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LAW NO: 3879 *Development of Lifelong Learning and other provisions.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK REPUBLIC
We publish the following law that was passed by
Parliament:

CHAPTER A - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 Purpose - Scope

1. The purpose of this Law is to develop lifelong learning, by identifying alternative paths, networking lifelong learning institutions and ensuring transparency and quality, so as to achieve the interconnection of lifelong learning to employment, to form an integrated personality of the people and the wider social and economic development.

2. This law shall regulate the matters concerning lifelong learning beyond the formal educational system, as well as the issues that relate to the lifelong learning activities of the formal educational system institutions. Informal learning is governed by the provisions of this Law only in terms of the recognition and certification of its results.

3. Specifically, the aims of this law are as follows:

i) to systematize and coordinate the investigation of the educational and training needs of adults in relation to the needs of the labour market and social development;

ii) to plan and decentralize lifelong learning activities; systematically support the institutions in the National Network for Lifelong Learning; and to plan the cooperation of the institutions in the Network with lifelong learning service providers;

iii) to promote vocational training and adult education in general as two equal pillars of lifelong learning;

iv) to establish the standards and tools for the development and qualitative improvement to lifelong learning;

v) to ensure the accessibility by people and particularly by the members of vulnerable and socially vulnerable groups to all the training activities and general adult education;

vi) to continually educate and evaluate adult educators;

vii) to establish a coherent national framework for the evaluation and certification for all forms of training and general adult education; and

viii) to create a uniform national framework for the recognition of qualifications and the certification of knowledge, skills and abilities.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purposes of this Law, the following shall apply:

1. "Lifelong learning": All forms of learning activities during a person's life that are aimed at the acquisition or development of knowledge, skills and abilities, which contribute to the formation of an integrated personality; the individual's vocational integration and development; social cohesion; the development of the ability of active citizenship and social, economic and cultural development. It includes formal education, informal education and informal learning.

2. "Formal education": The education that is provided within the formal educational system, leads to the acquisition of nationally recognized certificates by the government and is a part of the scheduled educational range. Formal education also includes the general adult formal education.

3. "Formal educational system": The primary, secondary and tertiary education system.

4. "Informal education": The education that is provided within the organized education framework outside the formal educational system and can lead to the acquisition of recognised certificates

at a national level. It includes the original vocational training, continuing vocational training and general adult education.

5. "Informal learning": The learning activities taking place outside the organized educational framework, throughout a person's life, within the leisure or professional, social and cultural activities. It includes all types of self-education activities, such as self training with printed material, over the Internet, using a PC or a variety of educational infrastructure, as well as the knowledge, skills and abilities acquired by people from their professional experience.

6. "Initial vocational training": The training that provides basic professional knowledge, abilities and skills in specialized disciplines for the integration, reintegration, vocational mobility and the advancement of human resources in the labour market, as well as professional and personal development.

7. "Continuing vocational training": The human resources training that complements, updates or upgrades knowledge, abilities and skills, gained from the vocational education systems and initial vocational training, or professional experience for the integration or reintegration in the labour market, ensuring employment and the professional and personal development.

8. "General adult education": Includes all the organized learning activities that are addressed at adults and seek to enrich knowledge; developing and improving abilities and skills; developing an individual's personality and active citizenship, as well as the mitigating education and social inequalities. It is provided by formal education and non-formal education institutions.

9. "Lifelong counselling": The scientific assistance, support and empowerment provided to people within the context of lifelong learning, in order to specify and achieve their personal professional goals.

10. "Career guidance": The information, investigation and preparation process that helps the individual choose its educational path and profession, according to its particular interests and abilities.

11. "Training or education structure": The entity that provides training or education services with its organizational structure, functions, manpower and logistics.

12. "Inputs": The human, financial and physical resources used in the learning process and in particular the structures, job profiles, programs and informal educators.

13. "Outputs": The direct results of the learning activity, namely the knowledge, abilities and skills acquired by the individual.

14. "Job profiles": All the main and individual professional activities that form the work objective of a profession or a specialty, as well as the corresponding knowledge, skills and abilities needed to respond to these activities.

15. "Qualifications": All the general and specific knowledge, skills and abilities needed to exercise a profession, a specialty or a specialization.

16. "National Qualifications Framework": The context for classifying qualifications in the form of learning outcomes, in accordance with a set of criteria to achieve learning levels. The National Qualifications Framework classifies the learning outcomes into knowledge, skills and abilities, without breaking up the unique nature of learning. The following apply under in terms of the National Qualifications Framework:

i) "Qualification": The outcome of an evaluation and validation process, after the finding by the competent body that a person has achieved learning outcomes that correspond to specific specifications.

ii) "Descriptive indicators": The indicators that specify the learning outcomes (knowledge, skills, abilities) that match the qualifications of a specific level.

iii) "Sector descriptive indicators": The descriptive indicators by industry of the levels under the National Qualifications Framework, which determine the sector learning outcomes relevant to the qualifications in the industry.

iv) "Sector qualification": The qualification that is awarded as the outcome of an assessment and ratification, after a finding by the responsible sector authority that a person has achieved learning outcomes that match specific specifications. The qualification is known as an "international sector qualification", where the responsible sector authority has an international standing.

17. "National Network for Lifelong Learning": The total of the lifelong learning institutions under article 3, with the functions, standards, instruments and systemic relations referred to therein.

18. "Municipalities" and "Regions": The Municipalities and the Regions for the purposes of the provisions under Law 3852/ 2010 (OGG 87 A).

Article 3

Operators and functions of the National Network for Lifelong Learning

1. The operators of the National Network for Lifelong Learning are the lifelong learning governing bodies and service providers.

2. The Governing bodies of lifelong learning are:

i) The General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning (article 27, paragraph 2 section (iii) pursuant to Law 1558/1985, OGG 137 A, in conjunction with article 3 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 2909/2001, OGG 90 A, and article 33 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 3699/2008, OGG 199 A);

ii) The Regional department units that are responsible for lifelong learning matters (article 186 paragraph II, sector VIII, cases 1, 2 and 3 pursuant to Law 3852/ 2010);

iii) the departmental units at the Municipalities that are responsible for lifelong learning matters (article 75 paragraph 1 section vi, passage 13 in the Municipalities and Communities Code, pursuant to Law 3463/2006, OGG 114 A, as it has been amended by article 94 paragraph 4 pursuant to Law 3852/2010);

iv) the National Accreditation Centre for Lifelong Learning Structures (E.KE.PIS) (article 22 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 2469/1997, OGG 38 A, in conjunction with article 14 paragraph 2 pursuant to Law 3385/2005, OGG 210 A and article 10 paragraph 1 under this law);

v) The National Qualifications Certification Authority (E.O.P.P.) (article 11);

vi) The National Centre for Vocational Guidance (E.K.E.P.) (article 16 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 2224/1994, OGG 112 A), in relation to the competent department for counselling and professional orientation within the context of lifelong learning; and

vii) The National Centre for Public Administration and Self Administration (E.K.D.D.A.) (article 1 paragraph 1 pursuant to Presidential Decree 57/2007, OGG 59 A).

3. Institutions providing lifelong learning services are:

i) The Vocational Training Institutes (I.E.K.) (article 12);

ii) The Vocational Training Centres (K.E.K.) (article 13);

iii) the Post-secondary Education Centres (article 1 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 3696/2008, OGG 177 A, as this has been replaced by article 45 paragraph 1, section a, pursuant to Law 3848/2010, OGG 71 A) and the Laboratories of Liberal Studies (article 11 pursuant to Law 3696/2008, as this has been replaced by article 10 paragraph 6 under this law);

iv) The other public and private schools for vocational training;

v) The Institute of Continuing Adult Education (I.D.E.K.E.) (Article 4 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 2327/1995, OGG 156 A, and article 3 paragraph 3 pursuant to Law 2909/2001);

vi) the National Youth Foundation (E.I.N.), (Royal Decree dated 26.2.1947, OGG 41 A, in conjunction with article 3 pursuant to Legal Decree 572/1970, OGG 125 A) and the Institute for Youth (article 17 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 3369/2005, OGG 171 A), in relation to the department providing lifelong learning;

vii) the institutions providing general (formal and informal) adult education services, which includes social, religious and cultural institutions, as well as structures that provide services of general adult education, such as the Second Chance Schools (S.D.E.) (article 5 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 2525/1997, OGG 188 A) and the Schools for Parents (article 2 paragraph 13 pursuant to Law 2621/1998, OGG 136 A);

viii) The providers of advisory services or even vocational guidance services;

ix) the Centres for Employment Promotion (K.P.A.) (article 1 section 1 pursuant to Law 2956/2001, OGG 258 A) in relation to the section where they provide Lifelong counselling and vocational orientation services;

x) the operators in the public and wider public sector providing informal education to the manpower in the public and wider public sector, such as the E.K.D.D.A., as well as the institutes set up by the professional associations and

The chambers of commerce that provide informal training to their members, such as the society anonymous trading as the "Institute for Educating and Training Members of the Technical Chamber of Greece SA (I.E.K.E.M.T.E.E. SA)";

xi) the institutes providing lifelong learning services, which are constituted of the tertiary trade union organisations of employees and employers' that have co-signed the national collective labour agreement, such as the Institute of Labour (I.N.E.) and the Centre for Education Policy Development (K.A.N.E.P.) at the Confederation of Greek Workers in Greece (G.S.E.E.), the Small Business Institute (I.M.E.) at the General Confederation of Professional Craftsmen and Tradesmen in Greece (G.S.E.V.E.E.), the Social Multi-Centre and Trans-Balkan Institute for Public Administration Senior Management Associations of Civil Servants (A.D.E.D.Y.); and

xii) The informal education institutions mentioned at article 14.

