

LAW

ON THE PLANNING SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

I. BASIC PROVISIONS

Scope

Article 1

This Law shall regulate the planning system of the Republic of Serbia, i.e. public policy system management and medium-term planning, the types and content of the planning documents proposed, adopted and implemented by the all planning system participants in accordance with their respective mandates, mutual consistency of the planning documents, the procedure for establishing and implementing public policies and reporting requirement on the implementation of the planning documents, and application by analogy of the requirement of conducting regulatory impact assessment and measuring regulatory performance.

Meanings of Terms for the Purposes of this Law

Article 2

Certain terms used herein shall have the following meaning:

- 1) **Public policy** shall mean courses of action of the Republic of Serbia, the Autonomous Province and local government unit (hereinafter: local government), in specific areas, with a view to achieving desired goals in the society;
- 2) **Planning system** shall mean a set of planning elements, comprising:
 - Planning documents;
 - Planning system participants;
 - Public policy system management process;
 - Process of aligning the content of planning documents with the content of other planning documents and regulations;
 - Linking public policy adoption and implementation process with the medium-term planning process;
- 3) **Planning system participants that establish public policy** by adopting public policy documents shall be the National Assembly, the Government and local government authorities in accordance with their mandate;
- 4) **Other planning system participants** shall be public administration authorities and government services, local government authorities and services that participate in the public policy management system in accordance with their mandate, but do not establish them;
- 5) **Public policy management system** shall mean the process of public policy planning, impact assessment, planning documents preparation and adoption, coordination, public policy implementation, implementation monitoring of public policy, public policy performance evaluation with a view to reviewing and improving it, policy improvement based on performance evaluation findings, and reporting on public policy performance;
- 6) **Public policy coordination** shall mean the process whereby the planning system participants referred to in paragraph 1, points 3) and 4) hereof steer

the work pertaining to public policy setting and implementation, with due attention given to mutual consistency of policies adopted and implemented by them, and their prioritisation;

7) **Impact assessment** shall mean an analytical process conducted during public policy and legislation planning, formulation and adoption with a view to identifying change that should be achieved, their elements and cause and effect relationship, and the choice of optimal measures for achieving public policy goals (*ex-ante impact assessment*), during and after the implementation of adopted policies and regulations with a view to evaluating performance, and reviewing and improving the public policy and/or legislation (*ex-post impact assessment*);

8) **Public policy implementation monitoring** shall mean the collection and analysis of data during public policy implementation, and/or of their measures with a view to ascertaining whether the set goals are being achieved, and whether the foreseen measures and activities are being implemented efficiently and as planned;

9) **Public policy performance evaluation** shall mean the assessment of efficiency and effectiveness of public policy that is being or has been implemented and its performance on the basis of relevant data and analyses, and of implementation monitoring results with a view to reviewing and improving them and/or determining whether certain amendments should be introduced;

10) **Reporting on public policy accomplishment and achieved performance** shall mean objective, complete, verifiable and timely notification of stakeholders and target groups on the implementation of adopted planning documents and achieved public policy performance;

11) **Overall objective of public policy** shall be long-term goal defining desired state on the level of the society in the field of the policy action;

12) **Specific objective of public policy** shall be an objective defined in relation to certain subjects and/or relations in the field of the policy action whose achievement should create conditions for the achievement of the overall objective;

13) **Public policy impact** shall mean long-term impact on the society in the field of the policy action;

14) **Performance indicators** shall mean quantitative and/or qualitative parameters defined with a view to monitoring the degree of achievement of the overall or specific public policy objectives, relative to the baseline values of those parameters.

Performance indicators may be: impact indicators (at the level of the overall objective), outcome indicators (at the level of the specific objectives) and output indicators (at the level of public policy measures);

15) **Stakeholders** shall mean authorities and organisations, and natural and legal persons having an interest in the public policy measures;

16) **Target group** shall mean a group of natural and/or legal persons and/or other stakeholders affected by the public policy measures;

17) **Project** in regard to this law shall mean time-restricted set of activities relating to one or more public policy implementing measures connected with clearly defined common goal and/or desired change, budget and other resources for their implementation, and management structure.

Other terms used herein which are defined in the law governing the budget system shall have meanings defined by that law.

All terms used herein in masculine gender shall imply feminine gender and vice versa.

Policy System Management Principles

Article 3

In the policy system management process, in the development and implementation of planning documents, the following principles shall be observed:

1) ***The cost-effectiveness principle***, which implies that, in selecting public policy measures, care is taken to ensure that their benefits justify the costs they incur;

2) ***The fiscal sustainability principle***, which implies that, in the development and implementation of planning documents, the established fiscal limitations on expenditures and outflows are observed and that the effects of policy implementation on the GDP growth and investments, revenues and proceeds, debt maintenance and servicing are taken into account;

3) ***The realism principle***, which implies the appreciation of financial, economic, social, cultural, spatial, environmental, regional, administrative and other capacities and limitations in planning;

4) ***The relevance and reliability principle***, which implies that data used as the basis for planning, impact assessment and implementation monitoring of planning documents are collected from various relevant and reliable sources, and that appropriate analyses of expected performance and implementation of planning documents are conducted;

5) ***The consistency and conformity principle***, which implies mutual conformity of public policies, conformity of planning documents in terms of form, content and terminology, conformity of hierarchically lower planning documents with hierarchically higher ones, conformity of planning documents with assumed international commitments, and conformity of regulations with adopted planning documents;

6) ***The planning continuity principle***, which implies the cyclical character of the processes of planning, implementation monitoring and performance evaluation, and the foundation of a new planning document in preceding planning documents and findings of performance evaluation of already implemented public policy;

7) ***The proportionality principle***, which implies that the scope and methods of public policy impact assessments, both ex-ante and ex-post, are proportionate to the significance and scale of the impacts being assessed;

8) ***The preventive and the precautionary principle***, which implies that public policies are set and implemented in such a manner as to prevent or minimise potential adverse impacts;

9) ***The principle of equality and non-discrimination***, which implies that, in developing and implementing planning documents, human and minority rights and constitutionally and legally guaranteed freedom are observed;

10) ***The coordination and cooperation principle***, which implies that planning appreciates interests of other planning system participants, in particular the Government's priority goals, and local government initiatives, needs and priority goals;

11) ***The transparency and partnership principle***, which implies that public policies are set in a transparent and consultative process, i.e. that the development and implementation of planning documents, public policy impact analysis and

performance evaluation involves a transparent process of consultation with all stakeholders and target groups, including associations and other civil society organisations, scientific, research and other organisations, taking care to allow exercise of individual legal and other interests of all stakeholders and target groups with the protection of public interest;

12) ***The principle of responsibility***, which implies clear designation of institutions responsible for implementing public policy measures and activities;

13) ***The time period principle***, which implies time-restricted period for implementing public policy documents and clearly set time frames for completing measures and activities envisaged by a public policy document;

14) ***The integrity and sustainable growth and development principle***, which implies that development and implementation of planning documents takes into consideration the requirements of environmental protection, fight against climate change, reducing the impact of climate change and adaptation to climate change, prevention of over-exploitation of natural resources, increase of energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, their impact on society, in particular local communities, their development and peculiarities, sensitive population, gender equality, and fight against poverty.

II. PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Notion and Types of Planning Documents

Article 4

Planning document shall mean an act whereby planning system participants set goals, establish public policy priorities and/or plan measures and activities for achieving them, within their respective competences and in connection with their functioning.

Types of planning documents are:

- 1) Development planning documents;
- 2) Public policy documents; and
- 3) Other planning documents.

1. Development Planning Documents

Development Planning Documents

Article 5

Development planning documents shall be planning documents of the broadest scope and the highest importance for statutory authority.

Development planning documents are:

- 1) Development Plan;
- 2) Investment Plan;
- 3) Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia and other spatial plans, general urban plan; and
- 4) Development Plan of the Autonomous Province and development plan of local government unit.

The planning documents referred to in paragraph 2, point 3) of this article shall be defined by the law on spatial and urban planning.

Development Plan

Article 6

The Development Plan shall be hierarchically the highest long-term development planning document of the Republic of Serbia, covering a period of at least 10 years and adopted by the National Assembly.

The Development Plan shall contain vision and/or priority development goals of the Republic of Serbia and guidelines for their achievement.

A draft development plan shall be prepared by the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination, in cooperation with other competent public administration authorities and government services, and submitted to the Government for endorsement.

In preparing the Development Plan, due attention shall be given to its consistency with guidelines, goals and tasks stemming from assumed international commitments, including commitments assumed in the European union accession process, and existing plans, including spatial plans and local government development plans, and for the first three years of the Development Plan validity, guidelines for medium-term economic and fiscal policy adopted by the Government shall also be taken into account.

In preparing the Development Plan, attention shall be given to specific process of planning, programming and use of the European Union funds and international development assistance in accordance with priorities and rules relating to such assistance.

In preparing the Development Plan, an analysis shall be conducted of the Republic of Serbia's development potentials, international economic and social trends and the Republic of Serbia's prospects of using opportunities offered by those trends, in line with its development potentials. As a part of the Development Plan, a report on conducted analysis shall be prepared.

The Development Plan shall also establish a sustainable regional development policy.

Upon expiry of every third calendar year from the adoption of the Development Plan, the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination, in cooperation with other competent public administration authorities and government services, shall prepare a report on the performance of the implementation of the Development Plan and submit it to the Government for adoption no later than six months from the expiry of the deadline.

After the adoption of the report referred to in paragraph 7 of this article, the Government may ascertain the need to revise the Development Plan, based on which draft amendments to the Development Plan shall be prepared.

Amendments to the Development Plan shall be made in accordance with the procedure foreseen for its adoption.

The Government shall submit the report referred to in paragraph 7 of this article to the National Assembly for information purposes and publish the report on its website no later than 15 days following its adoption.

The National Assembly may ascertain the need to implement amendments to the Development Plan and submit initiative to the Government for preparing an appropriate act.

The preparation procedure for the Development Plan shall be prescribed by the Government at the proposal of the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination.

Content of the Development Plan shall be further detailed by the National Assembly at the Government's proposal.

Investment Plan

Article 7

The Investment Plan shall be a development planning document adopted by the Government for a period of at least seven years which, pursuant to priority development objectives set in the Development Plan, shall plan public investments in the areas of public interest, taking into account guidelines for medium-term economic and fiscal policy adopted by the Government for the first three years of the Plan's validity.

The Investment Plan shall further elaborate priority development goals identified in the Development Plan.

The Investment Plan shall provide the basis for the preparation of medium-term priorities for public investments and shall comprise all investment programmes and public investments projects to be implemented in the planning period.

A draft investment plan shall be prepared by the ministry competent for finance affairs, in cooperation with the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination and other competent public administration authorities and government services, and submitted to the Government for adoption.

In preparing the Investment Plan, content of applicable development planning documents, including spatial plans and local government development plans, should be taken into account.

Upon the expiry of every calendar year, the ministry competent for finance affairs, in cooperation with the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination and other competent public administration authorities and government services, shall prepare annual report on the implementation of the Investment Plan and submit it to the Government for adoption no later than 90 days following the expiry of the deadline.

Upon the expiry of every third calendar year from the adoption of the Investment Plan, the ministry competent for finance affairs, in cooperation with the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination and other competent public administration authorities and government services, shall prepare report on the implementation performance of the Investment Plan and submit it to the Government for adoption no later than six months following the expiry of the deadline.

After the adoption of the report referred to in paragraph 7 of this article, the Government may identify the need to revise the Investment Plan, based on which draft amendments to the Investment Plan shall be prepared.

Amendments to the Investment Plan shall be made in accordance with the procedure foreseen for its adoption.

The Government shall submit the report referred to in paragraph 7 of this article to the National Assembly for information purposes.

The Government shall publish the reports referred to in paragraph 6 and 7 of this article on its website no later than 15 days following their adoption.

The procedure for the preparation and detailed content of the Investment Plan shall be prescribed by the Government at the proposal of the ministry competent for finance affairs.

Development Plan of the Autonomous Province

Article 8

Development plan of the Autonomous Province shall be a long-term development planning document covering a period of at least seven years and adopted by the Assembly of the Autonomous Province.

The development plan referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall contain overview and analysis of the existing state, vision and/or desired state, priority development objectives that should be achieved, and overview and summary of appropriate measures that shall be further elaborated in public policy documents.

Upon the expiry of every third calendar year from the adoption of the development plan referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, competent authority of the Autonomous Province shall adopt report on the performance of its implementation no later than six months from the expiry of the deadline and shall publish the report on its website no later than 15 days following its adoption.

After the adoption of the performance report referred to in paragraph 3 of this article, competent authority of the Autonomous Province may identify the need to revise the development plan, based on which draft amendments to the development plan shall be prepared.

The procedure for the preparation and detailed content of the development plan referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be prescribed by competent authority of the Autonomous Province pursuant to the Government's regulation setting mandatory elements of the development plan of the Autonomous Province.

