



The Parliament of Montenegro

**Third Quarterly Report on the Implementation of the
Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the
Parliament of Montenegro
01 June to 01 September 2011**

Tabular Format

September 2011

Third Quarterly Report on the implementation of the Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament of Montenegro – Tabular format¹

PRIORITY	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	DEADLINE	INDICATORS	DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION	
1. Strengthen Legislative and Oversight Role	1. Adopt the Law on Election of Local Councillors and Members of the Parliament : - Improved legal framework in line with the OSCE and the Venice Commission recommendations	Parliament of Montenegro	Q IV 2010	Working group formed Law adopted Compliance with the OEBS – ODIHR and the Venice Commission's recommendations	At the 13 th sitting of the first regular (spring) session 2011, held on 31 July, the Draft Law on Election of Local Councillors and MPs failed to win majority support, following which, by adopting the Draft Constitutional Law amending the Constitutional Law for Implementation of the Constitution of Montenegro, the deadline was extended to 31 December 2011. The Parliament is convened for session on 6 September 2011 with the Draft Law amending the Law on Election of Local Councillors and MPs, sponsored by five MP clubs, on the agenda. (Deadline shifted)	Deadline shifted
	2. Define the roles and responsibilities of the Parliament in the coming stages of EU integration: - The role of the Parliament precisely defined	Collegium of the Speaker	Spring session	Research completed The role of the Parliament defined by	Research work completed in 2010 and submitted to the Collegium members Research paper provides an overview	

¹ The tabular format is adapted to the methodology of reporting on the implementation of the Action Plan for meeting the EC recommendations agreed between the Government of Montenegro and the European Commission

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	<p>by the relevant act (<i>previously conduct a comparative research of experiences of former candidate countries, now EU Member States plus Croatia, regarding the role of national parliaments in EU accession talks</i>)</p>			<p>the relevant act</p>	<p>of experience of EU countries from last two enlargement waves during their candidacy status, and Croatia, regarding the role of the parliament in negotiations and the parliamentary body that was the key actor in the process. The paper, prepared based on responses collected through the ECPRD network (Europe Centre of Parliamentary Research and Documentation), also provides a summary of the experiences, with the prevailing model and exceptions.</p> <p>Parliamentary groups are in a process of defining their positions on the issue, which will then be discussed at the Collegium level. (in progress)</p>	<p>I n p r o g r e s s</p>
	<p>3. Draft and adopt the Law on Parliamentary Oversight in the Field of Security and Defence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthened oversight role of the Parliament in this particular area - Improved protection of civil rights and freedom against potential abuse - Precisely defined responsibilities of all stakeholders 	<p>Security and Defence Committee / Parliament of Montenegro</p>	<p>December 2010</p>	<p>The Drafting Group established</p> <p>The Draft Law prepared</p> <p>The Law adopted</p>	<p>The Law on Parliamentary Oversight in the Field of Security and Defence was adopted unanimously on 22 December 2010.</p> <p>In line with Article 12 paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Law on Parliamentary Oversight in the Field of Security and Defence, which stipulates that Parliamentary oversight should be conducted regularly according to the annual plan adopted by the Committee and on extraordinary occasions, if required, the Security and Defence Committee adopted its Plan of</p>	<p>I m p l e m e n t e d</p>

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					<p>oversight activities in 2011 on its 31st meeting held on 13 April 2011. In addition, this Committee, as is the case with all other parliamentary bodies, adopted the Committee's 2010 Activity Report and the 2011 Work Plan.</p> <p>(fully implemented)</p>
	<p>4. Introduce the practice of committee secretaries preparing an opinion, in the form of an information brief, for each draft law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved background information and expert support to MPs regarding draft legislation - Improved verification of compliance with the EU acquis and the tables of concordance submitted by the Government - Wherever possible, the assessment of possible impact of particular EU provisions transposed through the draft is done, together with the indication on key groups of citizens and/or economic sector that might be affected - Provided examination of the fiscal impact information provided by the Government - Expert support strengthened through training in conducting research, and recruitment of at least two staff members in the Research Section 	<p>Parliament Administration /committee secretaries</p>	<p>January 2011</p>	<p>Instructions on making information briefs adopted</p> <p>Relevant training organised</p> <p>Number of information briefs made</p> <p>Number of staff</p> <p>Feedback from MPs obtained</p>	<p>Instructions on the contents of information briefs adopted</p> <p>The Instruction for Information Briefs sets the procedure for development and submission of the briefs prepared by committee secretaries. Article 4 of the Instruction stipulates that information briefs are prepared in accordance with the committee competences and represent a clear and concise overview of key expert findings concerning the draft in question pointing out possible outstanding issues and/or dilemmas regarding the draft, and, if it is a draft law, findings on the table of concordance and fiscal impact form.</p> <p>A brief includes: background information on the draft, a brief review of comparative experiences of other countries, if possible, findings on compatibility check of the tables of concordance submitted by the Government, findings on examination</p> <p style="text-align: center;">I m p l e m e n t e d</p>