4. The National Network for Lifelong Learning includes the institutions and structures of the formal educational system in relation to the part where they provide services or implement lifelong learning programs, such as the Higher Education Institutes and Lifelong Learning Institutions at these institutions (article 9 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 3369/2005), as well as the Centres for Environmental Education (K.P.E.) (article 111 paragraph 13 pursuant to Law 1892/1990, OGG 101 A).

5. The National Network for Lifelong Learning also includes the institutions that organize and implement intra-company training programs, which are financed from public resources, in relation to the development of the educational framework for the programs.

6. Functions are exercised within the context of the National Network for Lifelong Learning, which are divided into basic and support functions.

The basic functions are: i) the Initial vocational training; ii) the Continuing vocational training; and iii) General adult education. The support functions include: i) the investigation of the educational and training needs of adults compared with the needs of the labour market and social development;

ii) The provision of Lifelong counselling and vocational guidance services;

iii) The certification of the structures, job outlines, the programs and trainers of informal education;

iv) The recognition of the qualifications and the certification of knowledge, skills and abilities in individuals; and

v) The recognition the recognition of the professional rights that correspond to professional qualifications, which are acquired within the context of lifelong learning, excluding higher education.

7. The systemic relationships between the institutions in the Network include the following:

i) Information, updating and interactive communication; ii) the formulation of opinion and recommendations;

iii) The consultation, cooperation, synergy, and the joint administration of functions or activities; and iv) the coordination and the composition of proposals.

8. The standards and tools for the operation and development of the National Network for Lifelong Learning include the following:

i) The National Lifelong learning Programme; ii) the standards and specifications relating to vocational training and general adult education (structures, outlines, programmes, educators);

iii) The National Qualifications Framework;

iv) The Network records and the Europass documents;

v) The incentives for lifelong learning;

vi) The means of quality assurance;

vii) The Implementation Plan; and

viii) The lifelong learning programme contracts.

9. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister according to the circumstances, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, specifies the conditions, institutions or the departmental units, tools, procedure and every matter related to the exercise of the functions under paragraph 6 and the organisation of the systemic relations under paragraph 7.

10. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister according to the circumstances, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, specifies the conditions, institutions or their departmental units, the tools, procedure and every matter related to the safeguarding of the relations between the institutions in the Network with other institutions in the country and especially with the Association of Regions and the Central Association of Municipalities in Greece, G.S.E.E., A.D.E.D.Y., the Federation of Enterprises and Industry (S.E.V.), the National Confederation of Greek Commerce (E.S.E.E.), G.S.E.V.E.E. and the National Confederation of Persons with Disabilities (E.S.A.meA.); with scientific and social organizations, as well as with institutions abroad that have similar roles or responsibilities.

CHAPTER B

INSTRUMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTIONS

Article 4

Organisation of the lifelong learning management system

1. The basic principles for the organization of the lifelong learning management system are as follows:

i) The networking with the organisation and the function of the National Network for Lifelong Learning (article 3);

ii) The planning through the preparation and implementation of the National Programme for Lifelong Learning and the Implementation Programme (paragraphs 2 to 5 in this article and article 20, respectively);

iii) The creation of contractual relationships between the institutions in the Network, through its programmed lifelong learning contracts (article 21); and

iv) The evaluation of the institutions and the functions in the Network, as well as the results of these functions and implemented programmes, in the

development of the human resources in the country (article 19 paragraph 1 and article 6 paragraph 2, cases xxiv to xxvi).

2. At a central level, the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions through the General Directorate for Lifelong Learning, assisted by the institutions managing lifelong learning under cases iv), v), vi) and vii) at paragraph 2 in article 3 and exercising its executive role, plans the public policy on lifelong learning, develops the relevant rules, institutes the National Lifelong Learning Programme, supervises the implementation of the public policy, the rules and this Programme and coordinates the system managing lifelong learning.

3. The National Lifelong Learning Programme institutes within the context of the National Development Programme, in accordance with the provisions under articles 70 to 74 (Democratic Planning) pursuant to Law 1622/1986 (OGG 92 A), further to the recommendation by the monitoring committee under paragraph 4 at article 15.

4. The National Lifelong Learning Programme especially includes investments, programmes or individual activities of vocational training or even adult education in general and more generally actions for implementing the public policy for lifelong learning.

5. The management of implementing the public policy, the rules and the National Lifelong Learning Programme, at a regional and local level, is decentralised to the Regions and Municipalities respectively, in accordance with the provisions under the subsequent articles.

6. The informal education institution is a legal person or functions within the context of a legal person, which has some of the forms that are provided under the national or the community legislation and the purposes that provide for the provision of training or even education services. The institution's training or education structure has an organisational structure that includes the functions for managing, planning the implementation and implementing the training or education programmes, the respective management, scientific or technical and training personnel in relation to these functions, the use of the building infrastructure, which is in accordance with the building structure regulations, as well as the equipment, which services its above functions. Where the institution provides vocational training, it implements training programmes that correspond to specific job profiles, where they are available, and uses educators with the corresponding knowledge or even experience. Where the institution provides general adult education it implements education programmes and uses educators with the corresponding knowledge or even experience.

The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation of the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister according to the circumstances, specifies the conditions and specifications under the previous sections and determines the terms and conditions for the issue of the permit to establish and operate the informal education institutions, inclusive of the institutions providing consulting services, and the system for certifying the structures, programmes and the educators at those institutions.

The decision by the Ministers for Finance, Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister according to the circumstances, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, shall regulate the matters concerning the procedure for licensing and implementing the system for certifying the informal education institutions and especially the necessary forms and supporting documents and the procedure for their certification; the financial amounts that are paid for the licensing and certification; the control system and the administrative sanctions; and every matter related to the establishment and the operation of the informal education institutions and their provision of the training or education services.

7. The decision by the Ministers for Finance, Competition and Shipping, Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, and Labour and Social Security, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, regulates the matters that relate to the management, evaluation, monitoring and control of the vocational training activities and the activities for providing consulting services that are co-funded by the European Social Fund (E.K.T.) and especially the training specifications and the training conditions for these activities, in accordance with the appropriate Community regulations.

8. The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister, according to the circumstances, determines the conditions, content, form and procedure for awarding the qualifications that certify the successful monitoring of the informal education studies programme.

9. The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister, according to the circumstances, determines the professional rights that correspond to the qualifications under the previous paragraph. The co-competent Minister implies the Minister responsible for supervising the exercise of the profession. A similar decree determines the professional rights of the qualifications holders that are acquired within the context of lifelong learning, excluding higher education.

10. Within the context of the public policy that is developed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government for managing, training and developing the human resources in the public sector, the E.K.D.D.A. exercises the executive role of planning and coordinating the implementation of the education programmes, inclusive of the training and training, of the employees in the public sector institutions and more generally the specialization and implementation of the lifelong learning public policy in the public sector.

The decision by the Ministers Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the conditions and procedure for exercising the role of the E.K.D.D.A. to develop, specialise and implement the lifelong learning public policy in the public sector,

inclusive of the specialization of the support functions and the standards and tools.

The decision by the Minister for Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the matters relating to the support that is provided to the work of E.K.D.D.A. by the internal teams of educators and the education departmental units at the Ministries; the organisation of the training for the executives that implement the new public policies; the new regulations and administrative reforms on each occasion; and every matter related to the implementation of the determinations under this paragraph.

Article 5

Collective bodies of Lifelong Learning and the Connection to Employment

1. In order to assist with the planning and the coordination for implementing lifelong learning public policy the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions convenes a meeting for lifelong learning and the connection to employment at least once a year, which organises the social debate relating to the development directions and the social needs; the programmes and the lifelong learning policy measures in Greece. The Presidents of the employer trade union organisations (S.E.V., G.S.E.V.E.E., E.S.E.E.); of G.S.E.E., A.D.E.D.Y., E.S.A.meA., the Regional Association and the Central Association of Municipalities Greece participate at the meeting.

