

OFFICIAL TRANSLATION

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

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MINISTER OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

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LAW

OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

Adopted on 8 May 2019

**ON MAKING AMENDMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTS TO THE LAW  
"ON THE STRUCTURE AND OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT"**

**Article 1.** Article 2 of the Law HO-253-N of 23 March 2018 "On the structure and operation of the Government" (hereinafter referred to as "the Law") shall read as follows:

**"Article 2. Composition and Structure of the Government**

1. The Government shall be composed of the Prime Minister, two Deputy Prime Ministers and ministers.
2. The following Ministries shall be included in the structure of the Government:

- (1) Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs;
  - (2) Ministry of Healthcare;
  - (3) Ministry of Justice;
  - (4) Ministry of Emergency Situations;
  - (5) Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
  - (6) Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport;
  - (7) Ministry of Environment;
  - (8) Ministry of Defence;
  - (9) Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure;
  - (10) Ministry of High-Tech Industry;
  - (11) Ministry of Economy;
  - (12) Ministry of Finance.
3. The main fields of operation reserved to the Ministries shall be defined in the Annex to this Law."

**Article 2.** The words "for a first Deputy Prime Minister," shall be deleted from part 1 of Article 3 of the Law.

**Article 3.** In Article 7 of the Law:

- (1) part 5.1 shall be added, which reads as follows:

"5.1. Decisions of the Prime Minister shall be signed by the Prime Minister. The annex to a decision of the Prime Minister shall be signed by a Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister, confirming thereby that the given annex is the version adopted by the Prime Minister.";

- (2) the words in part 12 "by the First Deputy Prime Minister" shall be replaced with the words "by one of the Deputy Prime Ministers", and the words "of the First Deputy Prime Minister substituting the Prime Minister" shall be replaced with the words "of the Deputy Prime Minister substituting the Prime Minister";
- (3) part 13 shall be repealed.

**Article 4.** In Article 8 of the Law, part 4.1 shall be added, which reads as follows:

"4.1. Decisions of the Deputy Prime Minister, as well as annexes thereto shall be signed by the Deputy Prime Minister."

**Article 5.** In Article 10 of the Law:

- (1) in part 13, the words ", as well as the Chief of Staff of the Office of the Prime Minister" shall be added after the word "heads of the bodies subordinate to the Government and the Prime Minister";

- (2) part 15 shall read as follows:

"15. The sittings of the Government shall be open to the public, except for cases of holding the sitting or a part thereof behind closed doors upon the reasoned decision of the Prime Minister."

**Article 6.** In part 5 of Article 11 of the Law, a new sentence shall be added, which reads as follows: "The annex to a decision of the Prime Minister shall be signed by a Chief of Staff of the Office of the Prime Minister, confirming thereby that the given annex is the version adopted during the sitting of the Government."

**Article 7.** The words "nature protection" in the entire text of point 6 of the Annex to the Law shall be replaced with the word "environment".

**Article 8.** Points 7, 8, 10, 12 and 13 of the Annex to the Law shall be repealed.

**Article 9.** In point 9 of the Annex to the Law:

- (1) the words "Education and Science" shall be replaced with the words "Education, Science, Culture and Sport";
- (2) the words ", development of culture, preservation, protection, study, use, popularisation of cultural heritage, acknowledgment by the society of culture as a means of development, introduction of new values and new ideas, creation of conditions for reproduction and advancement of the creative potential of the society, having access to cultural values, ensuring of conditions for free and affordable services in the sphere of culture" shall be added after the words "monitoring and evaluation of the quality and effectiveness of education and science systems";
- (3) the words ", as well as the policy of the Government on physical culture and sports, strengthening of public health, creation of a system of physical education, preparation of sportspersons, participation of national teams and sportspersons of the Republic of Armenia in international sport competitions, implementation of scientific-methodical and analytical activities in the field of sports, ensuring of classification of programmes, development and application of effective mechanisms for using and advancing the potential of the youth, promotion of participatory processes for the youth, development of spiritual-cultural and national identity, patriotic upbringing, raising the level of legal awareness" shall be added after the words "in the sphere of culture".

**Article 10.** The words "ensuring enhancement of the military-industrial complex, armaments and military equipment," shall be deleted from point 11 of the Annex to the Law.

**Article 11.** In point 14 of the Annex to the Law:

- (1) the words "Territorial Administration and Development" shall be replaced with the words "Territorial Administration and Infrastructure";
- (2) the words ", transport, licensing and issuing permissions, establishment of a single route network, ensuring of safety in the field of energy, subsoil use and protection of subsoil resources, nuclear energy, renewable energy and energy consumption in the Republic of Armenia, promotion of the development of energy independence, energy saving and energy efficiency, and reasonable and complex use of subsoil resources of the Republic of Armenia, creation, maintenance and management of an integrated system for geological data, management and safe use of water systems being the ownership of the State, management of water systems, management of state property" shall be added after the words "ensuring of the development of community service system".