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					<p>of the fiscal impact form submitted by the Government and a list of civil society members that submitted their contributions, along with all the contributions attached.</p> <p>The training for committee secretaries on the preparation of briefs delivered (in cooperation with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) and the UK House of Commons), on 16 and 17 February. The training was attended by 20 staff members (committee secretaries, committee staff and research staff), who were able to learn the procedures and tasks of committee secretaries in the UK Parliament. As a part of the training, attendees had the task to produce samples of information briefs for three draft laws.</p> <p>In cooperation with the EU Delegation in Podgorica, the Parliament applied for the expert support lasting eight months, divided into several missions, in the area of legal harmonisation and regulatory impact assessment. The aim of this assistance is to strengthen the Parliament's capacity to scrutinize draft laws and their alignment with the acquis, as well as to be trained, through monitoring the regulatory impact assessments submitted by the Government and drafting assessments for extensive amendments and certain</p>

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					<p>regulations, to assume the role defined in the Inter-Institutional Common Approach to Impact Assessment by the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council. Following the three rounds of application procedures of experts (the first of which failed since none of the applying candidates met the criteria set by the ToR, and the second call needed to be repeated on the account of administrative requirements of EU procurement procedures), a team of experts was eventually selected in August, and the project commencement is envisaged for the first half of September.</p> <p>Since introducing this practice in February 2011, the total of 169 Information Briefs have been prepared by committee secretaries. (Note: Secretaries of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Legislation and of the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Process do not prepare briefs due to the specific status of these bodies defined by the Parliament's Rules of Procedure and the relevant Decision). (fully implemented)</p>

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	<p>5. Preparation of a timetable and schedule of activities for the Parliament and its bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Coordination, organisation and planning of legislative and oversight activities of the Parliament, the working bodies and MPs provided through the parliamentary calendar specifying the days of the month dedicated to plenary sessions, working bodies sessions, and the work of MPs in clubs and with citizens - Coordination, organization and planning of both legislative and oversight activities of the working bodies and individual members of working bodies provided by defining a time table of committee sessions generally specifying the date, time and venue of each meeting - Increased intensity of supervision through the adoption of plans of oversight activities for parliamentary bodies to monitor the implementation of laws and policies 	<p>Collegium of the Speaker / Parliament Administration</p>	<p>Q I 2011</p>	<p>Adoption of the parliamentary calendar Adoption of timetable for working bodies Adoption of plans of oversight activities of working bodies Number of committee sessions dedicated to legislative oversight</p>	<p>The Collegium approved the calendar in February 2011. The Parliaments calendar is available at its website.²</p> <p>11 working bodies adopted their annual work plans, covering also their oversight function; in April, the Security and Defence Committee adopted the separate 2011 Oversight Plan. In March, the Committee for Constitutional Affairs and Legislation, in its 2011 Work Plan, that their work is dependent on the timing of receiving draft legislation and the plenary sessions.</p> <p>This year the total of 16 hearings have been held (13 consultative and 3 control hearings) as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Committee for Political System, Justice and Administration held one consultative hearing on the “Judicial Reform in Montenegro in the context of Recommendations from the EC Opinion“; - The Committee on International Relations and European Integration held nine consultative hearings with regard to the 2010 Performance Report of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 21st and 22nd quarterly reports on the

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² http://www.skupstina.me/cms/site_data/SKUPSTINA/KALENDAR-AKTIVNOSTI.pdf

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					<p>overall activities in the stabilisation and association process, the first, second and fourth monthly reports on implementation of commitments from the Action Plan for Monitoring the Implementation of Recommendations from the EC Opinion, the Report on implementation of commitments stemming from the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with the Quarterly Reporting Table, as well as with regard to issuing an opinion on the candidate for ambassador of Montenegro to the Council of Europe, the candidate for ambassador of Montenegro to the Republic of Poland, and the candidate for extraordinary ad plenipotentiary ambassador of Montenegro to the Republic of Azerbaijan, on non-resident basis with its seat in Ankara;</p> <p>- The Committee on Economy, Finance and Budget held two consultative hearings on: "Current state of affairs in telecommunication focusing on the implementation of the Law on Electronic Communication" and "Draft Law on Investment Funds focusing on impact of the current law application";</p> <p>- The Administrative Committee held a consultative hearing of the candidate for the president of the Council of the</p>