2. A collective body entitled the "Council for Lifelong learning and the Connection to Employment" is constituted to assist with improving the quality and the effectiveness of the programmes and the lifelong learning services provided, as well as their connection to the needs of the labour market.

3. The members of the Lifelong learning and Connection to Employment Council are:

- i) The Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, as the Chairperson;
- ii) The General Secretary for Lifelong Learning at the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions;
- iii) The Special Secretary of the Single Administrative Sector for the Management of the Community Support Framework Programmes at the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions;
- iv) The General Secretary for Investments and Development at the Ministry for Finance, Competition and Shipping;
- v) The General Secretary at the Ministry for Labour and Social Security;
- vi) The General Secretary for the Management of Community and Other Resources at the Ministry Labour and Social Security;
- vii) The General Secretary of the E.K.D.D.A.;
- viii) The Director of the Manpower Employment Authority (O.A.E.D.);
- ix) The Chairperson of E.KE.PIS;
- x) The Chairperson of E.O.P.P.;

- xi) The Chairperson of E.K.E.P.;
- xii) The Chairperson of I.D.EK.E.;
- xiii) The Chairperson of the society anonymous trading as the "Employment Research - Information Observatory SA" (article 10 paragraph 1 pursuant to Law 2956/2001, OGG 258 A);
- xiv) A representative from the University Rectors;
- xv) A representative from the Chairpersons of the Technological Educational Institutions (T.E.I.);
- xvi) Three representatives from the G.S.E.E.;
- xvii) One representative from A.D.E.D.Y.;
- xviii) One representative from S.E.V.;
- xix) One representative from G.S.E.V.E.E.;
- xx) One representative from E.S.E.E.;
- xxi) One representative from Pan-Hellenic Confederation of Agricultural Cooperative Unions (P.A.S.E.G.E.S.);
- xxii) One representative from E.S.A.meA.;
- xxiii) One representative from the Regional Association;
- xxiv) One representative from the Central Association of Municipalities in Greece;
- xxv) One common representative from the scientific chambers; and
- xxvi) One representative from Commercial and Industrial Chamber of Athens (E.B.E.A.).

4. The responsibilities of the Lifelong Learning and Connection to Employment Council are as follows:

- i) To assist the National Connection to Vocational Education and Training with Employment System (E.S.S.E.E.K.A.) with the fulfilment of the mission and the goals under article 3 pursuant to Law 3191/2003 (OGG 258 A) and more specifically, the submission of recommendations to safeguard the organisation, interconnection, coordination, evaluation and the necessary resources for the effective operation of its various systems.
- ii) To submit suggestions, especially on the following matters:
 - aa) to connect the lifelong learning public policy and the corresponding implementation measures under this policy to the public employment policy, within the context of the development policies and programmes in the country;
 - bb) to improve the functions of the National Network for Lifelong Learning and effectively connect them to the public employment policy,
 - cc) to certify the inputs and outputs from the informal education systems;
 - dd) to connect the systems for vocational training and certifying with the vocational education system and the needs of the labour market (specialisations, professions, qualifications); with orientation especially for the needs of the labour market at a regional and local level;
 - ee) to safeguard the natural and e-access by people with disabilities to vocational education programmes and training and the institutions providing them;
 - ff) to provide incentives and take measures aimed at increasing the participation by every adult in the vocational education programmes and training and the programmes for the general education

of adults and especially those that belong to socially sensitive population groups, such as the adults with disabilities; and

- gg) to elaborate the necessary research, studies and expert opinions.
- iii) To formulate opinions on draft regulatory texts, where requested by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions.

5. The Council for Lifelong Learning and the Connection to Employment is convened by its Chairperson and meets at least twice a year.

6. It is constituted as a collective body entitled "Standing Conference on General Adult Education", for the purpose of assisting with improving the quality and the effectiveness of the programmes and the lifelong learning services provided that relate to general adult education. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the composition, conditions and procedure for the function of the Standing Conference on General Adult Education. This Conference is chaired by the for Minister Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions with the participation of representatives from all the Ministries that supervise institutions providing lifelong learning services, institutions managing lifelong learning, university departments, scientific, social and cultural institutions and non government organisations who have an objective or are active on matters of general adult education, as well as the representatives of Specialized Centres for the Social and Vocational Integration of socially vulnerable groups, who are appointed by a similar decision.

7. The responsibilities of the Standing Conference on General Adult Education are as follows:

- i) To assist with the fulfilment of the goals under paragraph 3 at article 1 and more specifically, to promote adult education in general as an equivalent to the vocational training pillar of lifelong learning;
- ii) To submit suggestions, especially on the following matters:
 - aa) to improve the quality and effectiveness of the programmes and the services of adult education in general provided, as well as the transparency of the acquired qualifications;
 - bb) to investigate the training needs of adults and develop new teaching methods;
 - cc) to provide incentives and take steps for increasing the participation by adults in general adult education programmes and especially those that belong to socially sensitive population groups, such as adults with disabilities; and
 - dd) to elaborate the necessary research, studies and expert opinions; and
 - iii) to formulate opinions on draft regulatory texts, where requested by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions.

8. The Standing Conference on General Adult Education is convened by its Chairperson and meets at least once a year.

9. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the conditions and the operating procedures for the bodies that are provided under the paragraphs that regulate the matters concerning their administrative support and every relevant matter.

Article 6

General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning

1. The mission of the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning at the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions is to plan the lifelong learning public policy; to develop the relevant rules; to institute the respective national programme; and to supervise their implementation.

2. The responsibilities of the General Directorate for Lifelong Learning are especially as follows:

i) To supervise and manage E.S.S.E.E.K.A. and more specifically, to manage the systems for initial and continual vocational training and their connection to the other E.S.S.E.E.K.A. systems.

ii) To supervise and manage the system for general adult education.

iii) To develop the educational framework for all the units in the initial and continual vocational training and more generally for informal education.

iv) To propose the issue of the regulatory actions that is necessary to implement the determinations under this law.

v) To organise, operate and manage the S.D.E., the public I.E.K. that are subject thereto, the Schools for Parents and the respective structures and programmes for adult education in general.

vi) To ensure for the delimitation of the initial and continual vocational training and the vocational education and to harmonize and link them.

vii) To coordinate and evaluate the operations of the National Network for Lifelong Learning and its results; to redefine the objectives and to redesign its functions, where it is deemed necessary, as well as adopting measures to improve their effectiveness and upgrade their quality.

viii) To support the institutions in the National Network for Lifelong Learning; to organise and coordinate the systemic relations and the external relations of these institutions and to continually improve the standards and the tools in the Network.

ix) To cooperate with international or European institutions or institutions from other countries that have a comparable goal; to represent the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions at the bodies of international or European organisations on lifelong learning matters and to monitor the international and European developments on these matters.

x) To elaborate the necessary research, studies and expert opinions; to organise the relevant events and promote innovations for upgrading the quality and effectiveness of the

lifelong learning activities and the implemented policy measures.

xi) To design and manage lifelong learning programmes of a national significance that relate to the population in the country and the Greeks in the Diaspora.

xii) To study and develop the best practices at a European and international level and to manage European programmes and programmes co-funded by the European Union.

xiii) To ensure for the incorporation of the adult education principles and methods; to use new technologies and promote the digital environment in lifelong learning programmes, inclusive of long distance education; to develop suitable training material by incorporating the above methods for continuing education and to educators.

xiv) To ensure that the quality and the evaluation of the training services and in general adult education provided are safeguarded.

xv) To ensure the participation by members of socially vulnerable groups in lifelong learning programmes.

xvi) To ensure for the training of members of socially vulnerable groups under the protection policy within the context of the National Programme for the Management of risks and crisis and to confront urgent needs.

xvii) To ensure for the training and continual support to executives in the departmental units and the competent institutions providing lifelong learning services to the Regions and the Municipalities.

xviii) To ensure for the constitution and the operation of the registers in the Network specified at article 17.

xix) To ensure for the provision of incentives and the implementation of measures to promote, inform and sensitize, for an increase in the participation by adults in lifelong learning actions.

xx) To cooperate with the E.K.E.P. on lifelong counselling and professional orientation matters of an interest to informal education institutions.

xxi) To cooperate with the E.KE.PIS on matters for certifying the inputs of informal education.

xxii) To cooperate with the E.O.P.P. on matters for certifying the outputs of informal education and informal learning.

xxiii) To cooperate with the I.D.EK.E. on the scientific support matters of the National Lifelong Learning Programme and to evaluate the National Network for Lifelong Learning, within the context of the determinations under article 4 pursuant to Law 2327/1995 and paragraph 3 under article 3 pursuant to Law 2909/2001.

xxiv) To organise the system for monitoring and evaluating the programmes and the effectiveness of the National Network for Lifelong Learning. The General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning prepares an overall annual report on lifelong learning in Greece.

xxv) To determine the minimum evaluation specifications for the assessment of the educational work provided at a local, regional and national level. The method of self-evaluation is specifically implemented at the level of the educational units to assess the educational work provided.

xxvi) The holding of an external evaluation by the National Network for Lifelong Learning every three years, with the participation of experts from European or international organisations.

