

This monthly newsletter is a brief overview of Ukrainian authorities' work on implementation of Reform #1 in Ukraine


THE LAW ON DECENTRALIZATION OF ARCHITECTURAL AND CONSTRUCTION CONTROL ENTERED INTO FORCE

On September 1 the law on decentralization of authority in the area of architectural and construction control and improvement of city-building legislation entered into force.

The law provides for delegation of functions and, partly, responsibilities concerning state architectural and building control from the State inspection to local self-government bodies and local executive authorities.

Beside that, certain authorization and coordination procedures in construction are simplified.

Source: web-site Government portal



"We are delegating control over construction and liability before community. This will increase the opportunities for attraction of credit resources into the industry and decrease construction costs", **said the Vice-Prime Minister, the Minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal economy of Ukraine, Gennady Zubko.**


THE LAW, ALLOWING ALL COMMUNITIES, WHICH HAVE ALREADY UNIFIED, TO HOLD THE FIRST ELECTIONS, HAS ENTERED INTO FORCE

On September 5 the President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko, signed the new law, recently adopted by Verkhovna Rada. The law removes oblast councils from the process of formation of capable communities and from the first local elections in them.

Many communities were unable to complete the process of unification and schedule the first local elections because of actions (or inactivity) of oblast councils, which refused to fulfill their constitutional duty and sabotaged respective decisions for political motives.

The law grants the right to make decisions on formation of unified territorial communities to the Government, and the right to schedule the first elections in a unified territorial community – to the Central electoral commission.

Source: web-site of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine



"We will give the communities the right to hold elections and elect their own authorities. The law liberates 1.5 thousand communities with the population of 500 thousand citizens, and contributes to the 2.5 times' increase of community budgets from the start of the next year", **says the Chairperson of Parliament, Volodymyr Groysman.**

THE FIRST ELECTIONS IN 159 UNIFIED COMMUNITIES WILL TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 25

As of September 7, the Central electoral commission scheduled the first elections of deputies of village, settlement, city councils, and respective village, settlement, city council heads, in 159 unified territorial communities for October 25, and declared September 8 the starting date of electoral process.

The government grants maximal support to unified territorial communities, providing the necessary financial resources as well as organizational and methodical support.

Source: web-site Government portal

"These 159 unified communities decided to trust the authority, believe into the reform, and take the responsibility for creation of new opportunities for development of their territories. They are ready to ensure creation of new jobs, provide access to and adequate quality of public services available to the citizens", **said the Vice-Prime Minister, the Minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal economy of Ukraine, Gennady Zubko.**



THE EUROPEAN UNION WILL GRANT 90 MILLION EUROS TO SUPPORT DECENTRALIZATION IN UKRAINE

The European Union is ready to grant 90 million euros for implementation of decentralization support projects in Ukraine.

These funds are to be used for development of infrastructure of unified territorial communities, assistance in preparation of investment projects on regional development, creation of centres for administrative services in the unified territorial communities.

Source: web-site Government portal

"It is necessary to organize, quickly and efficiently, cooperation between Ukrainian and European experts, who will define specific projects to be financed by these funds", **said Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations.**



MORE THAN 2.5 BILLION UAH ARE ALREADY TARGETED AT FUNDING OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Funding of 728 projects, scheduled for 2015, at the expense of the State fund for regional development, has started. Respective Governmental decree, listing specific investment programmes and projects, provides for allocation of 2.542 billion UAH from the Fund.

This year, for the first time ever, investment programmes and projects of regional development, which can be financed from the State fund, have been selected openly through the online platform dfr.minregion.gov.ua.

Source: web-site Government portal

"Quite soon the local self-government bodies, which submitted their projects and went through the necessary procedures, will get the advance payments of 30% of their project costs. This represents another step towards strong, powerful communities, to decentralization", **said the Vice-Prime Minister, the Minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal economy of Ukraine, Gennady Zubko.**



DRAFT LAW ON THE STATE REGISTRATION OF UNIFIED COMMUNITIES WAS REGISTERED IN PARLIAMENT


On September 15 the draft law on the principles of state registration of local self-government bodies as legal persons was registered in Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The government grants maximal support to The draft law aims to regulate the relations, emerging as a result of state registration of a self-government body of a unified community as a legal person.

The document also harmonizes the procedures of reorganization of local self-government bodies in the process of voluntary unification of territorial communities with the legislation.

unified territorial communities, providing the necessary financial resources as well as organizational and methodical support.

Source: web-site Ministry of Regional Development




“In order to avoid blocking of activity of local councils in united territorial communities, we need to re-register more than 300 local councils and their executive committees. Beside that, we should provide for state registration of termination of authority of more than 1000 local councils and their executive commissions. This is an urgent task, hence, it calls for an optimal procedure”, **said the First deputy Minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal services of Ukraine, Vyacheslav Negoda.**

THE STATE IS GETTING READY FOR DELEGATION OF LAND RESOURCES TO CAPABLE COMMUNITIES

Minregion, jointly with the State service of Ukraine for geodesy, cartography, and cadastre, developed the strategy for reformation of land relations in the country.

The strategy involves the delegation of responsibilities for land management to the local level, elimination of corruption, introduction of online administrative services, rational system of land turnover and control.

Source: web-site Ministry of Regional Development



“The draft law is already developed. It introduces decentralization into the sphere of land relations and reduces the number of bodies, authorized to manage lands outside the limits of settlements, to only two. These are: local self-government bodies and the Cabinet of Ministers”, **said the head of State service of Ukraine for geodesy, cartography, and cadastre, Maksym Marfynyuk.**