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					<p>Insurance Supervision Agency;</p> <p>- The Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Process deliberated on the privatization of the Aluminium Plant Podgorica (KAP), the privatization of the Margo market, and of Arsenal Tivat, and held two control hearings within such deliberations;</p> <p>-The Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms – control hearing of the Director of the Institution for Execution of Criminal Sanctions (ZIKS) on “ZIKS Activities related to the findings from the EC Analytical Report and the recommendations of the Ombudsman contained in the Final Opinion no. 84/10 as of 29 March 2010”.</p> <p>In addition to hearings, committees organise thematic sessions, round table discussions, public panels and similar activities.</p> <p>(implemented)</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d
	<p>6. Monitor and control the implementation of recommendations from the EC Opinion on Montenegro’s application for EU membership and the Analytical Report:</p> <p>- Monitoring and control of implementation of the EC recommendations provided through the preparation of a Report on the findings</p>	<p>Committee for International Relations and European Integration (CIREI)</p>	<p>Continuously</p>	<p>Report prepared by CIREI</p> <p>A meeting organised with chairs and deputy chairs of all</p>	<p>CIREI prepared a report on the findings and recommendations from the EC Opinion and the Analytical report in December 2010. The Report was discussed at the meeting of CIREI with the chairs and deputy chairs of all parliamentary committees held on 28</p>	

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	<p>and recommendations from the EC Opinion for specific chapters and areas with the proposal of the responsible committee for each issue</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring and control of implementation of the EC recommendations through holding a meeting with the chairs of all committees to discuss their obligations in terms of oversight - Monitoring and control of implementation of EC recommendations through defining the work plans, including the oversight of implementation of the EC recommendations and the Government Action Plan 			<p>committees</p> <p>Plans for monitoring the implementation of EC recommendations and the Government Action Plan developed</p> <p>Quarterly reporting to the Collegium by CIREI</p>	<p>December 2010.</p> <p>Based on the comments given at the meeting and further consultations, the Committee staff drafted two documents: Proposed Activities of CIREI regarding the Action Plan for Strengthening the Legislative and Oversight Role of the Parliament and an overview of division of committee competences in tabular format. These documents were discussed at the 43rd CIREI session held on 14 February, and adopted with some minor corrections at the next meeting held on 21 February. The two adopted documents were submitted to the Collegium for further consideration, and to the committee secretaries for information.</p> <p>In late March, CIREI considered the first monthly report of the Government of Montenegro on fulfilment of commitments from the Action Plan for Monitoring the Implementation of Recommendations from the EC Opinion at a joint meeting with the National Council for European Integration (NCEI) . The second session was held in May when it was agreed that Government 's monthly reports would be considered on regular basis in future.</p>	<p>C o n t i n i o u s l y</p>

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					<p>By the end of the reporting period, the total of five joint sessions of the NCEI and the CIREI were held deliberating monthly reports on the Action Plan implementation.</p> <p>11 working bodies adopted their annual work plans, covering also their oversight function; in April, the Security and Defence Committee adopted a separate 2011 Oversight Plan. In March, the Committee for Constitutional Affairs and Legislation, in its 2011 Work Plan stated that their work is dependent on the timing of receiving draft legislation and the plenary sessions.</p> <p>(continuously)</p>	C o n t i n u o u s l y
	<p>7. Adopt the Decision amending the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthened direct expert support to MPs through an increased number of staff working in MP Clubs - Finding solutions regarding acceptance of initiatives coming from the side of the opposition in plenary sessions (<i>A report on potential solutions will be prepared by the Parliament Administration and submitted to the Collegium in Q II 2011, which may result in further amendments to the Rules of</i> 	<p>Parliament of Montenegro</p> <p>Collegium of the Speaker</p>	December 2010	<p>The Decision amending the Rules of Procedure adopted providing an increased number of staff working in the MP Clubs</p> <p>Number of staff in MP Clubs</p>	<p>The Decision amending the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Montenegro was adopted on 22 December 2010, providing an increase in the number of staff serving the MP Clubs, for a total of 5.</p> <p>The Collegium adopted a Conclusion at its 125th meeting held on 9 May to establish a Working Group for drafting the amendments to the Rules of Procedure, composed of the</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d