3. The General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning may exercise the responsibilities of the intermediate Management institution, within the meaning of article 4 pursuant to Law 3614/2007 (OGG 267 A) on the enterprise programme "Training and Lifelong Learning".

4. The General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning is comprised of sixty five positions of permanent staff and ten positions of scientific staff. The posts that are made up under the previous section are allocated by category, branch and specialty pursuant to the Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Ministers Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government, Finance and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions.

Article 7 Lifelong Learning in the Regions

1. The Region prepares the regional lifelong learning programme, within the context of its regional Development programme, on the basis of the respective national lifelong learning programme, in accordance with the provisions under paragraph 3 at article 4. The regional lifelong learning programme especially includes investments, programmes or individual vocational training activities and activities more generally to implement the lifelong learning public policy at a regional level.

2. The activities of the regional lifelong learning programme may be funded under the regular budget and the public expenditure programme of the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, through the General Directorate for Lifelong Learning, and by subsidies and the Region's own resources.

3. The Region implements the regional lifelong learning programme and manages the implementation of the policy and the rules under paragraph 2 at article 4 relating to vocational training in its region. Its responsibilities especially include:

i) The formation of the Regional Vocational Training Committee, further to the decision of the Regional Council, with the responsibility to formulate suggestions to the Regional Council on vocational training matters and its connection to the labour market and to especially investigate and assess the quantitative and qualitative data for the labour market in the Region and grade the professional skills that must function at the I.E.K., K.E.K. and the vocational training colleges more generally. The relevant resolutions by the Regional Council are taken into consideration during the preparation of the National Lifelong Learning Programme and the regional lifelong learning programme that is provided under paragraph 1. Representatives from the representative organisations for employees and employers and the other social institutions participate on this Committee, which correspond to the

Region's development sectors, with a representative from the corresponding Regional Association of Municipalities and a representative from the K.P.A. in the Region that is appointed by the O.A.E.D.

ii) The function and the management of the public I.E.K. that come under the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning, within the context of planning agreements, in accordance with the provisions under paragraph 3 at article 12.

4. The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Ministers for Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government, Finance and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, further to the opinion by the Regional Association, can transfer the responsibilities of the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the institutions managing lifelong learning under cases iv), v) and vi) at paragraph 2 of article 3 to the Regions, where they serve the development and operating nature of the regional needs and do not relate to matters that generally exercise state policy. The same decree also regulates the performance by the corresponding financial resources for their exercise.

Article 8 Lifelong Learning in the Municipalities

The Municipality prepares, within the context of its local development programme, the local lifelong learning programme, on the basis of the National Lifelong Learning Programme that is provided under paragraph 3 at article 4 and the respective regional lifelong learning programme that is provided under paragraph 1 at article 7. The local lifelong learning programme especially includes, investments, programmes or various general adult education activities and more generally actions for implementing the lifelong learning public policy at a local level, such as:

i) The activities for connecting the schools to society;
ii) The activities for training adults, especially in the sectors of public health, culture, sports, the environment, the social integration of immigrants and the activities for training the new generation and the elderly, as well as the creation of schools for parents; and
iii) The activities for promoting enterprise and innovation through the connection with the local economy.

The local lifelong learning programme, in a special chapter, can also include activities of a collective nature, which are supported in financial, scientific or management terms by the Municipality, or the public, social and private institutions that are based or conduct activities in the Municipality's region and which are enrolled on the Institutions Register in the Network that is provided under paragraph 3 at article 17.

The local lifelong learning programme activities can be funded under the regular budget and the public expenditure programme directly from the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, via the General Directorate for Lifelong Learning or via the corresponding

Region, by subsidies and from the Municipality's own resources.

The Municipality implements the local lifelong learning programme and manages the implementation of the policies and the rules specified at paragraph 2 under article 4 that relate to general adult education in the Municipality's region. Its responsibilities especially include:

i) To establish and operate the Lifelong Learning Centres (K.D.B.M.) that are organised within the context of the departmental unit that exercises the responsibilities for lifelong learning or the Municipality's legal person and which implement the local lifelong learning programme;

ii) To operate and manage the local structures and to implement the programmes of the General Directorate for Lifelong Learning, within the context of planning agreements, in accordance with the provisions under case i) of paragraph 6 in article 21; and

iii) To implement the K.P.E. programmes of the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, within the context of planning agreements, in accordance with the provisions under case ii) in the same paragraph.

The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Ministers for Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government, Finance and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, further to the opinion by the Central Association of Municipalities in Greece, may transfer the responsibilities of the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the institutions managing lifelong learning under cases iv), v) and vi) of paragraph 2 at article 3 to the Municipalities, where they serve the development and operating nature for the local needs and do not relate to matters that generally exercise state policy. The same decree also regulates the performance by the corresponding financial resources for their exercise.

Article 9

Organisation of e-governance in the system managing lifelong learning

1. The system managing lifelong learning is structured at a regional and local level and the relevant responsibilities are exercised in accordance with the following:

i) The lifelong learning responsibilities are exercised by the Municipality's special departmental unit or by the departmental unit that exercises responsibilities on education matters. Where there are no such units, the decision by the Mayor appoints another departmental unit at the Municipality that exercises these responsibilities.

ii) The lifelong learning responsibilities are exercised by the Region's special departmental unit or by the departmental unit that exercises responsibilities on education matters. Where there are no such units, the decision by the Regional Director appoints another Regional departmental unit of that exercises these responsibilities.

2. The SYZEFXIS Network ensures the electronic interface and the functional integration of the hereinabove departmental units with the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning, as well as their connections to the competent departments on education matters and the other institutions supervised by the Ministry for

Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions. A single internet portal for their departmental units and institutions is also developed, through which information is supplied, services are provided and interactive relations are developed with citizens on education and lifelong learning matters.

Article 10 National Centre for Certifying Lifelong Learning Structures

1. The National Centre for Certifying Continuing Vocational Training has been renamed as the "National Centre for Certifying Lifelong Learning Structures (E.KE.PIS.)" and is the national institution for certifying the inputs from informal education.

2. Paragraphs 2 and 3 under article 22 pursuant to Law 2469/ 1997 have been replaced as follows:

"2. The purposes of the Centre are:

i) To certify the inputs from informal education and more specifically: aa) to certify the structures, job outlines, programmes and the educators at the institutions for initial and continuing vocational training and more generally at informal education, inclusive of adult education in general; bb) to certify the institutions that provide consulting services and their executives; and cc) to supply the permit for the operation of these institutions, wherever it is required; and

ii) To safeguard the preconditions and to service the aims specified in the national, European and co-funded vocational training programmes relating to the certification of the inputs from informal education.

3. In order to implement its aims, the Centre must:

i) Study, develop, organise and implement the specifications of the systems certifying the inputs from informal education;

ii) Prepare and maintain the registers for the certified structures, educators, Lifelong counselling executives and inspectors - evaluators of those structures;

iii) Exercise continual control and evaluate the function of the informal education certified structures, inclusive of the institutions providing consulting services;

iv) Recommend the adoption of the regulatory framework for the preconditions, terms and procedure for certifying the structures, job outlines, programmes and educators at the informal education institutions, inclusive of the institutions providing consulting services and their executives; and

v) To submit proposals to the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the Council for Lifelong Learning and Connection to Employment on mapping directions, designing and planning the policy measures for the continual improvement and development of the system for certifying the inputs from informal education."

3. Case i) under the first section at paragraph 5 of article 22 pursuant to Law 2469/1997, as this section has been replaced by paragraph 2

of article 34 pursuant to Law 2874/2000 (OGG 286 A', is replaced as follows:

"i) The Management Council, is comprised of nine members and constituted further to the decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and is comprised of the Chairperson, who is a scientist with proficiency and experience on management matters, as well as the development of human resources; a representative from the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, a representative from the Ministry for Finance, Competition and Shipping, a representative from O.A.E.D.; a representative from E.O.P.P., a representative from E.K.D.D.A.; a representative from G.S.E.E.; a joint representative from the employer institutions (S.E.V., E.S.E.E., G.S.E.V.E.E.) and a consultant expert;"

4. The words "the composition," are deleted from case i) at paragraph 7 under article 22 pursuant to Law 2469/1997.

5. At case i) under paragraph 8 of article 22 pursuant to Law 2469/1997 is replaced as follows: "i) the operating regulation for the Management Council,";

6. Article 11 pursuant to Law 3696/2008 is replaced as follows:

"1. Natural persons, associations of persons or legal persons may only provide informal education services as Laboratories of Liberal Studies (E.E.S.) further to a permit that is issued by a decision of the E.KE.PIS. Board, which is published in the Official Government Gazette. The decision to supply or refuse the permit is issued within five months from the submission of the relevant application. The E.E.S., further to their licensing, are enrolled on the Register of Lifelong Learning Institutions.

