

### REPUBLIKA E KOSOVËS - PRESIDENTI REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO - THE PRESIDENT REPUBLIKA KOSOVO - PREDSEDNIK

# STATUTE OF THE CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITIES

Prishtina, 06.12.2017



### REPUBLIKA E KOSOVËS - PRESIDENTI REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO - THE PRESIDENT REPUBLIKA KOSOVO - PREDSEDNIK

The President of the Republic of Kosovo,

Pursuant to Article 84 (4) of the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, Article 6 of Law No. 03/L-094 on the President of the Republic of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 47, January 25, 2009), Article 12 (2) of Law No. 03/L-047 on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Communities and their Members in the Republic of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 28, June 4, 2008), amended and supplemented by Article 15 of Law No. 04/L-115 on the amendment and supplementation of laws concerning the conclusion of the international supervision of the Independence of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 25, September 7, 2012) and Law No. 04/L-020 on the amendment and supplementation of Law No. 03/L-047 on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Communities and their Members in the Republic of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 29, December 27, 2011), as well as Article 3 (4) of Regulation (P) No. 02/2016 on the organizational structure of the Presidency (08.09.2016), issues:

#### THE STATUTE OF THE CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITIES

#### CHAPTER I - GENERAL PROVISIONS

### Article 1

By this statute the organization, functioning and responsibilities of the Consultative Council for Communities are defined.

### Article 2 Scope

The Statute shall be implemented by the Council, the Secretariat, the relevant Presidency units, the Community Representative Organizations and all other persons taking part in the work of the Council.

### Article 3 Definitions

- 1. The expressions used in this statute have the following meaning:
  - 1.1 **Constitution** The Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 1.2 **President** The President of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 1.3 **Assembly** The Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 1.4 **Presidency** includes the Cabinet of the President, the Office of the President and other related institutions/units;
  - 1.5 **Office** Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 1.6 **Government** The Government of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 1.7 **Council** The Consultative Council for Communities;
  - 1.8 **Secretary** The Secretary of the Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 1.9 **Secretary of the Council** The Head of the Council Secretariat;
  - 1.10 **Secretariat** Secretariat of the Consultative Council for Communities;
  - 1.11 **Department** Department for Legal Issues and International Relations within the Office of the President;
  - 1.12 **Nominated candidate** every proposed person by a representative Community organization, or every person who is running individually and who has received support at the nomination session to be appointed member of the Council;
  - 1.13 **Community representative organization** means every non-governmental organization, which is established and registered in accordance with the relevant law and declares that it represents a particular community;
  - 1.14 **Nomination session** means the meeting attended by representative organizations of a community, that have fulfilled the conditions and criteria set out in this Statute, and which nominate candidates for appointment to the Council;
  - 1.15 Law means Law No. 03/L-047 on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Communities and their Members in the Republic of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 28, June 4, 2008), Article 15 of Law No. 04/L-115 on the amendment and supplementation of laws concerning the conclusion of the international supervision of the Independence of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 25, September 7, 2012) and Law No. 04/L-020 on the amendment and supplementation of Law No. 03/L-047 on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Communities and their Members in the Republic of Kosovo (Official Gazette, No. 29, December 27, 2011).
  - 2. The other expressions used in this Statute have the same meaning as in the definitions of the Constitution or the Law.

#### CHAPTER II – COUNCIL STATUS AND MANDATE

## Article 4 Council Status

The Council acts under the authority of the President, in which all communities are represented.

# Article 5 Independence of the Council

- 1. The Council, in accordance with its mandate, is independent and acts on its behalf when adopting decisions, recommendations or when undertaking any action
- 2. The decisions, recommendations and actions of the Council shall not be attributed to the President.
- 3. The Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and the members of the Council bear the coresponsibility for the decisions, recommendations and actions undertaken by the Council, as well as the individual responsibility for their actions.

