



# Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe MISSION IN KOSOVO

## Pillar III (OSCE) Report 04/2007 On the Monitoring of the Assembly of Kosovo 23 July 2007 – 23 September 2007

## **Executive Summary**

During the review period, the Unity Team reported to the Assembly with regard to the continuation of status settlement talks. The Unity Team members asserted that they would not accept any further postponement of the status settlement and that USA and most of EU countries continued to support Mr. Marti Ahtisaari's comprehensive status proposal. Around forty Members of the Assembly spoke during the debate and confirmed their support to the Unity Team.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Education addressed Assembly in response to ORA interpellations. The Prime Minister responded to the interpellation with regard to the tendering procedure for the licensing of the second mobile phone operator, while the Minister of Education responded to the interpellation with regard to the implementation of the fifth grade reform in primary schools.

The Assembly endorsed in principle the Draft Law on the Rights and Obligations of its Members, which intends to regulate the status, immunity and benefits of Members of the Assembly as well as incompatibility of a their mandate with other functions in the public and private sector.

The Assembly established *ad hoc* committees for the selection of members to the RTK Board and the Council of the Independent Media Commission (IMC). In conformity with the Law on RTK and Law on IMC, *ad hoc* committees are composed of one representative of each political entity seated in the Assembly.

## 1. Background

This fifty-third monitoring report is drafted in accordance with the Terms of Reference for UNMIK Pillar III for Institution Building (OSCE) Monitoring of the Assembly of Kosovo dated 26 November 2002 and is based on compliance with the <u>revised Rules of Procedure adopted at the end</u> of the plenary session on 20 May 2005, as amended at the plenary session on 1-2 June 2006.

During the reporting period, the Assembly held four plenary sessions, on 27/31 July, 30 July, 27 August and 14/17 September as well as two regular Presidency meetings, on 20 August and 6 September. All ten Committees and the Subcommittee on Human Rights, Gender Equality, Public Petitions and Claims held meetings during the reporting period. Pillar III (OSCE) monitored the plenary sessions and Presidency meetings, as well as 22 out of 39 committee meetings and one public hearing.

## 2. Overview

**The 27 and 31 July plenary session of the Assembly of Kosovo** was chaired by President of the Assembly Kolë Berisha (LDK) and Member of the Presidency Mr. Naim Maloku (AAK)

- Seventy-two and 75 Members of the Assembly were present, respectively, at the 27 and 31 July plenary session.
- <u>Main agenda items of the 27 and 31 July plenary session:</u>
  - Questions to the Government for oral answers

- ORA's interpellation to Prime Minister (See below the first paragraph under "Interpellation".)
- First Reading of the Draft Law on Financial Support to Families with Permanently Disabled Children

(The draft law was endorsed in principle with 63 votes in favor and seven votes in opposition.)

- Second Reading of the Draft Law on Identification Cards (The draft law was approved with 63 votes in favor and five votes in opposition.)
- Second Reading of the Draft Law on Illegal Construction (The draft law was approved with 50 votes in favor and five votes in opposition.)
- Debate on the illegal construction of apartment buildings by the Government of Serbia in the northern part of Mitrovicë/Mitrovica
  - (Mr. Ramadan Kelmendi (LDD), as sponsor of the debate, delivered an opening statement, followed by Minister of Environment and Spatial Planning, parliamentary group representatives, several other Members and a closing statement of Mr. Kelmendi. The declaration proposed by Mr. Kelmendi was not voted upon due to the lack of quorum.)
- Review of the recommendation of the Committee for Judicial, Legislative and Constitutional Framework Matters with regard to the appointment of one member, nominated by the Office of the Public Prosecutor, to the Managing Board of Kosovo Judicial Institute (The item was postponed due to the lack of quorum.)

**The 30 July plenary session of the Assembly of Kosovo** was chaired by President of the Assembly Kolë Berisha (LDK) and Member of the Presidency Mr. Xhavit Haliti (PDK).

- Eighty-one Members of the Assembly were present at the 30 July plenary session.
- Main agenda items of the 30 July plenary session:
  - Debate on the continuation of talks on the settlement of the political status of Kosovo (At the beginning of the debate, all Unity Team members delivered statements, followed by parliamentary group leaders, an extensive plenary debate and closing statements of all Unity Team members.)

**The 27 August plenary session of the Assembly of Kosovo** was chaired by President of the Assembly Kolë Berisha (LDK) and Member of the Presidency Mr. Sabri Hamiti (LDK).