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	<i>Procedure)</i>		Q II 2011	The conclusion of the Collegium in relation to the acceptance of initiatives coming from the side of the opposition adopted	<p>representatives of all MP Clubs. The Working Group will, inter alia, deal with formulating of the model for passing of proposals of the opposition MP Clubs that failed to gain the required majority in regular consideration by working bodies. The Working Group submitted the draft text to the Collegium that discussed it at the meeting held on 29 July. The Collegium concluded that, although failing to meet the deadline envisaged by the Conclusion of the Collegium, the Working Group had not managed to fulfil the assigned task and to submit to the Collegium harmonized draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure, which means that the deadline envisaged by the Action Plan has not been observed. At the same meeting, the Collegium decided that the Working Group, in accordance with the Conclusion of the Collegium adopted at the 125th meeting, should continue its work on drafting the amendments to the Rules of Procedure in the first week of September, as well as that the work should continue with the greatest possible support from representatives of all MP clubs so as to provide for draft amendments to be discussed in the beginning of the second ordinary session of the Parliament.</p>

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					<p>Draft Decision amending the Rules of Procedure was adopted on 22 July at the 11th plenary sitting. The amendments primarily refer to the remuneration for the members of the Parliamentary Staff Service aimed to strengthen the autonomy of the Parliament, and strengthen its administrative capacity.</p> <p>(partly implemented)</p>
	<p>8. Analyse the need to separate responsibilities of individual committees and set up sub-committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A balanced distribution of working body competencies and workload provided through adoption of relevant documents based on a detailed analysis to be provided by the working group 	Collegium	Q II 2011	<p>Working group established, tasked to assess the need for separation of responsibilities of individual committees</p> <p>Assessment completed</p> <p>Conclusions adopted by the Collegium</p>	<p>At the 125th meeting held on 9 May, the Collegium of the Speaker adopted a Conclusion to establish a Working Group for drafting Amendments to the Rules of Procedure, which is composed of the representatives of MP Clubs. The Working Group will, inter alia, address the need for division of individual working bodies due to the large scope of competences and the elaborate rules for establishing subcommittees (composition, decision-making and relation to the parent committee). The Working Group submitted the draft text to the Collegium that discussed it at the meeting held on 29 July. The Collegium concluded that, although failing to meet the deadline envisaged by the Conclusion of the Collegium, the Working Group had not managed to fulfil the assigned task and to submit to</p>

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<p>2. Efficiency</p>	<p>9. Adopt the Annual Plan of Legislative Harmonisation and monitor its implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More efficient monitoring of the alignment of legislation enabled through the adoption of the Annual Plan for Legislative Harmonization, based on an analysis of the National Programme for Integration (NPI), adopted by the Government, and regular monitoring of implementation of the Annual Work Program of the Government 	<p>Collegium / Parliament Administration</p>	<p>Q I 2011</p>	<p>The Annual Plan adopted one week after the NPI adoption by the Government, planned under the Government's Annual Work Programme for the second quarter 2011</p>	<p>NPI has not been adopted by the Government yet</p> <p>The Plan for monitoring the Government's Annual Work Programme prepared and submitted to the MP Clubs</p> <p>(in progress)</p>	<p>I n p r o g r e s s</p>

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	<p>10. Develop and consider annual activity reports of working bodies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Annual review of legislative and oversight activities of each committee enabled - Better planning for the following year enabled - Improved public understanding of the committee work 	Working bodies	Q I 2011	Number of adopted and publicised reports	<p>11 working bodies adopted activity reports for 2010. In March, the Commission for Monitoring and Control of the Privatisation Process held a discussion on the activities undertaken in the previous period and accordingly adopted the conclusions on the future work.</p> <p>(fully implemented)</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d
	<p>11. Adopt rules concerning document management procedures in the Parliament Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Office operation facilitated with the new document management system 	Secretary General	December 2010	Rules adopted and applied	<p>The internal document management rules were adopted by the Parliament and applied since the beginning of 2011.</p> <p>The new rules provide for efficient document management, reduction in the number of bookkeeping journals, precise definition of the procedure for recording e-mail communications, recording and filing of documents according to topics rather than the session during which they were handled, as was the case previously. Thus, the new rules make a solid base for future introduction of the IT monitoring of legislation.</p> <p>(fully implemented)</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d