2. The following criteria are taken into consideration for the licensing of the E.E.S.:

a. The building infra structure and equipment that complies with the studies programmes provided and the number of students. The facilities must adhere to the regulations under the current legislation for the health and safety of the areas.

b. The management personnel that ensure the administrative support and the organisational planning of the education services provided.

c. The owners, officers, directors and teachers at the E.E.S. must have never been convicted of any offence that is an obstacle to their appointment in a civil service position. The teachers must hold a certified studies certificate in the formal education system on a familiar objective relevant to the studies programme that they are teaching. It is not necessary to hold the studies certificate hereinbefore mentioned for teaching subjects where only specific technical or practical skills or related professional experience is adequate.

3. An application by the owner is submitted for the licensing of the E.E.S. by 31st March in every year for the following academic year, which must be accompanied by:

a. The studies programmes;

b. The certified plans for the building that is intended to be used;

c. A list with the qualifications of the teachers; and

d. A deposit in the sum of five hundred thousand Euros that is collected by the territorial jurisdiction Treasury and attributed to the E.KE.PIS. The amount of this deposit may be varied by the decision of the Ministers for Finance and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette.

4. The term of the E.E.S. permit is for five years, where the criteria for its provision are still met. The permit is renewed by the decision of the E.KE.PIS. Board, which is published in the Official Government Gazette.

5. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, further defines the criteria, conditions and procedure for licensing the E.E.S.

6. The Laboratories of Liberal Studies that are operating in accordance with the Legal Decree 9 of 9th October 1935 (OGG 451 A) will be adapted to these provisions within a period of eighteen months from the entry into force of the Law."

Article 11

National Authority for Certifying Qualifications

1. A legal person is established under private law trading as the "National Authority for Certifying Qualifications (E.O.P.P.)", which functions due to the public interest, is based in Athens, has administrative and financial autonomy and is supervised by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions. The E.O.P.P. is the national institution for certifying the outputs from informal education and informal learning and functions as a national structure under the European Networks that handles qualification matters and the European transparency and mobility tools, such as the National Point for Coordinating the European Qualifications Framework, the National Europass Centre and the National Point of Reference to safeguard quality.

2. The purposes of the E.O.P.P. are especially:

i) To create and develop the National Qualifications Framework and its correspondence to the European Qualifications Framework;

ii) The equivalence of the qualifications that are acquired through formal education, informal education and informal learning to the levels of the National Qualifications Framework;

iii) To create sector description indicators in the form of knowledge, skills and abilities that corresponds to the levels of the National Qualifications Framework;

iv) To certify the outputs of informal education and informal learning and more specifically: aa) to develop the system for recognising and certifying the qualifications that are acquired through informal education and informal learning, to certify these qualifications and their correspondence to the levels of the National Qualifications Framework; and bb) to license and control the function of the institutions for certifying qualifications that are acquired via informal education and informal learning;

v) To develop and implement the system for transferring credits for the vocational education and training;

vi) To safeguard the quality of informal education in cooperation with the other competent public institutions;

vii) To suggest the determination of professional rights for the qualification holders that are acquired within the context of lifelong learning, excluding higher education;

viii) The equivalence to the National Qualifications Framework for international sector qualifications;

ix) To recognise the equivalence of foreign teaching certificates, excluding those for higher education.

3. In order to fulfil its aims the E.O.P.P. must: i) collaborate with international or European institutions or institutions from other countries, that have a similar purpose; represent the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions at the bodies of the international or European organisations on matters for recognising and certifying the qualifications; monitor the international and European developments on these matters; institutes the necessary research, studies and expert opinions; organise the relevant events and make suggestions to the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions on the formulation of public policy, the rules and programmes relating to the recognition and certification of qualifications and more generally on the system for certifying the outputs from informal education and informal learning;

ii) Make suggestions to the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions on the passing of the regulatory framework for the preconditions, terms and procedure for certifying qualifications, inclusive of the system for examining, evaluating and certifying knowledge, skills and abilities for those who want their qualifications recognised and certified; to implement the regulatory framework; maintain the register of the certified qualifications; and update the Electronic Register for Lifelong Learning at the General Directorate for Lifelong learning;

iii) Make suggestions to the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions on the passing of the regulatory framework for the preconditions, terms and procedure for licensing the institutions that certify qualifications; license these institutions; examine the implementation of the regulatory framework and maintain a register of the licensed institutions;

iv) Institute the standards and tools relating to the recognition and certification of qualifications; develop the relevant know-how and collaborate with the lifelong learning institutions to achieve its purpose and the aims under cases ii), iii), iv), v) and viii) at paragraph 3 of article 1;

v) Provide access to information and direct the concerned institutions regarding the correlation of the national qualifications, via the National Qualifications Framework and the European Qualifications Framework;

vi) Make suggestions to the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions on the passing of the regulatory framework for the award of informal education certificates

such as initial vocational training diplomas, certificates, the certificates of competence and the other certificates that certify the successful completion of the vocational training, as well as the successful completion of the vocational training that may be required in supplement to the study curriculums under the formal education system; and

vii) Make suggestions to the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions on the passing of the regulatory framework to determine the professional rights of the qualification holders that are acquired within the context of lifelong learning, excluding higher education.

4. The bodies managing the E.O.P.P. are the management council, the Chairperson and the general manager.

5. The E.O.P.P. is governed by a nine-member management council that is constituted by the decision of the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and is comprised of the Chairperson, who is a scientist with proficiency and experience on managing matters, as well as the development of human resources; a representative from the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions; a representative from the Ministry Labour and Social Security; a representative from E.K.D.D.A.; a representative from E.KE.PIS; a representative from G.S.E.E.; a joint representative from the employer institutions (S.E.V., E.S.E.E., and G.S.E.V.E.E.), a representative from A.D.E.D.Y.; and a consultant expert. The term of the management council is for three years with the capacity for renewal. The Chairperson of the management council is employed on a full time basis for a four-year term, and is deputised by a member of the management council, who is appointed by the constitution decision as a deputy Chairperson.

6. The E.O.P.P. general manager is appointed by the decision of the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions for a four-year term, on a full time and exclusive employment basis from the private sector or is seconded, notwithstanding the current determinations, from the civil service or the wider public sector.

7. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the procedure for constituting the management council and its operating regulation; the responsibilities of the management council, the chairperson and the general manager; the obstacles and incompatibilities to these positions; their deputies when they are lacking, absent, or are hampered; the management council resolutions that required the approval of the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which include the annual planning and budget, the annual report and balance sheet, as well as the method for filling the position of the Authority's general manager and the necessary qualifications. The decision by the Ministers for Finance and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the remuneration for the chairperson and the general manager and the per meeting fee for the members of the management Council.

8. The E.O.P.P. is comprised of seventy regular personnel positions and five revocable officer positions. The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Ministers Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government, Finance and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, passes the authority for the internal department of the E.O.P.P. that determines the organisational structure of the departments and their responsibilities; it provides for the allocation of the positions that are comprised under the previous section by category, branch and specialty; the necessary qualifications and procedure for hiring staff, in implementation of the determinations pursuant to Law 2190/1994 (OGG 28 A), as well as the competent bodies and every matter relating to the staff service conditions and disciplinary law. Active staff positions can be constituted, converted or abolished under a similar decree. The decision by the Ministers for Finance and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the salary system for the Authority's employees. Following the constitution of the E.O.P.P. management council, the Presidential Decrees and the decision provided under this paragraph are passed further to the opinion by the management council.

9. In relation to the support of the E.O.P.P. on the development and implementation of the National Qualifications Framework, the decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions that is issued further to the recommendation by the Authority and published in the Official Government Gazette, constitutes the Committee with a consultative status, with the participation of representatives from the institutions providing formal education and informal education services, the institutions that recognise and certify qualifications, the social partners and expert consultants. A similar decision appoints the Chairperson, the members and the Committee's administrative support and determines its responsibilities and operating regulations.

10. The E.O.P.P., further to the recommendation by the Committee that is provided under the previous paragraph, may set up sector work teams with the participation of representatives from sectors of the economy, the competent Ministries or public institutions and experts, who study and recommend or provide opinions on questions of the Committee's jurisdiction and support the Authority in the implementation, by branch, of the system for examining, evaluating and certifying the knowledge, skills and abilities of the certified persons and the system for examining, evaluating and certifying the functions of the licensed institutions.

11. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions that is issued further to the recommendation by the E.O.P.P. management council and published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the financial management regulation, as well as the regulations award the development of studies, the procurement of services or products and the execution of projects, in accordance with the provisions in the legislation relating to public contracts.

12. The E.O.P.P. resources are derived from the subsidies under the regular budget; the public expenditure programme; the financial amounts that are paid for the certification of qualifications; the equivalence of certificates and the licensing of the institutions and from fees for the provision services. These resources also include the resources for funding by the European Union and co-funded programmes. The decision by the E.O.P.P. management council, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, specifies the financial amounts that are specified in the first section.

13. In order to fill the active positions in the E.O.P.P. it is permitted to second employees with an employment relation of an indefinite period in the private jurisdiction in the public service and statutory authorities under the public or private competence of the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is made by the decision of the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, further to the application by the concerned parties and the opinion of the competent departmental councils at the E.O.P.P. management council. Similar terms and procedures are used to second employees from other public service departments and statutory authorities in the public sector with an employment relation of an indefinite period in the private jurisdiction, by the decision of the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister according to the circumstances. In order to fill the active positions in the E.O.P.P. it is permitted to second teachers, by the decision of the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, further to the application by the concerned parties and the opinion of the competent E.O.P.P. management council, whereby the determinations that apply to the seconding of educational staff applies in all other aspects.

14. The staff seconded to the E.O.P.P., in accordance with the provisions under the previous paragraph, retain the salary, insurance and pension scheme of their position of origin, in accordance with the determinations under the provisions of paragraph 17 at article 4 pursuant to Law 3513/2006 (OGG 265 A), unless they request to be included under the E.O.P.P. staff regime.

Article 12 Vocational training Institutions

1. The I.E.K. are the legal persons or function within the context of legal persons, which have some of the forms that are provided under the national or the community legislation with the aim of providing initial or supplementary vocational training services. The I.E.K. have the organisational structure that includes the functions of managing, implementation planning and the implementation of initial or supplementary vocational training programmes; the management, scientific or technical and training personnel that is appropriate to these functions, the use of the building infrastructure, which is in accordance with the building structure regulations, as well as the equipment, which services their hereinabove functions; they implement certified initial or supplementary vocational training programmes that correspond to specific job profiles, where

there are, and they use educators with the corresponding knowledge or even experience.

2. The public I.E.K. that have been established in implementation of the determinations under paragraph 1 of article 5 pursuant to Law 2009/1992 (OGG 18 A), will be transferred to the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning as the aggregate of the responsibilities, positions, personnel and logistics. The I.E.K. that have been established in implementation of the determinations under paragraph 6 in the same article by other Ministries or legal persons in the public jurisdiction are supervised in relation to the training context by the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning, while in relation to their organisation and function they are supervised by the institutions that formed them.

3. Agreements will be concluded by the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the Regions under article 21, in relation to the organisation, the function and management of the public I.E.K. that come under the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning and the provision of the corresponding vocational training services planning.

4. The decision by the Ministers for Finance and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, establishes, converts, merges and abolishes public I.E.K. that come under the jurisdiction of the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning.

5. The decision by the competent Minister according to the circumstances and the Minister Finance, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, permits the setting up of I.E.K. by Ministries or legal persons in the public jurisdiction. The responsibility for the organisation and the function of this I.E.K. belongs to the Ministry or the legal person in the public jurisdiction that has set it up, while the responsibility for formulating its education framework belongs to the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning.

6. I.E.K. can be established by legal persons in the private jurisdiction or by private individuals. The decision by the E.KE.PIS management council, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, provides their operating permit.

7. The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions specifies the conditions and specifications that are provided under paragraph 1 and determines the terms and conditions for the issue of the permit to establish and operate them and the system for certifying the I.E.K. structures, programmes and the educators. The similar decree determines the matters that relate to the function and initial or supplementary vocational training services provided by the I.E.K., such as their specialisations, content, term and studies training procedure; the terms, conditions and procedure for enrolment, transfer, study, exams and the issue of their results; the responsibilities of the staff, educators and trainees; the disciplinary procedure; the disciplinary bodies and the disciplinary penalties imposed on the hereinabove.

8. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the

Official Government Gazette, shall regulate the matters concerning procedure for licensing and the implementation system for certifying the I.E.K.; the organisation of the studies; the content for the training guides by specialty; the terms for planning and implementing the practical exercise; the resources for teaching and the practical exercises; the system for evaluating the staff and the educators; as well as the every matter related to the general function of the I.E.K.

9. The decision by the Ministers for Finance, Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister according to the circumstances, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, regulates the more specific matters relating to the function, management, personnel, logistics and the initial or supplementary vocational training services that are provided by the public I.E.K., such as safeguarding their building infrastructure and equipment; determining the tuition and examination fees and their beneficiaries; determining the deposits; their staffing with personnel; the employment of educators and every other relevant matter.

10. The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions shall regulate the matters concerning the function and the management of the private I.E.K. and more specifically, the matters relating to the initial or supplementary vocational training services that are provided, such as determining the obligations of the owners; the qualifications, impediments and the incompatible qualities in the recruiting of administrative officials and appointing their representatives; the obligations and the disciplinary law for the owners, administrative officials and their representatives and every other relevant matter.

11. The provisions under paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 10 of article 5 pursuant to Law 2009/1992 are implemented supplementary for the operation of the I.E.K.

12. It is not necessary to certify the building infrastructure for the I.E.K. operating in primary and secondary education school buildings.

Article 13 Vocational Training Centres

1. The K.E.K. are legal persons or operate within the context of legal persons, which have some of the forms that are provided under the national or the community legislation and aim to provide continuing vocational training services. The K.E.K. have an organisational structure that includes the managing functions, planning of implementation and implementation of continuing vocational training programmes; the management, scientific or technical and training personnel related to these functions; the use of the building infrastructure that is in accordance with the building structure regulations, as well as the equipment, which services their hereinabove functions; they implement certified continuing vocational training programmes that correspond to specific job profiles,

where they are available, and use educators with the corresponding knowledge or even experience. E.KE.PIS is the competent institution for certifying and licensing the K.E.K.

2. The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Ministers for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and Labour and Social Security, specifies the conditions and specifications that are provided under the previous paragraph, which determines the terms and conditions for the issue of the permit to establish and operate and the system for certifying the structures, programmes and the educators at the K.E.K.

3. The decision by the Ministers for Finance, Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and Labour and Social Security, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, shall regulate the matters concerning the procedure for licensing and the implementation of the system for certifying the K.E.K. and especially, the necessary forms and supporting documents; the criteria and procedure for their certification; the financial amounts that are paid for the certification and licensing; the system for control, evaluation and grading; the administrative sanctions relating to deficient or false information in the application or for violating the terms in the permit and every matter related to the establishment and the function of the K.E.K. and the continuing vocational training services provided by them.

Article 14

Informal Learning Institutions - Conditions and procedure for enrolment on the Register of Institutions in the Network

1. Informal Learning Institutions are all manner of institutions that are operating on a national, regional or local level and provide lifelong learning services, where they have been recognised as Informal Learning Institutions for citizens and are enrolled on the relevant register that is maintained by the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning.

2. Informal Learning Institutions are classified under the following categories:

i) Services and institutions in the public sector (the public institutions) that are operating as a legal person in the public or private jurisdiction;

ii) Institutions in the public sector (or public institutions) that are operating as an association, institution or urban non-profit organization or an association of persons; and

iii) Institutions in the private sector (or private institutions) of any legal structure.

3. The Informal Learning Institutions may include schools, museums, libraries, social, educational and cultural institutions that implement programmes or provide lifelong learning services that are aimed at young people, adults or the elderly, such as conducting workshops or seminars; organising educational visits; providing systematic information and knowledge; and developing skills in people, which contribute to their training, education and intellectual development.

4. For enrolment on the Register of Lifelong Learning Institutions, the concerned institution submits the relevant application to the Municipality where it is based, wherein it provides its identification information (trading name, registered office, address, dealing approving its Articles of Association, its purpose, partners or members, and management) and attaches brief information on its previous and planned activity and a note which substantiates that this activity contributes to lifelong learning. This application is evaluated and approved by the Committee that the Municipality establishes and the approval decision information is electronically entered onto the Register.

5. Informal Learning Institutions that are operating at a national level may be enrolled on the Register of Lifelong Learning Institutions by the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning, without the need to observe the procedure under the previous paragraph.

6. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions that is issued further to the opinion by the Central Association of Municipalities in Greece and is published in the Official Government Gazette, specifies in detail the information that is mentioned or attached to the application; the composition of the Municipality's Committee under paragraph 4; the information that is evaluated, the procedures for enrolment and lodging appeals; the information that is entered on the Register; the monitoring system and the annual evaluation of the institutions' activities and every matter related to the implementation of the determinations in this article.