- Sixty-five Members of the Assembly were present at the 27 August plenary session.
- Main agenda items of the 27 August plenary session:
  - Questions to the Government for oral answers
  - First Reading of the Draft Law on Amending the Law No 2003/11 on Roads (The draft law was endorsed in principle with 67 votes in favor and no votes in opposition.)
  - First Reading of the Draft Law on Organisation of Cadastre Institutions
  - (The draft law was rejected with 25 votes in favor and 30 votes in opposition.)
  - First Reading of the Draft Law on Environment Impact Assessment (The draft law was endorsed in principle with 61 votes in favor and six votes in opposition.)
  - Review of the 2006 report of the Energy Regulatory Office (The report was approved with 47 votes in favor and 8 votes in opposition.)
  - Review of the recommendation with regard to the transfer of funds to the Energy Regulatory Office

(The recommendation was approved with 50 votes in favor and 18 votes in opposition.)

- Review of the draft Resolution proposed by the Committee for Economy, Trade, Industry, Energy, Transport and Communications with regard to the "Trepça/Trepča" mine (The item was postponed at the Committee request.)

- Review of the recommendation of the Committee for Judicial, Legislative and Constitutional Framework Matters with regard to the appointment of one member, nominated by the Office of the Public Prosecutor, to the Managing Board of Kosovo Judicial Institute (The appointment was endorsed with 55 votes in favor and 12 votes in opposition.)

**The 14 and 17 September plenary session of the Assembly of Kosovo** was chaired by President of the Assembly Kolë Berisha (LDK) and member of the Presidency Mr. Gazmend Muhaxheri (ORA).

- Eighty-three and 78 Members of the Assembly were present, respectively, at the 14 and 17 September plenary session.
- Main agenda items of the 14 and 17 September plenary session:
  - Questions to the Government for oral answers
  - ORA's interpellation to Minister of Education, Science and Technology (See below the second paragraph under "Interpellation".)
  - First Reading of the Draft Law on Environment Strategic Assessment (The draft law was endorsed in principle with 62 votes in favor and one vote in opposition.)
  - First Reading of the Draft Law on Extrajudicial Procedure (The draft law was endorsed in principle with 53 votes in favor and two votes in opposition.)
  - First Reading of the Draft Law on Execution Procedure (The draft law was endorsed in principle with 60 votes in favor and two votes in opposition.)
  - First Reading of the Draft Law on Litigation Procedure (The draft law was endorsed in principle with 59 votes in favor and four votes in opposition.)
  - First Reading of the Draft Law on the Rights and Obligations of Members of the Assembly (The draft law was endorsed in principle with 72 votes in favor and one vote in opposition.)
  - Second reading of the Draft Food Law
    - (The item was postponed at the request of the functional committee.)
  - Second reading of the Draft Law on Amending the Law No 2004/1 on Road Transport (The draft law was approved with 66 votes in favor and no votes in opposition.)
  - Review of the proposals made by political parties represented in the Assembly with regard to the appointment of members to the *ad hoc* Committee for the selection of members of the RTK Board

(The appointment of members was endorsed with majority of votes in favor and no votes in opposition.)

- Review of the proposals made by political parties represented in the Assembly with regard to the appointment of members to the *ad hoc* Committee for the selection of members of the Council of the Independent Media Commission

(The appointment of members was endorsed with majority of votes in favor and no votes in opposition.)

- Review of the recommendation regarding the transfer of funds in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development

(The recommendation was approved with 56 votes in favor and seven votes in opposition.)

- Review of the semi-annual 2007 fiscal report (The Budget Committee Chair Naser Osmani (LDK) delivered an opening statement, followed by Minister of Finance and Economy Haki Shatri, parliamentary group representatives and several other Members.)

- Review of the Government's proposal with regard to the appointment of one member to the Managing Board of the Central Banking Authority

(The appointment was endorsed with 50 votes in favor and four votes in opposition.)

#### 3. Parliamentary Practices and Proceedings of Assembly Sessions

#### Agenda

• At the beginning of 27 July plenary session, the President of the Assembly announced that three proposals to amend the agenda had been submitted *in writing* prior to the session in accordance with Rule 23.2. He stated that PDK parliamentary group, Committee for Agriculture, Forestry, Rural Development, Environment and Spatial Planning and Committee on Security made a proposal to add a debate on fires to the plenary session agenda. He called for a single vote on all three proposals, as they had the same object, which passed with majority of votes in favor and no votes in opposition.