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	<p>12. Adopt the Classification Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More efficient tracking of legislation based on classification according to negotiation chapters enabled - Better tracking of legal amendments and their alignment with the EU acquis enabled based on the classification following the structure of negotiation chapters 	Secretary General	December 2010	Classification Plan adopted and applied	<p>The Classification Plan adopted in early 2011, when its application also started. According to the Plan, the classification codes are allocated to all acts received in the Registry Office. All draft laws submitted by the Government (117 in total) are classified according to their subject matter by negotiation chapters they belong to. This procedure will facilitate efficient preparation of MPs during the negotiation process with the EU, for the reason that all proposed laws that by their contents belong to one negotiation chapter will be kept at one place rather than according to sessions at which they were adopted, as was the case previously.</p> <p>(implemented)</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d
	<p>13. Introduce abbreviations for parliamentary documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - create assumptions for easier tracking of parliamentary documents 	Colegium / Secretary General	Q I 2011	<p>Decision on abbreviations drafted</p> <p>Working group Established</p> <p>Identification of abbreviations for the laws passed since October 2007 completed</p> <p>Decision on abbreviations</p>	<p>Draft Decision on abbreviations for parliamentary documents developed.</p> <p>Working group formed to determine the abbreviations for the legislation published in the Official Gazette of Montenegro since its first edition after the adoption of the new Constitution in 2007.</p> <p>The working group has completed the work and produced the abbreviations within the envisaged timeframe, and regular determination of abbreviations</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d

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				adopted and applied	takes place on regular basis. (partly implemented)	
	14. Introduce Records of Parliamentary Acts (RPA) - create the conditions for easier tracking of parliamentary acts for each session of the Parliament	Collegium / Secretary General	Q I 2011	RPA in place The Decision to introduce RPA as a part of the act name adopted	RPA records in place. Accordingly, each act received by the Registry is assigned an RPA reference code consisting of combined Arabic and Roman numerals. The Arabic numeral represents the ordinal number of the parliamentary act received by the Registry within one term of the Parliament, while the Roman numeral represents the number of the Parliament term. (implemented)	I m p l e m e n t e d
	15. Introduction of Eurovoc descriptors: - Create the conditions to use document indexing descriptors in accordance with the Licence	Collegium	Q I 2011	An expert group for translation of descriptors set up Eurovoc descriptors translated	The expert group finished the translation of Eurovoc descriptors into Montenegrin and the EU Publications Office was furnished with the translated versions. (fully implemented)	I m p l e m e n t e d
	16. Adopt Rules of Procedure for the Analysis, Documentation, Research and Library Section with the accompanying documents: - The work of the unit in charge of	Secretary General	December 2010	The Section's Rules of Procedure adopted The Rules for requesting and	Rules of the Section for analysis, documentation, research and library, with supporting documents adopted and their application started	

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	parliamentary research strengthened by putting in place appropriate procedures			<p>developing research papers adopted</p> <p>The Request template approved</p> <p>Number of requests for research work and number of completed research papers</p>	<p>The rules for requesting and preparation of research papers adopted, with the request template</p> <p>To date, five research papers made.</p> <p>The Parliaments Administration responds regularly to all requests from other members of the ECPRD network, with eleven responses prepared and sent in the form of brief information at the request of ECPRD during this reporting period.</p> <p>(fully implemented)</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d
	<p>17. Develop the Concept Design for the IT system to enable tracking of the whole legislative process</p> <p>- create the conditions for finding an optimal IT solution to track the legislative process (<i>it is planned to set up an adequate information system which will provide for IT tracking of the entire legislative process by 2012</i>)</p>	Parliament Administration	Q III 2011	Concept design developed	<p>The Parliament Administration recorded and analysed individual processes, following which on 01 July a working group was set up to draft the initial project brief "Develop the Support System for the Legislative Process".</p> <p>(in progress)</p>	I n p r o g r e s s

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3. Administrative Capacity and Material Resources	<p>18. Adopt the Strategy for Human Resources Development in the Parliament of Montenegro January 2011 to December 2013, with the Training Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continuous strategically framed HR development implying a clearly set vision and mission, principles and values, strategic goals, indicators and actions to be taken 	Parliament Administration	January 2011	HRD Strategy adopted Strategic Plan adopted Number of delivered trainings	HRD Strategy adopted. Strategic Plan adopted. The Training Plan developed, implementation in progress. The Training Plan envisaged by the end of the reporting period the holding of 12 training sessions for parliamentary staff , outside the regular training delivered by the HRMA, out of which 11 were actually delivered. Since the beginning of the year, staff members attended 57 trainings, 11 of which are envisaged by the Training Plan, 27 delivered by the HRMA, and 19 by others. 176 staff members in total attended training since the beginning of the year. (implemented)	I m p l e m e n t e d
	<p>19. Provide intensive training for committee and MP club staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve quality of verification of the alignment of draft legislation with the EU acquis - Raise the level of knowledge and expertise of staff in the field of EU acquis through training in specific areas, within the framework of TAIEX and other available projects 	Parliament Administration	continuously	Number of trainings delivered Number of attendees Number of corrected tables of concordance in preparations for committee sessions	This activity is implemented on continual basis, as envisaged by the Action Plan. The Training Plan envisaged by the end of the reporting period the holding of 12 training sessions for parliamentary staff , outside the regular training delivered by the HRMA, out of which 11 were actually delivered. Since the beginning of the year, staff members attended 57 trainings, 11 of which are envisaged by the Training	C o n t i n u o u s l y

