living outside the Republic of Serbia, in order to contribute to their struggle for defending their national identity.

The Committee shall be made up of twenty-five (25) members.

Article 51

The Committee on Development and International Economic Relations shall consider development plans and programmes; economic development and the financial and banking systems; foreign economic relations, chambers of commerce and industry, public utility systems, the health care system and developments in the fields of health care, social security, ex-servicemen's and disability insurance, social care for children and youth, education, culture and protection of cultural heritage, physical culture, policy and measures for directing and promoting

development, including development of underdeveloped regions, as well as issues of supply reserves.

The Committee shall be made up of seventeen (17) members.

Article 52

The Finance Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws, as well as other issues in the fields of the system of financing state functions, taxes, fees and other levies, the Republic budget and annual balance, loans, guarantees, lotteries, insurance, property rights and commercial and other relations, expropriation, as well as other issues in the field of finance.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 53

The Industry Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the field of industry, excepting food industry, and the development and production of all energy sources, as well as in the fields of mining, geological, and seismological research.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 54

The Committee on Transportation and Communications shall consider Bills, other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the field of road transportation, railway transportation, transportation by inland waterways and maritime transportation, air transportation, postal traffic, and telecommunications.

The Committee shall be made up of eleven (11) members.

Article 55

The Committee on Urban Planning and Construction shall consider Bills, proposals of other regulations and by-laws, and other issues in the field of urban planning and zoning, housing and utilities, construction, landscape architecture and use of urban land for development, and land measurement and cadastral registry.

The Committee shall be made up of eleven (11) members.

Article 56

The Agriculture Committee shall consider Bills, proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the field of agriculture, food industry, water management, veterinary medicine, agricultural co-operatives and rural development.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 57

The Committee on Trade and Tourism shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the field of trade, catering and tourism, arts and crafts and other services.

The Committee shall be made up of eleven (11) members.

Article 58

The Privatisation Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the field of privatisation, and shall discuss monthly reports from the Ministry charged with privatisation on the state of the privatization process, signed sale and purchase contracts for capital or property, privatisation proceedings initiated, as well as on actions undertaken by privatisation authorities and shall communicate to the National Assembly its opinions and proposals in relation to such issues.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 59

The Committee on Kosovo and Metohia shall consider issues relating to this province, primarily considering Serbian national and state interests, propose appropriate decisions, declarations, resolutions to the National Assembly, and monitor their implementation or realisation by the appropriate bodies and institutions.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 60

The Committee on Health and the Family shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws, and other issues in the fields of health care, the health care system and organisation of health care activities, and demographic policy and family care.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 61

The Committee on Environmental Protection shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues relating to environmental protection and improvement, preservation and development of natural and man-made resources, sustainable use, prevention and elimination of pollution of natural resources, as well as other types and sources of threats to the environment, in the fields of forestry, hunting, fishing, and climate science.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 62

The Education Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the field of pre-school, elementary and secondary education, and college and university education.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 63

The Youth and Sports Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws in the field of sports and physical culture, as well as other issues from the point of view of the status of young people.

The Committee shall be made up of eleven (11) members.

Article 64

The Culture and Information Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the fields of culture and public information.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 65

The Committee on Science and Technological Development shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the fields of science and research, development of science, and application of research at universities and research institutes, as well as its corporate applications, and the development of new technologies and their application.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 66

The Committee on Labour, Ex-Servicemen's and Social Issues shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws and other issues in the fields of labour, safety at work, employment, social welfare, social care for families and children, pension and disability insurance, care for ex-servicemen who served in wars of liberation, and disabled ex-servicemen and their family members, care for victims of fascist terror and civilian victims of wars, as well as other forms of social welfare.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 67

The Committee on Petitions and Proposals shall consider petitions and proposals addressed to the National Assembly, propose to the National Assembly and to appropriate bodies measures for the settlement of issues contained therein, and inform the petitioners accordingly if so requested.

The Committee shall submit a report to the National Assembly about its observations concerning petitions and proposals at least once during every regular sitting.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 68

The Economic Reforms Committee shall consider plans and programmes of economic development, as well as Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws, and other issues from the fields of the economic system and economic policy, and shall analyse and monitor the implementation of economic reforms.

The Committee shall be made up of twenty-one (21) members, of which 12 shall be delegated from the following National Assembly Committees: the Legislative Committee, the Committee on Development and International Economic Co-operation, the Finance Committee, the Industry Committee, the Committee on Urban Planning and Construction, the Agriculture Committee, the Committee on Trade and Tourism, the Privatisation Committee, the Environmental Protection Committee, the Committee on Science and Technological Development, and the Committee on Labour, Ex-Servicemen's and Social Issues. The remaining nine (9) members shall be elected in the manner foreseen by provisions of Article 24 of the present Rules of Procedure.

Article 69

The European Integrations Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws from the point of view of their degree of harmonisation with European Union and Council of Europe legislation.

The Committee shall consider plans, programmes, reports and information on the process of stabilisation and association with the European Union, monitor the implementation of the accession strategy, initiate proposals for accelerating implementation of the accession strategy, inasmuch as they fall within the purview of the National Assembly, propose measures for establishing general national consensus on the strategy of accession to European integrations, and foster international co-operation with parliamentary committees of other nations with the aim of improving the understanding of processes of integration and accession to the European Union.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 70

The Poverty Reduction Committee shall define the manner of National Assembly participation in implementing the national poverty reduction strategy, consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws, and other issues from the point of view of implementing the poverty reduction strategy, monitor the process of adopting the budget and allocating assets in relation to implementing the strategy, provide suggestions, views, and assessments of implementing the strategy, and strives to institutionalise the decision-making process relating to the strategy, as well as to ensure civic participation in it.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 71

The Gender Equality Committee shall consider Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws from the point of view of ensuring gender equality (equality of sexes).

The Committee shall monitor implementation of policies, Bills, other regulations and by-laws by the Government of the Republic of Serbia and other bodies and officials reporting to the National Assembly from the point of view of respecting gender equality.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 72

The Local Self-Government Committee considers Bills, and proposals of other regulations and by-laws, and other issues relating to the territorial organisation of the Republic of Serbia and the ordering, election, powers, financing and manner of operation of local self-government units' bodies and services.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

Article 73

The Administrative Committee shall:

- Prepare and propose regulations governing the issues of exercise of the rights and duties of Deputies;
- Adopt individual documents on status-related issues concerning Deputies and officials elected or appointed by the National Assembly unless otherwise foreseen by law;
- Formulate proposals for the allocation of funds in the Republic budget for the work of the National Assembly, see to the appropriate use of such funds, and submit a report thereon to the National Assembly;
- Prepare and propose official documents on the organisation and work of the National Assembly Support Service, and appoint and establish salaries of Service employees;
- Adopt documents on handling materials considered state, official or military secret and on storing such materials at the National Assembly, as well as documents on internal order in the National Assembly building, as well as other by-laws on the manner of exercise of particular rights and duties of Deputies and employees of the National Assembly Support Service, in accordance with law;
- Determine Deputies' seating arrangements in the Assembly chamber, by Deputies' Groups;

- Decide whether to approve the remand in custody of a judge or public prosecutor, in accordance with the Constitution;
- Also perform other duties foreseen by by-laws of the National Assembly and/or required by the National Assembly.

The Committee shall consider:

- Reasons for the termination of office of particular Deputies, submitting thereof reports to the National Assembly, along with a proposal for the assignment of the newly-available mandate to another Deputy in the manner foreseen by law;
- Reports from the Republic Electoral Commission and certificate attesting to the election of Deputies, submitting to the National Assembly its own reports with the proposal to verify the mandate of such Deputies;
- Issues of application or denial of immunity to Deputies and other officials, in cases foreseen by the Constitution;
- Other issues relating to Deputies' rights concerning their mandates and immunity.

The Committee shall monitor the implementation of the present Rules of Procedure, review and make proposals for amendments thereto, and give opinions to the National Assembly at its request on the application of particular provisions thereof.

The Committee shall be made up of fifteen (15) members.

3. Boards of Inquiry and Commissions

Article 74

Boards of inquiry and commissions shall be set up to carry out special tasks foreseen in the decision on their establishment.

Article 75

The National Assembly may establish, from among the Deputies, boards of inquiry in order to review the situation in a particular field and establish facts about certain issues and/or events.

The decision to establish a board of inquiry shall define the composition and terms of reference of the board of inquiry.

A board of inquiry may not carry out investigative or other judicial activities.

A board of inquiry shall be entitled to request from government agencies and other organisations data, documents and information, as well as to interview individuals, if required.

Representatives of government agencies and organisations, as well as members of the public, shall be obliged to make truthful statements, and provide truthful data, documents and information to a board of inquiry.

Upon completion of its work, the board of inquiry shall submit to the National Assembly a report detailing proposed measures to be taken.

The board of inquiry shall cease its operations on the date when its report is voted on at a National Assembly sitting.

Article 76

The Chairperson of the National Assembly, at the proposal of a Committee, board of inquiry, or commission, may contract research or professional institutions, as well as individual scholars or professionals, in order to study particular issues from within the purview of the National Assembly.

4. Committee Sittings

Article 77

A sitting of a Committee shall be convened by its chairperson.

The chairperson of a Committee shall be obliged to convene a sitting of the Committee at the request of at least one third of the total number of its members, i.e. a third of the full membership of the Committee, pursuant to Articles 25 and 43 of the present Rules of Procedure, as well as at the request of the Chairperson of the National Assembly. If the chairperson of the Committee should fail to do so by the requested deadline, the sitting of the Committee shall be convened by its vice-chairperson, or by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

A Committee shall deliberate in sitting regardless of the number of Committee members present.

Information about the date and agenda of a Committee sitting shall be communicated to all Deputies, Deputies' Groups and the Government at least five (5) days prior to the holding of the Committee sitting. Exceptionally, information about the date and the agenda may also be communicated within a shorter period, but with the provision that the Committee's Chairperson shall be obliged to explain reasons for doing so at the Committee sitting.

Article 78

A Deputy who is not a member of the Committee may attend a Committee sitting and take part in it, without, however, having the right to vote.

When a Committee sitting is considering Bills and/or amendments to Bills, the proposers of such Bills, or their authorised representatives, shall be invited to attend the sitting.

Representatives of the Government and its agents may take part in Committee sittings.