### Article 6 Council Mandate

- 1. The mandate of the Council, as defined by Article 60 (3) of the Constitution, includes:
  - 1.1. providing a mechanism for regular exchange between the Communities and the Government;
  - 1.2. affording the Communities the opportunity to comment at an early stage on legislative or policy initiatives that may be prepared by the Government, to suggest such initiatives, and to seek to have their views incorporated in the relevant projects and programs;
  - 1.3. any other responsibilities and functions, in accordance with the Law.
- 2. The Council also has a mandate defined by Article 12 (1) of the Law, which includes:
  - 2.1. to assist in the organization and the articulation of the views of communities and their members in relation to legislation, public policy and programs of special relevance to them;
  - 2.2. to provide a forum for coordination and consultation amongst communities, and to ensure the effective functioning of the community representative organizations according to the Code of Conduct to be adopted by the Council;
  - 2.3. to provide a mechanism for regular exchange between communities and state institutions;
  - 2.4. to afford the communities the opportunity to participate at early stages on legislative or policy initiatives, that may be prepared by the Government or the Assembly, to suggest such initiatives and to have their views incorporated in the relevant projects and programs, including the inclusive Strategy for the promotion and protection of

- rights of all communities and their members and the comprehensive annual report submitted to the Assembly by the Government for the implementation of its strategy, in accordance with the Law;
- 2.5. to fulfill the request for other mandatory consultations with regard to certain legal acts, as foreseen in the Constitution and by Law;
- 2.6. to enable communities to participate in the assessment of needs, the design, monitoring and evaluation of programs that are aimed at their members or are of special relevance to them;
- 2.7. to make recommendations during the decision-making process concerning the apportionment of funds, both international and allocated from the Budget of the Republic of Kosovo, for projects aimed at communities or their specific interests;
- 2.8. to contribute to the reporting of the Government addressed to international human rights mechanisms; and
- 2.9. to raise awareness of community concerns within the Republic of Kosovo and to contribute to harmonious relations between all communities in the Republic of Kosovo.

# CHAPTER III – COMPETENCIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COUNCIL

#### Article 7

#### Exchange of information with the Government and other institutions

- 1. The Council exchanges information with relevant government bodies and other institutions and makes recommendations regarding to communities in Kosovo in order to promote, support and promote full and effective equality of community members in all areas of economic, social, political and cultural life and effective participation of communities and their members in public life and decision-making, by undertaking, but not being limited to the measures, as follows:
  - 1.1. assists in organizing and articulating the views of communities and their members regarding the legislation, public policies and programs that are of special relevance to them;
  - 1.2. enables the communities to participate in the assessment of needs, the design, monitoring and evaluation of programs and strategies that are aimed at their members or are of special relevance to them;
  - 1.3. recommends during the decision-making process concerning the apportionment of funds, both international and allocated from the Budget of the Republic of Kosovo, for projects aimed at communities or their specific interests;
  - 1.4. contributes to the reporting of the Government addressed to international human rights mechanisms; raises awareness of community concerns within the Republic of Kosovo and contributes to harmonious relations between all communities in the Republic of Kosovo, and
  - 1.5. cooperates with the Government in organizing memorial days of communities.

#### Inclusion in legislative and policy initiatives

- 1. The Council offers the opportunity for communities that at early stages to comment on legal or policy initiatives, which may be prepared by the Government or the Assembly, and to suggest such initiatives.
- 2. The Secretariat, at the beginning of each year, in co-operation with the relevant offices in the Government and the Assembly, shall take care of the provision of the Legislative Program and the Strategic Document Plan, approved by the Government and the Work Program of the Assembly.
- 3. The Secretariat cooperates with the governmental institutions and with the Assembly when reviewing legislative initiatives to inform and provide the opportunity to the Council in giving comments in the initial drafting phase, as well as at the phase of reviewing the draft law by the relevant Assembly Committee and to submit comments or substantive remarks in writing.

#### **Article 9**

# Participation in the drafting of the comprehensive Strategy on the promotion and protection of the rights of all communities

- 1. In accordance with the Law, the Council is consulted at an early stage on the drafting of the comprehensive annual Government Strategy on the promotion and protection of the rights of all communities and their members
- 2. The Council cooperates with the Government and makes comments on the annual government draft report on the implementation of the strategy before its submission to the Assembly.
- 3. The Council, in cooperation with the relevant institutions of the Republic of Kosovo and the community representative organizations, participates in the development of the Strategy on the effective protection of the cultural and religious heritage monuments of the communities.

#### Article 10

#### **Council Recommendations**

- 1. The Council makes recommendations based on its mandate.
- 2. The Council should ensure that its recommendations are brought to the attention of the respective public institutions of the Republic of Kosovo.
- 3. The relevant public institutions since the receipt of recommendations by the Council are obliged to provide a reasonable answer within a period of one (1) month, which include information on the actions of the specific institutions that have been or will be undertaken.