At the beginning of 27 August plenary session, on behalf of LDD, Ms. Besa Gaxheri *verbally* proposed that the Assembly should take a decision at that day's session to order all public institutions in Kosovo to carry in their premises the portrait of late President Ibrahim Rugova as a sign of respect to his personality. She insisted that her proposal be put to a vote at the session in question. The President of the Assembly responded that that she should make her proposal in compliance with the Rules of Procedure. At the same session, after Ms. Gaxheri's statement, Mr. Gjergj Dedaj (For Integration) requested to speak and was allowed to do so. He stated that he wished to raise a concern about the parliamentary and municipal elections announced to be held in November. He furthermore complained that small political parties were excluded from the decision-making process related to elections and added that according to them [small parties] the priority should be given to the status of Kosovo and that elections should be dealt with after the status settlement. During his discussion, his microphone was switched off automatically as he had reached the time limit of two minutes for discussion on the agenda, and the President of the Assembly proceeded to the next agenda item without allowing Mr. Dedaj to finish his discussion.

At the 14 September plenary session, no proposals were made in writing or verbally to amend the agenda.

The revised Rules 23.1-2 provide that "[t]he Presidency shall prepare a draft Agenda for the upcoming Assembly session and make it immediately available to the Members of the Assembly. At the beginning of the session the draft Agenda shall be deemed approved, unless one or more parliamentary groups or six (6) Members of the Assembly propose in writing to the President an amendment to the agenda, which should be put to a vote (emphasis added)." Unlike Ms. Gaxheri's proposal to amend the 27 August plenary session, the three above-referenced proposals to amend the 27 July plenary session were made in compliance with revised Rules. Thus, there was no violation of procedural rules in that Ms. Gaxheri's proposal was not put to a vote. As to Mr. Dedaj's discussion, it was not clear whether he wanted to make a proposal to amend the agenda of the 27 August plenary session or to make a political statement. Rule 22.7 does provide that "[t]he discussion about the agenda shall not exceed two (2) minutes", however, this provision cannot be interpreted as an isolated one but in the context of provisions 23.1-2 on the agenda preparation. Therefore, the precondition for a Member to be allowed to present verbally his/her amendment to the plenary session agenda is to submit the same amendment in writing prior to the session and to have the support of at least five other Members, as required by Rule 23.2, otherwise the agenda is considered approved. Mr. Dedaj did not submit in writing a proposal to amend the agenda, so the fact that he was not allowed to finish his discussion, did not constitute a procedural violation. If Ms. Gaxheri and Mr. Dedaj wish to present matters for discussion in the Assembly, they could do so using the Rule 6.5, according to which "[t]he Presidency shall ensure that any substantial motion supported by six or more Members is placed on the agenda of the plenary session within three working weeks of securing this degree of support."

#### Procedural motion

• At the beginning of the 27 July plenary session, Mr. Xhevat Bislimi (PDK) requested the floor stating that he wished to move a procedural motion. He moved a procedural motion to adjourn the session proposing that Members of the Assembly should be in Junik (Deçan/Dečane municipality) to pay tribute to late KLA fighter Edmond Hoxha, whose monument was being erected in Junik that day, instead of holding the plenary session. The President of the Assembly called for a vote on the motion to adjourn the session for 31 July, which was approved with 25 votes in favor and one vote in opposition.

This was in compliance with the Rule 30.1-2 provides that "[a]t any plenary session, a member is entitled to propose a procedural motion to adjourn the session. A motion to adjourn the session shall require an immediate vote, without debate."

#### Order in the meetings of the Assembly

• At the 20 September meeting of the Committee on the Rights and Interests of Communities, the Chairperson Randjel Nojkić (SLKM) informed the Committee that the UNMIK Office of the Legal Advisor had addressed comments to the Assembly asking for reconsideration of the Law on Personal Name and Law on Personal Number. He commented further that the Assembly was approving laws violating the rights of non-majority communities "behaving like Milošević, who acted against the interests of others". Some Members strongly objected to Mr. Nojkić's comment and asked him not to compare the Assembly with Milošević's regime.