If invited, professionals and scholars may also take part in Committee sittings.

When carrying out tasks within its purview, the Committee may, through its chairperson, request from Ministries and other Republic agencies data and information of relevance to activities of the Committee.

Article 79

A Committee shall adopt decisions by a majority of votes of its members present if the sitting is attended by a majority of its members.

Bills shall first be discussed in principle, and then in particular. Articles of Bills to which amendments have been submitted, as well as amendments proposing the introduction of new provisions, shall be subjected to discussion in particular; the following may take part in the discussion: Committee members, proposers of Bills and their representatives, Government representatives if the Government is not the proposer, proposers of amendments, and any Deputies attending the Committee sitting.

After the discussion finishes, the Committee shall submit to the National Assembly a report containing its opinion and proposals. The Committee shall designate its Rapporteur who shall, if necessary, present the report of the Committee report at a National Assembly sitting.

At the request of a particular Committee member, his/her personal opinion presented at the Committee sitting, if different from that of the other members, shall feature separately in the report of the Committee. He/she shall be entitled to

present it at the outset of the debate on the proposal of the document at the sitting of the National Assembly.

Article 80

Minutes shall be kept at each Committee sitting.

The minutes shall include the names of present and absent Committee members and names of other participants in the sitting, proposals presented in verbal and written form, opinions of the Committee, the outcome of every vote taken, each personal opinion differing from that of the other members, as well as names of Rapporteurs designated by the Committee.

The proceedings of each sitting of the Legislative Committee as well as of the sittings of other Committees, if so requested by the Committee in question, shall be noted down in shorthand or audio-taped.

Article 81

The provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on activities of Committees shall apply accordingly to activities of the boards of inquiry and commissions.

VI. SITTINGS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

1. Preparing and Convening a Sitting

Article 82

The proposed agenda for a National Assembly sitting shall be prepared by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

Article 83

Only draft documents prepared in accordance with the Constitution and the present Rules of Procedure may be included in the proposed agenda of a National Assembly sitting.

Article 84

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall establish, in writing, the date and time of a National Assembly sitting, and shall submit a proposed agenda at least seven (7) days prior to the date for which the sitting has been convened.

Exceptionally, information about the time of a sitting and its agenda may be communicated within a shorter period; however, in such a case the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall have to explain this action at the outset of the sitting.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly may postpone the time and/or date of a National Assembly sitting if a large number of amendments have been submitted to documents listed on the proposed agenda, and if the Government and the appropriate Committees should be unable to consider them prior to the start of the sitting. The Chairperson shall, in such case, inform the Deputies thereof in a timely manner.

In the event defined in the previous Paragraph, the deadline for submitting amendments foreseen by the present Rules of Procedure shall not be extended.

Article 85

Sittings of the National Assembly at which are to be debated Bills, development plans, zoning plans, the budget, the end-of-year balance, the Rules of Procedure, declarations, resolutions, recommendations, decisions, conclusions and authentic interpretations of documents adopted by the National Assembly, shall be held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with a recess of one hour.

The National Assembly shall vote on Bills, development plans, zoning plans, the budget, the end-of-year balance, the Rules of Procedure, declarations, resolutions, recommendations, decisions, conclusions and authentic interpretations of documents passed by the National Assembly, in their entirety and in particular, at Voting Day sittings.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall convene Voting Day sittings after the conclusion of the debate on all items on the agenda.

Exceptionally, the Chairman of the National Assembly may decide to hold a National Assembly sitting on another day, or to extend the working hours of the National Assembly past 6 p.m., if reasonable grounds exist for doing so, and if the Chairperson notifies the deputies thereof.

The Chairperson may extend the working hours of the National Assembly past 6 p.m., but only until the conclusion of discussion in principle or particular on an item from the agenda that has already commenced.

The Chairperson shall be obliged to notify the National Assembly of the extension of working hours past 6 p.m. at the latest by 4 p.m. on the day of the sitting for which working hours are proposed to be extended

2. Opening and Participation in a Sitting

Article 86

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall open the sitting of the National Assembly and, on the basis of official records on the presence of Deputies, shall note the number of deputies present at the sitting.

If the Chairman should note that less than one-third of Deputies are present in the Assembly chamber at the start of working hours, the sitting shall be postponed by one hour.

If conditions for the start of the sitting of the National Assembly are not established even after the one-hour postponement elapses, the sitting shall be postponed for the next workday.

Items from an adopted agenda for the sitting shall be discussed regardless of the number of Deputies present.

The quorum for the work of the National Assembly on Voting Days, for the adoption of the minutes of the previous sitting, and for the adoption of the agenda, as well as at the constituting sitting of the National Assembly, shall exist if at least 126 Deputies are present at the National Assembly sitting.

The quorum shall be established using the electronic voting system, whereby every Deputy shall be obliged to identify himself/herself upon entering the Assembly chamber, by inserting his/her identification card in the Deputy's electronic voting unit.

If the electronic voting system is not in operation, of which the President of the National Assembly shall inform the Deputies, the quorum shall be established by counting the Deputies.

If a Chairperson of a Deputies' Group, or his/her authorised representative, should express suspicion about the existence of a quorum established using the electronic voting system, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall make available to him/her the computer printout of the names of Deputies present.

If a Chairperson of a Deputies' Group, or his/her authorised representative, should express suspicion about the existence of a quorum established by counting

Deputies, he/she may request that the quorum be established by a roll call of Deputies, on which the National Assembly shall decide without debate.

Article 87

National Assembly sittings shall, in addition to Deputies, be attended by the Government Ministers, authorised representatives of other proposers of legislation, the Secretary of the Republic Legislation Secretariat, as well as other persons invited by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

Article 88

At the outset of work of the National Assembly, each day the National Assembly is in session, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall inform the National Assembly of which Deputies have been prevented from attending, as well as of persons invited to the sitting.

At the same time, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall provide the necessary explanations concerning the work at the sitting and other issues.

3. Course of a Sitting

Article 89

Before the agenda is established, the minutes from the previous sitting of the National Assembly shall be adopted. If the minutes from the previous sitting have been distributed to the Deputies immediately prior to the beginning of the sitting, the minutes shall be adopted on the following day of the sitting, before the National Assembly proceeds to discuss the agenda.

Objections to the minutes shall be forwarded in writing to the Administrative Committee.

The National Assembly shall decide on the minutes without debate.

Article 90

The agenda of a sitting shall be established by the National Assembly.

Deputies, Committees and other bodies of the National Assembly and the Government may propose amendments and modifications to the proposed agenda. The proposals shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the National Assembly in writing.

The proposals for expansion of the agenda with the draft documents that, under provisions of the present Rules, fulfil conditions to be included in the agenda, shall be submitted not later than three (3) days prior to a scheduled National Assembly sitting. Proposals concerning the election, appointment, dismissal and termination of office, withdrawal of particular items from the proposed agenda, merging of debates and changing the sequence of items, shall be submitted not later than twenty-four (24) hours before the time set for the start of a National Assembly sitting.

If the proposer is a group of Deputies, the proposal shall have to specify one representative of the proposer. If this has not been done, it shall be considered that the representative of the proposer is the first Deputy to have signed the proposal.

When the agenda is established, the National Assembly shall decide on the proposals in the following sequence:

- For an urgent procedure;
- To withdraw particular items from the proposed agenda;
- To expand the agenda;
- To merge two debates;
- To change the sequence of particular items.

Article 91

A debate shall be held on proposed amendments and modifications to the agenda, and only the following may take part in it:

- The proposer of the change in the agenda, or authorised representative of a group of proposers;
- The proposer of the document to which the change refers, or authorised representative of a group of proposers of documents, if withdrawal of a draft document from the agenda should be required.

Participation in the debate may last not longer than three (3) minutes.

Article 92

The National Assembly shall decide separately on every motion to amend and/or modify the proposed agenda.

New items included in the agenda based on proposals to amend it, proposals to merge two debates, or proposals for an urgent procedure shall be included in the agenda by order of being submitted, except if the proposer has proposed a different sequence of their discussion, on which the National Assembly shall vote without a debate.

The National Assembly shall decide on the agenda as one unit without debate.

Article 93

When discussion is opened on every item of the agenda of the National Assembly sitting, the floor shall be given in the following sequence and for the following duration to:

- The proposer of the document, i.e. the authorised representative of the group of proposers of a document who shall be given the floor when he/she so requests, and shall not be subject to limitations as to duration of presentation;
- The Rapporteur of the appropriate Committee, who shall be granted the floor once, for up to ten (10) minutes, and shall be entitled to the floor for an additional period of up to five (5) minutes out of turn, if so required by exigencies of the debate, which shall be decided by the Chairman of the National Assembly;
- Any Deputy who requested that his opinion should be presented separately at a Committee sitting shall be granted the floor once, for up to five (5) minutes;
- Chairpersons or representatives of Deputies' Groups, who shall be granted the floor for up to twenty (20) minutes, and shall be allowed to divide this time into two 10-minute periods – for their opening and closing arguments;
- Deputies, alternately, according to whether they support or dispute the proposal, as stated in their request to be granted the floor.

The Prime Minister and Government Ministers shall be granted the floor upon request, and shall not be subject to limitations as to the duration of presentation. The Secretary of the Republic Legislation Secretariat shall have the same entitlements as Government Ministers, but only if the National Assembly is discussing a Bill drafted by the Republic Legislation Secretariat on behalf of the Government, of which the Government shall appropriately notify the National Assembly.

Deputies who are not members of Deputies' Groups shall, by mutual agreement, decide on at most three participants in the debate, of which each shall be granted the floor once for up to five (5) minutes. If no agreement should be reached, the floor shall be granted once for up to five (5) minutes to the first three Deputies requesting to be granted the floor.

Requests to be granted the floor, along with the sequence of Deputies, shall be submitted by Deputies' Groups and Deputies who are not members of Deputies' Groups in written form prior to opening of the debate, while other participants in the debate may do so verbally upon opening of the debate.

Article 94

The total duration of participating in a debate in principle for Deputies' Groups shall be five (5) hours.

The duration defined in Paragraph 1 of the present Article shall be allocated to a Deputies' Group proportionally to the number of Deputies who are members of the Deputies' Group.

Prior to opening of a debate, the chairperson or representative of a Deputies' Group shall be entitled to propose an extension to the duration of debate for Deputies' Groups defined in Paragraph 1 of this Article. The National Assembly shall vote on the proposal without debate.