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raise the level of knowledge and expertise of staff regarding impact assessment and issues of legal harmonization by providing expert support to staff - Raise the level of knowledge and expertise of employees with a focus on introducing the experiences of EU member states and candidate countries in the harmonization process through the project "Parliament for Europe", with the NGO European Movement in Montenegro - Raise the level of knowledge and expertise of staff through a number of training courses in cooperation with NGOs, HRMA, as well as through bilateral cooperation with other parliaments 				<p>Plan, 27 delivered by the HRMA, and 19 by others. 176 staff members in total attended training since the beginning of the year.</p> <p>In cooperation with the EU Delegation to Podgorica, the Parliament applied for eight-month expert support, divided into several missions, in the area of legal harmonisation and regulatory impact assessment. After the application and evaluation procedures, a team of experts was selected, so that project should start on 12 September. The aim of this assistance is to strengthen the Parliament's capacity to scrutinize draft laws and their alignment with the acquis, as well as to be trained, through monitoring the regulatory impact assessments submitted by the Government and drafting assessments for extensive amendments and certain regulations, to assume the role defined in the Inter-Institutional Common Approach to Impact Assessment by the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council.</p> <p>Training organised for research staff, within which two employees visited the Slovak parliament for two weeks.</p> <p>After making insight into the documentation submitted along with the proposed laws (97 proposed laws</p>

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					<p>in total), 31 amendments of substance and 28 technical amendments were made by committee staff with regard to the documentation verifying harmonisation of those acts with EU legislation and other international treaties.</p> <p>(Continuously)</p>	
	<p>20. Fill vacancies in the Parliament Administration in line with the Rulebook on Internal Organisation and Job Description</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create the conditions for attaining full functionality of all organisational units 	<p>Parliament Administration / HRM Bureau</p>	<p>continuously</p>	<p>Actual number of staff as compared to the number of posts</p> <p>Number of staff compared to the previous year</p>	<p>On 31 August 2011, 89 employees (and 10 interns), as contrasted to 154 posts envisaged by the Rulebook, and 73 employees (and 2 interns) on 31 December 2010.</p> <p>(Continuously)</p>	<p>C o n t i n u o u s l y</p>
	<p>21. Devise the plan with short-term and long-term solutions to the issue of shortage of office space of the Parliament:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better productivity through improved office space for the work of MPs and staff - Better productivity through new recruitment 	<p>Collegium</p>	<p>Q I 2011</p>	<p>Decisions passed and tender procedure launched for renting space</p>	<p>The decision to rent office space passed</p> <p>The tender document is currently being prepared.</p> <p>The Government of Montenegro, on July 28, has adopted the Study on Possible Solutions for Providing Work Space to the Parliament of Montenegro and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and</p>	<p>I n p r o g r e s s</p>

PRIORITY	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	DEADLINE	INDICATORS	DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION	
					<p>European Integration. The Government tasked the Secretariat General of the Government to define the final proposal regarding this issue in cooperation with the Secretary General of the Parliament.</p> <p>(in progress)</p>	
	<p>22. Improve the office conditions and increase the number of staff available to MPs based on earlier needs assessment <i>(as a part of this measure a comparative analysis of standards in other parliaments regarding the office and staffing requirement will be prepared)</i></p>	<p>Collegium</p>	<p>Q II 2011</p>	<p>Analysis completed Conclusions adopted by the Collegium</p>	<p>Under this measure a comparative review was produced, which includes a brief description of the current situation with office space availability in the Parliament, tabular presentation of the data on the office space footage and amenities available in several national parliaments taken over from the ECPRD network and collected by a questionnaire that the Parliamentary Administration sent to the addresses of several parliaments in the region.</p> <p>The tender document is currently being prepared.</p> <p>The Government of Montenegro, on July 28, has adopted the Study on Possible Solutions for Providing Work Space to the Parliament of Montenegro and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration. The Government</p>	<p>I n p r o g r e s s</p>

