

DRAFT LAW
ON ESTABLISHING THE COMPETENCES OF
THE AUTONOMOUS PROVINCE OF VOJVODINA

I. BASIC PROVISIONS

Article 1

This law shall establish the competences of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (hereinafter: AP Vojvodina) and regulate other issues relevant for the status of AP Vojvodina.

Article 2

AP Vojvodina shall regulate the competences, election, organisation and work of bodies and services it establishes, in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter: the Constitution) and the Statute of the AP Vojvodina (hereinafter: the Statute).

In the procedure for passing laws, account shall be taken of the achieved level of citizens' right to provincial autonomy.

Interregional Cooperation

Article 3

AP Vojvodina shall cooperate with the relevant territorial communities of other countries, as part of the foreign policy of the Republic of Serbia, observing the territorial integrity and legal system of the Republic of Serbia.

AP Vojvodina shall conclude interregional agreements in the framework of its competence.

AP Vojvodina, as a region which has traditionally fostered European principles and values, may be a member of European and global associations of regions, and in the framework of its competence, may establish representation offices in the regions of Europe, that is in Brussels, in accordance with the law and Statute.

Territory and Symbols of AP Vojvodina

Article 4

The territory of AP Vojvodina shall consist of local self-government units within its geographical areas (Bačka, Banat and Sirmia), stipulated by the law.

The territory of AP Vojvodina shall not be altered without the consent of its citizens, expressed in a referendum, in accordance with the law.

The referendum shall be valid if the majority of citizens with the right to vote and registered residence on the territory of AP Vojvodina have cast their vote in it.

The decision from the referendum under Paragraph 2 of this Article shall be enacted if the majority, established by the law, i.e. the Statute have cast their vote for it, in accordance with the law.

The City of Novi Sad shall be a major, administrative centre and the seat of authorities of AP Vojvodina.

AP Vojvodina shall establish the symbols of AP Vojvodina and the way they are used, in accordance with the Constitution and Statute.

Interrelation between the Republic and Provincial Bodies

Article 5

In exercising the competences established in this and other laws, bodies of AP Vojvodina shall cooperate with the republic bodies and bodies of local self-government units.

When enforcing the law and other regulations of the Republic of Serbia, the interrelations between bodies of the Republic of Serbia and bodies of AP Vojvodina shall be based on the rights and duties of the republic bodies stipulated in the Constitution and law, that is, on the rights and duties of bodies of AP Vojvodina stipulated in the Constitution, law and Statute.

For the purpose of lawful, efficient and unhindered performance of duties in the frame of AP Vojvodina competences, on initiative of the executive authority of AP Vojvodina, the Government may establish the Standing Mixed Commission comprising the representatives of the Government and the AP Vojvodina executive authority.

Protection of Provincial Deputies and Other Officials

Article 6

A Deputy in the AP Vojvodina Assembly shall not be called to account criminally, be detained or punished for the opinion expressed or vote cast at the session of the AP Vojvodina Assembly or its working bodies.

The President or member of the executive authority of AP Vojvodina shall not account for an opinion expressed at the session of that authority or the AP Vojvodina Assembly or for the voting at the session of the executive authority of AP Vojvodina.

Property of AP Vojvodina

Article 7

The property of AP Vojvodina, the manner in which it is used and disposed of shall be regulated by the law.

The property of AP Vojvodina, as the form of public property, shall include assets used, pursuant to the law, by bodies of AP Vojvodina, public enterprises and institutions established by the AP Vojvodina and other movable and immovable items, in accordance with the law regulating the public property.

Financing the Competences of AP Vojvodina

Article 8

AP Vojvodina shall have direct revenues used for financing its competences.

The type and amount of direct revenues shall be established in a separate law.

The funds for performance of delegated tasks shall be provided by the Republic of Serbia.

II. COMPETENCES OF AP VOJVODINA

Issues Relevant for the Province and Review of Constitutionality and Legality

Article 9

AP Vojvodina shall regulate the issues relevant for the Province on the basis of its acts, in the spheres that are within the scope of competence of AP Vojvodina, pursuant to the Constitution and law, that is which have been established by law to be the issues relevant for the Province.

The acts under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be enacted in accordance with the Constitution, ratified international treaties, the law and Statute of AP Vojvodina.

Should the competent body of the Republic of Serbia fail to enact the regulation for enforcement of the law within the time frame stipulated in that law, AP Vojvodina, within the framework of its legal power to enact executive regulations, shall, through its act, temporarily regulate the enforcement of the law in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in the spheres stipulated under Paragraph 1.

The act of a body of AP Vojvodina under Paragraph 3 of this Article shall cease to be effective on the day of coming into force of the appropriate regulation passed by the competent body of the Republic of Serbia.

In accordance with the Constitution and law, the Government may instigate the procedure before the Constitutional Court for the review of constitutionality or legality of the decision of AP Vojvodina, prior to its coming into force. In this case, prior to enacting its decision, the Constitutional Court may delay the coming into force of the disputed decision of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the Constitution and law.

The Government or another authorised proposer may instigate the procedure for the review of constitutionality or legality of a general act of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the Constitution and law.

Enforcement of an individual act or activity of a body of AP Vojvodina undertaken pursuant to the general act of the body of AP Vojvodina whose constitutionality or legality is being reviewed — may be suspended, in accordance with the Constitution and law.

1. Spatial Planning, Regional Development and Construction of Buildings

Article 10

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of spatial planning and regional development and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Regulate the development planning, in accordance with the economic policy and regional development strategy of the Republic of Serbia;

- 2) Enact the decision on drawing up regional spatial plans and spatial plans for special purpose for the areas in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) Enact regional spatial plans and spatial plans for special purpose for the areas in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) Set up the committee responsible for the expert review of regional spatial plans and spatial plans for special purpose for the areas in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 5) Propose one-third of members of the committee responsible for the expert review of spatial and urban plans in local self-government units situated in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 6) Give consent to spatial and urban plans of local self-government units situated in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 7) Propose measures and activities within the Implementation Programme for the Spatial Plan of Republic of Serbia for the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 8) Monitor the execution of the Implementation Programme for the Spatial Plan of Republic of Serbia for the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 9) Enact the programme of measures and activities for the implementation of the regional spatial plan of AP Vojvodina;
- 10) Monitor the implementation of the programme of measures and activities for the implementation of the regional spatial plan of AP Vojvodina;
- 11) Enact the programme of measures and activities for the implementation of the spatial plan for special purpose for areas in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 12) Monitor the implementation of the programme of measures and activities for the implementation of the spatial plan for special purpose for areas in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 13) Monitor the implementation of the programme of measures and activities for the sustained regional development;
- 14) Establish the Development Bank of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the law regulating the establishment, business operations and organisation of banks;
- 15) Develop administrative capacities of the Provincial Administration and local self-government for the purpose of efficient use of structural and cohesion funds of the European Union.

Article 11

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of spatial and urban planning and construction of buildings and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Issue permits for construction and use of buildings, whose issuing is within the competence of the ministry in charge of urban planning and construction and which are entirely constructed in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) Decide on appeals against decisions of municipal, that is city administration from the territory of AP Vojvodina in the field of urban planning and building construction;
- 3) Perform inspection in the field of urban planning in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) Perform inspection in the field of building construction;
- 5) Participate in the work of committees and working bodies formed by the minister in charge of urban planning and construction;
- 6) State its opinion of the statute and general acts of the Republic Spatial Planning Agency and Serbian Chamber of Engineers.