Development Plan of Local Government Unit

Article 9

The development plan of a local government unit shall be a long-term development planning document covering a period of at least seven years and adopted by local government assembly at the proposal of competent executive authority of the local government unit.

The development plan referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall contain overview and analysis of the existing state, vision and/or desired state, priority development objectives that should be achieved, and overview and summary of appropriate measures that shall be further elaborated in public policy documents and medium-term plan of the local government unit.

Annual report on the implementation of the development plan of a local government unit shall be prepared in accordance with a procedure envisaged for the preparation of reports on the implementation of a medium-term plan.

Upon the expiry of every third calendar year from the adoption, municipal and/or city council of a local government unit shall prepare a draft report on the implementation performance of the development plan and submit it to the local government assembly for adoption no later than six months from the expiry of the deadline.

Annual report on the implementation of the development plan of a local government unit and report on the implementation performance of the development plan shall be published on a website of the local government unit no later than 15 days following their adoption.

After the adoption of the performance report referred to in paragraph 4 of this article, municipal and/or city council of a local government unit and local government assembly may identify the need to revise the development plan of the local government unit, based on which draft amendments to the development plan shall be prepared.

Amendments to the development plan of a local government unit shall be made in accordance with the procedure foreseen for its adoption.

The procedure for the preparation and detailed content of the development plan of a local government unit shall be prescribed by local government assembly pursuant to the Government's act setting mandatory elements of the development plan of a local government unit.

2. Public Policy Documents

Notion and Types of Public Policy Documents

Article 10

The public policy document shall mean a planning document whereby planning system participants set or elaborate already established public policies in accordance with their respective mandate.

Types of public policy documents are:

- 1) Strategy;
- 2) Programme;
- 3) Policy concept paper; and
- 4) Action plan.

Strategy

Article 11

A strategy shall be the fundamental public policy document, that in an integrated manner sets strategic direction for action and public policy in a specific area of planning and implementation of public policies set by a government regulation.

If a wide range of related activities are required to be undertaken over a longer period of time with a view to achieving long-term goals, a strategy may set an integrated strategic course of action and public policy in multiple related areas of planning and implementation of public policies set by a government regulation.

As a rule, a strategy shall be set for a period from five to seven years, and the achievement of its goals shall be planned and monitored by means of an implementing action plan.

A strategy shall cease to be applicable upon the expiry of the period for which it was adopted or upon the adoption of the decision on its repeal.

Types of Strategies

Article 12

In terms of scope, a strategy may be:

- 1) Sector-specific, if it sets public policies for an entire area of planning and implementation of public policies set by a government regulation;
- 2) Cross-sectoral, if it sets public policies for multiple areas of planning and implementation of public policies set by a government regulation.

In terms of territorial scope, a strategy may be:

- 1) National, if it covers the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia;
- 2) Subnational, if it covers part of the territory of the Republic of Serbia, and/or administratively linked entity in the territory of the Republic of Serbia, or territories which are not geographically or administratively linked, but a common strategy is adopted in respect of them, due to specific shared features of those territories.

Strategy that is supranational by its territorial scope and/or if it covers the territory of the Republic of Serbia or parts of its territory and areas or parts of territories of other countries shall not fall under the scope of this law, except in regard to the reporting requirement in accordance with this law.

Strategy Content

Article 13

A strategy shall contain the following elements:

- 1) Vision and/or desired state whose achievement is contributed by the achievement of the overall and specific objectives;
- 2) Overview and analysis of the current state, including an assessment of the degree of accomplishment of public policy implementation goals in the specific field of public policy planning and implementation on the basis of performance indicators in that field;
- 3) Overall and specific public policy objectives pursued, which are set by that strategy or other planning document in accordance with which it was adopted (the Development Plan, policy concept paper etc.);
- 4) Measures for achieving the overall and specific objectives, cause and effect relationship between the overall and specific objectives and measures contributing to the achievement of those objectives, and impact analysis of the measures to natural and legal persons and the budget;
- 5) Key performance indicators at the level of the overall and specific objectives, which measure the implementation efficiency and effectiveness of public policy set by that document;
- 6) Institutional framework and plan for implementation monitoring, performance evaluation and reporting on implemented measures, achieved goals and performance of public policies set or elaborated by the strategy, specifying the institution responsible for monitoring the strategy implementation;
- 7) Other elements prescribed by a government by - law.

As a rule, a strategy shall have one overall objective and up to five specific objectives that contribute to the achievement of the overall objective.

The overall and specific objectives shall be specific, measurable, acceptable, realistic and time-bound.

Programme

Article 14

For the purposes of this Law, a programme shall be a public policy document of a narrower scope than a strategy which, as a rule, shall elaborate a specific objective of a strategy or other planning document in accordance with which it is adopted (the Development Plan, the Government Programme, local government development plan, policy concept paper).

A programme shall constitute a set of independent but closely linked measures and/or relevant (compatible) projects managed and coordinated with a view to achieving goals that cannot be achieved by managing each of the individual programme elements separately i.e. independently.

As a rule, the programme shall be adopted for a period of up to three years, and the achievement of the programme goals shall be planned and monitored by means of an implementing action plan.

If a programme elaborates activities implemented within envisaged measures, that programme, as a rule, shall not be followed by the adoption of an action plan as a separate document.

A programme having a goal of urgently solving a problem and/or disturbance in the society or the economy that may cause larger-scale adverse consequences if not addressed in a short time shall not be the subject of this law.

A programme shall cease to be applicable upon the expiry of the period for which it was adopted or upon the adoption of the decision on its repeal.

Programme Content

Article 15

A programme shall contain the same elements as a strategy, and in particular elaborated measures for achieving a specific objective and/or objectives defined by or taken from a strategy or some other planning document in accordance with which it was adopted.

As a rule, a programme shall have up to three specific objectives that directly contribute to the achievement of the overall objective.

Policy Concept Paper

Article 16

A policy concept paper shall be a fundamental public policy document whereby the principles and/or guidelines for the implementation of a system-wide reform in a specific area are adopted.

A policy concept paper may also provide guidelines for the preparation of a strategy or a programme, and adopt reform principles in a certain field.

As a rule, a policy concept paper shall be adopted where there are multiple mutually exclusive options (courses of action) for implementing a desired change, which may have a significant impact on various stakeholders and target groups, and also where there is a need to define public policies which entail high implementation costs.

The adoption of a policy concept paper shall be mandatory when an ex-ante impact assessment of various courses of action, during planning and/or development of a strategy, programme, systemic law or other acts indicated the existence of mutually exclusive options having a significant impact on various stakeholders and target groups.