PRIORITY	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	DEADLINE	INDICATORS	DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION	
					<p>tasked the Secretariat General of the Government to define the final proposal regarding this issue in cooperation with the Secretary General of the Parliament.</p> <p>(in progress)</p>	
	<p>23. Make the Parliament building accessible to people with reduced mobility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enable access for people with reduced mobility in consultation with NGOs and the proper tender procedure 	<p>Parliament Administration</p>	<p>Q II 2011</p>	<p>Tender launched</p> <p>Design prepared</p> <p>Project implemented</p>	<p>Public invitation to tender for procurement and installation of folding electric stair lifts for the needs of disabled persons for internal installation into the Parliament of Montenegro was published on 1 June 2011, and the deadline for opening of bids was 28 June.</p> <p>On 12 July the decision was made to cancel the tender for procurement and instalment of folding electric stair lifts to accommodate the needs of disabled persons in the interior of the Parliament building, since there were no valid bids. Currently, the repeated tender procedure is being prepared.</p> <p>(in progress)</p>	<p>I n p r o g r e s s</p>

PRIORITY	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	DEADLINE	INDICATORS	DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION	
4. Openness and transparency	<p>24. Prepare and publicise the Annual Activity Report of the Parliament of Montenegro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue with the practice of publishing relevant information about the work of the Parliament for making it closer to the citizens and expert public (<i>The Parliament will prepare the report for 2010 independently</i>) 	Parliament Administration	February 2011	The Annual Report prepared	<p>The 2010 Annual Report prepared and available on the website³. In addition, 250 copies of the Montenegrin and English version printed (bilingual issue).</p> <p>Semi-annual report (01 January – 30 June) was posted on the Parliament website on 26 July. In addition, 150 copies in Montenegrin were published.</p> <p>The information brief on the legislative and oversight activity of the Parliament of Montenegro by the end of spring session 2011 was posted on the Parliament website on 01 August.</p> <p>(fully implemented)</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d
	<p>25. Sign a Memorandum of Understanding between the Parliament and NGOs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set the principles of cooperation between the Parliament and NGOs interested in cooperating with it 	Speaker of the Parliament	Q I 2011	<p>Working group to draft the MoU set up</p> <p>The MoU drafted</p> <p>The MoU signed</p>	<p>The working group set up, the MoU drafted. The MoU text agreed.</p> <p>The Memorandum⁴ was signed and promoted on 30 March and a form⁵ for the civil society organisations giving their opinion was posted on the Parliament website.</p>	

³ Link: http://www.skupstina.me/cms/site_data/IVANA/OSTALO/publikacije/Perfomance%20Report%202010%20final%20za%20sajt.pdf

⁴ Link: http://www.skupstina.me/cms/site_data/SKUPSTINA%20CRNE%20GORE/Memorandum-o-saradnji-izmedju-Skupstine-Crne-Gore-i-Mreze-organizacija-civilnog-drustva-za-demokratiju-i-ljudska-prava.pdf

⁵ Link: http://www.skupstina.me/cms/site_data/SKUPSTINA/Obrazac-za-davanje-misljenja-predstavnika-civilnog-drustva.pdf

PRIORITY	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	DEADLINE	INDICATORS	DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION	
					<p>Since the beginning of the year the CSO approached parliamentary working bodies over 50 times (with various proposals, petitions, proposed amendments, requests for free access to information directed to committees, comments to draft legislation, appeals, applications, etc.), as well as some 70 attendances in the work of parliamentary body sessions by 40 organisations, including the participation to consultative hearings .</p> <p>(implemented)</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d
	<p>26. Round table discussion gathering MPs and the media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Foster better understanding and cooperation between the Parliament and the media based on exchange of opinions and conclusions adopted 	Parliament Administration	Q II 2011	<p>Round table discussion organised</p> <p>Conclusions adopted</p> <p>Number of participants</p> <p>Implementation of conclusions</p>	<p>Preparation in progress in cooperation with the WFD, and tentative date set for some time in July.</p> <p>Round table “Parliament, Media and Citizens” was held on 12 July. It was attended by members of MP Clubs in the Montenegrin Parliament, editors in chief of the media accredited to cover the work of the Parliament, members of the EU Delegation to Podgorica and the UK Embassy in Podgorica. The event was organised by the Parliament of Montenegro within the cooperation programme with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD), in partnership with the Thomson Reuters Foundation, London and the</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d