Tasks under Paragraph 1, Item 1) – 4) of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Article 12

In accordance with the law regulating the field of housing, AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, shall decide on complaints against the decisions of municipal, that is city administration in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

2. Agriculture

Article 13

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of agriculture and rural development and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Enact, implement and supervise the measures of agrarian policy and rural development;
- 2) Make profit from the use of agricultural land in the territory of AP Vojvodina in accordance with the law and stipulate the conditions and manner of distribution and use of these funds;
- 3) Establish a separate budget, funds or other forms of organisation where funds under Item 2) of this Article shall be directed;
- 4) Define professional activities aimed at improving agricultural production and establish professional services to perform such activities;
- 5) assume the founders' rights to agricultural services established in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 6) Establish the forecasting and reporting service;
- 7) Propose to the competent ministry the conditions related to the import and export of certain agricultural products.

Article 14

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of use of agricultural land and in accordance with the law, shall decide on appeals against the decisions of municipal, that is city administration in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Cattle Breeding and Veterinary Medicine

Article 15

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of cattle breeding and veterinary medicine and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Enact the Long-Term Programme of Measures for implementation of the breeding programme in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the unique programme of the Republic of Serbia;
- 2) Establish the Scientific and Expert Council for Cattle Breeding;
- 3) Enact the annual programme of measures for implementation of the breeding plan under Item 1) of this Paragraph in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) Give consent to the use of high-quality cattle for breeding and bees for purposes of reproduction in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 5) Establish if the conditions have been met to engage in the selection of cattle in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 6) Appoint the authorised breeding organisation in the territory of AP Vojvodina to manage the selection within cattle breeding;
- 7) Give consent to authorised breeding organisations for passing on the control of production in cattle breeding;
- 8) Receive and process the documentation for granting incentives and other funds from the AP Vojvodina budget in the field of cattle breeding.

Tasks under Paragraph 1, Item 4) - 7) shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Water Management

Article 16

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of water management and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Regulate the water management activity for the territory of AP Vojvodina, except the field of water protection against pollution to ensure the protection of human health, flora and fauna, as well as environment;
- 2) Enact, implement and monitor the regular and extraordinary protective measures against external and internal water, in accordance with the adopted plans of AP Vojvodina and the Republic of Serbia;
- 3) Govern the water resources, artificial and natural watercourses in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) Enact the water management master plan for the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the water management master plan of the Republic of Serbia;
- 5) Establish a public enterprise in charge of water management in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 6) Perform inspection in the field of water management in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under Paragraph 1, Item 6) of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Article 17

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of water and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Collect revenues from the fees charged for the use of water, whose amount shall be determined by the Government;
- 2) Issue water management requirements, water management consent and water management permit for buildings and works in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks from Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

4. Forestry

Article 18

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of forestry and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Regulate the forestry in the territory of AP Vojvodina and ensure the exercise of public interest in this field;
- 2) Establish a public enterprise in charge of forest management in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) Perform inspection in this field, apart from the inspection at the border crossing.

Tasks under Paragraph 1, Item 3) of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

5. Hunting and Fishery

Article 19

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, shall regulate hunting in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the law.

Article 20

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of hunting and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Enact the programme of improvement, protection and breeding of game for the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the unique programme for the territory of Republic of Serbia;
- 2) Establish and give consent to management of hunting grounds in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) Give consent to the management plan for hunting grounds in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) Perform inspection in the field of hunting, apart from the inspection of the transport of game, transport of animal products and game health.

Tasks from Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Article 21

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, shall regulate fishery in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the law.

Article 22

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of fishery and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Give consent to programmes for improvement of fishery in fishing areas in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) Lease fishing areas in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) Collect revenues from lease fees charged for the use of fishing area in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) Perform inspection in the field of protection and sustainable use of the fish fund of the of the fishing areas situated in protected natural resources in the territory of AP Vojvodina and the transport of fish in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

6. Tourism, Catering Industry, Spas and Health Resorts

Article 23

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of tourism, catering industry, spas and health resorts and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Regulate the planning and development of tourism in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the Republic of Serbia Tourism Development Strategy;
- 2) Enact the AP Vojvodina Tourism Development Strategy, in accordance with the Republic of Serbia Tourism Development Strategy, along with the programmes required for its implementation;
- 3) Propose to the Government the act of proclamation of tourist area in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) Propose a member of the Committee for Categorisation of Tourist Resorts;
- 5) Establish the Tourist Organisation of AP Vojvodina and other organisations for improvement and development of tourism;
- 6) Regulate the use of mineral and thermal waters, balneological and climate resources and may set up spas and health resorts in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the Republic of Serbia Tourism Development Strategy.

Article 24

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of tourism and in accordance with the law, shall arrange for the examination of professional competence for a local tourist guide or tourist escort for the area of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

7. Environmental Protection

Article 25

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of environmental protection and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Regulate, improve and ensure the environmental protection for the

- territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) Pass the act of putting under protection the natural goods, in accordance with the law regulating the nature protection;
 - 3) Enact the programme of environmental protection in its territory in compliance with the National Programme, the action and remediation plans and its interests and specificities;
 - 4) Enact plans and programmes for management of natural resources and goods, in accordance with the strategic documents;
 - 5) Control the use and protection of natural resources and goods in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
 - 6) Ensure continuous control and monitoring of the environmental situation and enact the monitoring programme for its territory which shall comply with the monitoring programme enacted by the Government for the period of two years;
 - 7) Ensure conditions for provision of measures and conditions of environmental protection, at the request of the body responsible for preparation and enactment of spatial and urban plans, based on the requirements and opinion of competent professional organisations;
 - 8) Participate in the process of preparation and enactment of spatial and urban plans and other plans;
 - 9) Enact the external plan for protection against accident, being the integral part of the response plan for emergency situations based on the competences under the regulation governing the field of protection and rescue;
 - 10) In case of accident, declare the situation of environmental endangerment in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the law governing the environmental protection;
 - 11) Establish the budget fund pursuant to the regulation governing the budget system, which shall be financed from the revenues collected in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Provincial Institute for Nature Protection

Article 26

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, shall establish the Provincial Institute for Nature Protection, with the aim to protect nature and natural goods located entirely in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Fruška Gora National Park

Article 27

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, shall establish the public enterprise for management of the Fruška Gora National Park.

On the date of commencement of operation, the public enterprise for management of the Fruška Gora National Park shall assume the rights and duties and take over the employees and resources of the Public Enterprise “Fruška Gora National Park” seated in Sremska Kamenica.

Article 28

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of environmental protection and improvement and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Perform inspection in the field of environmental protection and undertake measures for elimination of illegality in this field, apart from the inspection:
 - in case of an accident,
 - in the field of ionising radiation,
 - of the cross-border flow of the goods subject to the competence of the Republic Inspection for Environmental Protection and whether the requirements have been met by the operator to obtain the permit for the cross-border flow of goods (radioactivity, waste, toxins, substances harmful for the Ozone layer, protected species of flora and fauna),
 - of particular buildings in the territory of AP Vojvodina, which shall be determined in a separate act;
- 2) Give consent to the study of environmental impact assessment, projects for which building permits shall be issued by the competent provincial body for matters related to urban planning;
- 3) Give consent to the report on strategic environmental impact assessment for the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) Issue integrated permits for those plants and activities for which the building permit and approval of the commencement of works, that is, of the execution or performance of activities, shall be issued by another provincial body;
- 5) Give previous consent in the process of establishing the basis, plans and programmes of environmental protection and improvement of the protected natural goods, flora and fauna, forests and waters in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 6) Set up the information system for protection and improvement of environment, as part of the unique information system of the Republic of Serbia;
- 7) Decide on appeals against the decisions of municipal, that is city administration in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 8) Perform inspection of the use and protection of natural goods and resources.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

8. Industry and Craftsmanship

Article 29

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of industry and craftsmanship and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Enact the plan and programme of sustained economic development of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the Development Plan of the Republic of Serbia;
- 2) Establish old crafts typical of the area of AP Vojvodina and define and ensure the measures for their improvement and development.