Article 95

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall grant the floor to Deputies according to the sequence determined by their Deputies' Group, and until the expiry of discussion time allocated to the Deputies' Group.

If deputies from several Deputies' Groups have registered for debate, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall grant them the floor alternately, so that the first speaker shall be from the numerically smallest Deputies' Group, and so on towards the numerically largest group, so long as there are registered speakers.

A Deputies' Group shall not be obliged to use the time allocated to it, or shall not be obliged to use it to its full extent.

Article 96

If the Chairperson of the National Assembly, when chairing a National Assembly sitting, wishes to take part in a debate, he/she shall cede the chair to one of the Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly.

Article 97

When the Chairperson of the National Assembly establishes that no more Deputies wish to take the floor in a debate, he/she shall declare the debate closed.

Article 98

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall adjourn the National Assembly when he/she ascertain that there is no quorum at a National Assembly sitting until the quorum is established.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly may order a recess to be taken in the course of a National Assembly sitting if so required to perform necessary consultations, or in order to obtain a particular opinion.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall adjourn the National Assembly in other cases if the National Assembly should so decide.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall inform the Deputies of the resumption of the sitting.

Article 99

When the debate on all items from the agenda is over, and voting has finished, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall conclude the sitting of the National Assembly.

Article 100

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall grant the floor to any Deputy wishing to address an alleged infringement of the present Rules of Procedure.

The Deputy shall be obliged to state which provision(s) of the Rules of Procedure have been infringed upon, to quote the relevant provision(s), and explain what he/she considers the infringement to be; the maximum time to be granted to the Deputy shall be three (3) minutes, not including time necessary to quote the provision(s).

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall thereafter be obliged to provide an explanation.

If the Deputy continues to claim that the Rules of Procedure have been infringed upon even after being provided with an explanation by the Chairperson of the National Assembly, the National Assembly shall vote on the issue without discussion at the Voting Day sitting.

Article 101

If a Deputy, in his/her statement at a National Assembly sitting, should address a Deputy from another Deputies' Group in an insulting manner, specifying his/her first and last name or title, or should misinterpret his/her statement, the Deputy to whom the statement refers shall be entitled of reply.

If the insulting words concern a Deputies' Group and/or political party to which the Deputies belong, the right of reply shall be granted to the chairperson of the Deputies' Group, who shall be granted the right of reply on behalf of the entire Deputies' Group.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall rule on cases defined in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

The reply may not last more than three (3) minutes.

Article 102

No one shall approach the speaker's platform unless so allowed by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

No one may speak at a National Assembly sitting before requesting the floor and being granted the floor by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

Article 103

A speaker may speak only about the issue that is on the agenda.

No one may interrupt the speaker nor warn him/her except the Chairperson of the National Assembly in cases envisaged by the present Rules of Procedure.

During the speech of a Deputy or another participant in the debate, it shall not be allowed to heckle or distract the speaker in any other manner, or to take any other action that imperils the freedom of speech.

Article 104

Deputies shall be obliged to respect the dignity of the National Assembly.

Deputies shall be obliged to address each other with respect.

The use of insulting expressions, as well as presentation of facts or opinions concerning the private lives of others, shall not be allowed.

4. Keeping Order at a Sitting

Article 105

Keeping order at a National Assembly sitting shall be the responsibility of its Chairperson.

In case of a violation of order at a sitting, the Chairperson of the National Assembly may pronounce the following measures: reprimand, denial of the floor, and expulsion from the sitting.

On the basis of measures defined in Paragraph 2 of the present Article, the Administrative Committee shall also impose a fine under provisions of Article 109 of the present Rules of Procedure.

Records on imposed measures defined in Paragraph 2 of the present Article shall be kept by the Secretary of the National Assembly.

Article 106

A Deputy shall be reprimanded if he/she:

- Should approach the speaker's platform without the permission of the Chairperson;
- Should speak before requesting or being granted the floor;
- Should speak about an issue that is not on the agenda even after having been cautioned by the Chairperson;
- Should interrupt the speaker in his/her presentation or make loud remarks, i.e. distract the speaker, or otherwise imperil freedom of speech;

- Should present facts and assessments concerning the private lives of others;
- Should use expletives and insulting expressions;
- Should violate order at the sitting by any other actions, or should act in contravention of provisions of the present Rules of Procedure.

Article 107

The floor shall be denied to a Deputy who has been reprimanded twice but nevertheless continues to violate provisions of Article 106 of the present Rules of Procedure.

The Deputy who has been denied the floor shall be obliged to leave the speaker's platform without delay. Otherwise, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall deactivate the public address system, and order a recess, if necessary.

The denial of the floor shall not affect the right of reply of the Deputy in the further course of the sitting.

Article 108

A Deputy shall be ordered to leave a sitting if, even after the floor is denied to him/her, he/she should obstruct or hinder Deputies in their work at the sitting, fail to obey the decision of the Chairperson of the National Assembly on denial of the floor to him/her, or continue committing other violations under Article 106 of the present Rules of Procedure, as well as in other cases specified by the present Rules of Procedure.

The order for a Deputy to leave the sitting may also be given without any other measures having first been imposed, in case of physical assault or other similar action jeopardising the physical or moral integrity of participants in the sitting, in the National Assembly building.

A Deputy who has been ordered to leave the sitting shall be obliged to immediately leave the Assembly chamber where the sitting is taking place.

If a Deputy should refuse to leave a National Assembly sitting, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall order the service charged with keeping order in the National Assembly building to remove the Deputy from the Assembly chamber, and shall order a recess pending execution of the order.

A Deputy who has been ordered to leave the sitting shall be considered unjustifiably absent.

Article 109

A reprimanded Deputy shall be fined 3,000 dinars.

A Deputy who has been reprimanded twice at the same sitting shall be fined 8,000 dinars.

A Deputy denied the floor shall be fined 16,000 dinars.

A Deputy ordered to leave the sitting shall be fined 32,000 dinars.

If several measures have been pronounced to the Deputy for violation of order at a National Assembly sitting, the fines shall not be compounded; rather, only the highest fine shall be imposed.

Article 110

The Administrative Committee shall rule on imposing a fine on a Deputy.

A fine imposed on a Deputy permanently employed by the National Assembly shall be deducted from his/her salary for the current month, or for the current and following month if he/she has been ordered to leave a National Assembly sitting.

A fine imposed on a Deputy who is not permanently employed by the National Assembly shall be deducted from his/her National Assembly income (the difference between the salary of a Deputy permanently employed by the National Assembly and income from employment or pension, or Deputies' bonus) for the current month, or for the following months if the income of the Deputy at the National Assembly should amount to less than the amount of the fine, until such time as the full amount of the fine has been paid.

A Deputy fined for having been reprimanded or denied the floor shall be entitled to compensation for use of personal automobile, meals, and hotel accommodation, while a Deputy fined for having been ordered to leave a sitting shall be entitled to compensation for use of personal automobile, on which the Administrative Committee shall adopt an official decision.

Article 111

If the Chairperson of the National Assembly should prove unable to keep order at a sitting by resorting to regular measures, he/she shall order a recess to last until order is restored.

Article 112

Measures of reprimand and denial of the floor shall apply only to the sitting at which they were pronounced.

The order to leave the sitting shall apply over a period of twenty (20) days of the sitting (work) of the National Assembly following the day of pronouncement, or for the entire sitting at which it was pronounced, if the sitting should last more than twenty (20) sitting (work) days of the National Assembly.

Article 113

Provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on order at a National Assembly sitting shall also apply to all other participants at the sitting, in addition to the Deputies, and shall apply to the sittings of National Assembly Committees and other working bodies accordingly.

5. Minutes

Article 114

Minutes shall be kept on proceedings at National Assembly sittings.

Minutes shall include key data about actions taken at a sitting, and especially about proposals debated, names of participants in the debate, conclusions adopted at the sitting, the outcome of voting on particular issues, as well as measures pronounced.

Key parts of any statement made by a Deputy who asked that his opinion should be presented separately shall be entered in the minutes at his/her request.

Shorthand notes shall be kept at National Assembly sittings; slanting brackets shall be entered in the text to mark off ten-minute-periods, and the course of the sitting shall be audio-taped. Shorthand notes shall include the text as uttered, without omitting any words or phrases. Every Deputy shall be entitled to inspect the shorthand notes and/or the audiotape at his/her request. Shorthand notes shall be delivered to Deputies' Groups not later than the following day. If a Deputy should wish to authorise the text of his/her statement, he/she shall be obliged to do so within three (3) days of the date the sitting concerned was held.

The adopted minutes shall be signed by the Chairperson and the Secretary of the National Assembly.

A copy of the material considered at the sitting shall be attached to the adopted minutes.

The Secretary of the National Assembly shall be charged with keeping the minutes.

VII. VOTING

1. General Provisions

Article 115

The National Assembly shall adopt decisions by a vote of the Deputies, in accordance with the Constitution, Bills, and the present Rules of Procedure.

Article 116

The Deputies shall vote 'For' a motion, 'Against' a motion, or shall abstain from voting.

2. Open Voting

Article 117

The National Assembly shall decide by open voting either by using the electronic voting system, by show of hands, or by roll call.

Article 118

Deputies shall vote openly by using the electronic voting system in the manner defined by the present Rules of Procedure.

A vote shall be taken by show of hands, in the manner specified by the present Rules of Procedure, only if the electronic voting system is not operational, if the sitting takes place at premises not equipped with such system, or if the National Assembly should so decide prior to the vote.

At a Deputy's request, the National Assembly may decide, without a debate, to vote by roll call in the manner defined by the present Rules of Procedure.

Article 119

Deputies shall vote using the electronic system by pressing appropriate keys on devices located in front of each Deputy's seat, and having previously inserted identification cards, issued to all Deputies, into slots on the devices.

The period of time for voting using the electronic system shall be 15 seconds.

Upon expiry of this period, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall close the vote and announce its result.

A decision shall be considered adopted if more than half of the Deputies identified, i.e. the majority envisaged by the Constitution, should vote for it.

The outcome of each vote shall be shown on screens in the National Assembly chamber.

A computer printout of the results of each vote shall be delivered to Deputies' Groups at their request, as well as to the Information Service of the National Assembly for presentation to the media.