#### CHAPTER IV – ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNCIL

# Article 11 Composition of the Council

- 1. The President appoints the members of the Council in accordance with the Law
- 2. The Council is composed of twenty-seven (27) members.
- 3. The Council is composed of representatives of all Kosovo communities and representatives of the Government, the Office and other relevant agencies, as defined in Article 12 (6) of the Law, including:
  - 3.1. two (2) representatives per community, respectively two (2) representatives of the Roma community, two (2) representatives of the Egyptian community, two (2) representatives of the Gorani community, two (2) representatives of the Ashkali community, two (2) representatives of the Montenegrin community, of which one (1) per community may be a deputy of the Assembly;
  - 3.2. three (3) representatives per community, respectively three (3) representatives of the Bosnian community and three (3) representatives of the Turkish community, of which one (1) per community may be a deputy of the Assembly
  - 3.3. five (5) representatives of the Serb community, of whom two (2) may be deputies of the Assembly;
  - 3.4. a senior representative of the Office;
  - 3.5. three senior Government representatives, appointed by the ministry or agency, whose scope is of particular importance to communities.
- 4. A deputy may be appointed for each member.
- 5. The members who are not deputies of the Assembly are usually chairpersons or deputy chairpersons, or other senior appointees of community representative organizations, or representatives of associations or NGOs that relate to a particular community

# Article 12 The Chairmanship of the Council

- 1. The Council elects from its ranks the Chairperson and two (2) Deputy Chairpersons with a mandate of one (1) year, with the possibility of renewal for one more year.
- 2. At least one of the members of the Council Presidency must be of the other gender.

# Article 13 Chairperson of the Council

- 1. The Chairperson of the Council has these competencies:
  - 1.1. calls and chairs the Council meetings;
  - 1.2. organizes and cares for the overall work performance of the Council;
  - 1.3. ensures the implementation of this statute and the relevant legislation in force;

- 1.4. represents the Council in contact with the public;
- 1.5. informs the members of the Council about its work and activities;
- 1.6. performs and undertakes actions for the benefit of the work of the Council;
- 1.7. performs other tasks, entrusted by the Council.

#### The Deputy Chairpersons of the Council

- 1. The Chairperson is assisted by two (2) Deputy Chairpersons.
- 2. The two (2) Deputy Chairpersons are elected from two (2) communities, which do not belong to the chair.
- 3. The Deputy Chairperson who receives the most votes from the Council members is elected First Deputy Chairperson.
- 4. The Deputy Chairpersons assist the Chairperson to perform his/her duties and responsibilities.
- 5. The First Deputy Chairperson replaces the Chairperson in his absence and in case of the absence of the Chairperson and the First Deputy Chairman they shall be replaced by the Second Deputy Chairperson.

#### **Article 15**

#### The members of the Council

- 1. The Council members carry out their duties and responsibilities in accordance with the mandate of the Council
- 2. The Council members participate in the meetings of the Council and in the review of matters in accordance with this Statute and with the legislation in force
- 3. The Council members have the right to be informed by the Chairperson of the Council on the activities of the Council.

#### **Article 16**

#### The Working Groups of the Council

- 1. The Council may form working groups that comprise up to five (5) members in order to advance work on concrete issues or specific fields of the Council.
- 2. The Council shall select the members of the working groups from specialists of specific fields to work on the specific issue for which a working group is established.
- 3. The working groups report at the Council's regular meetings on the implementation of their mandate and activities and submit reports and recommendations for approval to the Council.
- 4. The working groups of the Council reflect the gender and community composition.

#### CHAPTER V – THE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

## Article 17 Council meetings chaired by the President

- 1. The Council meets twice a year, under the chairmanship of the President, to conduct a general review of community policies and concerns in the Republic of Kosovo.
- 2. The Secretariat, in cooperation with the Cabinet of the President and the Council, organizes the meetings chaired by the President.
- 3. The invitation and agenda of the meeting chaired by the President shall be distributed at least three (3) days before the meeting, except in special cases when the President decides.