9. Road, River and Railway Transport

Article 30

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of road, river and railway transport and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Regulate and provide the conditions and manner of management, protection, maintenance and financing of the second class public roads in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) Regulate and provide for the inland navigation transport, navigation safety, conditions and the manner of use, maintenance, signalisation and protection of inland navigation waterways, except the waterways where international and inter-state regime of navigation shall be applied, docks, winter harbours and anchorages, boats and vessels and activities undertaken in case of a navigation accident in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Article 31

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of public roads, road, river and railway transport and in accordance with the law, shall perform inspection in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

10. Organisation of Fairs and Other Economic Events

Article 32

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of organisation of fairs and other economic events and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Regulate fairs and other economic events relevant for the Province;
- 2) Regulate the establishment, categorisation and method of work of fair centres and establish the network of fair and other economic events in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

11. Education

Preschool and Primary Education and Upbringing

Article 33

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of preschool and primary education and upbringing and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) Establish the institutions of preschool and mandatory primary education and upbringing in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) Give consent to the act of the network of primary schools enacted by a local self-government assembly, based on the criteria established by the Government;
- 3) Give consent to organising a branch office of the institution outside its seat;
- 4) Decide on verification of the institution in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 5) Give consent to the decision on extending the activity of the institution, established by the Republic of Serbia, AP Vojvodina or a local self-government unit;

- 6) Give consent to the decision of the governing body on the change of name or seat of the institution established by the Republic of Serbia, AP Vojvodina or a local self-government unit;
- 7) Specify schools in which pupils shall be entitled to complete the education commenced, should the school be dissolved in accordance with the law;
- 8) Designate the temporary body to govern the institution, if members of that governing body have not been appointed by a local self-government unit prior to the expiry of the term of office of previously appointed members of the governing body;
- 9) Give or deny its consent to the decision on election of the principal of the institution;
- 10) Designate the acting principal of the institution in cases stipulated by the law;
- 11) Give or deny its consent to the decision on relief of duty of the principal of the institution principal prior to the expiry of their term of office due to a breach of law;
- 12) Stipulate the school calendar for primary schools in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 13) Approve the manner in which the school shall compensate for the missed work in case of suspending the education and upbringing activity;
- 14) through the Provincial Education Inspector, perform supervision of the work of institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina, as well as:
 - perform direct inspection of institutions within the municipality, that is city where this inspection has not been arranged for;
 - instruct the municipality, that is city on the inspection performance;
 - prepare for the Provincial Secretary the draft decision on the appeal against the first-instance decision of the municipal, that is city administration, enacted during the inspection;
 - perform direct supervision of the work of the municipal, that is city inspectorate, provide mandatory instructions for the enforcement of laws and other regulations and control their enforcement;
 - deprive of authorisation the inspector who failed to perform their tasks in a timely, professional, legal and conscientious manner and propose the establishment of responsibility in the body entrusted to perform the inspection;
 - organise joint actions with the inspectors in bodies entrusted to perform the inspection;
 - require reports, information and notifications concerning the performance of delegated tasks of inspection and undertake other duties pursuant to the law regulating the inspection in general;
- 15) give consent to the implementation of instruction and school syllabus in languages of national minorities for less than 15 students in institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 16) give its consent to establishing a joint professional service for all primary schools in the territory of the municipality;
- 17) carry out the nostrification and recognition of equivalence of certificates and degrees acquired abroad;
- 18) give opinion in the process of passing the curricula and syllabuses;
- 19) adopt syllabuses for languages of national minorities;
- 20) approve the textbooks and teaching aids for languages of national minorities;
- 21) as agreed with the competent minister, pass curricula and syllabuses for particular subjects of the interest to national minorities and establish

conditions and method of organisation of instruction in languages of national minorities;

- 22) as agreed with the competent minister, approve textbooks and teaching aids for particular subjects of the interest to national minorities;
- 23) set up the committee and arrange for the examination for the principal of the institution;
- 24) set up the committee and arrange for the examination to obtain the licence for teachers, educators and professional associates;
- 25) set up the committee and arrange for the examination of professional competence for the secretary of the institution;
- 26) cooperate with the ministry competent for education in the process of setting up the school administration.

Tasks under Items 23), 24) and 25) of this Article shall be performed in a unique manner and under equal conditions, which shall be stipulated, pursuant to the law, by the competent minister for the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks, with the exception of Item 1), Items 18) –22) and Item 26).

Secondary Education and Upbringing

Article 34

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of secondary education and upbringing and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) establish the institutions of secondary education and upbringing in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) establish the network of secondary schools on the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) establish the number of students to enroll the secondary school;
- 4) give consent to establishing a branch office of the institution outside its seat;
- 5) decide on the institution's verification in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 6) give consent to the decision on extending the activity of the institution, established by the Republic of Serbia, AP Vojvodina or a local self-government unit;
- 7) Give consent to the decision of the governing body on the change of name or seat of the institution established by the Republic of Serbia, AP Vojvodina or a local self-government unit;
- 8) Specify schools in which students shall be entitled to complete the education commenced, should the school be dissolved in accordance with the law;
- 9) Designate the temporary body to govern the institution, if members of that governing body have not been appointed by a local self-government unit prior to the expiry of the term of office of previously appointed members of the governing body;
- 10) Give or deny its consent to the decision on election of the principal of the institution;
- 11) Designate the acting principal of the institution in cases stipulated by the law;

- 12) Give or deny its consent to the decision on relief of duty of the principal of the institution prior to the expiry of their term of office due to a breach of law;
- 13) Stipulate the school calendar for secondary schools in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 14) Approve the manner in which the school shall compensate for the missed work in case of suspending the education and upbringing activity;
- 15) through the Provincial Education Inspector, perform supervision of the work of institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina, as well as:
 - perform inspection of institutions within the municipality or city where this inspection has not been arranged for;
 - instruct the municipality, that is city on the inspection performance;
 - prepare for the Provincial Secretary the draft decision on the appeal against the first-instance decision of the municipal or city administration, enacted during the inspection;
 - perform direct supervision of the work of municipal or city inspectorate, issue required instructions for enforcement of laws and other regulations and monitor their enforcement;
 - withdraw authorisation of the inspector who failed to perform their tasks in a timely, professional, legal and conscientious manner and propose establishment of responsibilities within the body entrusted to perform the inspection;
 - organise joint actions with inspectors in the bodies entrusted to perform the inspection;
 - require reports, information and notifications pertaining to the performance of delegated tasks of inspection and undertake other duties, in accordance with the law governing the field of inspection in general;
- 16) give consent to the implementation of instruction and syllabuses in languages of national minorities for less than 15 students in institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 17) determine the tuition fee for persons who acquired secondary education and wish to be retrained or additionally trained, acquire specialist training or vocational education;
- 18) give approval for the number of students eligible for acquisition of professional training, retraining, additional training and specialist training;
- 19) carry out the nostrification and recognition of equivalence of certificates and degrees acquired abroad;
- 20) conduct proceedings for protection of students rights;
- 21) give opinion in the process of adoption of curricula and syllabuses;
- 22) adopt syllabuses for national minority languages;
- 23) approve textbooks and teaching aids for national minority languages;
- 24) as agreed with the competent minister, pass curricula and syllabuses for certain subjects of the interest to national minorities and establish conditions and methods for organising instruction in national minority languages;
- 25) as agreed with the competent minister, approve textbooks and teaching aids for certain subjects of interest to national minorities;
- 26) in case of secondary schools of special interest to the Republic of Serbia and special schools, it shall propose to the assembly of the local self-government unit, the following representatives as members of the school board: three distinguished representatives of the Chamber of Commerce,

employers association, National Employment Service, trade unions and other parties concerned with the work of school;

- 27) set up a committee and organise the examination for the principal of the institution;
- 28) set up a committee and organise the examination for obtaining the licence for teachers, educators and professional associates;
- 29) set up a committee and organise the examination of professional competence for the secretary of the institution;
- 30) cooperate with the ministry competent for education affairs in the process of setting up the school administration.