Article 120

A deputy shall be obliged to use only his/her own identification card, as well as to identify himself/herself when entering the Assembly chamber by inserting his/her card into his/her electronic voting unit, as well as to log off when leaving the Assembly chamber.

If a Deputy should use the identification card of another Deputy or otherwise abuse the electronic voting system, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall propose that he/she should be ordered to leave the sitting, while any votes taken at the time the abuse took place shall be annulled, and shall immediately be followed by repeated identification voting.

Article 121

Deputies shall be obliged to carry their identification cards on their person when leaving the National Assembly chamber.

If a Deputy should leave the National Assembly chamber and leave his/her identification card in or near the voting unit, the National Assembly Support Service shall immediately hand over the card to the Secretary of the National Assembly; the card shall be returned to the Deputy upon his/her return to the Assembly chamber.

Article 122

A Deputy shall be obliged to report the loss of his/her identification card to the Secretary of the National Assembly.

If a Deputy should fail to bring his/her identification card to a National Assembly sitting, or should lose it during the course of a National Assembly sitting, the National Assembly Support Service shall issue him/her with a temporary identification card and shall inform the National Assembly thereof.

The Deputy shall return the temporary card to the Secretary of the National Secretary immediately after the end of the sitting for which the temporary card was issued.

Article 123

If a vote should be taken by show of hands, the Deputies shall first declare who is in favour of the motion, then who is opposed to the motion, and, finally, who abstains from the vote.

A Deputies' Group may designate one of its members to monitor the counting of the votes.

After the vote is over, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall close the vote and declare its result.

A decision shall be considered adopted if more than a half of the Deputies present, that is, the majority foreseen by the Constitution, vote for it.

Article 124

If the National Assembly should decide to take a vote by roll call, the Secretary of the National Assembly shall roll-call the Deputies in the alphabetical order of their last names. Every roll-called Deputy shall say either 'Yes', 'No' or 'Abstained'. The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall repeat the first and last name of the

Deputy who has voted and his/her statement, or establish that he/she is absent or that he/she does not wish to vote.

The Secretary of the National Assembly shall record the statement of each Deputy or the fact of his/her absence alongside his/her name on the list.

A decision shall be considered adopted if more than half of the Deputies who voted, that is, the majority foreseen by the Constitution, vote in favour.

If the National Assembly should decide to vote by roll call in an election where two or more candidates have been nominated, the Deputies taking part in the vote shall state the full name of the candidate for whom they are voting.

3. Voting by Secret Ballot

Article 125

The National Assembly shall adopt decisions by secret ballot when doing so is foreseen by law, the present Rules of Procedure, or by a special decision of the National Assembly.

Deputies shall vote by secret ballot by using either the electronic voting system or ballot papers, as decided on by the National Assembly.

If the vote by secret ballot should be taken using ballot papers, two hundred and fifty (250) ballot papers shall be printed.

The ballot papers shall all be of the same size, shape, and colour, and shall be stamped with the seal of the National Assembly.

For each repeated vote, ballot papers shall be printed in a different colour.

Article 126

A special Commission shall be set up to oversee the printing and stamping of the ballot papers. It shall include a representative from each Deputies' Group or, pending the establishment of Deputies' Groups, shall comprise the youngest Deputy from each of the four electoral lists that polled the largest number of seats. The chairperson of the Commission shall be the oldest Deputy from among its members.

The Commission shall keep minutes, which shall be signed by all its members.

The Commission shall conclude its work by transferring the ballot papers and the signed minutes to the person in charge of administering the vote.

Each ballot paper shall contain the motion to be decided upon, and the words 'For' and 'Against'. The word 'For' shall be on the left hand side and the word 'Against' on the right hand side of the lower part of the ballot paper. The Deputies shall vote by circling either the word 'For' or the word 'Against'.

Article 127

During an election or nomination, candidates shall be listed on ballot papers in the sequence established on the list of candidates. An ordinal number shall precede the name of each candidate.

Deputies shall vote by circling the ordinal number in front of the name of the candidate for whom they are voting.

Deputies may not vote for more candidates than are to be elected from among the candidates whose names are indicated on the ballot paper.

Article 128

Voting by secret ballot shall be administered by the Chairperson of the National Assembly, who shall in doing so be assisted by Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly and by the Secretary ('the Voting Commission').

Article 129

Ballot papers shall be handed to Deputies in the following manner: a Deputy shall approach the Chairperson's bench after he/she has been roll-called. The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall hand to the Deputy a ballot paper, while the Secretary of the National Assembly shall record, next to the full name of the Deputy on the list, that the ballot paper has been handed to him/her. The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall, prior to the vote, determine its duration.

After the Deputy has marked his/her ballot paper, he/she shall approach the ballot box and insert the ballot paper into it. The Secretary of the National Assembly shall record that the Deputy has voted by placing a tick mark next to the full name of the Deputy on the list.

The ballot box must be empty and made of transparent material.

After the expiry of the time allotted for the vote, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall close the vote.

Article 130

When the voting has finished, the Voting Commission shall establish the results of the vote in the same chamber where the voting took place.

Before the ballot box is opened, the undelivered ballot papers shall be counted and placed in a separate envelope, which shall then be sealed.

Article 131

In establishing results of the vote, data on the number of following shall be recorded:

- Delivered ballot papers;
- Used ballot papers;
- Unused ballot papers;
- Invalid ballot papers;
- Valid ballot papers;
- Votes ‘For’ and votes ‘Against’, or, if during the vote or nomination the Deputies should vote on several candidates running for the same office, the number of votes polled by individual candidates.

Established results of the vote shall also include the statement to the effect that a motion has either been carried or defeated by the prescribed majority or, when during the election or nomination the voters vote for two or more candidates running for the same office, which candidate has been elected or appointed.

Article 132

Any unmarked ballot paper, or any ballot paper that does not clearly show which motion the deputy has voted for, shall be considered invalid, unless otherwise provided for by law.

When a vote is taken on an election or appointment, any ballot paper on which a greater number of candidates have been marked than the number to be elected or appointed shall be considered invalid.

Article 133

Minutes shall be kept on the results of a vote, and shall be signed by all members of the Voting Commission.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall announce the result of the vote at the National Assembly sitting.

VIII. PROCEDURE OF ADOPTING LAWS AND OTHER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DOCUMENTS

1. Documents Adopted by the National Assembly

Article 134

The National Assembly shall adopt: Bills, the budget, development plans, zoning plans, the end-of-year balance, Rules of Procedure, declarations, resolutions, recommendations, decisions, conclusions and authentic interpretations of any documents passed by it.

2. Proposing a Bill

Article 135

The Government, every Deputy, the Assembly of the Autonomous Province or at least 15,000 registered voters shall be entitled to propose Bills, other regulations and by-laws.

Article 132

Any entity authorised to propose a Bill shall submit the Bill in the form in which the law is to be adopted, along with an explanatory note.

The explanatory note must contain:

- Constitutional basis;
- Reasons for the adoption of the law;
- Explanation of the main legal institutions and individual solutions contained therein;
- Estimate of the funds required for the implementation of the law;
- General interest why the Bill is proposed to apply retroactively, if the Bill contains provisions foreseeing retroactive application;
- Overview of provisions to be amended and/or modified, if a Bill amending and/or modifying an existing piece of legislation is being proposed.

As a rule, the proposer of a Bill shall include in the explanatory note grounds for the law in legislation of the European Union and generally accepted guidelines of international law.

If a group of Deputies is the proposer, their proposal must indicate one representative of the proposer. If this has not been done, it shall be considered that the representative of the proposer is the first Deputy to have signed the proposal.

Article 137

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall forward a Bill, immediately upon receiving it, to Deputies, appropriate Committees, and the Government, if the Government should not be the proposer.

If a Bill has not been prepared in accordance with the present Rules of Procedure, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall ask the proposer to bring the Bill into line with provisions of the present Rules of Procedure, and shall specify in particular the discrepancy observed.

The proposer of the Bill may thereupon submit, within fifteen (15) days, the Bill, harmonised with provisions of the present Rules of Procedure, or ask in writing the National Assembly for its opinion on the issue, in case of disagreement with the opinion of the Chairperson of the National Assembly. The National Assembly shall be obliged to state its opinion on the issue at the first next sitting, before moving on to consider the agenda, and without a debate. Prior to voting, the proposer of the Bill shall be entitled to elaborate on his/her/its stand for a period of not more than five (5) minutes.

If the proposer of the Bill should not act in accordance with provisions of Paragraph 3 of the present Article, the Bill shall be considered withdrawn.

Article 138

Any Bill prepared in accordance with provisions of the present Rules of Procedure may be included in the agenda of a National Assembly sitting within not less than fifteen (15) days and not more than sixty (60) days as from the date of its submission.

In exceptional cases, the 60-day deadline may be exceeded, but by not more than thirty (30) days. The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall inform the Deputies about reasons for the extension.

Deadlines defined in Paragraph 1 of the present Article shall be held in abeyance when the National Assembly is not in regular sitting.

Article 139

Before being considered by the National Assembly, a Bill shall be considered by appropriate Committees, and by the Government, if the Government should not be the proposer.

The appropriate Committees and/or the Government, if it should not be the proposer, may propose to the National Assembly to accept or not to accept the Bill in principle in their submitted reports and/or opinions.

If the appropriate Committees and/or the Government should propose that the Bill be accepted in principle, they shall be obliged to specify whether they accept the Bill as a whole or with modifications, which they shall propose in the form of amendments.

The appropriate Committees and/or the Government shall forward to the National Assembly their reports or opinions, as a rule, within not less than five (5) days prior to the date of the opening of the National Assembly sitting at which the Bill is to be considered.

If the appropriate Committees and the Government should not forward reports or opinions, the Bill shall be considered without such reports and/or opinions.

Article 140

Initially, a debate in principle shall be held on a Bill.

The National Assembly may decide to hold a joint debate in principle on several Bills on the agenda of the same sitting that are mutually conditioned, or if solutions contained therein are mutually linked; however, each proposal shall be voted on separately.

After the conclusion of debate in principle, the National Assembly shall move on to debate another Bill, or hold joint debate on the proposal of other documents, listed as other items on the agenda, and shall then move on to discuss particulars. Exceptionally, when the National Assembly is discussing the Bill on the budget of the Republic of Serbia, it shall move on to discuss the particulars of the Bill after completing discussion in principle.

At least twenty-four (24) hours must elapse from the completion of debate in principle to the opening of debate on particulars.