# Article 18 Regular meetings of the Council

- 1. The Council meets once a month.
- 2. The meetings of the Council are called and chaired by the Chairperson of the Council, in his/her absence by one of his/her Deputy Chairpersons.
- 3. All its members are invited at the Council meetings.
- 4. All members of the Council have equal right to vote.
- 5. The Chairperson of the Council may also invite civil society organizations, individual experts, additional government representatives or representatives of international agencies to attend Council meetings but without the right to vote.
- 6. At the Council meeting, upon the invitation of the Chairperson of the Council, or at their requests, approved by the Chairperson of the Council, even ministers or deputy ministers of ministries and representatives of state agencies, whose scope is of particular importance for communities, may participate.
- 7. The results of the Council meetings are made public.

### Article 19 Council quorum

- 1. The Council has a quorum for holding meetings when more than half of all its members are present.
- 2. The Council shall make decisions by a simple majority of the votes of the members present and voting, except in cases defined by this Statute.

### Article 20 Prevention of Conflict of Interest

The Chairperson, the Deputy Chairpersons and any member of the Council shall not take part in the review of any matter on which he/she has a conflict of interest, in accordance with the applicable law on conflict of interest.

# CHAPTER VI – THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITIES

#### Article 21

#### The Secretariat of the Consultative Council for Communities

- 1. The Consultative Council for Communities is supported by the Secretariat, located at the Office of the President of the Republic of Kosovo.
- 2. The Secretariat is chaired by the Secretary of the Council, who responds and reports directly to the President for the area covered by this Secretariat, while for administrative matters responds to the Secretary of the Office of the President.
- 3. The Secretary of the Council and the other employees in the Secretariat are selected, appointed and dismissed in accordance with the legal provisions on civil servants.
- 4. The duties and responsibilities of the Secretariat are as follows:
  - 4.1. supports and promotes the activities of the Council;
  - 4.2. supports the Council and its working groups, including the organization of meetings, the preparation of the agenda and keeping minutes of their meetings;
  - 4.3. assists the Council to fulfill its obligations according to the Law, pursuant to this Statute and pursuant to the relevant legislation in force;
  - 4.4. is responsible for planning and managing the Council's budget;
  - 4.5. assists the Council in delivering opinions on draft legislation and draft policy documents prepared by the Government and the Assembly. To realize this, the Secretariat also cooperates with the Department;
  - 4.6. receives and forwards all other official documents and communications to all the members of the Council;
  - 4.7. publishes the activities of the Council, carries out public information work, and answers to requests on information regarding the work of the Council
  - 4.8. represents the Presidency in the implementation of the nomination procedures contained in the Law and this Statute;
  - 4.9. engages in the development of community studies and research and, as appropriate, requires advice from external experts
  - 4.10. supports the performance of any other function of the Council in accordance with the Law, this Statute and the relevant legislation in force.

5. The Secretariat will be allocated a budget to enable its efficient functioning and, among other things, the engagement in the development of studies and research, to seek advice from external experts, to increase the capacities of the Council members and the employees in the Secretariat, as well as to publish its activities.

### CHAPTER VII – APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCEDURES FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

# Article 22 Application procedure

- 1. Ninety (90) days prior to the end of the mandate of the members of the Council, the Secretariat issues a public notice inviting community representative organizations to submit the request for application, the list of candidates for Council members and the list of eligible voters. In this public announcement, candidates are also invited to run individually
- 2. With the purpose to encourage applications, the Secretariat through public announcement in public information means in the official languages and the languages of the communities collects applications from representative organizations of all communities and candidates running individually.
- 3. Part of the public announcement are:
  - 3.1. the request for application of the community representative organization;
  - 3.2. the request for application of the candidate of the community representative organization;
  - 3.3. the information on the criteria to be met by community representative organizations and candidates for Council members;
  - 3.4. the requests for candidates who run individually.
- 4. Within thirty (30) days from the date of the public announcement, respective community representative organizations may apply for the Council and must attach these documents:
  - 4.1. the filled in request for application;
  - 4.2. the registration certificate and the statute of the representative organization of the respective community;
  - 4.3. the list of activities of the representative organization of the respective community;
  - 4.4. the statement which indicates the good reputation and relationship with the community it seeks to represent;
  - 4.5. the statement on the non-inclusion in activities of breaking inter-ethnic relations in the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 4.6. the statement on the observance of the Code of Conduct;
  - 4.7. the list of candidates for Council members, which should include:
    - 4.7.1. the CV of the candidate;
    - 4.7.2. a copy of the identification document of the Republic of Kosovo;