Tasks under Paragraph 1, Items 27), 28) and 29) of this Article shall be performed in a unique manner and under equal conditions which shall be stipulated by the competent minister for the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia, in accordance with the law.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks, with the exception of Article 1, Items 21)-25) and Item 30).

Higher Education

Article 35

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of higher education, shall:

- 1) propose member of the National Council of Higher Education;
- 2) issue licences for higher education institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) perform inspection and supervision of the legality of work of the higher education institution in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) establish independent higher education institutions;
- 5) in case of discontinuation of work of a higher education institution due to revocation of licence or some other reason and upon the proposal of the National Council of Higher Education, adopt an act guaranteeing completion of studies for students of the abovementioned higher education institution;
- 6) decide on alteration of the name, seat and status for independent higher education institutions established by AP Vojvodina;
- 7) decide on dissolution of a higher education institution established by AP Vojvodina;
- 8) appoint representatives of the founder of the council of the higher education institution established by AP Vojvodina;
- 9) decide on the number of students allowed for enrollment in the first year of the study course financed from the budget for the higher education institution established by AP Vojvodina, upon obtainment of opinion of the higher education institution and National Council of Higher Education, not later than two months prior to the announcement of competition;
- 10) annul any diploma if issued by an unauthorised organisation;
- 11) issue the certificate of destruction or disappearance of archival records;
- 12) obtain information about the international and national higher education institutions for the purpose of validation of international or national study course;

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks, with the exception of the tasks under item 1).

Pupils' and Students' Standard

Article 36

AP Vojvodina through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of pupils' and students' standard, shall:

- 1) establish the network of pupils' dormitories and students' centres and other institutions for pupils' and students' standard in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) establish and dissolve institutions for pupils' and students' standard in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) determine fulfillment of conditions for the startup and performance of activities of institutions for pupils' and students' standard and decide on prohibition of their work in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 4) decide on complaints against decisions on admission of pupils and students to the institutions for pupils' and students' standard;
- 5) decide on deprivation of pupils' and students' rights, stipulated by the law;
- 6) conduct a competition for admission to pupils and student residences;
- 7) determine the method and procedure for the allocation of vacancies in the residences;
- 8) determine the method and procedure for the allocation of meal-tickets;
- 9) determine conditions for granting pupils' and students' travel allowances for the intermunicipal transportation;
- 10) give approval for the act on organisation and systematisation of activities of institutions for pupils' and students' standard, in accordance with regulations and standards, prescribed by the competent minister for the entire territory of the Republic of Serbia;
- 11) appoint and relieve of duty members of the management and supervisory board in institutions for pupils' and students' standard;
- 12) appoint and relieve of duty directors of institutions for pupils' and students' standard;
- 13) perform inspection and supervision of the legality of work of such institutions.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks, with the exception of the tasks under Items 7) and 8).

Non-Formal Adult Education

Article 37

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law and Adult Education Development Strategy in the Republic of Serbia, shall specifically regulate issues pertaining to organised and institutional education outside the education system, for the purpose of professional training of the adult in the territory of AP Vojvodina, as issues of relevant for the Province.

Education of National Minorities

Article 38

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, shall specifically regulate and ensure the exercise of national minority rights in the territory of AP Vojvodina, pertaining to

education in their native language, at all levels of education and in accordance with the law.

12. Sports

Article 39

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with law, in the field of sports, shall:

- 1) identify needs and interests of citizens in the field of sports in the territory of AP Vojvodina and provide resources for realisation of these needs and interests;
- 2) designate sports facilities of interest to AP Vojvodina and criteria for provision of financial resources from the budget of AP Vojvodina required for their construction, equipping and maintenance;
- 3) establish programmes of international sports competitions of interest to AP Vojvodina;
- 4) appoint and relieve of duty the director, president and members of the management and supervisory board of organisations working in the field of sports, whose programmes, aimed at realising the citizens' interest in the field of sports in the territory of AP Vojvodina, are entirely or partially financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina;
- 5) provide conditions for work, that is for performing activities of the Provincial Institute of Sports and other organisations in the field of sports, established by AP Vojvodina;
- 6) regulate and keep records in the field of sports of significance to AP Vojvodina.

The Provincial Sports Association shall propose to the Provincial administrative authority, in charge of activities in the field of sports, programmes of its members, aimed at realising the citizens' interest, under Paragraph 1, Item 1) of this Article.

Programmes under Paragraph 2 of this Article shall be financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina.

Article 40

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of sports, shall:

- 1) specifically regulate conditions for performing sports activities by organisations in the field of sports, from the territory of AP Vojvodina and determine the fulfillment of these conditions;
- 2) determine the fulfillment of conditions for organisation of sports events in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) specifically regulate conditions and monitor utilisation of public sport grounds and determine the fulfillment of conditions for their utilisation;

- 4) conduct inspection of the work of organisations and individuals in the field of sports, from the territory of AP Vojvodina and enforcement of regulations stipulating the field of sports;
- 5) perform supervision of professional work in the field of sports.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

13. Culture

Article 41

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of culture, shall:

- 1) identify needs and interests of citizens of AP Vojvodina in the field of culture and provide resources for their realisation;
- 2) regulate needs and interests in the field of national minority culture and provide resources for their realisation;
- 3) establish archives, museums, libraries, theatres, institutes and other institutions in the field of culture;
- 4) define the Cultural Development Programme of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the Cultural Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia;
- 5) propose a part of the Cultural Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 6) establish awards and determine the method and procedure of their presentation for the purpose of cultural creation in certain fields of culture, that is for the special contribution in the field of cultural creation;
- 7) establish interregional cooperation in the field of culture within projects of interest to cultural development in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 8) exercise founder's right in the sense of appointment of directors and members of the management and supervisory board of cultural institutions whose activities, maintenance and programmes are entirely or mainly financed from the budget of AP Vojvodina;
- 9) provide resources for work, investment and ongoing maintenance, that is financing a part of the programmes of cultural institutions established by AP Vojvodina;
- 10) provide resources for work, investment and ongoing maintenance and equipping, that is programmes of other institutions and organisations which are not established by AP Vojvodina and which contribute to development of culture and art in AP Vojvodina or ensure cultural development of members of national minorities, on the basis of a special decision, stipulating standards, criteria and the method of allocation of these resources.

Protection of Cultural Property

Article 42

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law stipulating the field of cultural property protection, shall:

- 1) determine functions of central institutions in the field of cultural property protection, such as: the Archive of Vojvodina in Novi Sad, Library of the Central Serbian Cultural and Publishing Society in Novi Sad, Museum of Vojvodina in

Novi Sad, Museum of Contemporary Arts in Novi Sad and Theatre Museum of Vojvodina;

2) establish additional conditions for the work of institutions under Item 1) of this Paragraph;

3) determine the fulfillment of conditions for the startup and performance of activities of protection institutes in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

4) appoint members of the management and supervisory board and directors of the institutions under Item 1) of this Paragraph, with the exception of the Library of the Central Serbian Cultural and Publishing Society, while in the Archive of Vojvodina and Provincial Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments in Novi Sad, the president and one member of the management board, as well as the president of the supervisory board, shall be appointed upon the proposal of the ministry competent for cultural affairs;

5) appoint members of the management and supervisory board and directors of other protection institutes in the territory of AP Vojvodina, where two members of the management board and one member of the supervisory board of these institutions shall be appointed upon the proposal of the ministry competent for cultural affairs;

6) establish institutions in the field of protection under Item 1) of this Paragraph and the network of protection institutes in the territory of AP Vojvodina, with the exception of the Library of the Central Serbian Cultural and Publishing Society;

7) initiate proceedings for the identification of immovable cultural properties in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