PRIORITY	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	DEADLINE	INDICATORS	DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION
					Montenegro Media Institute. (implemented)
	<p>27. Round table discussion on the issues of conflict of interest in the case of MPs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better understanding of the issue and possible improvement of the legislative framework on the basis of exchange of opinions and adopted conclusions 	Parliament Administration	Q II 2011	<p>Round table discussion organised and conclusions adopted</p> <p>Number of participants</p> <p>Implementation of conclusions</p>	<p>The conflict of interest round table discussion, focusing on possible conflict of interest in the case of MPs, was held on 10 June and was participated by the MPs, members of the Government and NGO sector, as well as foreign experts. It was concluded that the law amendments that would prevent MPs from being members of managing and supervisory boards in companies where state holds a majority stake and the ones to prevent the MPs being members of state and local authorities should be supported.</p> <p>The Law Preventing Conflict of Interest was adopted on 29 July at the 11th sitting of the first regular (spring) session in 2011.</p> <p>(implemented)</p>
	<p>28. Improve internal communication within the Parliament Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve exchange of information and create conditions for an efficient external communication by defining internal communication rules and unifying procedures for communicating with stakeholders, design of documents, etc 	Parliament Administration / HR Management Bureau	Q III 2011	<p>Internal communication rules adopted and started to be implemented</p> <p>Designation of officers in charge of internal</p>	<p>Preparatory activities are ongoing in cooperation with the WFD and the House of Commons of the UK Parliament and the person in charge of internal communication designated.</p> <p>The comparative review of internal communication systems in the parliaments of EU member states and</p>

PRIORITY	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY	DEADLINE	INDICATORS	DEGREE OF IMPLEMENTATION	
				communication	the countries of the region is being prepared. (in progress)	r e s s
	<p>29. Further increase of transparency of the Parliament and its communication with the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve procedures for enabling a proactive approach to the activities of the Parliament by establishing a special form available on its web site - Provide conditions for live streaming from the press position in the Parliament - Provide timely notification of the public through the publication of all relevant information on the Parliament 's web site - Provide free access to information through the provision of timely responses to the requests in accordance with the Law on Free Access to Information 	Parliament Administration / PR Division	Continuously	<p>Form for citizens and members of the public available online</p> <p>Live streaming enabled from the press position</p> <p>All essential information available on the Parliament's website</p> <p>Number of requests for information and number of responses provided</p>	<p>Live streaming possible</p> <p>All essential information regularly posted on the website</p> <p>Since the beginning of the year, the Parliament received in total 117 requests for information (with 355 sub-requests in total) and all were responded to, 60 by allowing access, in 27 cases the Parliament did not hold the requested information, while 28 responses informed that the requested information was already posted or another authority was in charge of the said information. In reference to two requests two conclusions were passed (dismissing the request because the administrative matter in question was already decided).</p> <p>(Continuously)</p>	C o n t i n u o u s l y
	<p>30. The "Open Parliament" programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further promotion of the transparency of work by launching the monthly newsletter 	Parliament Administration /	Continuously	Regular publication of monthly newsletter "Open Parliament"	Thus far, six editions of the monthly newsletter "Open Parliament" have been published.	

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	<p>"Open Parliament", in cooperation with the Centre for Democratic Transition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve outreach activities for younger population and assessment of options for launching the project of "Democratic Workshop" for children in primary schools, in cooperation with ERSTE Foundation and the Austrian Parliament - Weekly news from the EU institutions 	PR Division		<p>Regular publication of monthly news</p> <p>Project proposal for "Democratic Workshop" completed and the decisions adopted</p>	<p>Publication of weekly news from the EU institutions each Friday, starting from February</p> <p>Preparation of the "Democratic Workshop" project is in progress. In July a public call for expression of interest was issued to NGOs for participating to the projects to be financed by the ERSTE Foundation in cooperation with the Parliament of Montenegro. The deadline for applications was 20 July. All applications were gathered, and organisations meeting all the requirements selected. The following stage of the application procedure will commence in September.</p> <p>(continuously)</p>	C o n t i n u o u s l y
	<p>31. Reporting on the Action Plan implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - implementation of activities in accordance with the AP secured through continuous monitoring of implementation and results attained 	Collegium / Parliament Administration	Quarterly	Report on AP implementation submitted to the Collegium and conclusions adopted	<p>The first quarterly report for December, January and February submitted on 3 March, including the proposed suggestions of the European Commission. The Collegium adopted the first quarterly report on 9 March. The 2nd quarterly report was adopted by the Collegium on 13 June. Monthly implementation reports are regularly submitted to the Government.</p> <p>(implemented- quarterly)</p>	I m p l e m e n t e d (quarterly)