- 4.7.3. the list of priorities in case of the selection of the candidate as a representative of the relevant community in the Council;
- 4.7.4. evidence from the court that the candidate is not convicted for a criminal offense.
- 4.8. the list of delegates participating and voting in the selection of the candidates of the respective community.
- 5. Within thirty (30) days of the date of the public announcement, the candidates who are running individually may apply for the Council and must attach these documents:
  - 5.1. the filled in request for application;
  - 5.2. the statement which indicates the good reputation and relationship with the community it seeks to represent;
  - 5.3. the statement on the non-inclusion in activities of breaking inter-ethnic relations in the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 5.4. the statement on the observance of the Code of Conduct;
  - 5.5. the CV of the candidate;
  - 5.6. a copy of the identification document of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 5.7. the list of priorities in case of the selection of the candidate as a representative of the relevant community in the Council;
  - 5.8. evidence from the court that the candidate is not convicted for a criminal offense.

### **Eligibility criteria for Council members**

- 1. A person can not be a member of the Council if he/she:
  - 1.1. is not over eighteen (18) years old on the day of the nomination session;
  - 1.2. is not registered as a citizen of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 1.3. is sentenced by a final court decision for a criminal offense punishable by imprisonment of six (6) months or more, or for any offense related to hate speech, discrimination, intolerance or motivation of ethnic violence, regardless of the duration of such punishment.
- 2. A person can not be a member of the Council if having been two (2) mandates a member of the Council.

#### **Article 24**

### Lists of candidates and delegates

- 1. The list of candidates and the list of delegates to vote should contain the following information
  - 1.1. the list of candidates for Council members must contain at least two (2) candidates, of whom fifty (50) percent of the candidates must be male and fifty (50) percent must be female.

- 1.2. in the case when the community has an odd number of seats in the Council, none of the two genders will have a representation lower than forty (40) percent, or more than sixty (60) percent in the candidate list.
- 1.3. the list of delegates who will vote from each applying community representative organization must contain two (2) persons.

#### Completion and submission of the documents for application

- 1. The Secretariat instructs the community representative organizations and the candidates who run individually on the completion and submission of the requests for application.
- 2. The Secretariat accepts the application documents from community representative organizations and the candidates who run individually.

#### **Article 26**

### The review of the application requests

- 1. The Secretariat reviews the application requests of the community representative organizations and candidates who run individually.
- 2. In case the request for application is incomplete, the Secretariat informs the community representative organization and the candidates who run individually within seven (7) days from the submission of the application for the missing documents and the same must be completed within seven (7) days from the day being notified of the lack of proper documentation.
- 3. The community representative organization or the candidate who runs individually, who has not submitted the documentation in accordance with this statute, will not be able to participate in the nomination session.
- 4. The Secretariat shall, on the basis of the reviewed documentation, inform the community representative organizations and the candidates who run individually on meeting the requirements for applications within fifteen (15) calendar days from the day on which the final deadline for application has ended.

#### **Article 27**

#### Organization of the nomination session

- 1. Within fifteen (15) days from the date of meeting the requirements for application by the respective community representative organizations and candidates who run individually, the Secretariat shall organize the holding of the nomination session.
- 2. The Secretariat shall notify in writing the respective community representative organizations and the candidates who run individually about the date and place of the nomination session at least five (5) days before it is held.

- 3. The notification for community representative organizations and candidates who run individually regarding the nomination session contains:
  - 3.1. the date and place of the nomination session;
  - 3.2. the list of community representative organizations that will participate in the nomination of relevant community representatives in the Council;
  - 3.3. the list of candidates proposed for Council members and delegates who will vote at the nomination session.

#### **The Election Commission**

- 1. The delegates of the respective community representative organizations elect from their ranks the Election Commission of three (3) members to ensure the regularity of the voting process during the nomination session.
- 2. The members of the Election Commission from among their ranks elect the Chairperson of the Election Commission.
- 3. At the nomination session, the Election Commission ensures the regularity of the voting process, as follows:
  - 3.1. the Election Commission distributes a ballot for each voting delegate;
  - 3.2. the ballot must contain the names of each candidate from the final list of candidates;
  - 3.3. the delegates must vote for the number of candidates corresponding to the total number of community representatives represented in the Council;
  - 3.4. The Election Commission declares votes invalid if the delegate votes more than the number of community representatives in the Council;
  - 3.5. the delegate during the voting will put the ballot in a closed box;
  - 3.6. after the completion of voting, the Electoral Commission will open the box, count the votes given to each candidate and announce the results.