Appropriate Committees may submit amendments to a Bill in the period from the completion of debate in principle to the opening of debate on particulars.

Article 141

A debate on particulars shall take place by articles to which submitted amendments refer, as well as on amendments proposing inclusion of new provisions; total discussion time for each Deputies' Group per amendment shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes.

Deputies who are not members of Deputies' Groups shall, by mutual agreement, decide on at most three participants in the debate on each amendment, of which each shall be granted the floor once for up to three (3) minutes. If no agreement should be reached, the floor shall be granted once for up to three (3) minutes to the first three Deputies requesting to be granted the floor.

Article 142

When debate on the particulars of on a Bill is completed, the proposer or the authorised representative of the proposer shall be entitled to a closing statement.

Article 143

The proposer of a Bill shall be entitled to withdraw the Bill until debate on the Bill at a National Assembly sitting has concluded.

Upon a proposal made by the proposer, and accompanied by an explanation, the National Assembly may rule to withdraw an item from the agenda of a running sitting until such time as discussion on the item commences at a National Assembly sitting, on condition that at least one hundred and twenty-six (126) deputies are present at the sitting.

Article 144

The National Assembly shall vote on Bills, development plans, zoning plans, the budget, the end-of-year balance, the Rules of Procedure, proposed declarations, resolutions, recommendations, decisions, conclusions and authentic interpretations of documents passed by the National Assembly, in their entirety and in particular, on Voting Day sittings.

If a proposed document has been adopted in principle, the National Assembly shall vote on amendments.

When a Bill contains provisions for which retroactive application has been foreseen, the National Assembly shall rule, when voting on these provisions, whether general interest exists for such retroactive application.

If the National Assembly should adopt several amendments, it may pause with the adoption of a Bill as one unit and ask the Legislative Committee to analyse it, from a legal and technical standpoint, in co-operation with the submitter of the Bill, or ask the appropriate Committee to harmonise adopted amendments with each other and with the text of the Bill.

In case conditions defined in Paragraph 4 of the present Article should arise, the Deputies shall be forwarded reports of the appropriate Committees and the Legislative Committee on perceived discrepancies, and an amendment to eliminate such discrepancies shall be submitted.

After voting on amendments, the National Assembly shall commence voting on a Bill as one unit.

3. Amendments

Article 145

A proposal to amend and/or modify a Bill – an amendment – shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the National Assembly in writing, with an explanatory note, after the date of submission of the Bill and not later than three (3) days prior to the date set for the sitting at which the Bill is to be considered, except in case the National Assembly sitting is convened for earlier than the time foreseen by the present Rules of Procedure, in which case the deadline for submitting amendments shall be up to the commencement of the first debate in principle at the National Assembly sitting.

The proposer of an amendment may not submit more than one amendment to the same article of a Bill, either individually or together with other Deputies.

Article 146

Submitted amendments shall be forwarded by the Chairperson of the National Assembly to the proposer of the Bill, the Deputies, the appropriate Committees, and the Government.

Amendments not submitted in due time, as well as incomplete or offensively worded amendments, shall be discarded by the Legislative Committee, which shall report to the National Assembly thereon.

Discarded amendments may neither be discussed nor voted on.

Article 147

Prior to a National Assembly sitting, the proposer of a Bill, the appropriate Committees, and the Government shall be obliged to discuss amendments submitted to a Bill, and to inform the National Assembly which amendments they propose that the National Assembly should adopt, and which they propose should be rejected.

Article 148

In the course of voting on particulars, amendments in writing may be submitted only by the proposer of the Bill, the appropriate Committees, and the Government, and only if the amendment is needed due to the adoption of another amendment beforehand

Article 149

On Voting Day sittings, after adopting Bills in principle, the National Assembly shall vote on amendments submitted in the order of articles of the Bill.

If more than one amendment has been submitted to a single article of a Bill, the vote shall first be taken on any amendments proposing the deletion of the article, and only then on any amendments proposing modifications to the entire article.

Any amendments submitted by the proposer of the Bill which have been endorsed by the appropriate Committees and by the Government, as well as amendments endorsed by the proposer, the appropriate Committees, and the Government, shall become integral parts of the Bill, and the National Assembly shall not vote on them individually.

The National Assembly shall vote individually on each amendment not endorsed by the proposer of the Bill, the appropriate Committees, or the Government.

4. Adoption of the Budget

Article 150

The budget of the Republic for the following year shall be adopted not later than by the end of the second regular sitting of the National Assembly.

The Bill on the budget of the Republic ('the proposed budget'), along with an explanatory note, shall be submitted by the Government.

The explanatory note to the proposed budget shall include:

- Constitutional basis for the adoption of the budget,
- Explanation of proposed allocation of funds by budget user (expenditures);
- Explanation of the structure of revenues of the Republic budget.

Article 151

Before debate at the sitting of the National Assembly, National Assembly Committees shall consider the proposed budget, and shall submit their reports and proposals, accompanied by explanatory notes, to the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee shall consider the proposed budget and any Committee reports, and shall submit a report thereof to the National Assembly.

Article 152

The proposed budget shall be discussed at a National Assembly sitting in principle and in particular.

The proposed budget shall be voted on, in principle and as one unit, at a Voting Day sitting.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly may convene a Voting Day sitting for a proposed budget during the course of a sitting, without waiting for debate in principle and in particular on other items on the agenda to finish.

Article 153

Amendments and modifications to the budget of the Republic in the course of the year shall be made according to provisions of the present Rules of Procedure governing the procedure for adopting the budget.

Article 154

Unless otherwise foreseen by provisions of the present Schedule, provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on the procedure for adopting Bills shall apply accordingly to the procedure for adopting the budget.

5. Adoption of Development Plans and Zoning Plans

Article 155

Proposals of development plans shall be submitted by the Government, along with explanatory notes and appropriate supporting documentation.

Before being debated at a National Assembly sitting, a proposed development plan shall be considered by National Assembly Committees, which shall forward their reports and proposals, accompanied by explanatory notes, to the Committee on Development and International Economic Relations.

The Committee on Development and International Economic Relations shall consider the proposed development plan and any Committee reports, and shall forward its report thereof to the National Assembly.

Article 156

Proposed zoning plans shall be submitted by the Government, along with explanatory notes and appropriate supporting documentation.

Before being debated at a National Assembly sitting, a proposed zoning plan shall be considered by National Assembly Committees, which shall forward their reports and proposals, accompanied by explanatory notes, to the Committee on Urban Planning and Construction.

The Committee on Urban Planning and Construction shall consider the proposed development plan and any Committee reports, and shall forward its report thereof to the National Assembly.

Article 157

Unless otherwise foreseen by provisions of the present Schedule, provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on the procedure for adopting Bills shall apply accordingly to the procedure for adopting development and zoning plans.

6. Adoption of Authentic Interpretations of Laws

Article 158

Motions for the adoption of authentic interpretations of laws may be made by any entity authorised to propose Bills.

If the Legislative Committee should assess that the motion is justified, it shall prepare a proposal of the authentic interpretation and shall forward it to the submitter of the proposal and to the National Assembly.

If the Legislative Committee should assess that the motion is not justified, it shall inform the proposer and the National Assembly thereof.

The National Assembly shall vote on proposals submitted by the Legislative Committee defined in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the present Article.

If the National Assembly should not accept the view of the Legislative Committee that the authentic interpretation is not justified, it shall order the Legislative Committee to prepare a proposal of an authentic interpretation.

Article 159

Unless otherwise foreseen by provisions of the present Schedule, provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on the procedure for adopting Bills shall apply

accordingly to the procedure for adopting authentic interpretations of laws and other documents adopted by the National Assembly.

7. Adoption of Other Documents

Article 160

Proposed Rules of Procedure, declarations, resolutions, recommendations, decisions or conclusions may be submitted any entity authorised to propose Bills, in writing, and accompanied by an explanatory note.

Proposed documents defined in Paragraph 1 of the present Article shall first be forwarded to the Deputies, and a separate debate shall be held thereon.

Unless otherwise foreseen by provisions of the present Schedule, provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on the procedure for adopting Bills shall apply accordingly to the procedure for adopting other regulations and by-laws adopted by the National Assembly.

8. Urgent Procedure

Article 161

A Bill may exceptionally be adopted under urgent procedure.

Urgent procedure may be resorted to only for the adoption of a Bill governing issues and relations resulting from unforeseeable circumstance, while failure to adopt such Bill under urgent procedure could cause adverse effects to human life and health, national security, and the work of agencies and organisations.

The proposer of the Bill shall be obliged to specify, in a written explanatory note accompanying the Bill, the adverse effects that would result from a failure to adopt the Bill under urgent procedure.

Article 162

A Bill may be included in the agenda of a National Assembly sitting under urgent procedure if it should be submitted not later than twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled commencement of that sitting.

A Bill governing issues in the field of defence and security proposed to be adopted under urgent procedure may be included in the agenda of a National Assembly sitting even if submitted on the date of the sitting up to two (2) hours prior to the scheduled commencement of the sitting; if the Government is the proposer, the Bill may be included in the agenda even if it is submitted in the course of a National Assembly sitting, on condition that the sitting is being attended by at least one hundred and twenty-six (126) Deputies.

Exceptionally, a proposal for the election, appointment, dismissal or termination of office, a proposal to authorise the remand in custody of a judge or public prosecutor, as well as a motion of no confidence in the Government or an individual Government Minister, may be included in the agenda of a National Assembly sitting in the course of the sitting, on condition that the sitting is being attended by at least one hundred and twenty-six (126) Deputies. The Chairman of the National Assembly shall convene a Voting Day sitting for proposals to authorise the remand in custody of a judge or public prosecutor, and proposals for a vote of no confidence in the Government or an individual Government Minister, immediately after conclusion of discussion on the item of the agenda, without waiting for discussion on other items of the agenda to finish.

The National Assembly shall vote, without debate, on each proposal to include items in the agenda under urgent procedure, when establishing the agenda, or in the course of the sitting, immediately upon receiving the proposal, on condition that the sitting is being attended by at least one hundred and twenty-six (126) deputies.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall be obliged to forward a Bill proposed to be discussed under urgent procedure to the Deputies and the Government, if it should not be submitted, immediately upon its receipt.

Article 163

If appropriate Committees should not submit their reports, or if the Government should not submit its opinion, a Bill shall be debated without such reports and/or opinions.