**Article 12.** Point 15 of the Annex to the Law shall read as follows:

"15. The Ministry of Economy shall develop and implement the policy of the Government in the fields of increase in competitiveness of branches of economy, including industry, improvement of the business environment, promotion of foreign trade, ensuring of access to export markets and development of export, promotion of investments, enhancement of public-private partnership, promotion of entrepreneurship, development of small and medium enterprises, tourism, protection of intellectual property, territorial economic development,

improvement of competitive conditions, development of quality infrastructures, development of the system for the protection of consumers' rights, plant cultivation, cattle breeding, processing of agricultural products, veterinary medicine, phytosanitary, food security, food safety, scientific and technical support and consultancy, industrial and technical maintenance of agriculture; monitoring, effective use, improvement and preservation of meliorative conditions of agricultural lands, and of state support to agriculture.".

**Article 13.** In point 16 of the Annex to the Law:

- (1) The words "Transport, Communication and Information Technologies" shall be replaced with the words "High-Tech Industry";
- (2) the words "of transport", " transport and", "establishing a single route network in the Republic of Armenia," shall be deleted;
- (3) the words "ensuring of development of the military industry, the military-industrial complex, armaments and military equipment, implementation and enhancement of international military-industrial co-operation, effective use and management of radio frequency range and satellite orbital slots, promotion of the establishment of innovation, introduction and enhancement of innovative and high technologies, cyber security, electronic services and an electronic management system, coordination of digitisation processes, single digitised environment and" shall be added before the word "promotion of the formation of a digital economy".

#### **Article 14. Final and transitional provisions**

1. This Law shall enter into force on the tenth day following the day of its official promulgation.
2. The Ministry of Energy Infrastructures and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Development shall be reorganised by way of a merger, establishing the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure.
3. The Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Science shall be reorganised by way of a merger, establishing the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport.
4. The Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Economic Development and Investments shall be reorganised by way of a merger, establishing the Ministry of Economy.
5. The Ministry of Diaspora shall be reorganised by way of joinder, joining it to the Office of the Prime Minister, establishing an Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs within the Office of the Prime Minister. The goals and objectives of the Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs are to provide professional support and necessary assistance to perform the powers of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs, provide support to the Prime Minister in ensuring Diaspora-related policy and performing the functions aimed at ensuring integrity of activities carried out with the Diaspora, and provide support to the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs in the activities carried out within the scope of those functions. Organising of activities for exercise of powers of the Prime Minister to ensure Diaspora-related policy and to ensure integrity of the activities carried out with the Diaspora (including through the Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs) shall be reserved to the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs, and the functions to be performed within the scope of the organising of those activities shall be established by the Prime Minister.

6. The Ministry of Transport, Communication and Information Technologies shall be renamed as the Ministry of High-Tech Industry.
7. The Ministry of Nature Protection shall be renamed as the Ministry of Environment.
8. New charters of the bodies of the state administration system reorganised under this Law shall be approved and the necessary amendments to other legal acts deriving from adoption of this Law shall be made within a period of two months following entry into force of this Law.
9. The bodies of the state administration system being merged and joined, as provided for in parts 2-5 of this Article, shall automatically terminate their activities, and the rights and responsibilities thereof shall be transferred to the respective newly established bodies of the state administration system and the Office of the Prime Minister within the time limits established by the relevant legal act on approving the charters of the reorganised bodies of the state administration system and the Office of the High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs, respectively.
10. After reserving the fields of transport, licensing and issuing permissions, as well as of establishing a single route network of the Republic of Armenia having been reserved to the Ministry of Transport, Communication and Information Technologies to the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure and after approving the job descriptions of civil service within this Ministry, the civil servants of the Ministry of Transport, Communication and Information Technologies whose activities are related to the fields referred to in this part, shall — upon the consent thereof — be appointed to equivalent or lower civil service positions within the Ministry of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure without any competition and final settlement, and the positions higher than those occupied before reorganisation shall be occupied in accordance with the requirements of part 6 of Article 23 of the Law "On civil service".



11. Where a civil service position is occupied as provided for by part 1 of this Article, the disciplinary sanctions, incentive measures, results of performance evaluation, time limits for not showing up to work applied previously against civil servants shall be retained and taken into consideration.

**President of the Republic**

**A. Sargsyan**

16 May 2019

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