#### Article 29

#### **Announcement of results**

- 1. The Election Commission announces the results and communicates them to the present delegates.
- 2. The Election Commission prepares the report on the voting process and the voting result and submits it to the Secretariat, the community representative organizations, the candidates running individually and through the Secretariat also to the Cabinet of the President.
  - 3. The Electoral Commission Report contains, but is not limited to, the following information:
    - 3.1. the list with the names of the candidates for Council members;
    - 3.2. the list of community representative organizations, of thr delegates who have voted, and the observers who participated in the session;
    - 3.3. the list with the final result, ranked according to the votes won for each candidate.

4. Based on the report of the Election Commission, the Secretary of the Council proposes to the President the list with the final result, ranked according to the votes won for each candidate.

# CHAPTER VIII – COMPLAINTS IN THE APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCESS FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS

#### Article 30

#### The right on complaint

- 1. The community representative organizations and candidates who run individually have the right to complaint regarding the refusal of non-participation in the nomination session and in relation to the electoral process.
- 2. Complaints regarding non-participation in the nomination session and complaints regarding the electoral process at the nomination session are directed to the Presidency within forty eight (48) hours of receipt of the notification from the Secretariat, respectively from the announcement of results by the Election Commission.
- 3. Filing a complaint does not obstruct or interrupt the electoral process.
- 4. About all the received complaints, there is decided not later than five (5) days from the moment of receipt of the complaint in the Presidency.

# Article 31 Complaints Commission

- 1. The President, by decision, establishes the Complaints Commission for the review of complaints regarding the election process for members of the Council.
- 2. The Complaints Commission is established within ten (10) days of the issuance of the public announcement, inviting community representative organizations and candidates who run individually to submit the request for application.
- 3. The Complaints Commission consists of at least three (3) members, which must include:
  - 3.1. one representative from the Cabinet of the President;
  - 3.2. one representative from the Department, and
  - 3.3. one representative from the Secretariat.

#### Article 32

#### The review of the complaint by the Complaints Commission

- 1. The Complaints Commission within five (5) days from the receipt of the complaint in the Presidency carries out its review.
- 2. The Complaints Commission reviews the provided evidence in the complaint and on their basis decides for the complaint to be accepted or not.

3. The Complaints Commission may request the presence of witnesses to testify on the concrete case.

#### Article 33

#### The decisions of the Complaints Commission and the notification of the parties

- 1. The Complaints Commission takes a decision by a majority of votes after the review of the complaint.
- 2. The Complaints Commission through the Secretary of the Office shall notify the parties on the decision taken.

## CHAPTER IX – APPOINTMENT OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS BY THE PRESIDENT

#### Article 34

### **Appointment of the nominees**

- 1. The President, by decision, appoints the members of the Council, based on the report of the Secretary of the Council Secretariat, as defined in Article 29 of this Statute.
- 2. When appointing members of the Council, the President shall take into account the ranking according to the gained votes for each candidate and equal gender representation.

#### Article 35

#### Appointments in the absence of the community representative

- 1. In cases when there is no representation from any of the communities, the President appoints as member of the Council a missing community representative, according to the following criteria:
  - 1.1. To be a reputable person from the ranks of the respective community;
  - 1.2. To be over eighteen (18) years old;
  - 1.3. To be registered as a citizen of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 1.4. Not to be convicted of a criminal offense.
- 2. The selected person by the respective community, before being appointed as a member of the Council by the President, must fill in these documents:
  - 2.1. Statement on the reputation and good relationship with the community it represents;
  - 2.2. Statement on the non-inclusion in activities of breaking inter-ethnic relations in the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 2.3. Statement on the observance of the Code of Conduct;
  - 2.4. CV of the candidate;
  - 2.5. Copy of the identification document of the Republic of Kosovo;
  - 2.6. Evidence from the court that the candidate is not convicted for a criminal offense.