The decision on a specific option is made by the policy concept paper.

Where a policy concept paper adopts a course of action in respect to a narrowly formulated change, a detailed *ex-ante* impact assessment shall be conducted.

Negotiation positions in the negotiation process on the Republic of Serbia's accession to the European Union shall be considered a special type of policy concept paper and shall be developed in accordance with the legal framework on conducting

negotiations on the Republic of Serbia's accession to the European Union, and therefore may contain elements not prescribed by this law.

The Government shall prescribe conditions when there is a significant influence of public policies on various stakeholders and target groups, requiring the development of the policy concept paper referred to in paragraph 4 of this article.

A policy concept paper shall cease to be applicable upon its accomplishment or upon the adoption of the decision on its repeal.

Policy Concept Paper Content

Article 17

A policy concept paper shall contain the following elements:

- 1) Overview and analysis of the current state;
- 2) Description of desired change to be achieved, its elements and their cause and effect relationship;
- 3) Overall and specific public policy objectives to be achieved;
- 4) Concepts/elaboration of possible sets of public policy measures that constitute mutually exclusive options for the achievement of the specific objectives of the policy concept paper;
- 5) Results of conducted impact assessment of each considered option;
- 6) Results of conducted consultations and additional impact assessments of the considered options on the basis of conducted consultations;
- 7) Proposal and rationale for the selected option and the manner of its implementation, including an overview of possible proposed measures as the most appropriate manner of addressing observed problems and achieving desired change;
- 8) Other elements prescribed by a government bylaw.

Action Plan

Article 18

An action plan shall be a public policy document of the highest level of detail, which shall elaborate a strategy or programme with a view to managing the implementation time frame of the public policy measures contributing to the achievement of the specific objectives of the strategy and/or programme.

An action plan shall constitute an integral part of a strategy or programme and, as a rule, shall be adopted concurrently with those public policy documents.

In the event of derogation from the rule stipulated in paragraph 2 of this article, a strategy and/or programme shall set the time limit for the adoption of an action plan, which may not exceed 90 days from the adoption of that strategy and/or programme.

An action plan shall be revised as needed, in line with results of the implementation monitoring or ex-post policy impact assessment, and/or, if deemed necessary, amendments thereto shall be prepared.

An action plan revision shall entail changes in individual elements of the action plan, such as activities, time frames and institutions responsible for the implementation.

An action plan shall, as a rule, be adopted for a period covering the validity of the strategy or programme elaborated by it.

By derogation from paragraph 6 of this article, due to planning needs, an action plan may cover a shorter period, but it may not be shorter than one year, in which case a statutory authority shall adopt an action plan for the following period of the strategy and/or programme implementation in a timely manner.

Action Plan Content

Article 19

An action plan shall contain the following elements:

- 1) Overall and specific objectives taken from the strategy and/or programme elaborated by it;
- 2) Measures and activities for achieving the overall and specific objectives of the strategy and/or programme with specifying projects if measures and/or activities are implemented through projects;
- 3) Partner institutions responsible for the implementation of the measures and activities, and lead institution responsible for monitoring of and reporting on the implementation of the strategy and/or programme elaborated by the action plan;
- 4) Time frame for the completion of the foreseen measures and activities;
- 5) Required funds for implementing measures with specifying sources of financing for the secured funds;
- 6) Performance indicators at the level of the public policy measures, and as needed, at the activity level;
- 7) Information on legislation to be adopted and/or amended to implement public policy measures;
- 8) Other elements prescribed by a government by-law.

The Government shall further elaborate the content and the form of an action plan.

3. Other Planning Documents

Other Planning Documents adopted by Planning System Participants

Article 20

When constituting the Government, the National Assembly shall adopt the Government Programme in accordance with Article 127, paragraph 3 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, and the Government shall adopt the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Government's Programme, the Government Annual Work Plan and the National Programme for the Adoption of EU *acquis*.

The planning system participants, in addition to public policy documents, shall adopt other planning documents in accordance with law, including medium-term and financial plans.

The Autonomous Province, through its competent authorities, shall adopt other planning documents in accordance with the Constitution, this law and its implementing by-laws, and other laws establishing the competence of the Autonomous Province, by means of the Statute and general acts of the Autonomous Province.

A local government unit shall adopt other planning documents in accordance with this law and statute of the local government unit.

Action Plan for the Implementation of the Government's Programme

Article 21

The Government shall adopt an action plan for the implementation of the Government's Programme (hereinafter: the Government Action Plan) whereby it shall elaborate its priority goals, the planning system participants' measures grouped per government priorities directly or indirectly supported by them, implementation time frames and anticipated results.

The Government Action Plan shall be adopted no later than three months from the day of its election by the National Assembly and shall cover a period of four years or the duration of the Government's mandate, and it shall be updated annually.

A draft of the Government Action Plan, and amendments thereto, shall be prepared by the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination, in cooperation with competent public administration authorities, and submitted to the Government for adoption.

The public administration authority competent for public policy coordination shall issue preparation instructions and regulate in detail the structure and the content of the Government Action Plan.

The Government shall publish the Government Action Plan on its website at the latest on the seventh working day following its adoption.

Government Annual Work Plan

Article 22

The Government Annual Work Plan shall be prepared on the basis of direct budget beneficiaries' medium-term plans and government priority goals contained in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Government's Programme and the National Programme for the Adoption of EU *acquis*.

The Government Annual Work Plan shall contain, in particular, an overview of normative activities required for the accomplishment of measures set by public policies whose implementation is planned for the following budget year.

The Government Annual Work Plan shall be prepared in such a manner as to ensure efficient, effective and timely planning and coordination of committee meetings and government sessions.

The Government Annual Work Plan shall be prepared by the General Secretariat of the Government on the basis of proposals from public administration authorities in cooperation with the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination.

The Government shall adopt the Annual Work Plan for the following calendar year at the latest by the end of December of current year in accordance with the procedure defined by the Government.

The Government shall publish the Government Annual Work Plan on its website at the latest on the seventh working day following its adoption.

4. Conformity of Planning Documents

Conformity of Planning Documents

Article 23

In preparing and adopting planning documents, attention shall be given to their conformity with the Constitution, ratified international treaties, the law and commitments assumed in the EU integration process.

The Development Plan and the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia shall be mutually aligned.

In preparing all other planning documents, attention shall be given to their conformity with the Development Plan, the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia, the Investment Plan and other planning documents of higher or equal importance.

In preparing planning documents of the Autonomous Province, attention shall be given to their conformity with planning documents adopted on the national level, taking care of source competences of the Autonomous Province in the field of planning, prescribed by the Constitution and law.