Rule 41.3 provides that the provisions on the plenary session shall apply accordingly to the committees. In this context, Rule 22.11 stipulates that the President of the Assembly [applies likewise to committee chairpersons] maintains order and may direct any Member who has, in his or her opinion, used "unparliamentary language," which is defined, among others, as "offensive, defamatory or threatening; obscene language; or conducive to inter-community violence" to withdraw such words. The Rules of Procedure however do not specify cases when committee or plenary session chairperson uses the language which is considered as offensive by other Members. The Rules of Procedure of the National Assemblies of Albania, FYRoM, Croatia, Slovenia, France, German Bundestag and Belgium House of Representatives likewise stipulate that the President or chairperson is responsible to maintain order and ensure adherence to the Rules. Additionally, the Rules of Procedure of the above-referenced legislative bodies do not contain provisions on cases when Members feel offended by the chairperson as the parliamentary practice entails that the chairperson himself/herself should first adhere to the Rules prior to asking other Members to do so. The next Assembly of Kosovo could however consider including a provision which would define cases when Members feel offended by the chairperson in order to avoid discontent among Members.

• At the 14 September plenary session, during the debate on ORA's interpellation to Minister of Education, Mr. Džezair Murati (6+/Vakat) asked the Chairperson to create conditions for him to speak commenting that "those Members who are not interested to listen may leave the plenary hall". There was noise in the plenary hall when Mr. Murati started delivering his statement as some Members were speaking loudly to each other. Mr. Murati asked Mr. Sabri Hamiti (LDK), who was speaking with another Member at that moment, "Mr. Hamiti, could you listen?". Mr. Hamiti responded "no". Mr. Murati replied "if you don't want to listen, then leave the hall," and he continued his statement. The Chairperson did not intervene during the arguing between Mr. Murati and Mr. Hamiti.

According to Rule 22.10, the President of the Assembly or chairperson is responsible to maintain order in the meetings of the Assembly. Situations such as the above may be appropriate for intervention by the President of the Assembly or chairperson in order to maintain order in the session and enable Members to deliver their statements without being interrupted.

Distribution of draft legislation

• The Draft Law on Financial Support to Families with Permanently Disabled Children was distributed to Members of the Assembly on 5 July. Thus, the draft law was distributed 17 working days prior to its first reading on 31 July. The Draft Law on Amending the Law No 2003/11 on Roads was distributed on 27 June, while the Draft Law on Environment Impact Assessment was distributed on 9 August. Thus, the draft laws were distributed, respectively, 42, and 11 working days prior to their first reading at the 27 August plenary session. The Draft Law on Environment Strategic Assessment was distributed on 20 August, Draft Law on Extrajudicial Procedure, Draft Law on Execution Procedure and Draft Law on Litigation Procedure were distributed on 29 August, while the Draft Law on Rights and Obligations of Members of the Assembly was distributed on 3 September. Thus, the draft laws were distributed, respectively, 17, ten and seven working days prior to their first reading at the 14 September plenary session.

The Draft Law on Environment Impact Assessment, Draft Law on Extrajudicial Procedure, Draft Law on Execution Procedure and Draft Law on Litigation Procedure were reviewed in first reading in compliance with the Rule 35.1, which requires that the first reading of the draft law shall take place no earlier than ten working days and no later than three working weeks from the day of its distribution. The first readings of the Draft Law on Financial Support to Families with Permanently Disabled Children, Draft Law on Environment Strategic Assessment and Draft Law on Rights and Obligations of Members of the Assembly were however not held in compliance with the Rule above.

The first reading of the Draft Law No 2003/11 on Amending the Law on Roads had been earlier scheduled to take place at the 12 July plenary session and distributed in compliance with the Rule 35.1, but it had not taken place due to the absence of the Minister of Transport and Communications, who sponsored the Draft Law in question and had to present it before the Assembly at the plenary session in question. The first reading of the Draft Law No 2003/11 on Amending the Law on Roads was therefore re-scheduled for the 27 August plenary session, which considerably delayed its endorsement in principle. This emphasizes a need for better coordination between the Assembly and the Government in order not to delay the review and approval of draft legislation, especially in first reading.

Legislative process

• The Draft Law on Identification Cards was approved over five months after its first reading on 22 February. The Draft Law on Illegal Construction was approved over seven months after its first reading on 14 December 2006. The Draft Law on Amending the Law No 2004/1 on Road Transport was approved almost four months after its first reading on 31 May. The second reading of the Draft Law on Food was scheduled over twenty months after its first reading on 17 November 2005.

On 21 September, the President of the Assembly met with committee chairs to discus the review of pending draft laws during the remainder of the Assembly's mandate. The President of the Assembly stressed that 25 draft laws had already passed through first reading and were pending with committees, and he urged committee chairs to accelerate the review of draft laws in order to approve them before the end of the Assembly's mandate. Committee chairs pledged that they would accelerate the review of pending draft laws.