An amendment to a Bill being discussed under urgent procedure may be submitted at the latest up to the commencement of discussion on the Bill.

The proposer of a Bill, the appropriate Committees, and the Government shall be allowed to put forward their views on the amendments.

9. Master Texts and Publication of National Assembly Documents

Article 164

The seal of the National Assembly shall be placed on the master text of any Bill, other regulation, or by-law of the National Assembly, as well as on the master text of any authentic interpretation.

The text of a Bill, other regulation or by-law, or authentic interpretation adopted at a National Assembly sitting shall be considered the master text of that Bill or other regulation, by-law, or authentic interpretation.

Master texts of Bills, other regulations or by-laws of the National Assembly, and authentic interpretations shall be stored at the National Assembly.

The preparation, sealing, storing, and keeping records of master texts shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of the National Assembly.

Article 165

Documents defined in Article 134 of the present Rules of Procedure adopted by the National Assembly shall be published in the *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*.

The publication of Bills, other regulations or by-laws of the National Assembly, and authentic interpretations shall be the responsibility of the Secretary of the National Assembly.

The Secretary of the National Assembly shall provide corrections of mistakes in published texts of Bills, other regulations or by-laws, and authentic interpretations based on the master text of the Bill, other regulation or by-law, or authentic interpretation.

IX. EXTRAORDINARY SESSIONS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Article 166

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall submit a motion to hold an extraordinary session to the Deputies and the Government, and shall establish the date and time when the National Assembly is to meet.

Article 167

During an extraordinary session, the National Assembly shall discuss the previously established agenda submitted by the proposer of the motion to hold the extraordinary session.

The sequence of considering items from the agenda may not be modified without the approval of the representative of the proposer at whose motion the extraordinary session has been convened.

Article 168

At a National Assembly sitting held during an extraordinary session, Deputies may pose parliamentary questions only if the mover of the motion to hold an extraordinary session has envisaged that in his/her motion.

Article 169

The provisions of the present Rules of Procedure relating to regular sittings shall be applied to any extraordinary sitting, unless otherwise stipulated by the provisions of the present Schedule.

X. IMMUNITY

Article 170

A Deputy shall enjoy immunity, in accordance with the Constitution, from the date of verification to the date of termination of his/her mandate.

Any request to approve the remand in custody of a Deputy, or request to approve institution of criminal proceedings or other proceedings that may result in a sentence of imprisonment, shall be made by the appropriate body to the Chairperson of the National Assembly, who shall forward it to the Administrative

Committee. The Committee shall be obliged to present its report, accompanied by its proposal, to the National Assembly.

The Deputy concerned shall be separately informed of the holding of the sitting of the Administrative Committee to consider the issue of his/her immunity.

Article 171

At a proposal of the Administrative Committee, the National Assembly may uphold the immunity of a Deputy who has not invoked his/her immunity, if doing so should be necessary for the discharge of his/her office of Deputy.

If the National Assembly should not grant its approval for the prosecution of the Deputy whose remand in custody has been ordered, the remand in custody shall be abolished, and the Deputy shall be released.

If the National Assembly should uphold the immunity of a Deputy who has not invoked his/her immunity, proceedings against the Deputy shall be suspended.

Article 172

Proceedings against a Deputy may be conducted only for an offence for which the National Assembly has granted its approval.

XI. OPENNESS OF WORK

Article 173

Sittings of the National Assembly and its Committees shall be public.

Sittings of the National Assembly and its Committees may be held *in camera* in cases specified by law if so proposed by the Government, a Committee, or at least twenty (20) Deputies. An explanation must be provided for any such proposal. The proposal shall be put to a vote in the National Assembly without debate.

Article 174

Pursuant to regulations on internal order at the National Assembly, representatives of the press and other media shall have free access to sittings of the National Assembly and its Committees, so as to be able to inform the public about activities of these bodies.

Article 175

Representatives of the press and other media may make use of shorthand notes of the National Assembly, and, when quoting such notes, shall be required to specify whether the statements were authorised.

Article 176

Bills, proposals of other regulations and by-laws, as well as information and documentation materials on issues related to activities of the National Assembly and its Committees shall be made available to representatives of the press and other media.

Conditions for the work of representatives of the press and other media shall be ensured through the provision of facilities necessary for observing activities at sittings of the National Assembly and its Committees.

Conditions referred to in the present Article shall be ensured pursuant to appropriate documents to be adopted by the Administrative Committee.

Article 177

Official press releases and other means of public information shall be prepared by the appropriate service of the National Assembly, and shall be approved by the Chairperson of the National Assembly or the a authorised by him/her.

Any Deputy may hold a press conference at the National Assembly.

XII. PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION AND DISMISSAL OF OFFICIALS ELECTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Article 178

Any motion for the election of the Presiding Justice and Justices of the Constitutional Court, as well as any notice to the Constitutional Court that reasons exist for requesting termination of office or dismissal of a Justice of the Constitutional Court, shall be forwarded to the Deputies by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

A debate shall be opened on such motions at a National Assembly sitting.

The National Assembly shall vote on the election, dismissal, or termination of office of each Justice of the Constitutional Court separately, by secret ballot, unless it should rule to vote openly, and shall inform the President of the Republic and the Constitutional Court of its decisions.

Article 179

Motions for the election of presiding judges of courts, as well as of judges, public prosecutors, and deputy public prosecutors, shall be submitted by the Chairperson of the National Assembly to the Deputies, along with information on other candidates not proposed for consideration by the National Assembly.

The Justice and Administration Committee of the National Assembly shall consider motions defined in Paragraph 1 of the present Article at its sitting.

Any Deputy may contest a proposal for the election of a judicial or public administration official during discussion at a sitting of the Justice and Administration Committee; such contestation must be unequivocal and accompanied by an explanation.

The National Assembly shall vote separately on each motion for the election of each contested candidate, and shall put a motion to elect non-contested candidates as one unit to the public vote. If only one candidate should be proposed, the National Assembly shall vote on that motion as one unit.

Article 180

Proposals on the termination of office or dismissal of presiding judges of courts, judges, public prosecutors, and deputy public prosecutors, as well as other judicial and administrative officials, shall be filed by the Justice and Administration Committee, upon being informed by appropriate public bodies.

Provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on the election of presiding judges of courts, judges, public prosecutors, and deputy public prosecutors, as well as other judicial and administrative officials, shall appropriately apply to the procedure of termination of their office and dismissal.

Article 181

Motions, accompanied by explanatory notes, for the election, appointment, and dismissal of other officials defined by law, may be proposed to the National Assembly by any entity authorised to do so.

If an entity authorised to propose a motion for the election of an official elected by the National Assembly should not be defined by law, the motion shall be proposed by the appropriate National Assembly Committee.

XIII. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

1. Inauguration of the President of the Republic

Article 182

When the President of the Republic is inaugurated, according to the Constitution, before the National Assembly, his/her oath shall be taken by reading aloud the text of the oath foreseen by the Constitution. After reading the text, the President of the Republic shall sign it.

2. Proposing Candidates for Particular Offices

Article 183

The nomination of a candidate for the office of Prime Minister shall be submitted by the President of the Republic to the Chairperson of the National Assembly in writing, and shall be accompanied by an explanatory note. The proposal shall also be accompanied by a written statement of acceptance of the nomination by the nominee for the office of Prime Minister.

Article 184

The President of the Republic shall submit nominations of candidates for the offices of Presiding Justice and Justices of the Constitutional Court to the Chairperson of

the National Assembly in writing, and accompanied by an explanatory note. The nomination shall be accompanied by a written statement of acceptance of the nomination by the nominee for the office of Presiding Justice or Justice of the Constitutional Court.

3. Promulgation of Laws and Submission of Documents for Verification

Article 185

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall immediately, and not later than within two (2) days from the adoption of a Bill, communicate it to the President of the Republic in order for him/her to promulgate it by decree.

If the President of the Republic should request, within the period foreseen by the Constitution, that the National Assembly should take a repeated vote on a Bill, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall immediately communicate such request to the Deputies, and shall include the Bill in the agenda of the first next sitting of the National Assembly.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall immediately submit a Bill on which a repeated vote was taken in the National Assembly to the President of the Republic in order for him/her to promulgate it by decree.

Article 186

If the President of the Republic should neither sign the decree on the promulgation of a Bill adopted by the National Assembly within the period foreseen by the Constitution, nor request that the National Assembly should take a repeated vote on a Bill adopted by it, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall inform the Deputies thereof.

4. Resignation and Impeachment of the President of the Republic

Article 187

When the President of the Republic tenders his/her resignation and informs the Chairperson of the National Assembly and the public thereof, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall immediately forward this information to the Deputies and shall advise them that, in accordance with the Constitution, he/she shall assume duties of Acting President of the Republic, pending the election of a new President of the Republic. At the same time, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall call elections for the President of the Republic.

Article 188

A minimum of one third of Deputies may submit to the Chairperson of the National Assembly a proposal to include in the agenda of National Assembly sitting a motion to initiate the procedure of impeachment of the President of the Republic, on condition that they provide a written explanation of reasons why they believe that the President of the Republic has violated the Constitution.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall circulate such proposal to the Deputies.

If the National Assembly should agree to include in the agenda a motion to initiate the procedure of impeachment of the President of the Republic, the Constitutional Issues Committee shall consider reasons for doing so as specified in the explanatory note submitted with the motion, and shall report thereon to the National Assembly.

After the Committee has presented its report, a debate shall be opened at a National Assembly sitting, and a vote shall be taken on the motion to initiate the procedure of impeachment of the President of the Republic.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall convene a Voting Day session for the proposal for the impeachment of the President of the Republic immediately after debate on this item concludes.

5. Informing the President of the Republic of National Assembly Sitzings

Article 189

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall inform the President of the Republic of the holding of National Assembly sittings.

XIV. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE GOVERNMENT

1. Election of the Government

Article 190

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall circulate the nomination of a candidate for the office of Prime Minister among the Deputies.

Article 191

After a candidate for the office of Prime Minister present his/her platform and proposed composition of the Government at a National Assembly sitting, debate shall be opened on the candidate for the office of Prime Minister, the presented platform, and candidates for Government Ministers.