CHAPTER C - STANDARDS AND RESOURCES OF THE NATIONAL LIFELONG LEARNING NETWORK

Article 15

National Lifelong learning Programme

1. The National Lifelong Learning Programme is mid-term; it specialises on an annual basis and includes all of the activities for implementing the lifelong learning public policy that are partially or wholly funded by public, national or European resources, and more specifically:

i) The activities that are implemented by central public institutions and other nationwide institutions in the Network. These activities are the national part of the Programme.

ii) The activities that are implemented by the Regions and the other nationwide regional institutions in the Network. These activities are the regional part of the Programme, which are classified under the regional lifelong learning programmes that are provided under paragraph 1 at article 7.

iii) The activities that are implemented by the Municipalities and the other nationwide local institutions in the Network. These activities are the local part of the Programme, which are classified under the local lifelong learning programmes that are provided under paragraph 1 at article 8.

2. The National Lifelong Learning Programme, in a special chapter, also includes the activities of a collective nature that are supported in financial,

scientific or management terms by the main public, Regional or Municipal institution; the public, social and private institutions that are enrolled on the Register of Institutions in the Network that is provided under paragraph 3 at article 17.

3. The National Lifelong Learning Programme also includes the activities of the General Directorate for Lifelong Learning to support, monitor and evaluate the programmes implemented by the Regions and the Municipalities. These activities are accompanied by the relevant incentives, which include the moral and material reward for their good practices, in implementation of the determinations under this law and especially under articles 7 and 8.

4. The decision by the Ministers for Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government, Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the Ministers that are responsible for managing the activities classified under the National Lifelong Learning Programme, which is published in the Official Government Gazette and is constituted of the Committee Monitoring this Programme. The term of the Monitoring Committee is for the same period as the term of the National Lifelong Learning Programme. A similar decision determines the composition and responsibilities of the Committee for designing and monitoring the Programme's implementation, the specialization of its activities and the coordination of the services managing these activities to harmonise the activities under the Programme with the purpose and the aims of the lifelong learning public policy and more generally with the public policies for developing human resources in the country. The Monitoring Committee is supported in terms of management by the General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning.

Article 16 National Qualifications Framework

The learning outcomes of all types of formal education, informal education and informal learning are identified and correlated through the National Qualifications Framework, so that they are certified and classified at levels that correspond to the European Qualifications Framework levels.

The National Qualifications Framework can be specified in terms of sector qualification frameworks.

The formulation and function of the National Qualifications Framework, as well as the coordination of the parties involved in this Framework, such as the representatives on national and community Collective bodies, education and training institutions, public partners and the chambers of commerce, is supervised by the European Union Directorate at the Main Department of the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions.

The Presidential Decree that is issued further to the recommendation by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, following the recommendation by the E.O.P.P., determines: i) the conditions for formulating and implementing the National Qualifications Framework and especially on matters relating to equivalence to the European Qualifications Framework, the international sector qualifications and the creation of sector description indicators, ii) the terms, conditions

and procedure for certifying qualifications, inclusive of the system for examining, evaluating and certifying knowledge, skills and abilities for those who want their qualifications recognised and certified; and iii) the terms, conditions and procedure for licensing the institutions that certify qualifications, inclusive of the specifications, bodies and procedure of the system for examining, evaluating and certifying their functions and the necessary supporting documents, as well as the conditions for providing their services, inclusive of the control system.

Article 17 Network Registers

1. The General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning maintains the Electronic Lifelong Learning Register, on which the concerned parties are enrolled further to their application, with which they also submit the specific standardised document known as the Lifelong Learning Personal Statement. This statement records the qualifications that correspond to the National Qualifications Framework, as well as the certifications for observing certified informal education programmes. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the conditions for the creation of the electronic register; the information in the personal statement; the conditions and procedure for the enrolment of the concerned parties and their access to the information in the statement, and every matter related to the implementation of the determinations under this paragraph.

2. The E.KE.PIS maintains the Register of Educators on which the concerned parties are enrolled, in accordance with the provisions under paragraphs 2 to 6 at article 19.

3. The General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning maintains the Register of Lifelong Learning Institutions on which the operators managing the system and the institutes providing lifelong learning services under cases i) to xi) under paragraph 3 at article 3 are enrolled, where they have been incorporated in accordance with the current provisions. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the terms, conditions and procedure for enrolling the institutions on this Register that are specified under the previous section. The same Register enrolls the Informal Learning Institutions under case xii) of paragraph 3 at article 3 in accordance with the procedure under article 14.

Article 18 Lifelong Learning Incentives

1. Incentives have been instituted to develop lifelong learning and update the knowledge, skills and abilities of the human resources in the country. These specifically include:

i) The connection of informal education programmes to the formal education system through sectional and certified learning programmes, which provide the capacity for recognising, accumulating and transferring education credits from one system to another.

ii) The provision of special teaching permits to participate in lifelong learning programmes, with emphasis on employees in the private sector.

iii) The institution of individual training accounts through the participation of the employer and the employee, within the context of collective employment agreements, whereby the latter withdraw money to meet their training needs. The state can also participate financially in these accounts.

iv) The institution of individual learning time accounts for employees to participate in continuing education and training programmes, within the context of collective employment agreements.

v) The connection of the evaluation of the Lifelong Learning Institutions to their funding. The institutes providing lifelong learning services that are funded through public resources are evaluated in accordance with the implementation of the goals that have been set for the respective lifelong learning programme and funded on the basis of their effectiveness and performance.

2. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the competent Minister according to the circumstances, which is published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the matters that relate to the structuring of the learning programmes based on credits; the terms, conditions and procedure for providing specific teaching permits; the procedure and conditions for funding Lifelong Learning Institutions in accordance with their evaluation, as well as every other relevant matter.

Article 19 Safeguarding quality

1. In order to safeguard the quality of lifelong learning, a system for continuing education and evaluating the educators and executives of informal education and the S.D.E. teachers is constituted, as well as the system for monitoring and evaluating the programmes and the effectiveness of the National Network for Lifelong Learning.

2. From 1.1.2013, teaching proficiency is a precondition for an educator to participate in an informal education programme that is funded by public resources.

3. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions that is published in the Official Government Gazette determines the specifications of the training programmes for the educators of informal education and regulates the matters concerning their scientific support and supervision. A similar decision determines the terms and conditions that must be fulfilled by the formal and informal education institutions to implement such programmes. The training programmes for the educators are certified by the E.KE.PIS in accordance with the hereinabove specifications.

4. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions that is published in the Official Government Gazette determines the conditions for recognising of teaching competence, the conditions

and the procedure for its certification, as well as the cases where the recognition and certification of teaching competence is not required for observing this procedure.

5. Teachers of adults are enrolled on the Register of Educators that is maintained by the E.KE.PIS, following the recognition and certification of their teaching competence pursuant to the provisions under the previous paragraph. Public sector institutions that implement informal education programmes may sign a programme agreement with E.KE.PIS to develop and maintain a sector sub-register that is electronically integrated with the Register of Educators.

6. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions that is published in the Official Government Gazette shall regulate the matters concerning enrolment and deletion from the Register, as well as every matter that is related to maintaining, updating and informing the Register.

7. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions that is published in the Official Government Gazette determines the specifications of the training programmes for the S.D.E. educators.

Article 20 Programme Implementation

1. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions approves the Implementation Programme, which provides the necessary scientific, administrative and technical support to the National Network for Lifelong Learning institutions and especially to the institutions managing lifelong learning, for the timely, qualitative and effective implementation of the regulations under this law and the implementation of its aims, as well as improving the administrative ability of these institutions, in order that they respond to the requirement of the lifelong learning public policy, the timely specialisation and effective implementation of the National Lifelong Learning Programme.

2. The similar decision constitutes the Team for Managing the Programme.

Article 21

Lifelong learning Programme Agreements

1. In relation to the realisation of investments, the development of programmes and the implementation of activities that are included in the national, regional or local lifelong learning programme, the provision of all manner of lifelong learning services and the provision of services supporting education and lifelong learning, the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the institutions managing lifelong learning can individually or jointly conclude Programme Agreements between themselves or even with institutions in the public sector, as this is specified under paragraph 6 at article 1 pursuant to Law 1256/1982 (OGG 65 A), inclusive of the institutions providing lifelong learning services, where they belong to the public sector or even with the other institutions under case i) of paragraph 1 at article 100 pursuant to Law 3852/2010. Under the lifelong learning Programme Agreements

the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions may be represented by the Lifelong Learning General Secretary. The hereinabove agreements are subject to the pre-contractual examination for the legality of the Audit Committee in accordance with paragraph 7 under article 19 pursuant to Presidential Decree 774/1980 (OGG 189 A).