The above-mentioned laws were not processed by committees in compliance with Rule 35.6, which provides that "[w]hen a committee has been designated to review a draft law, it shall report its recommendations to the Assembly <u>no later than two months after the first reading</u> (emphasis added), unless an extension is approved by the Assembly." The Assembly committees submitted their recommendations to all of the above-referenced draft laws considerably exceeding the deadline set forth in Rule 35.6, without asking the Assembly to extend the deadline. Rule 63 stipulates that "[a]t the end of the electoral term of the Assembly, all items of business submitted to it shall be deemed to have been disposed of. This shall not apply to laws

adopted by the Assembly and forwarded for promulgation, or to the petitions and items of business which do not require a decision by the Assembly". Thus, if the Assembly does not approve the pending draft laws until the end of its term, they will have to be reintroduced to the next Assembly by the next Government.

Interpellation

• On 31 July, at the continuation of the plenary session that began on 27 July, the Assembly held a debate on ORA's interpellation motion to Prime Minister with regard to the tendering procedure for the licensing of the second mobile phone operator.<sup>1</sup> The Chairperson reminded Members that, according to the Rule 25.7, the parliamentary group proposing the interpellation debate had the right to open the debate with a ten-minute statement and to close the debate with a five-minute statement, while the time allocation throughout the remainder of the debate would reflect each parliamentary group's representation in the Assembly. Mr. Nazim Jashari (ORA) delivered an opening statement, followed by the Prime Minister, parliamentary group leaders and several other Members, after which Mr. Jashari delivered a closing statement. Immediately after Mr. Jashari finished his closing statement, the Chairperson concluded the debate and called for a break, without putting ORA's recommendation to a vote. After the break, Ms. Fatmire Mulhaxha-Kollçaku (ORA) remarked that Rule 25.9 had been violated in that ORA's recommendation was not put to a vote and asked the President of the Assembly to remedy that.<sup>2</sup> The President of the Assembly did not comment on Ms. Mulhaxha-Kollçaku's remark.

Revised Rule 25.9 stipulates that "[t]he parliamentary group who requested the interpellation may demand that a motion be voted upon at the end of the interpellation debate; within it's allotted time, provided the motion was included in the initial request for interpellation." ORA had included its recommendation in the interpellation motion, as required by Rule 25.9. The Chairperson should have therefore called for a vote on ORA's recommendation. After the break, the President of the Assembly could have remedied this procedural violation by calling for a vote on ORA's recommendation, but he did not do so.

• On 3 August, ORA parliamentary group submitted an interpellation motion calling on Minister of Education, Science and Technology Agim Veliu to inform the Assembly on the "implementation of Administrative Instruction 12/2007 issued by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology on the implementation of the fifth grade." In its motion, ORA recommended that "the implementation of the fifth grade should be postponed in school year 2008 because of insufficient preparations which might have a negative impact on students, teachers and education process itself." On 20 August, the Presidency agreed to forward the interpellation motion to the Government. On 5 September, the Minister of Education, Science and Technology sent a letter to the Presidency stating that he was ready to respond to the interpellation. At its 6 September meeting, the Presidency scheduled the interpellation for debate at the 14 September plenary session.

At the 14 September plenary session, Ms. Genc Gorani (ORA) delivered an opening statement, followed by the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, parliamentary group leaders and several other Members, after which Mr. Gorani delivered a closing statement. After Mr.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On 26 June, ORA parliamentary group submitted an interpellation motion to Prime Minister Agim Çeku with regard to "Prime Minister's failure to implement provision 3.4 of the documentation of the tender for the licensing of the second mobile phone operator, according to which 1.6 million EUR should have been confiscated from the first selected winner as stipulated in Section 55.1 (c-ii) of the Law on Public Procurement, which directly affected Kosovo's Budget." In its motion, <u>ORA recommended that "an investigative parliamentary committee should be established to inquire into the responsibility of all those who violated the law and rules in this tendering process." See Pillar III (OSCE) report 03/2007 on the monitoring of the Assembly of Kosovo, the third paragraph under "Interpellation", for more details.</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The interpellation debate was chaired by member of the Presidency Naim Maloku (AAK). After the break called by Mr. Maloku, the President of the Assembly resumed the chairing of the session.