Article 192

Immediately after debate concludes, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall convene a Voting Day session for the candidate for the office of Prime Minister and Government Ministers. The proposal to elect candidates for the office of Prime Minister and Government Ministers shall be voted on as one unit, by secret ballot, except if the National Assembly should decide that the vote should be taken openly.

The Government shall be elected if a majority of the total number of Deputies should vote in favour of it.

If the Government should not be elected, the entire procedure shall be repeated.

Article 193

After the election of the Government, the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Ministers and Government Ministers shall be sworn in, by reading out the text foreseen by law, and shall then hand the text of the oath, with their signatures affixed thereto, to the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

2. Representation of the Government in the National Assembly

Article 194

The Prime Minister shall be entitled and duty of representing the Government in the National Assembly when any issue falling within its purview is reviewed.

The Government shall designate Government Ministers to represent it with respect to particular issues to be discussed at a sitting of the National Assembly or its Committees.

Only Government Ministers may represent the Government at sittings of the National Assembly and its Committees, with the exception of the Secretary of the Republic Legislation Secretariat when the agenda of the National Assembly includes Bills drafted by the Republic Legislation Secretariat on behalf of the Government.

Representatives of the Government shall take part in activities of the National Assembly in accordance with their powers foreseen by law.

Article 195

The Government may designate agents to provide expert and other explanations at sittings of National Assembly Committees.

Article 196

The Government shall inform the National Assembly of its representatives and agents to attend sittings of the National Assembly and its Committees; such information shall be attached to any Bill, proposal of other regulation or by-law, or other material submitted by it to the National Assembly.

Article 197

In order to enable the Government to exercise its rights and perform its duties in the National Assembly, the National Assembly and its Committees shall inform the Government and the appropriate Ministries about their respective sittings and the issues to be considered at such sittings.

3. Parliamentary Questions

Article 198

Any Deputy shall be entitled to pose a parliamentary question, relating to an issue from their purview, to a particular Minister or to the Government as a whole.

Parliamentary questions must be clearly worded.

Parliamentary questions shall be addressed to the appropriate Minister or to the Government as a whole.

Parliamentary questions shall be posed either in writing or verbally; however, any statement by the Deputy asking the questions may not last more than three (3) minutes.

A parliamentary question may also be asked in between two National Assembly sittings, in writing, through the Chairperson of the National Assembly, who shall transmit it to the appropriate Minister or to the Government.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall caution the Deputy asking the parliamentary question if the question posed by him/her has not been posed in accordance with provisions of the present Rules of Procedure, or if it has not been addressed to the appropriate body.

Article 199

Parliamentary questions shall, as a rule, be posed after the National Assembly completes its proceedings on all items on the agenda. In addition, the National Assembly may also, without debate, determine another time for posing parliamentary questions.

Article 200

If the parliamentary question is posed verbally, the Government or the Minister in question shall immediately provide a verbal reply. If the reply requires some preparation, this fact shall immediately be explained, while a reply shall be forwarded to the Deputy in writing within eight (8) days from the date when the question was asked.

The written reply of the Government or the appropriate Minister shall be communicated to Deputies.

Exceptionally, if the preparation of the reply to a parliamentary question requires a lengthy investigation, or calls for more detailed analysis, the deadline for replying to a parliamentary question may be extended, but not by more than thirty (30) days.

Article 201

After the reply to a parliamentary question has been given, the Deputy who has asked the question shall be entitled to make a comment lasting up to five (5) minutes on the reply to his/her question or to ask a supplementary question.

When he/she has obtained a reply to his/her supplementary question, the Deputy shall be entitled to comment on the reply, to last not longer than five (5) minutes.

Article 202

If the reply to a parliamentary question should contain data considered state, military or official secret, the Minister or the Government may propose that the reply should be heard *in camera*.

4. Motion of No Confidence in the Government; Resignation of Government

Article 203

A minimum of twenty (20) Deputies may submit a motion of no confidence in the Government or one of the Ministers.

The motion shall be submitted in writing to the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

The motion shall specify the reason why motion of no confidence vote is proposed.

The motion shall specify one representative of the proposer. Failing that, the first undersigned Deputy shall be considered the representative of the proposer.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall immediately forward the motion to the Prime Minister or Government Minister, and to the Deputies.

Article 204

A sitting of the National Assembly to consider a motion of no confidence in the Government or one of the Ministers shall be held not sooner than upon the expiry of a three-day deadline and not later than fifteen (15) days after the date when the motion of no confidence was submitted.

At the outset of the sitting, the representative of the proposer shall be entitled to explain the motion of no confidence in the Government, while the Prime Minister, or Government Minister, shall be entitled of reply.

Provisions of the present Rules of Procedure referring to the length of a sitting at which a Bill is debated shall apply to any sitting at which a motion of no confidence in the Government or one of the Ministers is debated.

Immediately after debate on the motion of no confidence in the Government concludes, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall convene a Voting Day session.

A motion of no confidence in the Government or a Government Minister may not be proposed again at the same National Assembly session.

Article 205

The Government shall be entitled to propose a motion of no confidence to the National Assembly in writing, and shall be entitled to explain it.

The motion of no confidence shall be proposed by the Prime Minister on behalf of the Government.

The Prime Minister shall submit the motion for dismissal of a Government minister in writing to the Chairperson of the National Assembly, and shall be entitled to explain it.

Provisions of the present Rules of Procedure applying to the procedure of discussing a motion of no confidence in the Government proposed by Deputies shall apply appropriately to the procedure of discussing a motion of no confidence proposed by the Government, or to the procedure of dismissal of individual Government Ministers.

Article 206

When a motion of no confidence in the Government or a Government Minister is carried by the National Assembly, it shall adopt a decision on dismissal. The

Chairperson of the National Assembly shall immediately inform the President of the Republic thereof.

Article 207

The Government or an individual Government Minister shall tender its/his/her resignation in writing to the Chairperson of the National Assembly and shall be entitled to explain it.

The resignation of the Prime Minister shall cause the resignation of the entire Government.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall without delay inform the President of the Republic and the Deputies of the resignation of the Government; he/she shall inform the Prime Minister and the Deputies of the resignation of a Government Minister.

At its first next sitting, the National Assembly shall note without debate that the Government or a Government Minister has resigned and no decision shall be taken thereof.

Article 208

The Government or a Government Member, as well as each Deputy signing a motion of no confidence in the Government, shall be entitled to withdraw the motion for dismissal, or resignation, until a decision on dismissal has been adopted, or the resignation taken note of.

If the motion of no confidence in the Government or in any of its Ministers should be withdrawn by the Deputies, so that the number of Deputies who have proposed the motion of no confidence in the Government is no longer more than twenty (20), the motion shall be considered withdrawn.

5. Interpellation of the National Assembly on Actions of the Government

Article 209

A minimum of twenty (20) Deputies may submit an interpellation requesting debate on a specific matter regarding actions of the Government or Ministers.

Not more than five interpellations may be submitted at one National Assembly session.

Article 210

An interpellation shall be submitted in writing.

An interpellation must contain a clearly worded and summarised question to be considered, a proposal for the outcome of the debate on the interpellation, an explanation not more than two typed pages long, and the name of the authorised representative of the proposers of the interpellation.

The interpellation shall be signed by the Deputies who submitted it.

Article 211

The text of the interpellation must comply with provisions of the present Rules of Procedure.

The interpellation shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the National Assembly, who shall forward it to the Administrative Committee for assessing compliance with provisions of the present Rules of Procedure.

If the interpellation text should contain expletives or other expressions injuring the dignity of the National Assembly and the Deputies, the Administrative Committee shall request the proposer of the interpellation to harmonise it with provisions of the present Rules of Procedure within fifteen (15) days.

If the proposer of interpellation should fail to correct the text of the interpellation, the interpellation shall be considered withdrawn.

Article 212

Upon receiving the report from the Administrative Committee, the Chairperson of the National Assembly shall forward the interpellation to the Deputies and the Prime Minister.

Article 213

The Government shall review the interpellation and communicate its opinion regarding it to the Chairperson of National Assembly not later than thirty (30) days after receiving the interpellation.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall immediately communicate the opinion of the Government to the Deputies.

Article 214

The interpellation shall be included in the agenda of the first next sitting of the National Assembly, which shall be held within fifteen (15) days from the day the Government communicated its opinion regarding the interpellation.

If the Government should fail to communicate its opinion regarding the interpellation within the deadline defined in Article 209, Paragraph 1 of the present Rules of Procedure, the interpellation shall be included, as the last item, in the agenda for the next sitting of the National Assembly, which shall be held at the latest fifteen (15) days after the expiry of the deadline.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly may propose that the interpellation should be discussed as the last item of the agenda at an ongoing National Assembly sitting, and the National Assembly shall vote on such proposal without debate.

The National Assembly may decide to debate the interpellation at an extraordinary sitting of the National Assembly.

Article 215

The representative of a proposer of an interpellation shall be entitled to present the interpellation at a sitting of the National Assembly.

The Prime Minister or the Minister the interpellation refers to shall communicate the opinion of the Government regarding the interpellation at a sitting of the National Assembly.

Provisions of the present Rules of Procedure on debate on Bills shall apply accordingly to sittings of the National Assembly discussing interpellations.

Article 216

A debate about an interpellation may end in an opinion being adopted regarding the matter raised in the interpellation, or in voting for moving onto the next item on the agenda.

If it should be proposed that the debate about an interpellation should end in voting for moving onto the next item on the agenda without a position being adopted regarding the matter raised in the interpellation, the Prime Minister may state

his/her opinion in the matter. If the Prime Minister should agree with moving onto the next item, and there are other proposals, this proposal shall be voted on first.

If the proposal referred to in Paragraph 2 of the present Article should not be adopted, the National Assembly shall vote on other proposals in the order of their submission.

Article 217

A debate about an interpellation shall end at the same sitting at which it has been opened.

A submitted interpellation may be withdrawn until voting on it has started.

An interpellation regarding the same matter may not be submitted again during the same sitting of the National Assembly.

6. Informing the National Assembly of Government Activities

Article 218

The Government shall inform the National Assembly about its activities, and, in particular, about the pursuit of policies, enforcement of laws, other regulations and by-laws, implementation of development plans and zoning plans, and about the implementation of the Republic's budget.

The Government shall submit reports to the National Assembly when so requested by the National Assembly or at its own initiative, and at least once every year.