2. The Programme Agreements also permit the participation by the institutions under case ii) at paragraph 1 of article 100 pursuant to Law 3852/2010.

3. The lifelong learning Programme Agreements also permit the participation by the social and private institutions providing the services of lifelong learning under case xii) at paragraph 3 of article 3, where they are not funded within the context of these agreements and they are enrolled on the Register of Institutions in the Network.

4. The lifelong learning Programme Agreements also permit the participation by the social and private institutions providing the services of lifelong learning under case xii) at paragraph 3 of article 3 for the provision of specific services that are funded within the context of these agreements, where they are enrolled on the Register Institutions in the Network and have been preceded by an institution managing lifelong learning that is a counterpart to the programme agreement under cases i), ii) and iii) at paragraph 2 of article 3; and a public proclamation for their evaluation and selection to provide these services, in accordance with the provisions under the legislation relating to public contracts.

5. The provisions under paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of article 100 pursuant to Law 3852/2010 are also implemented for the lifelong learning Programme Agreements.

6. In relation to the Programme Agreements that the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions concludes as the primary contracting party with the Municipality, the second contracting party undertakes: i) to operate and manage the local structures and to implement the general adult education programmes of the General Directorate for Lifelong Learning; and ii) to implement the lifelong learning programmes of the K.P.E. at the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions. The Programme Agreements also specify the conditions for the incorporation of these structures under the K.D.B.M. A collective body can be constituted within the context of the planning agreements at the Municipal level, which is comprised of representatives from the scientific, professional, social and cultural institutions and provides consulting support to the design and implementation of the local lifelong learning programme, and more specifically, to the programmes or activities of the programme agreement. The management of the programmes under the General Directorate for Lifelong Learning and the Ministry for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions specified in the previous section can occur through the corresponding implementation of the determinations under articles 23 and 24 of Resolution number 5067/30.12.1985 by the Ministers for the Presidency of the Government, and Culture and Finance (OGG 794 B), whereby the programme agreement specifies the expenditure officer and the accountable manager, which are implemented in relation to the control of the expenditure under the determinations that are in force for the preventative control of the Municipalities.

CHAPTER D

TRANSITIONAL AND OTHER FINAL PROVISIONS Article 22 Participation by the school community and local society

1. The local development programme that is instituted by the Municipality, in accordance with the provisions under articles 70 to 74 (Democratic Planning) pursuant to Law 1622/1986, includes the local programme for supporting education and lifelong learning. The section of this Programme that relates to the investments, programmes or the various lifelong learning activities is the local lifelong learning programme that is provided under article 8.

2. The municipal council decides on the consultation methods to elaborate the local programme for supporting education and lifelong learning and the methods for safeguarding transparency and social accountability during its implementation on the principle of the municipal term. The bodies of the school community (School Councils, School Committees and Parent Associations) participate in these procedures together with the institutes providing lifelong learning services specified under paragraph 2 of article 8. The evaluation reports and the activities programmes that are provided under article 32 pursuant to Law 3848/2010 are taken into consideration during the preparation of the local programme for supporting education and lifelong learning.

3. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions that is issued further to the opinion by the Central Association of Municipalities in Greece and published in the Official Government Gazette regulates the matters that relate to the role and procedure for participating in the preparation and implementation of the local programme for supporting education and lifelong learning by the School Councils, School Committees and Parent Associations in the schools of the Municipality's Region, as well as the matters relating to organising and operating the Schools for Parents.

Article 23

Regulating matters for popular education training and vocational training

1. From 1.1.2011, the departmental unit at the Regional LGA that exercises the responsibilities for popular training or general adult education will be wholly transferred in terms of responsibilities, positions and staff to the Municipality that is the capital of the respective Prefecture and is incorporated into the departmental unit that exercises responsibilities on lifelong learning matters. Where there is no such unit with responsibilities on lifelong learning matters, then the hereinabove unit is incorporated under another related departmental unit in the Municipality, which is appointed by the decision of the Mayor. As an exception, the personnel serving at the hereinabove Regional LGA, which is employed in vocational training programmes, or in adult education programmes and vocational training programmes, may by its application that is submitted to the Prefect within an exclusive period of

one month from the passing of this law, request its inclusion in the Region's department that exercises lifelong learning responsibilities. This application is approved by the decision of the Prefect within an exclusion period of two months from the passing of this law.

2. In the case where there is a decentralized structure of the hereinabove Regional LGA departmental unit in the regional Municipality that is not the capital of the Region, this structure is then transferred to the regional Municipality with the corresponding implementation of the determinations under paragraphs 1, 5, 6, 7 and 9.

3. The responsibilities of the Prefectural Committees for Popular Training (N.E.L.E.) that relate to vocational training matters are transferred to the Regional Vocational Training Committee that is provided under case i) at paragraph 3 of article 7 and the responsibilities that relate to popular training or general adult education matters are transferred to the collective bodies that are provided under paragraph 6 at article 21.

4. The certified K.E.K. at the N.E.L.E. of the Regional LGA that have been renamed the K.E.K. for the corresponding regional entity retain the infrastructure and tools and operate under the terms and the preconditions that were certified by the E.KE.PIS., and are managed by the responsible deputy prefect, within the context of the planned directions of the regional Council and the directives of the Regional Director.

5. From 1.1.2011, the assets, ownership and every other corporeal right over N.E.L.E. the chattels and real estate, excluding the K.E.K. assets under the previous paragraph, will devolve to the Municipality, without the need to observe any formality, dealing or contract and without a consideration, in reservation of the current determinations relating to gifts, inheritances and bequests. The Municipality will henceforth have the exclusive use and management of these assets and the responsibility to safeguard and manage the existing file of the departmental unit at the Regional LGA, which is transferred in accordance with paragraph 1 and the N.E.L.E. The municipal council must conduct an inventory by 30.6.2011 of all the chattels and real estate that devolve to the Municipality's possession under the provisions of the previous section. The inventory report is approved by a dealing of the General Secretary at the Ministry for Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government. An extract of the approved report, which describes the assets acquired by the Municipality, as well as the other corporeal rights over assets, with the summary that is provided under the provisions of article 9 pursuant to Royal Decree 533/1963 (OGG 147 A), is lodged duty free on the appropriate conveyance books of the competent Land Registry Office. The necessary cadastral entries are similarly completed duty free.

6. The personnel of the departmental unit at the Regional LGA from 1.1.2011 that has transferred in accordance with the provisions under paragraph 1 will be considered to be the Municipality's personnel and subject to its official status, whereby the permanent staff will be subject to the first part thereof and the

staff under the indefinite period private jurisdiction will be subject to the second part of the Municipal and Community Employees Status Code (Law 3584/2007, OGG 143 A). These personnel continue to be subject to the insurance and pension regime to which they were subject prior to their transfer to the Municipality, in accordance with the determinations under the provisions of paragraph 17 at article 4 pursuant to Law 3513/2006, except where they choose, by their application, to be subject to the Municipal staff regime.

7. From 1.1.2011, the personnel that have been seconded to the departmental unit of the Regional LGA, which have been transferred in accordance with the provisions under paragraph 1, will return to their original departments.

8. The Municipality's departmental unit that exercises responsibilities on lifelong learning matters and to which the departmental unit of the Regional LGA has been transferred in accordance with the provisions under paragraph 1, will exercise the relevant responsibilities and provide the corresponding services to the administrative region for all the Municipalities in the Prefecture, until the corresponding departmental units are set up and operate at these Municipalities, in a manner that will ensure the organisational preconditions for exercising the responsibilities that relate to the matters under this law. The concurrence of these preconditions is confirmed by the decision of the Ministers for Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government and Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions.

9. The resources that cover the salary expenditure for the staff and the operations of the departmental units at the Regional LGA that are transferred in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 are posted to the budget for the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government. The decision by the Minister for Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government, annually funds through these resources the Municipalities to which the departmental units of the Regional LGA are transferred in accordance with the provisions under paragraph 1 and the Municipalities where the function of a departmental unit with responsibilities on lifelong learning matters is certified in accordance with the previous paragraph, to cover their relevant salary and operating expenses, in accordance with the relevant criteria.

10. The General Secretariat for Lifelong Learning supervises, within the meaning of the determinations under articles 4 and 6, the operations of the departmental units that are responsible for lifelong learning matters at the Municipalities.

11. The decision by the Minister for Education, Lifelong Learning and Religions and the Minister for Internal Affairs, Decentralisation and e-Government that is issued further to the opinion by the Central Association of Municipalities in Greece and published in the Official Government Gazette, determines the organisational preconditions and the procedure for submitting the proposal and certifying these preconditions in accordance with paragraph 8; the method for calculating the expenses and the criteria system for the distribution of the subsidies under paragraph 9; and every matter related to the implementation of the determinations in this article.