In preparing planning documents of a local government unit, attention shall be given to their conformity with planning documents adopted on the national level and on the level of the Autonomous Province on whose territory they reside, taking care of source competences of the local government unit and the Autonomous Province in the field of planning, prescribed by the Constitution and law.

As a rule, planning documents shall be aligned by taking specific objectives from planning documents in accordance with which they were adopted and those shall become overall objectives. Where possible, time frames established for the accomplishment of those objectives shall be taken.

5. Public Policy Measures

Notion and Types of Public Policy Measures

Article 24

A public policy measure shall mean a set of key and related activities undertaken with a view to achieving an overall or specific objective, i.e. desired public policy performance;

Public policy measures may be:

- 1) Regulatory measures, which set standards and rules governing relations in the society;
- 2) Incentive measures, such as: fiscal measures (subsidies, taxes etc.) and other financial and non-financial measures;
- 3) Information and educational measures (information and educational campaigns etc.);
- 4) Institutional, management and organisational measures (the establishment of new and abolition of existing institutions, changes in the organisational structure of specific entities, changes in the number and competencies of staff etc.); and
- 5) Supply of goods and provision of services by the planning system participants, including public investments (capital and infrastructure projects, investments etc.).

The regulatory measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall not include regulations governing the implementation of the measures.

III. MEDIUM-TERM PLANNING

Medium-Term Plan

Article 25

A medium-term plan shall be a comprehensive planning document covering a period of three years and enabling linking of public policies to a medium-term expenditure framework.

A medium-term plan shall be prepared on the basis of existing public policy documents with observance of priority government goals, available capacities and resources and changes in factual situation in regard to the time those public policy document were adopted.

Requirement of Preparing and Adopting Medium-Term Plan

Article 26

Medium-term plan shall be prepared and adopted by:

- Public administration authorities;
- Organisations for mandatory social insurance;
- Other beneficiaries of the budgetary funds of the Republic of Serbia, obligated by the Government to develop medium-term plan in accordance with this law at the proposal from the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination and/or the ministry in charge of financial affairs;
- Other beneficiaries of the budgetary funds whose work is supervised by the Government and who are obligated by the Government to develop a medium-term plan;
- Other beneficiaries of the budgetary funds of the Autonomous Province, obligated by a competent authority of the Autonomous Province to develop a medium-term plan in accordance with this law;
- Local government unit;
- Beneficiaries of the budgetary funds of a local government unit, obligated by a competent authority of the local government unit to develop a medium-term plan in accordance with this law;
- Other beneficiaries of the budgetary funds whose work is supervised by the Autonomous Province and/or local government unit and who are obligated by a competent authority of the Autonomous Province and/or local government unit to develop a medium-term plan.

A medium-term plan of a public authority within a ministry shall be covered by a medium-term plan of that ministry.

The budget beneficiaries referred to in paragraph 1 of this article required to prepare medium-term plans (hereinafter: the budget beneficiaries required to prepare a medium-term plan) shall publish their medium-term plans no later than 31 January for current year at their website, with the observance of the confidentiality provision.

The budget beneficiary required to prepare a medium-term plan shall manage their internal work processes and implement public policy measures within their competence by the means of a medium-term plan.

Medium-term plans shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure further defined by the Government.

Medium-Term Plan Content

Article 27

A medium-term plan shall contain:

- 1) Overall and specific objectives;
- 2) Overview of measures for achieving set goals for the entire validity period of the plan, linked to budget programmes, and programme activities and projects, under which the funds for their implementation were planned;
- 3) References to the measures referred to in point 2 of this paragraph in relation to priority objectives from the Development Plan and the Government Programme and/or the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Government's Programme, and in case of the budget beneficiaries referred to in article 26, paragraph 1, indents 5 to 8 hereto, measures shall be referred to in relation to priority objectives from a development plan of the Autonomous Province and/or local government unit;
- 4) References to the measures referred to in point 2 of this paragraph in relation to the measures from public policy documents they were taken from;
- 5) Information on funds required for the implementation of each measure referred to in point 2 of this paragraph and planned within a programming budget (budget programmes, programme activities and projects);
- 6) Detailed overview of activities implemented under a specific measure for the first year of validity of the plan, including normative activities;
- 7) Performance indicators for monitoring the level of achievement of the overall and specific objectives referred to in point 1) of this paragraph and implementation of the measures referred to in point 2) of this paragraph, with baseline values and annual target values for each year of the medium-term plan;
- 8) Risks and prerequisites for the implementation of the measures, if any;
- 9) Other elements prescribed by a government by-law.

The Government shall further elaborate the content and the form of a medium-term plan.

Medium-Term Planning in Accordance with Budget Preparation Process

Article 28

The budget beneficiaries required to prepare a medium-term plan shall prepare a medium-term plan in accordance with the budget preparation process and established budget elements (budget programmes, programme activities and projects), having in mind limitations defined by a medium-term expenditure framework in the procedure prescribed by a by-law adopted by the Government.

IV. PROCEDURE FOR PUBLIC POLICY ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

Mandate for the Preparation of Public Policy Documents

Article 29

A planning system participant in charge for developing public policy documents (hereinafter: authorised proposer) shall prepare the document within its legal mandate and submit it for adoption to a planning system participant in charge for the adoption of public policy documents (hereinafter: statutory authority).

When a planning document includes objectives and measures within the mandates of different proposers, the preparation of a planning document shall be coordinated and the planning document shall be proposed by a planning system participant whose mandate covers a predominant part of the objectives and measures covered by the planning document.

Public Policy Initiative

Article 30

An initiative to amend, prepare and adopt public policy documents may also be submitted to an authorised proposer by public authorities and organisations, local government authorities and organisations, and citizens, business entities, civic associations and other civil society organisations, science, research and other organisations in respect of which the public policy is implemented.

The initiative referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall contain a brief description of the desired change to be achieved by preparing, adopting and implementing the public policy document, its elements and their cause and effect relationship, and objectives to be achieved.

If an authorised proposer assesses that the initiative referred to in paragraph 1 of this article is justified it shall publish it in its integral form on its webpage no later than 30 days from the receipt and shall provide timely information to the public on actions taken in relation to the initiative.

If an authorised proposer assesses that the initiative is not justified, it shall notify the proponent of the initiative within the timeframe prescribed in paragraph 3 of this article.

The initiative referred to in paragraph 1 of this article may also be submitted to the Government and/or competent public administration authority, as appropriate, through the public administration authority in charge of public policy coordination, who shall process the initiative and forward it to a competent public administration authority for further action, and shall notify the proponent of the initiative on actions taken in relation to the initiative within the time frame referred to in paragraph 3 of this article.