## CHAPTER X – TERMINATION OF THE MANDATE OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS

### Article 36 The termination of the mandate

- 1. The mandate of the Council member shall end upon:
  - 1.1. expiry of the regular period for which he/she is elected;
  - 1.2. premature termination of mandate.

#### Article 37

#### Premature termination of mandate

- 1. The Council member mandate shall end prior to the expiry of the regular period for which he/she is elected in case of:
  - 1.1. resignation;
  - 1.2. death;
  - 1.3. permanent loss of the ability to act, as determined by the competent court;
  - 1.4. illness or any other health problem, which renders him/her unable to exercise his/her functions as a Council Member:
  - 1.5. dismissal.
- 2. The termination of Council member mandate, according to point 1.5. of paragraph 1 of this article shall be made, in cases when he/she:
  - 2.1. is punished for committing a criminal offense by a final decision of the Court;
  - 2.2. fails to fulfil duties and responsibilities as a member of the Council;
  - 2.3. fails to attend three (3) successive meetings of the Council, without any reason.
- 3. If the mandate of the Council member expires prematurely, the new appointment shall be made in accordance with the Law and this Statute.
- 4. The new appointment for the substitution of the Council member shall be made in accordance with the procedures of this Statute and the new member shall serve only for the duration of the remaining term of the substituted member.

# Article 38 Substitution of members

The substitution process of the member whose mandate terminates before the expiration of the regular time for which he/she has been elected is the same as the manner in which the members of the Council are elected according to the procedures set out in this Statute

#### CHAPTER XI – THE BUDGET OF THE COUNCIL

## Article 39 The budget

- 1. Pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Law, the annual budget of the Council shall derive from the annual budget of the Office of the President.
- 2. The budget of the Council shall be sufficient to ensure implementation of its constitutional and legal mandate, ensure full and effective functioning of the Council, its working groups and the Secretariat.
- 3. Upon determining the amount of the annual budget, the Office of the President shall take into account the proposals of the Council.

### Article 40 Compensation of the members

- 1. The Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson, members of the Council, and members of the Working Groups of the Council shall be entitled to compensation for their work in the Council and the engagements for the Council.
- 2. The amount of compensation shall be determined by a Decision adopted from the President, as proposed from the Secretariat.

#### CHAPTER XII – TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

# Article 41 Rules of Procedure of the Council

- 1. The Council shall adopt the Rules of Procedure defining the internal procedures of action for the functioning of the Council.
- 2. The Council shall adopt the Rules of Procedure by two-thirds (2/3) of its members.
- 3. Amendments and supplements to the Rules of Procedure shall be made by two-thirds (2/3) majority of Council members.

### Article 42 Work plan

1. The Council shall, in the last quarter of each year, adopt the annual work plan for the following year, thereby setting out objectives, actions and activities of the Council.

- 2. Pursuant to Article 12 (10) of the Law, the Council shall submit the Annual Work Report for the previous year, by 31 March of the following year, to the President and the Assembly of Kosovo.
- 3. The Annual Work Plan and Report shall be published on the Council's website.

## Article 43 Issuance of acts

- 1. The Rules of Procedure of the Council and the Code of Conduct shall be adopted within a period of six (6) months following the entry into force of this Statute.
- 2. The Rules of Procedure of the Consultative Council for Communities (25. 7. 2013) and the Code of Conduct for accredited community representation organizations (20. 6. 2013) continue to apply until the adoption of the Regulation and Code set out in paragraph one (1) of this Article, as long as they are not contrary to this Statute.

### Article 44 Translation of the Statute

The Secretary of the Council, in cooperation with the Department, take care for this Statute to be translated in all the languages of the Council members.

### Article 45 Abrogation

- 1. Upon the entry into force of this Statute, the following shall be abrogated:
  - 1.1. The Statute issued by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Kosovo no. CCC-001-2012, dated April 18, 2012, and
  - 1.2. Article 30 of Regulation (P) no. 02/2016 on the organizational structure of the Presidency (8. 9. 2016). Article 21 of this Statute is included by the Department instead of Article 30 of Regulation (P) no. 02/2016.

### Article 46 Entry into force

This Statute shall enter into force seven (7) days after the approval by Decree by the President.

Hashim THAÇI President of the Republic of Kosovo

Prishtina, 06.12. 2017

Approved by Decree no. DNJ-02-2017, date 06. 12. 2017 by the President of the Republic of Kosovo, Hashim Thaçi.