8) issue licences to foreign citizens for utilisation of archival records and file tapes;

9) determine conditions for undertaking measures of technical protection and other activities pertaining to immovable cultural properties when for the territory of AP Vojvodina, projects and documentation for the activities of this kind, are prepared by the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments;

10) within seven days, it shall report to the Provincial Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments in Novi Sad on determined conditions, when these conditions are determined by an institute from the territory of AP Vojvodina;

11) give approval for the project and documentation for undertaking measures of technical protection and other activities pertaining to immovable cultural properties when the project and documentation is prepared by the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Monuments from the territory of AP Vojvodina;

12) give opinion on draft spatial and urban plans for the territory of AP Vojvodina and report to the competent authority in case the plan does not have a required content;

13) issue licences for relocation of an immovable cultural property in the territory of AP Vojvodina to a new location, with the exception of the cultural property of great importance, that is the cultural property of special importance;

14) suspend construction and other works at archeological sites, as well as during the process of excavation of archeological artifacts;

15) grant permission for taking properties enjoying the abovementioned protection outside the country;

16) set up the committee of the competent central protection institute for the state examination of professional competence for the employees of the institutions for cultural property protection;

17) initiate proceedings for the suspension of the implementation of spatial and urban plans if they jeopardize the protection of cultural monuments in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

18) perform supervision of the work of protection institutes in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

Tasks under Paragraph 1), Items 4), 8) and 13) - 18) of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Cinematography and Film Art

Article 43

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law stipulating the field of cinematography, shall perform inspection.

Taxes and charges levied in accordance with regulations in the field of cinematography shall represent the revenue of the budget of AP Vojvodina for tax payers with the place of residence in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in case when the place of renting, public screening or selling of videotapes is in the territory of AP Vojvodina, that is, depending on the place of broadcasting and initial location of the vehicle in which the broadcasting is taking place.

Costs of issuing a revenue stamp shall represent the income of the issuer of the stamp.

The task under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as a delegated task.

Endowments, Funds and Foundations

Article 44

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with law, in the field of endowments, foundations and funds, shall:

1) give permissions for establishing endowments, foundations and funds in the territory of AP Vojvodina and any changes which may occur during their operation;

2) keep the register of endowments, foundations and funds established in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Library Activities

Article 45

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of library activities, shall:

1) establish the network of libraries in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

2) establish libraries with determined basic functions in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

3) determine specific conditions for library activities;

4) determine fulfillment of conditions for the startup and performing library activities;

5) establish the composition of management and supervisory boards of libraries which perform their basic functions and appoint members of these bodies;

6) appoint and relieve of duty directors of libraries performing their basic functions, upon the approval of the Director of the National Library of Serbia;

7) set up the committee for the examination of professional competence for employees of libraries;

8) perform supervision of the work of organisations performing library activities in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under Paragraph 1, Item 1), 2) and 4)-8) of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Publishing of Publications

Article 46

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of publishing of publications, shall perform supervision of the work of publishers and other legal entities registered for publishing of publications.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

14. Health Care and Social Protection

Health Care

Article 47

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with laws stipulating the field of health care, shall perform the following tasks:

1) social health care at the level of AP Vojvodina, including measures for ensuring and implementation of health care of interest to the citizens of the territory of AP Vojvodina;

2) enact special health care programmes for certain population categories, that is certain types of diseases typical for AP Vojvodina, for which special health care programme has not been adopted at the Republic level, in accordance with its abilities and determine prices of individual services, that is programmes;

3) establish health care institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the Plan of the Health Care Institutions Network, adopted by the Government, such as: general hospital, specialised hospital, clinic, institute, clinical centre, institute of public health, institute of blood transfusion and institute of antirabic protection;

4) establish the Institute of Public Health for the territory of AP Vojvodina to coordinate and monitor the professional work of the Institute of Public Health and other health care institutions performing sanitary- epidemiological and socio-medical activities in the territory of AP Vojvodina, propose long-term health care measures with priorities and methodologically manage their implementation in the territory of AP Vojvodina, give proposals to the Institute of Public Health, established for the territory of the Republic of Serbia, pertaining to special measures in cases of natural hazards and other greater disasters and implement them in cooperation with other institutions;

5) establish the Institute of Blood Transfusion for the territory of AP Vojvodina, which performs activities in accordance with the law stipulating transfusion services;

6) give proposal for establishing the Plan of the Health Care Institutions Network, adopted by the Government for health care institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

7) appoint and relieve of duty directors, deputy directors, members of the management and supervisory board of the health care institutions it establishes;

8) give approval for statutes of the health care institutions it establishes;

9) determine a weekly work schedule, beginning and ending times in the health care institution it establishes;

10) determine a weekly work schedule, beginning and ending times of the health care institutions and private practices, located in the territory of AP Vojvodina, during the period of epidemics and elimination of consequences caused by natural hazards, other greater disasters and emergencies, in cases of epidemics, other greater disasters and emergencies in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

11) give proposal to the minister competent for health care affairs for identification of the number of probationary employees of the health care institutions with the seat in the territory of AP Vojvodina, which health care institutions are obliged to employ for probation period per annum;

12) give opinion for the Medical Staff Development Plan adopted by the minister competent for health care affairs, for institutions located in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

13) give proposal to the minister competent for health care affairs for determining referential health care institutions for certain fields of health care services in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

14) determine a minimum work process during a strike of health care institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

15) establish the Health Care Council of Vojvodina as an expert and advisory body in charge of monitoring the development of health care and health insurance in AP Vojvodina;

16) establish the Ethics Committee of Vojvodina as an expert body.

Health Care Council of Vojvodina

Article 48

The Health Care Council of Vojvodina shall propose to the Health Care Council of Serbia, the following:

1) measures for protection and improvement of health condition and enhancement of health care potential of citizens of the territory of AP Vojvodina;

2) measures for uniform realisation of health care of all citizens in AP Vojvodina, as well as measures for improvement of health care of vulnerable population;

3) measures for functioning of health care and health insurance in the territory of AP Vojvodina, based on principles of cost-efficiency, sustainability and efficiency;

4) measures for improvement of enrollment policy at faculties and schools in the field of medicine, in the territory of AP Vojvodina and it shall cooperate with competent and other expert bodies in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in proposing measures of rational enrollment policy at faculties and schools in the field of medicine;

5) measures aimed at implementation of the reform in the field of health care and health insurance;

6) address other issues in the field of health care and health insurance and offer professional assistance to bodies, organisations and institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina in implementation of tasks, pertaining to social health care;

The Health Care Council of Vojvodina consists of nine members elected by the Assembly of AP Vojvodina, among the representatives of esteemed experts in the field of health care and health insurance.

For issues which are not specifically regulated by this law and which pertain to the work of the Health Care Council of Vojvodina, term of office of members of the Health Care Council of Vojvodina and prevention of the conflict of public and private interest, as well as for suspension of members of the Health Care Council of Vojvodina, provisions of the law governing health care, in section which does not pertain to the work of the Health Care Council of Serbia, shall be applied accordingly, unless otherwise stipulated in this law.

Resources required for the work of the Health Care Council of Vojvodina shall be provided from the budget of AP Vojvodina.