Gorani had finished his statement, the Chairperson<sup>3</sup> called the Assembly to vote on ORA's recommendation. At that point, from his seat on the floor, Mr. Alush Gashi (LDK) requested that the recommendation not be voted upon. The Chairperson responded that he was obliged to put ORA's recommendation to a vote, and he did so. ORA's recommendation was rejected with eleven votes in favor, 39 votes in opposition and 13 abstentions.

As explained in the paragraph above, revised Rule 25.9 stipulates that a recommendation must be put to a vote if included in the initial interpellation motion. Thus, the Chairperson called for a vote on ORA's recommendation in compliance with the Rule 25.9. The statement that the recommendation should not be voted upon was therefore incorrect.

#### Questions to the Government

On 31 July, at the continuation of the plenary session which begun on 27 July, the President of the Assembly announced that 23 questions had been submitted by Members of the Assembly and that questions which could not be processed on 31 July would be included in the agenda of the next plenary session. Thus, 11 questions were processed on 31 July, of which ten received response and one received no response. When the time of 50 minutes for Member's questions had expired, Mr. Naim Maloku (AAK), who chaired the session at that moment, stated that ten more questions had been submitted by Members of the Assembly but that the time for question period foreseen in the procedural rules had expired. He further stated that if Assembly wished to continue with question period, it should first take a decision to depart from Rule 26. Parliamentary group leaders stated that ten remaining questions should be postponed for the next plenary session and that there was no need to depart from Rule 26. At the 27 August plenary session, ten out of 18 questions received responses. At the 14 September plenary session, 11 out of 17 questions received responses. Mr. Nait Hasani's (PDK) question to Minister of Communities and Return Branislav Grbić, which was postponed from the 27 August plenary session, again received no response at the 14 September plenary session due to the absence of the Minister. On 27 August and 14 September, Mr. Hasani had requested the floor to ask his question verbally, but he was not allowed to do so. One question did not receive a response on 14 September due to the absence of the Member, who had submitted the question. At each plenary session under review, the President of the Assembly or member of the Presidency chairing the session responded that questions that received no response within two plenary sessions would be published in the bulletin of the Assembly.

Revised Rule 26.1 on "Questions to the Government for oral answers" provides that the agenda of each session shall include a <u>question period limited to 50 minutes</u>. The Chairperson's statement, on 31 July, according to which the Assembly should have first decided to depart from Rule 26.1 in order to continue with the question period was in compliance with the procedural rules.

Under revised Rule 26.9, "[a] member who has filed a question in accordance with the Rules of Procedure will have the right to ask the question to the Government even if the Government has not prepared a reply." Mr. Hasani should have therefore been allowed to ask his question verbally even though the Minister was not present to provide a reply.

Under revised Rule 26.11, "[i]f a question has not been answered within two plenary sessions, the question will be published in the Bulletin of the Assembly." But the Assembly bulletin does not contain questions that have been submitted to the Government and therefore no pending question has ever been published.<sup>4</sup> In parliamentary systems, questioning of ministers represents an important mechanism of scrutinising executive activities, thus it is required that the Assembly publishes in its bulletin questions of Members that had not received responses within the timeframe set forth in Rule 26.11. On the other hand, it is likewise recommendable

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The interpellation debate was chaired by member of the Presidency Gazmend Muhaxheri (ORA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Pillar III (OSCE) reports 03/2007, 02/2007, 01/2007, 07/2006, 06/2006 and 05/2006 on the monitoring of the Assembly of Kosovo, section entitled "Questions to the Government".

that Members of the Assembly are present at plenary sessions in order to receive timely response to their questions.

### 4. Access

• During the reporting period, Pillar III (OSCE) received access to the plenary sessions, regular Presidency meetings and Committee meetings. Pillar III (OSCE) also received copies of documents considered by the Assembly and transcripts of prior plenary sessions.

## 5. Transparency

• Radio Television Kosovo (RTK) provided live coverage of the plenary sessions under review. Members of the public and institutional monitors were granted admission to the plenary sessions. The Assembly of Kosovo has a website (www.assembly-kosova.org) containing biographical details of Members of the Assembly, information about the structure and functioning of the Assembly, copies of laws and resolutions adopted by the Assembly, along with other information, in Albanian, Serbian, and English.

#### 6. Main recommendations

- There should be a better coordination between the Assembly and the Government in order not to delay the review and approval of draft legislation, especially in first reading.
- It is required that the Assembly publishes in its bulletin questions of Members that had not received responses within the timeframe set forth in it procedural rules.

ENDS.