Requirement of Conducting Ex-Ante Impact Assessment

Article 31

Public policy documents shall be developed in accordance with results of ax-ante impact assessment and ex-post impact assessment of current public policy documents and regulations in relevant field.

An ex-ante impact assessment shall be conducted prior to adopting the decision on the development of a public policy document and shall consist of the following steps:

- 1) Overview of the existing state;
- 2) Identifying the change to be achieved by the implementation of public policy measures, its elements and their cause and effect relationship;
- 3) Establishing the overall and specific objectives of the public policy, and performance indicators on the basis of which the achievement of the objectives shall be measured;
- 4) Identifying options - possible measures or set of measures for achieving the objectives;

5) Assessing the impact of those options - possible measures or set of measures and risks in the implementation of each option;

6) Selecting the optimal option or optimal combination of the considered options;

7) Identifying resources for the implementation of the public policy measures, monitoring implementation and performance evaluation of the public policy, and potential risks in the public policy implementation.

During an ex-ante public policy impact assessment, public policy documents proposers shall conduct consultations with stakeholders and target groups and collect and process data with a view to proposing an optimal option or optimal combination of the considered options.

The Government shall regulate in detail the scale, the process and implementation control of impact assessments during the preparation of public policy documents and shall stipulate the public policy documents which do not require such assessment.

Requirement of Announcing the Beginning of Work on Public Policy Document

Article 32

An authorised proposer shall inform the public on the beginning of the preparation of a public policy document by publishing the notice on its website and, if an authorised proposer is a public administration authority, on e-Government portal within seven working days from the beginning of the preparation of that document.

Requirement of Presenting Impact Assessment Findings

Article 33

An authorised proposer shall present the findings and data on the scope and methods of conducted ex-ante public policy impact assessments and ex-post impact assessment of implemented public policy within the public policy document itself so statutory authority has relevant data for making a decision on the matter and the public is informed on the reasons for the adoption of the document.

An authorised proposer shall publish findings of the conducted impact assessments in their integral form on its website together with the public policy draft no later than on the starting day of a public debate.

Following the completion of the public debate, an authorised proposer shall update the public policy document and findings of the conducted impact assessment on the basis of the public debate findings and shall publish the updated version of that document and the findings on its website and, if an authorised proposer is a public administration authority, on e-Government portal at the latest on the seventh working day from the submission of the document to the statutory authority for consideration and adoption.

Requirement of Conducting Consultations at All Stages of the Development of Public Policy Documents

Article 34

An authorised proposer shall enable the participation of all stakeholders and target groups in the consultation process conducted during the development of public policy documents. Depending on the scope covered by a public policy document, the consultation process shall include stakeholders and target groups from among citizens and business entities, civic or business associations and other civil society organisations, science, research, professional and other organisations, and

representatives of public authorities, local government and other planning system participants that implement the policy concerned or in respect of which it is implemented.

An authorised proposer shall consider suggestions made by stakeholders and target groups during the consultations.

An authorised proposer shall inform consultation participants on the results of conducted consultations, in particular on the reasons for not including specific suggestions in the public policy document.

An authorised proposer shall present information on the conducted consultation process, including in particular data on consulted parties, consultation scope and methods, issues discussed during the consultations, objections, suggestions and comments taken into consideration and those not taken into account, as well as the reasons for not accepting them, within the public policy document itself.

If during the preparation of a public policy document an impact assessment was not conducted, information on the results of conducted consultations shall be enclosed with the public policy document draft, as a separate annex.

An authorised proposer shall publish information on the results of conducted consultations on its website no later than 15 days following the closure of consultations.

Having in mind results of the consultations it conducted during the development of public policy documents, the authorised proposer may decide to include representatives of stakeholders and target groups in the working group for the preparation of the document.

The Government shall prescribe detailed procedure and methods for conducting consultations.

Particularities of Consultations Conducted by a Public Administration Authority

Article 35

The public administration authority competent for public policy coordination may propose to a public administration authority who is an authorised proposer to implement a specific consultation method during consultations, and to include certain stakeholders and target groups in the working group for the preparation of the public policy document.

The initiative for submitting the proposal referred to in paragraph 1 of this article may be submitted to the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination by any stakeholder or target group.

If the public policy document relates to the negotiation process on the Republic of Serbia's accession to the European Union, public administration authority shall conduct consultations in accordance with the legal framework on conducting negotiations on the Republic of Serbia's accession to the European Union.

Conducting a Public Debate

Article 36

Prior to the submission of a public policy document for consideration and adoption, an authorised proposer shall conduct a public debate on that document and prepare a report on the conducted public debate.

The report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall specify in particular what stakeholders and target groups participated in the public debate, what suggestions were made during the public debate, whether and in what way those suggestions were integrated into the public policy document and, if not, what are the reasons this was not done.

The report on the conducted public debate shall be attached to the public policy document draft.

An authorised proposer shall publish the report on the conducted public debate on its website and, if an authorised proposer is a public administration authority that report shall be also published on e-Government portal no later than 15 days following the closure of the public debate.

The Government shall regulate in detail the manner of conducting public debate on public policy documents, its duration and cases in which public debates are not conducted, and template for the report on the conducted public debate.

Implementation Control of Ex-Ante Impact Assessment for Public Administration Authorities

Article 37

As part of a public policy draft submitted to the Government for adoption, an authorised proposer which is a public administration authority shall provide findings of the impact assessment conducted for the public policy document, and opinion of the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination on the completeness and quality of the conducted impact assessment, within the time frames set by the Government's Rules of Procedure.

Along with the public policy draft, the public administration authority shall submit an assessment of the financial impact on the budget, in accordance with the law governing budget system.

By derogation from paragraph 1 of this article, an authorised proposer may submit a public policy draft to the Government even without a conducted impact assessment, with justification if it is of the view that such assessment was not necessary, and with mandatory submission of an opinion previously obtained from the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination that such assessment was not required.

Adoption of Public Policy Documents

Article 38

The Government shall adopt a public policy document on the national level, unless otherwise stipulated by a special law.

A competent authority of the Autonomous Province shall adopt a public policy document in relation to the Autonomous Province, in accordance with the Statute and other general acts of the Autonomous Province.

A local government assembly shall adopt a public policy document in relation to the local government unit, unless otherwise stipulated by a special law.

A statutory authority for the public policy document shall publish such document on its webpage, and if the statutory authority is the Government that document shall be published on e-Government portal and webpage of its proposer, no later than 7 working days from the adoption.