Ethics Committee of Vojvodina

Article 49

The Ethics Committee of Vojvodina shall:

1) monitor the application of the principle of professional ethics of medical workers in provision of medical services in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

2) cooperate with the Ethics Committee of Serbia in coordination of work of ethics committees in health care institutions, in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

3) upon the request of the Ethics Committee of Serbia, monitor the implementation of scientific research and clinical tests of drugs and medical equipment in health care institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina and submit the relevant report to the Ethics Committee of Serbia;

4) give opinions on controversial issues of importance for the implementation of scientific research, medical and clinical tests of drugs and medical equipment in health care institutions in AP Vojvodina;

5) monitor the implementation of decisions and give opinions on expert issues pertaining to the procedure of using parts of human body for medical, scientific and educational purposes in health care institutions, in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the law;

6) monitor the implementation of decisions and give opinions on expert issues pertaining to the implementation of measures for infertility treatments by means of bio-medically assisted fertilisation procedures, in health care institutions, in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the law;

7) address other issues of professional ethics in the implementation of health care services, in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

The Ethics Committee of Vojvodina shall consist of seven members appointed and relieved of duty by the competent body of AP Vojvodina, upon the proposal of the Provincial Secretary competent for health issues;

For issues not specifically regulated by this law, which pertain to the work of the Ethics Committee of Vojvodina, the term of office of the members of the Ethics Committee of Vojvodina and prevention of the conflict of public and private interest, provisions of the law governing health care, in section which does not pertain to the

work of the Ethics Committee of Serbia, shall be applied accordingly, unless otherwise stipulated in this law.

Resources for the work of the Ethics Committee of Vojvodina shall be provided from the budget of AP Vojvodina.

Sanitary Inspection

Article 50

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law stipulating the field of sanitary inspection, shall perform sanitary inspection.

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Provincial Institute for Health Insurance

Article 51

The Provincial Institute for Health Insurance (hereinafter: Provincial Institute), as an organisational unit of the Republic Institute for Health Insurance and in accordance with the law, shall perform the following tasks:

1) coordination of work of branch offices established in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in cooperation with the Republic Institute for Health Insurance;

2) control over work of branch offices and spending of funds for designated purposes, which the Republic Institute for Health Insurance transfers to branch offices for exercising rights to the mandatory health insurance, in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

3) control of contracts concluded between branch offices and providers of health care services, in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

4) decide on the rights pertaining to health insurance at the second instance;

5) offer required professional assistance for insured persons, pertaining to exercising rights to the mandatory health insurance and protection of their interest within the insurance;

6) provide conditions for work of medical committees, established in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

7) procure information subsystem, as part of the integrated information system of of the Republic of Serbia, for the field of health insurance;

8) perform statistical and other researches in the field of health insurance;

9) establish cooperation with the competent Provincial bodies;

10) other tasks stipulated by the Statute of the Republic Institute for Health Insurance.

The Provincial Institute shall be based in the seat of the bodies of AP Vojvodina.

The Provincial Institute shall have its sub-account through which payments of appropriations of the Republic Institute for Health Insurance are made to health care institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the law governing the field of health insurance and regulations enacted for the purpose of the enforcement of this law.

The Director of the Provincial Institute shall be appointed by the Management Board of the Republic Institute for Health Insurance, upon the proposal of the competent body of AP Vojvodina.

The Director of the Provincial Institute shall participate in work of the Management Board of the Republic Institute for Health Insurance, without the decision-making right;

The Director of the Provincial Institute shall appoint directors of branch offices, established in the territory of AP Vojvodina, after the conducted public competition, under the conditions and in the manner stipulated by the law for appointment of directors of branch offices outside the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Provisions of the law governing the health insurance field shall be applied to the Director of the Provincial Institute, in the section pertaining to prevention of the conflict of public and private interest .

The Management and Supervisory Board of the Republic Institute for Health Insurance, consisting of the representatives of insured persons, in accordance with the law governing the health insurance field, shall also have to include the representatives of insured persons from the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Article 52

As of the day of the beginning of work, the Institute of Public Health, established for the territory of AP Vojvodina, shall take over movable and immovable property for use, as well as assume rights and responsibilities of the Institute of Public Health, established for the territory of the South Bačka Administrative County.

As of the day of the beginning of work, the Institute of Public Health, established for the territory of AP Vojvodina, shall also take over the employees of the Institute of Public Health, established for the territory of the South Bačka Administrative County.

Social Protection

Article 53

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of social protection, shall:

- 1) regulate other rights in the field of social protection, in accordance with material resources, as well as a greater scope of rights than the rights stipulated by the law and more favourable conditions for their exercise, including other forms of social protection, if funds have been previously allocated within its budget;
- 2) establish social protection institutions for accommodation of beneficiaries in the territory of AP Vojvodina, with the exception of social protection institutions established by the local self-government, in accordance with the network of social protection institutions for accommodation of beneficiaries, established by the Republic of Serbia;
- 3) give permission for modification of activities and status changes of social protection institutions for accommodation of beneficiaries, established by AP Vojvodina;
- 4) appoint management and supervisory boards, as well as directors of social protection institutions for accommodation of beneficiaries, established by AP Vojvodina;
- 5) establish the Provincial Institute for Social Protection;
- 6) enact the Programme for Improvement of Social Protection in AP Vojvodina.

Article 54

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of social protection, shall:

- 1) give opinion on the decision proposal pertaining to the network of social protection institutions for accommodation of beneficiaries, made by the Republic of Serbia, within the section pertaining to the network of institutions in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) give consent to the appointment of directors of social work centres in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 3) determine the fulfillment of conditions for the startup and performing activities of social protection institutions for accommodation of beneficiaries;
- 4) performs tasks of the second instance body, upon decisions of social work centres in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 5) conduct revision of decisions of social work centres in the territory of AP Vojvodina, pertaining to the recognized rights within the framework of rights and obligations of the Republic of Serbia;
- 6) perform supervision of the work of institutions and other legal entities performing activities of social protection in the territory of AP Vojvodina, as well as inspection.

Tasks under Paragraph 1, Items 4)-6) of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Family Legal Protection and Guardianship

Article 55

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, in the field of family legal protection and guardianship, shall:

- 1) decide on appeals against decisions of guardianship bodies in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) perform supervision of the work of guardianship bodies and professional work of guardianship bodies in the territory of AP Vojvodina;

Tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Social Childcare

Article 56

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, governing the field of financial support of families with children, shall:

- 1) decide on appeals against decisions of municipal, that is city administration in the territory of AP Vojvodina;
- 2) perform supervision of the work of bodies performing delegated tasks of public administration, in the field of financial support for families with children, in the territory of AP Vojvodina.

Tasks under the Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Article 57

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of preschool upbringing and education and in accordance with the law, shall supervise social work activities in the child care facilities in the territory of the AP of Vojvodina.

The task under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as a delegated task.

Special Protection of the Mother and the Child

Article 58

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, shall establish and provide for additional and supplementary rights and protection, that is, a higher degree of protection of family, children rights, pregnant women, mothers on maternity leave and single parents with children, in accordance with the Programme of Demographic Development of the AP of Vojvodina and its implementation measures.

Pension Insurance

Article 59

The Provincial Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance (hereinafter: the Provincial Fund), as an organisational unit of the Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance (hereinafter: the Republic Fund), in addition to the tasks stipulated by the law and the Statute of the Republic Fund, shall also:

- 1) prepare and draw up materials for negotiations with the foreign pension and disability insurance holders;
- 2) perform diagnostics in order to check medical documentation;
- 3) perform tasks pertaining to accelerated pension and disability insurance scheme;
- 4) perform tasks pertaining to provision of social standard of insurance holder;
- 5) perform statistical and other researches in the field of pension and disability insurance;
- 6) establish cooperation with a relevant provincial body, in particular with regard to the exchange of data and experience, as well as with the federation of pensioners and federation of trade unions established at the level of the AP Vojvodina.

The Provincial Fund is based in the seat of the AP Vojvodina authorities.

The Provincial Fund, in accordance with the law and the Statute of the Republic Fund shall maintain the sub-account for payment and disbursement of the Republic Fund resources in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The Director of the Provincial Fund shall be appointed by the Management Board of the Republic Fund at the recommendation of the competent body of the AP Vojvodina.

The Director of the Provincial Fund shall participate in the work of the Management Board of the Republic Fund, without the decision-making right.

