



STATE MINISTRY, MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR AND SECURITY
GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR DECENTRALISATION AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTORATE FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SUPERVISION

“SUPPORT FOR DRAWING UP LOCAL GOVERNMENTS’ BUDGETS »

To start with, it should be recalled that decentralization comes with a distinct legal personality and financial autonomy for local governments (Regional Councils and Municipalities).



Among other things, financial autonomy entails for local governments drafting an annual budget.

The topic I'm approaching today, **“Support for drawing up local governments’ budgets”** refers to the assistance the General Directorate for Decentralization and Local Development, a supervising authority, gives to local governments with drafting their budget.



Notwithstanding the importance of principles such as administrative freedom and financial autonomy in the context of decentralization, it is just as important for the state, more specifically for the General Directorate for Decentralization and Local Development, not to relinquish its duties consisting in assistance, consultancy, support, but also control of local governments.



Thus support for local governments, more precisely support for the preparation of their budget, takes up several forms:

- assistance and consultancy;
- control.



1- ASSISTANCE AND CONSULTANCY

Assistance and consultancy consist in this particular case in:

- drawing up legislation and regulations on budgeting (draft law incorporating directive 01/2011/CM/UEMOA on the financial system of local governments);



- pass all necessary decisions in order to delineate the budget both in terms of its drawing up, but also in terms of forecast and execution (circular letter, ...);



- make human resources (Directors and Heads of financial services) and technical means (handbook on budget drafting, other documents drawn up by DGDDL, DGDDL website, ...) available to local governments;



- make technical units (Directorate for Economic and Financial Supervision, Directorate for Local Governments) available to local governments;



- strengthen the capacity of local governments in various fields amongst which budget drafting (example: the seminar from the 26th to the 30th of August 2013 aimed at reinforcing the capacity of elected municipal officers in the field of financial procedures and three-year planning).



2- CONTROL

It does not refer to coercive control, but to supervisory control. Moreover, with respect to the drafting stage of local budgets an ex ante control by means of prior authorization and approval is exerted.



- Prior authorization

Prior authorization is required in certain cases before decisions and decrees are enacted;



- Approval

Approval is required so that enactments and decrees passed by local governments be applied (decrees regarding the budget and amendments to budget made during the current budget year, organic framework on employment, staff salaries...).



To wrap up, I would like you to agree with me on the conclusion that the support provided by the General Directorate for Decentralization and Local Development to local governments with drawing up their budgets is effective if we look at the low rejection rate of the budget by the Commission for the Coordination of Municipal Development.



Nevertheless, it has become now fundamental that the various pieces of legislation regarding decentralization and particular budgeting be harmonized with the new institutional system I have just described.



It would also be good to strengthen the financial capacities of the General Directorate for Decentralization and Local Development so that it can organize and fully fulfill its state role of supervising local governments.

Thank you!!!

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