A statutory authority for a public policy document shall decide on whether the public policy document shall be published in the Official Gazette during its adoption, unless otherwise stipulated by a special law.

Public Policy Implementation

Article 39

Public policies shall be implemented by the implementing measures and activities foreseen by public policy documents and other planning documents.

The competent authority in charge of the implementation of a specific measure and/or activity by the means of the public policy document shall elaborate in detail the measure and/or activity in their medium-term and financial plans.

Public Policy Implementation Monitoring, Ex-Post Impact Assessment and Performance Evaluation

Article 40

The implementation of measures and activities shall be monitored in accordance with the mechanism set by the public policy document or other planning document subject to that monitoring.

The implementation of specific measures and activities shall be monitored by means of quantitative and qualitative indicators for measuring public policy performance defined by relevant public policy document and/or action plan adopted together with that document, or other planning document.

An authorised proposer shall conduct an ex-post policy impact assessment.

Based on findings obtained by the ex-post impact assessment, the authorised proposer referred to in paragraph 3 of this article shall evaluate performance of the public policy and/or its relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and sustainability with a view to revising and improving and/or reviewing and further planning the policy.

The public policy implementation monitoring and performance evaluation shall be conducted taking into account data and information obtained from all authorities and organisations responsible for the implementation of the public policy measures and/or activities, and data and information obtained from other sources relevant to the performance of the public policy.

The Government shall determine the manner of public policy implementation monitoring, ex-post impact assessment and performance evaluation.

Application by Analogy of the Requirement of Conducting Regulatory Impact Assessment

Article 41

In preparing legislation, public administration authorities shall:

- 1) Conduct an ex-ante impact assessment, with application of Article 31 hereof by analogy;
- 2) Present findings of the conducted regulatory impact assessment referred to in point 1 of this paragraph at their website;
- 3) Conduct consultations.

During the implementation of regulations, public administration authorities shall conduct an ex-post regulatory impact assessment with the application of Article 40 hereof by analogy.

Public administration authorities shall be subject to the application of Article 37 hereof by analogy regarding the implementation control of the regulatory impact assessment before their adoption by the Government, for all laws and other regulations substantially modifying the manner of exercising rights, obligations and legal interests of natural and legal persons.

Public administration authorities shall publish the beginning of work on regulation, in accordance with the law governing public administration.

When in accordance with the law governing public administration, a public administration authority shall prepare a baseline for developing a draft law; the baseline shall contain regulatory impact assessment, within a meaning hereof.

The Government shall prescribe the manner of conducting the regulatory impact assessment, detailed procedure and methods for conducting consultations during the elaboration and implementation of the legislation, and which legislation shall be subject to the implementation control requirement regarding the regulatory impact assessment in accordance with paragraph 3 of this article and the manner of the implementation of the control, and control of the implementation of ex-post regulatory impact assessment.

V. REPORTING AND PUBLISHING

Reporting on the Implementation of Medium-Term Plans

Article 42

The budget beneficiaries required to prepare a medium-term plan shall prepare a report on the implementation of their medium-term plans for previous fiscal year by 15 March of current year.

The report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall include information and data on results of the implementation of measures and activities from the medium-term plan, with references to individual public policy documents in the reporting period.

The Government shall prescribe in detail the content of the report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article.

Reporting on Results of the Implementation of Public Policy Documents

Article 43

When the proposer of a public policy document is a public administration authority, that authority shall report to the Government, through the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination, on results of the implementation of the public policy document and/or on the ex-post impact assessment of the public policy set by the document, as follows:

- For a strategy, no later than 120 days upon the expiry of every third calendar year from its adoption, and by means of the final report submitted no later than six months from the expiry of its validity and/or together with the public policy document replacing the expiring document if it is submitted to the Government for adoption before the expiry of this time limit;
- For a programme, no later than 120 days upon the expiry of every calendar year from its adoption, and by means of the final report submitted no later than six months from the expiry of its validity, unless there was an adopted action plan accompanying the programme based on which reporting is conducted in which case reporting on the programme implementation shall be completed no later than six months after the application, and upon the expiry of every calendar year from its adoption if the programme was adopted for a period longer than three years;
- For an action plan, no later than 120 days upon the expiry of every calendar year from its adoption;

- For a policy concept paper, no later than 60 days from the expiry of the time frame for its accomplishment.

If needed, and at the Government's request, the public administration authority shall report to the Government on results of the implementation of a public policy document through the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination outside the time frames prescribed in paragraph 1 of this article.

If derogations from the time frames foreseen by an action plan are significant or if it is found that some of the measures and/or activities were not defined properly, the public administration authority shall state and provide reasons for the derogations in the implementation of the document concerned, and if it assesses that there is a need, shall propose amendments to the action plan.

The content of the report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article and the manner of its submission shall be regulated by the Government in detail.

At the Government's request, the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination shall evaluate the implementation of individual public policy documents on the basis of information and data collected from public administration authorities and other relevant sources.

The public administration authority competent for public policy coordination is authorised to report to the Government if specific public policy documents are not being implemented or are mutually inconsistent.

At the request from the document's proposer or the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination, competent authority in charge of the implementation of a specific measure by the means of the public policy document shall report to that authority the results of the implementation of the specific measures or activities.

Annual Report on Results of Implementation of Action Plan for the Implementation of the Government's Programme

Article 44

An annual report on results of the implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Government's Programme shall be a comprehensive report on results of the implementation of priority government goals.

The report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be prepared by the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination, on the basis of reports submitted by public administration authorities on the accomplishment of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Government Programme, report on the implementation of the public policy documents referred to in Article 43 hereof, report on the implementation of medium-term plans referred to in Article 42 hereof, and data collected from other relevant sources.

The public administration authority competent for public policy coordination shall submit the report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article for the preceding fiscal year to the Government for adoption at the latest by 1 April of current year.

The Government shall publish the report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article on its website no later than 15 days following its adoption.

Report on the Work of the Government

Article 45

Report on the Work of the Government shall be a report on the implementation of the Government Annual Work Plan adopted by the Government at

the latest by 1 May of current year for the previous year and shall be submitted to the National Assembly.

The report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be prepared by the General Secretariat of the Government on the basis of reports from public administration authorities.

The report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall be prepared in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Government.

The Government shall publish the report referred to in paragraph 1 of this article on its website no later than 15 days following its adoption.

Manner of Submitting and Publishing Reports

Article 46

The reports referred to in Articles 42 to 45 hereof shall be submitted and/or published through the Information System for Planning, Monitoring and Reporting in the manner prescribed by the Government.