The Director of the Provincial Fund shall appoint directors of the Republic Fund branch offices established in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

War Veterans' and Disability Protection

Article 60

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of the war veterans' and disability protection and in accordance with the law shall:

- 1) provide for functioning of the war veteran-disability protection;
- 2) perform tasks of the second-instance authority and carry out the review;
- 3) supervise the work of authorities deciding on entitlement to veteran-disability protection in the first instance;
- 4) oversee the expenditure of funds allocated for the exercise of rights in the field of war veteran-disability protection;
- 5) create the information subsystem database of the AP Vojvodina within the unique system of the Republic of Serbia.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Protection of Civil War Invalids

Article 61

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of protection of civil war invalids and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) provide for the functioning of the civil war invalids protection;
- 2) perform tasks of the second-instance authority and carry out the review;
- 3) supervise the work of authorities deciding on entitlement to civil war invalids protection in the first instance;
- 4) oversee the expenditure of funds allocated for the exercise of rights in the field of civil war invalids protection;
- 5) create the information subsystem database of the AP Vojvodina within the unique system of the Republic of Serbia.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

15. Public Information at the Provincial Level

Article 62

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of public information and in accordance with the law shall:

- 1) define the public interest of the citizens of the AP Vojvodina in the field of public information and broadcasting;
- 2) adopt the development strategy in the field of public information in the territory of the AP Vojvodina in accordance with the Republic strategy in the field of public information;
- 3) provide a part of funding or other conditions for work of public media in languages of national minorities and ethnic communities, with a view to exercising the right of national minorities and ethnic communities to information in their own language and fostering of their own culture and identity;
- 4) establish cooperation at the regional level;
- 5) provide a part of funding or other conditions for unhindered exercise of rights of persons with special needs in the field of public information, and particularly in the sphere of free exchange of ideas, information and opinions;
- 6) select the members of the Programme Board of the Broadcasting Institution of Vojvodina.

Article 63

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of public information and in accordance with the law, shall supervise the implementation of the law regulating the field of public information in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

16. Science and Technological Development

Article 64

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of science and technological development and in accordance with the law shall:

- 1) adopt the Technological Development Strategy of the AP Vojvodina in accordance with the Technological Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia;
- 2) establish funds or participate in establishing funds for co-financing of high technology plants, resolving housing issues of young teaching and scientific staff and encouraging international cooperation;
- 3) provide funding for co-financing of scientific and research activities;
- 4) determine and finance the programmes in the field of science and technological development of provincial concern;
- 5) provide project funding;
- 6) finance material costs and maintenance of scientific and research infrastructure of the institutes established by the AP Vojvodina;
- 7) may establish the innovations fund which will be financed from the revenue realised in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;

- 8) found or participate in foundation of research-development centers and encourage popularisation of scientific and technological creative work in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 9) provide funding for the work of Vojvodinian Academy of Sciences and Arts in the budget of the AP Vojvodina.

17. Employment

Provincial Employment Service

Article 65

Provincial Employment Service (hereinafter: Provincial Service), as an organisational unit of the National Employment Service (hereinafter: National Service, in addition to tasks stipulated by the law and Statute of the National Service, shall also:

- 1) give consent to the company's by-laws governing training and employment of disabled persons and provide relevant funding;
- 2) set up an information subsystem as a part of the unique information system of the Republic of Serbia in the field of employment;
- 3) coordinate the work of branch offices of National Service in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, upon the authorisation of the National Service Director;
- 4) give proposal for the implementation of the national action plan in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 5) adopt and implement the programme of provincial employment action plan;
- 6) perform other tasks in accordance with by-laws of the National Service.

Article 66

The Provincial Service shall be based in the seat of the AP Vojvodina authorities.

The Provincial Service shall have a sub-account.

The Director of the Provincial Service shall be appointed and relieved of duty by the Management Board of the National Service at the recommendation of the relevant body of the AP Vojvodina.

The Director of the Provincial Service shall participate in the work of the Management Board of the National Service, without the decision-making right.

The Director of the Provincial Service shall, upon the conducted public invitation procedure, propose to the Director of the National Service the candidate to be appointed a director of the branch office established in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The competent body of the AP Vojvodina shall propose one member of the National Service Management Board.

18. Economy and Privatisation

Article 67

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the regulations governing the field of privatisation, shall propose one member of the Tender and Auction Committee respectively when the subject of privatisation is based in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

19. Mining and Energy

Energy Sector

Article 68

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of energy and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) propose a part of the Energy Sector Development Programme in its territory in accordance with the development plan of the AP Vojvodina, constituting the integral part of the Implementation Programme for the Energy Sector Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia;
- 2) adopt energy sector development plans which determine the energy demand within its territory, as well as terms and manner of provision of necessary energy capacities in accordance with the strategy and the programme of the Republic of Serbia;
- 3) propose a part of the Energy Balance of the Republic which refers to the AP Vojvodina;
- 4) monitor the implementation of the energy balance and propose the measures to the Government which ensure its implementation, as required;
- 5) organise the examination of professional competence to examine the professional competence in performing the tasks of maintenance of natural gas transport and distribution facilities, as well as the operators' jobs in those facilities;
- 6) set up a committee for the examination of professional competence from Item 5) of this Paragraph for the persons employed by the energy-sector entity based in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 Item 5) and 6) of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Article 69

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, shall perform tasks of electric-power inspection, inspection of pressure equipment as well as carry out supervision in the field of pipeline transport of gaseous and liquid hydrocarbons in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Mining

Article 70

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of mining and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) set up a committee and organise the examination of professional competence for the candidates from the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 2) decide on the requests for the approval for exploitation of mineral resources and execution of mining works;
- 3) conclude the contracts with the companies that were granted the approval from Item 2) of this Paragraph;
- 4) decide on the requests for approvals for using of mining facilities and putting the facilities into test operation;
- 5) set up a committee to investigate the reasons and consequences of the permanent discontinuation of exploitation;
- 6) perform the supervision tasks in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Geological Exploration

Article 71

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of geological exploration and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) set up a committee and organise the examination of professional competence for the candidates from the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 2) decide on the requests for geological exploration approvals;
- 3) keep a record of exploration areas and a register of approved exploration areas;
- 4) finance basic geological exploration in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the annual programme of basic geological explorations adopted by the Government;
- 5) determine the means and terms of the fee payment for the use of data and documentation of basic geological explorations on the basis of the contract entered into with the data user;
- 7) draw up a balance of mineral resources and underground waters reserves in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 8) set up a committee to determine and validate classified reserves of mineral resources and underground waters;
- 9) perform inspection in the field of geological exploration in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Under-Pressure Equipment

Article 72

AP Vojvodina, through its body and in accordance with the law, shall perform the inspection of energy facilities for the transportation of oil and oil derivatives, transportation and distribution of natural gas, thermal energy production and distribution, oil and gas production and processing, as well as the inspection of other facilities with under-pressure equipment when it is stipulated by the other law.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 shall be performed as delegated tasks.

20. Local Self-Government

Article 73

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of local self-government and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) give opinion on the proposals for establishment of new local self-government units, and abolishment or merger of the existing ones, change of borders and seats of local self-government units in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 2) perform supervision of the legality of work and enactments of the local self-government units in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 3) give a prior consent to the assembly of the local self-government unit in the territory of the AP Vojvodina in the process of determining the holidays and names of streets, squares, city quarters, hamlets and other parts of settlements within the territory of the local self-government unit.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 Item 3) of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

21. Competencies in Other Fields

Article 74

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, shall:

- 1) see to the exercise of human and national minority rights and determine the additional rights in this field;
- 2) establish cooperation with churches and religious communities in the territory of the AP Vojvodina and support their activities which are performed in the public interest;
- 3) regulate and see to implementation and improvement of policy in the field of gender equality in the AP Vojvodina;
- 4) propose the network of courts in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 5) in the field of culture, education and public information may delegate the tasks within its competence to the national minority councils;
- 6) see to the provision of information of public importance;
- 7) ensure the publicity of work of provincial administrative authorities established by the AP Vojvodina.

