



Non-Governmental Organization Emancipimi Civil Ma
Ndryshe EC MA NDRYSHE

16 February 2015, Prizren

PRESS RELEASE

Municipality of Prizren Closed 2014 with Outstanding Bills Amounting to EUR 2.2 Million

Within the project of Prizren Municipal Executive Transparency Monitoring, during February EC Ma Ndryshe analyzed the Annual Financial Report of the municipality of Prizren for January-December 2014.

Annual Financial Report of the Directorate of Economy and Finance (DEF) shows that last year Municipality of Prizren continued with its budget performance shortcomings, since it concluded 2014 with more than EUR 2.2 million of outstanding debts.

Balance of outstanding invoices (liabilities) of the municipality of Prizren shows that in the economic category of capital investments, the debt reached the approximate amount of EUR 1.9 million, while the outstanding debt for goods and services is EUR 124,000. Debt for public utilities is EUR 46,000, while for subsidies is EUR 10,000.

The justification mentioned by the responsible municipal officials is that this debt is reflected in the Financial Report because many projects began in the second semester, and the budget realization and payments are carried forward for the next year.

Another danger for the Prizren Municipality budget, according to the Annual Financial Report, is the contingency liabilities. The amount of these contingencies according to DEF in 2014 reached EUR 3.2 million, compared to 2013, when this figure went to the tune of EUR 2.1 million.

Last month, EC Ma Ndryshe had reported that Municipality of Prizren worsened its poor budgetary performance (press release link: [http://online-transparency.org/repository/docs/Komunikate %281%29_15012014.pdf](http://online-transparency.org/repository/docs/Komunikate_%281%29_15012014.pdf)). Explanations were requested from Prizren Municipality on why in 2014 the amount of receivables was increased, and the DEF officer's response was that all clarifications will be provided in the Annual Financial Report.

This Report confirms that receivables to be collected by the Municipality of Prizren as own-source revenues have seen an increase in 2014 for EUR 3 million. While in 2013, the amount of receivables was EUR 11.65 million, during the last year this figure increased and went to the tune of EUR 14.5 million.

EC Ma Ndryshe once again would like to call upon the municipal authorities to implement standards of good governance, such as: focusing on results aimed at the benefit of citizens; ensuring that citizens get good services with added value in return of their taxes; accountability; promotion of institutional values by setting an example through responsible behavior and good budget management, including transparent decision-making.

Consequently, EC Ma Ndryshe recommends the Prizren municipality the following:

- To take adequate measures for the improvement of budgetary performance;
- To draft a plan for the payment of outstanding debts;
- To draft a plan for the effective collection of own-source revenues;
- To implement without delay and accurately the recommendations of the Auditor General; and
- To present detailed invoices and not summary reports in order to prove the transparency and accountability in front of the public.

EC Ma Ndryshe Project on the Monitoring of Transparency of municipal authorities will continue to publish monitoring findings through regular press releases and project website, where the monitors directly post their findings. All findings during the monitoring, including regular press releases and many other information related to Prizren, Mamusha and Prishtina local governments are posted on regular basis in the Project website: www.online-transparency.org.

Thank you for your cooperation,

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The Project "Online Transparency of Municipalities of Prizren, Mamusha and Prishtina" is supported financially by the United Kingdom Embassy in Prishtina



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