The National Assembly may decide, at the proposal of a Committee, without a debate, to request from the Government a report on its activities, i.e. a report whereby the Government shall inform the National Assembly on policy issues and enforcement of laws, other regulations and by-laws in a particular field.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall forward the report of the Government, immediately upon receiving it, to the Deputies for their information.

The National Assembly may decide, at the motion of a Committee reviewing the report of the Government, to have the report also considered at a sitting of the National Assembly.

XV RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

Article 219

The National Assembly shall consider reports submitted by the Constitutional Court about the state and problems of adherence to the Constitution and legislation in the Republic, opinions and advice of the Constitutional Court about the necessity of adopting and/or amending laws and/or undertaking other measures to safeguard constitutionality and legality.

The National Assembly may finish such consideration by moving onto the agenda or by adopting an appropriate conclusion.

The National Assembly may inform the Constitutional Court of conclusions reached following consideration of reports, opinions and advice of the Constitutional Court.

Article 220

Any motion made by an entity authorised to make such motion, or any decision to institute proceedings for assessing compliance of a law with the Constitution, or compliance of another regulation or by-law adopted by the National Assembly with the Constitution and other laws, shall be forwarded by the Chairperson of the National Assembly to the Legislative Committee and the Government.

The Legislative Committee shall consider a motion made by any entity authorised to make such motion, or any decision to institute proceedings for assessing compliance of a law with the Constitution, or compliance of another regulation or by-law adopted by the National Assembly with the Constitution and other laws, within not less than fifteen (15) days.

If the Legislative Committee should be of the opinion that motion made by an authorised proposer should not be accepted, because, in the Committee's opinion, the act whose compliance with the Constitution or laws is being challenged is indeed in compliance with the Constitution or law, it shall inform the Constitutional Court of its opinion, and of the reasons for rejecting the motion.

If the Legislative Committee should decide that a review of provisions contained in a law whose compliance with the Constitution has been challenged is justified, it shall propose to the National Assembly to consider a motion for assessing compliance of such law with the Constitution, and a conclusion that the Government or the appropriate Ministry should draft a Bill to amend and/or modify such law.

The National Assembly may ask the Constitutional Court to suspend proceedings until such time as amendments and/or modifications should be made to a contested law.

XVI. RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF DEPUTIES

Article 221

A Deputy is obliged to take part in activities of the National Assembly.

No Deputy may be refused entry and stay in the National Assembly building.

Article 222

A Deputy permanently employed at the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia shall be obliged to be present at sittings of the National Assembly when quorum is being established, as well as during the sitting.

A Deputy referred to in Paragraph 1 of the present Article unjustifiably absent when quorum is being established or during a sitting of the National Assembly shall have his/her status as Deputy permanently employed at the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia revoked.

Article 223

The Chairperson of the National Assembly may allow a Deputy not to attend a sitting, and shall inform the National Assembly thereof.

Article 224

A Deputy shall be entitled to salary, i.e. an award and compensation of other expenses for the discharge of office of Deputy. Such expenses shall be determined by the National Assembly at the proposal of the Administrative Committee.

Article 225

A Deputy shall be entitled to be informed about all issues required for the discharge of his/her office.

In order to ensure that Deputies are kept informed, they shall regularly be supplied with official publications of the National Assembly, as well as informative and documentary material on issues on the agenda of National Assembly sittings and on other issues from within the purview of the National Assembly.

Article 226

A Deputy shall be entitled to request information and explanations from the Chairperson of the National Assembly, Chairpersons of National Assembly Committees, Government Ministers and officials at other Republic agencies and bodies, on issues concerning their rights and duties within purviews of agencies they head, when such information is necessary for the discharge of his/her office of Deputy.

Article 227

The National Assembly Support Service shall ensure, as part of its duties, conditions for the discharge of the office of Deputies, and shall, at their request:

- Provide technical assistance in preparing motions they submit to the National Assembly and to its Committees, and aid them in carrying out other tasks assigned to them by Committees and the National Assembly;
- Grant access to the *Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, as well as to any supplementary documents of relevance to particular issues on the agenda of the National Assembly and its Committees;
- Provide technical explanations on particular issues encountered during their work at the National Assembly;
- Ensure technical conditions for their work and carry out clerical and other duties to meet their needs.

The National Assembly Support Service shall prepare texts of Bills, as required by appropriate Committees, and pursuant to Article 144 of the present Rules of Procedure.

Article 228

A Deputy shall be granted access to the library and archives for purposes of work at the National Assembly.

A Deputy shall be entitled to use premises placed at his/her disposal for work and for meeting members of the public, in accordance with rules on internal order at the National Assembly.

Article 229

Upon verification of his/her mandate, a Deputy shall be issued with a special identification card.

The identification card shall specify immunity rights and other rights that a Deputy may exercise on the basis thereof.

The Administrative Committee shall prescribe the contents, format and manner of issuing identification cards, and shall keep records of identification documents issued.

Article 230

A Deputy tendering his/her resignation shall do so in writing, to the Chairperson of the National Assembly. The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall immediately forward the resignation to other Deputies.

Article 231

The Serbian language and the Cyrillic script shall be in official use at the National Assembly.

A Deputy shall be entitled to speak at a National Assembly sitting and to submit documents for the National Assembly, as foreseen by the present Rules of Procedure, in his/her native language.

A Deputy intending to use his/her native language in his/her work at the National Assembly, within the meaning of Paragraph 2 of the present Article, either at all times or in a particular situation, shall be obliged to inform the Secretary of the National Assembly thereof in a timely manner, so that his/her oral statement may be interpreted, and/or documents submitted by him/her translated, into the Serbian language.

XVII. DISSOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Article 232

When the President of the Republic should decide, upon a proposal by the Government, supported by an explanatory note and also distributed to Deputies, to dissolve the National Assembly, he/she shall forward the decision thereof to the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

If a motion to impeach the President of the Republic, proposed by the National Assembly, should be defeated by popular vote, the National Assembly shall be dissolved as of the date of publication of final results of the popular vote on impeachment.

The Chairperson of the National Assembly shall call elections for the National Assembly on the date of the dissolution of the National Assembly.

XVIII. ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DURING A STATE OF WAR, IMMEDIATE THREAT OF WAR, AND STATE OF EMERGENCY

Article 233

Provisions of the present Rules of Procedure shall apply to activities of the National Assembly in case of a state of war, immediate threat of war, or a state of emergency, unless otherwise provided for by the present Rules of Procedure and other by-laws of the National Assembly.

Article 234

In case of a state of war, immediate threat of war, or a state of emergency, the Chairperson of the National Assembly:

- Shall establish the date, time and place of a National Assembly sitting;
- Shall decide on how the Deputies are to be invited to the sitting, and how and by what date materials for the sitting are to be submitted;

- May, as necessary, decide on a special manner of taking, issuing, and storing shorthand notes and minutes on a sitting of the National Assembly and its Committees;
- May decide not to make available to media Bills, other by-laws, and other materials, until the National Assembly should decide otherwise;
- Shall decide on the method of work and execution of tasks of the National Assembly Support Service;
- Shall inform the President of the Republic and the Prime Minister that conditions required for the National Assembly to meet do not exist, so that the President of the Republic may carry out duties foreseen by the Constitution in such conditions.

Article 235

During a state of war, immediate threat of war, or a state of emergency, Bills and/or proposals of other regulations or by-laws being considered by the National Assembly may be considered and voted on without any previous review by appropriate Committees, if the National Assembly should so decide.

The Government shall provide its opinion on such acts at the National Assembly sitting.

Article 236

In case of a state of war, immediate threat of war, or a state of emergency, each Deputy shall be obliged to inform, the Secretary of the National Assembly of any changes in his/her temporary or permanent place of residence.

XIX. CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND THE FEDERAL PARLIAMENT, THE ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MONTENEGRO, AND APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVE BODIES OF OTHER NATIONS

Article 237

The National Assembly shall co-operate with the Federal Parliament and the Assembly of the Republic of Montenegro.

Article 238

The National Assembly shall co-operate with relevant representative bodies of other nations:

- By sending National Assembly delegations, representatives of the National Assembly, or individual Deputies on visits to relevant representative bodies of other nations, and by receiving delegations from representative bodies of other nations;
- By exchanging information and other materials and publications, as well as through other forms of co-operation with appropriate representative bodies of other nations.

The head and members of a National Assembly delegation shall be designated, and the aims and objectives of the visit in question defined, by the Foreign Affairs Committee.

A National Assembly delegation, a representative of the National Assembly, or an individual Deputy shall be obliged to submit to the National Assembly a report on an official visit within ten (10) days from the date of returning from the visit.

At the end of each year, the Foreign Affairs Committee shall submit a report to the National Assembly on activities of co-operation undertaken over the past year.

Article 239

Voluntary Deputies' Friendship Groups may be formed at the National Assembly, with the aim of improving relations and co-operation with representative bodies of other nations.

The establishment of a Deputies' Friendship Group shall be based on mutually expressed interests to establish and improve co-operation between representative bodies.

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly shall designate the chairperson and members of a Deputies' Friendship Group.

Decisions on exchanging visits with friendship groups of representative bodies of other nations shall be taken by Deputies' Friendship' Groups in co-ordination and with the consent of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly.

In case the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly should fail to designate the chairperson and members of a Deputies' Friendship Group, or grant consent to an exchange of visits with friendship groups of representative bodies of other nations, decisions on such matters shall be taken by the Chairperson of the

National Assembly, the Vice-Chairpersons of the National Assembly, and the chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly.

XX. NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SUPPORT SERVICE

Article 240

Support and other tasks required by the National Assembly, its Committees, Deputies, and Deputies' Groups, shall be carried out by the National Assembly Support Service.

The National Assembly Support Service shall organise itself and perform the duties from within its purview as one service.

The organisation and work of the National Assembly Service shall be governed by a National Assembly decision.

Article 241

Keeping order at the National Assembly building and at other premises used by the National Assembly shall be the responsibility by a special service, and its organisation and work shall be regulated by a separate act issued by the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

This service shall be headed by the Chairperson of the National Assembly, who shall report on its activities to the National Assembly.

Authorised officials of government bodies may neither have access to the premises referred to in Paragraph 1 of the present Article, nor undertake any measures without the approval of the Chairperson of the National Assembly.

Only persons authorised to keep order in the National Assembly building, in accordance with a decision on internal order, shall be allowed to carry weapons in the National Assembly building.

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