Article 75

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of planning and implementation of the projects within the National Investment Plan (hereinafter: NIP) in the territory of Vojvodina, shall:

- 1) initiate, coordinate and implement NIP projects in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 2) cooperate with the competent ministry in reviewing and assessing the project proposals for the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 3) draw up a draft list of projects for the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 4) set up and maintain electronic and documentation database into which the project data for the territory of the AP Vojvodina are entered;
- 5) monitor the spending schedule by individual projects and submit relevant quarterly reports to the Government.

Official Use of Language and Script

Article 76

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law, shall more specifically regulate the official use of language and script of national minorities in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law governing the official use of language and script, shall perform the inspection.

The task under Paragraph 2 of this Article shall be performed as a delegated task.

Bar Examination

Article 77

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law governing the bar examination, for the persons with the place of residence in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, shall set up an Examination Board and organise the bar examination.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

State Examination of Professional Competence

Article 78

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the regulations governing the state examination of professional competence for work in the public administrative bodies, for the employees in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, shall set up examination committees and organise the state examination of professional competence.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Permanent Court Interpreters

Article 79

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the regulations on permanent court interpreters shall:

- 1) appoint and relieve of duty permanent court interpreters for the courts in the territory of the AP Vojvodina;
- 2) maintain the register of permanent court interpreters for the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Expropriation

Article 80

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law governing the field of expropriation shall:

- 1) decide on appeals against the decisions of the city, that is, municipal administration in the territory of the AP Vojvodina adopted upon the expropriation proposal;
- 2) decide on proposals for the permission to perform preparatory operations in the expropriation procedure in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Protection of Intellectual Property Rights

Article 81

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law governing the protection of intellectual property rights as well as copyright and related rights shall perform inspection in the field of copyright and related rights protection in the territory of the AP Vojvodina.

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, in the field of intellectual property and in accordance with the law, shall undertake the measures against the piracy.

The tasks under Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be performed as delegated tasks.

Use of the Name of the AP Vojvodina

Article 82

AP Vojvodina, in accordance with the law, shall regulate the use of the name of the AP Vojvodina in the name of associations.

Violations

Article 83

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies and in accordance with the law governing the field of violations, shall prescribe violations and relevant penalties for the breach of regulations enacted within its competences.

Commodity Reserves

Article 84

AP Vojvodina, through its bodies, shall establish commodity reserves of the AP Vojvodina.

III. SUPERVISION OF DELEGATED TASKS

Article 85

The public administrative authorities shall supervise the work of the provincial authorities in performing delegated tasks stipulated by this law, which fall within the competence of the public administrative authorities.

Article 86

Where AP Vojvodina delegates specific tasks within its competence to the local self-government units, the supervision of delegated tasks shall be carried out by the AP Vojvodina bodies by implementing the provisions of the Law on Public Administration pertaining to the competences of the supervising body.

IV. INTERIM AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 87

The bodies of the AP Vojvodina shall take over the employees who performed the tasks designated as competences of the AP Vojvodina in the regional ministry units in the territory of the AP Vojvodina, as well as relevant equipment, files and records.

Article 88

The competent republic bodies shall be obliged to take all necessary measures, including the provision of necessary funds intended for assuming of new competences of the AP Vojvodina, stipulated by this law, until the beginning of enforcement of this law at the latest.

Article 89

AP Vojvodina, in the decision on the budget for 2009, under the separate provision, shall specify the funds to be transferred from the Republic of Serbia budget until the day this law comes into effect for those competences which shall be assumed by the AP Vojvodina under this law.

Article 90

As of the date of enforcement of this law, the Law on Establishing Specific Competences of the Autonomous Province ("Official Gazette of the RS" no. 6/02, 101/07 and other law and 51/09 and other law) shall cease to be effective.

Article 91

This law shall enter into force on the eighth day of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia" and become enforceable as of 1st January 2010 apart from the provisions of Article 8, Article 10 Item 14 and Articles 26, 88 and 89 of this law which shall become enforceable as of the date this law enters into force.

STATEMENT OF REASONS

I CONSTITUTIONAL GROUNDS FOR ENACTING THE LAW

The constitutional grounds for enacting the law are laid down in the provision of Article 177 Paragraph 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which stipulates that it shall be regulated by the law which are the issues of the provincial concern, the provision of Article 178 Paragraph 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which stipulates that the Republic of Serbia may, under the law, delegate to the autonomous provinces specific issues falling within its competence, the provision of Article 183 Paragraph 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which stipulates that the autonomous provinces shall, under the law, regulate the issues of the provincial concern in the fields laid down in the Constitution, as well as in the provision of Article 97 Item 17 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which stipulates that the Republic of Serbia shall regulate other relations of concern to the Republic of Serbia, in accordance with the Constitution.

II REASONS FOR ENACTMENT OF THE LAW AND CLARIFICATION OF INDIVIDUAL SOLUTIONS

The Draft Law on Establishing the Competences of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina has been prepared on the basis of the following considerations:

- the provision of Article 12 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, which stipulates that the public authority shall be restricted by the citizens' right to provincial autonomy;
- the provisions of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia which regulate the provincial autonomy and the legal status of autonomous provinces (the Constitution provisions from Art. 176 to Art. 187),
- the need to extend the existing competences of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina based on the effective laws of the Republic of Serbia.

In the process of preparation of the Draft Law the provisions of Article 183 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia were particularly taken into consideration, which stipulate as follows:

1) that autonomous provinces, in accordance with the Constitution and their statutes, shall regulate the competence, election, organisation and work of bodies and services established by them;

2) that the autonomous provinces, in accordance with the law, shall regulate the issues of the provincial concern in the following fields:

1. spatial planning and development,
2. agriculture, water management, forestry, hunting, fishery, tourism, catering industry, spas and health resorts, environment protection, industry and craftwork,

road, river and railway transport and road rehabilitation, organisation of fairs and other economic events,

3. education, sport, culture, health care and social protection and public information at the provincial level,

3) that the autonomous provinces shall see to the exercise of human and minorities rights in accordance with the law;

4) that the autonomous provinces shall manage the provincial property as stipulated by the law;

5) that the autonomous provinces, in accordance with the Constitution and the law, shall have direct revenues, provide funds for the local self-government units to perform delegated tasks, adopt their budget and annual balance sheet.

The Draft Law envisages the competences of the AP Vojvodina in regulating the issues of provincial concern in the fields stipulated by Article 183 Paragraph 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia.

In addition, under the Draft Law, a significantly greater number of competences within the scope of republic authorities has been delegated to the AP Vojvodina than it used to be before.

Furthermore, the Draft Law also regulates the issue of interregional cooperation in which the AP Vojvodina is involved, proposing as follows:

- AP Vojvodina shall cooperate with relevant territorial units of other countries, within the foreign policy of the Republic of Serbia, observing the territorial integrity and legal system of the Republic of Serbia,

- AP Vojvodina shall conclude interregional agreements within its competences,

- AP Vojvodina, as a region which traditionally fosters the European principles and values, may be a member of European and world associations of regions and within its competences, may establish its representation offices in the regions of Europe, that is, in Brussels, in accordance with the law and Statute.

Hence, the Draft Law harmonises the competences of the AP Vojvodina with the new constitutional solutions and consistently implements the process of decentralisation of the Republic of Serbia as well as the concept of broad provincial autonomy, without the elements of the statehood.

The issues of property and financial competences of the AP Vojvodina shall be regulated by separate laws, within the envisaged systematic solutions in those fields.

III FINANCIAL RESOURCES REQUIRED FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW

For the enforcement of this law, the financial resources shall be provided in the Budget of the Republic of Serbia.