Unified Information System

Article 47

The information system for public policy planning, monitoring, coordination and reporting shall be the unified national electronic system in which the planning system participants input the content of their public policy documents and medium-term plans, and perform reporting in accordance with this law (hereinafter the Unified Information System).

The Unified Information System shall be managed by the Government through the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination.

The Unified Information System shall be managed by providing link between content of public policies, medium-term plans of the budget beneficiaries competent for the implementation of public policy measures, and their financial plans.

The Unified Information System shall provide timely reporting on the achieved objectives and monitoring of the achieved performance evaluation indicators.

The Government shall define the content and the manner of managing and maintaining the Unified Information System for planning, the manner of data entry and digital format of documents submitted through the system, and access to data.

Publication

Article 48

Publishing on webpages and e-Government portal pursuant to this law shall be done in an open digital format suitable for downloading and further use.

VI. PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING DOCUMENTS IN THE ACCESSION PROCESS TO THE EUROPEAN UNION AND USE OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUNDS

Article 49

The planning documents prepared and adopted in the European Union accession process shall be prepared in a form, and content, according to the procedure and in time frames foreseen by the European Commission's methodological recommendations and/or the Government's methodological instructions, in accordance with needs stemming from the accession process.

In the preparation of the documents referred to in paragraph 1 of this article, attention shall be given to the consistency of international commitments with the national priority development goals and the avoidance of duplication in setting public policies contained in various planning documents.

Planning and programming documents pertaining to the use of the European Union funds and international development assistance funds shall be prepared in accordance with established public policies, according to an instruction defined by a manager of the institution competent for the coordination of planning and programming of those funds.

Programmes, projects and activities funded or co-funded from the available European Union funds and other international development assistance funds shall be subject to the rules applicable to those funds.

Action plans adopted by the Government during the negotiation process on the Republic of Serbia's accession to the European Union shall be developed in accordance with the legal framework on conducting negotiations on the Republic of Serbia's accession to the European Union.

VII. DEROGATION FROM THE LAW

Article 50

If special laws on budget system, spatial and urban planning, defense, safety and/or confidentiality of data prescribed or it was envisaged by ratified international treaties that a specific planning document is to be prepared, adopted or its implementation monitored according to a different procedure or that it is to have a different title, scope or content, whereby it derogates from the rules set by this law and its implementing bylaws, then a derogation from this law and its implementing bylaws shall be made to the extent necessary for the document to conform to the special law and/or international treaty.

VIII. POWERS TO ADOPT BY-LAWS

Article 51

At the proposal of the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination, the Government shall prescribe in detail:

1) The methodology for public policy management, in particular the scale, process and implementation control of impact assessments in preparing public policy documents and regulations, and impact assessments after their adoption, including the manner of conducting consultations on public policy documents and regulations, and public debates for public policy documents; types of public policy measures and the content and form of public policy documents; the form and content of impact assessment reports, which include data on conducted consultations and public debates; the form and content of statement of compliance with an opinion of the public administration authority competent for public policy coordination; the public policy documents and legislation which do not require impact assessments; the elements of impact assessments of adopted public policy documents and regulations; the manner of reporting on results of the implementation of public policies; the manner of performance evaluation for public policy and regulations, and planning and implementing areas of public policy;

2) The procedure for the preparation of a draft Development plan and the mandatory elements of development plan of the Autonomous Province and local government unit;

3) The methodology for medium-term planning; the form and content of the medium-term plans; the process of their preparation and adoption; the manner and

time frame for their publication; their implementation, implementation monitoring, evaluation and reporting on their implementation; the form and content of the report on the implementation of the medium-term plan for previous fiscal year;

4) The content and the manner of managing and maintaining the Unified Information System, and digital format for entering documents into the system.

At the proposal of the ministry competent for finance affairs, the Government shall prescribe in detail the procedure for the preparation and the content of the Investment Plan.

IX. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Time Frame for the Adoption of Implementing By-laws

Article 52

The by-laws for the implementation of this law shall be adopted within six months of the entry of this law into force.

Time Frames for Starting Implementation of Certain Provisions

Article 53

Draft Development Plan shall be submitted by the Government to the National Assembly for consideration and adoption at the latest by 1 January 2020.

Local government development plans shall be adopted at the latest by 1 January 2021.

The budget beneficiaries required to prepare a medium-term plan shall commence the development of medium-term plans in accordance with this law starting from the medium-term plan for 2020, and reports referred to in article 43 hereof starting from 15 March 2021.

By derogation from paragraph 3 of this article, local government shall adopt medium-term plans at the latest starting from the medium-term plan for 2021, and reports referred to in article 43 hereof starting from 1 March 2022.

Until the Unified Information System referred to in Article 47 hereof is established, the submission referred to in Article 46 hereof shall be done through the clerk's office, and publication from the same article shall be made on a webpage of the reporting authority.

Until the Unified Information System referred to in Article 47 hereof is established, the software application for planning and reporting on the Government's work shall be used for the preparation of the Government Annual Work Plan and the Annual Report on the Work of the Government.

Local government shall begin to enter planning documents and reports in accordance with this law into the Unified Information System referred to in Article 47 hereof no later than starting from 1 January 2021.

Alignment of Other Laws and By-laws with this Law

Article 54

The laws and by-laws governing the procedure for the adoption of legislation shall be aligned with the provisions of this law within two years from the day of the entry into force of this law.

The laws and by-laws governing the procedure for the adoption of public policy documents shall be aligned with the provisions of this law within two years from the day of the entry into force of this law.

In case of nonconformity of certain provisions of the laws and by-laws referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article with this law, until requirements referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article are implemented, provisions of the laws and by – laws referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article shall be applied.

Requirement of Aligning Public Policy Documents in Force

Article 55

Valid public policy documents shall be aligned with this law with first amendments thereto.

The requirement referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall apply to local government also.

Expiration of Certain Provisions of Other Laws

Article 56

By the start of the application of this law, the following shall cease to have effect:

- 1) Article 45, paragraph 1 of the Law on Government, and title above that article in the part: "Development Strategy" (Official Gazette of RS No 55/05, 71/05-corr., 101/07, 65/08, 16/11, 68/12 - CC, 72/12, 7/14 - CC, and 44/14);
- 2) Article 63 of the Law on Public Administration (Official Gazette of RS No 79/05, 101/07, 95/10, and 99/14)

Entry into Force and Start of Application

Article 57

This law shall enter into force on the eighth day following its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, and shall become applicable upon the expiry of six months from its entry into force.