SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION 595.02

AĠENZIJA ŻGĦAŻAGĦ (ESTABLISHMENT AS AN AGENCY) ORDER

14th December, 2010

LEGAL NOTICE 522 of 2010.

Citation.

1. The title of this Order is the Aġenzija Żgħażagħ (Establishment as an Agency) Order.

2. (1) There shall be an Agency, to be known as the Aġenzija Żgħażagħ, which shall carry out functions related to youth affairs. This Agency shall assume the responsibilities previously vested in the Youth Section within the Directorate for Educational Services.

(2) All employees previously performing duties with, and any other public officers currently deployed with, the Youth Section within the Directorate for Educational Services shall be regarded as employees of the Agency under the same terms and conditions prevailing at the date of coming into force of this Order.

(3) The employment contracts of employees Directorate for Educational Services shall continue in force as if they were entered into by the Agency.

(4) Public officers deployed with the agency shall be deemed to be detailed with the Agency in accordance with article 33 of the Public Administration Act.

Cap. 595.

(5) The Agency shall, as from the coming into force of this Order, assume responsibility for all assets, liabilities and obligations previously entered into by the Youth Section within the Directorate for Educational Services or by other bodies who act on its behalf.

Functions and duties of the Agency.

3. (1) The Agency shall have the following functions:

(*a*) to liaise and ensure the necessary coordination between Government departments and other agencies in the implementation of youth policy and measures or initiatives proposed by Government or the Agency from time to time;

(*b*) to undertake and co-ordinate research into specific issues aimed as assessing the state of play with respect to youth affairs;

(*c*) to formulate, co-ordinate, manage and evaluate youth work programmes which promote active youth participation and the empowerment of young people;

(*d*) to provide local and EU information to youth on any matters which may be of interest to their development and facilitate the participation of youths and youth organisation in EU and Euromed programmes;

(*e*) to liaise with the National Authority and National Agency of the Youth in Action programme for a coherent operational programme;

(*f*) to act as a focal point for the involvement of youth in the decision making process;

(*g*) to promote the role of youth in local Government; and

(*h*) to assist and support national and regional voluntary youth organisations and other organisations working in the youth field.

(2) The Agency shall assume the following duties:

(*a*) to coordinate, evaluate and monitor the implementation of the National Youth Policy;

(*b*) to ensure that all Government programmes concerning the affairs and interests of young people are implemented in accordance with the National Youth Policy;

(*c*) to keep direct and continuous contact with local and foreign bodies working in the field of youth, and with other groups, agencies or individuals as the need arises;

(*d*) to ensure the highest standards in youth work; and

(*e*) to keep under review the workings of this Order, and where deemed required, at the request of the Minister or otherwise, submit proposals for the Order's review.

Minister responsible for Agency.

4. (1) The Minister responsible for Aġenzija Żgħażagħ shall be the Minister responsible for Youth.

(2) The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry responsible for Youth shall supervise the Agency in terms of article 29 of the Public Administration Act:

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Provided that the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry responsible for youth may be assisted in such supervision by another Permanent Secretary in accordance with the proviso to article 14(6) of the Public Administration Act:

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Provided further that if a Minister, other than the Prime Minister, assumes responsibility for the Agency, its supervision shall fall under the Permanent Secretary of that Ministry.

Financial arrangements. Cap. 601.

5. The Agency shall be governed by the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act unless otherwise stated in the Agency Agreement between the Permanent Secretary and the Aġenzija Żgħażagħ, in which case the provisions of the Agency Agreement shall prevail.

Other special arrangements applying to the Agency.

6. The operations of the Agency shall follow an Agency Agreement which is to be agreed between the Permanent Secretary and the Aġenzija Żgħażagħ.

Advisory Board.

7. (1) The Minister responsible for the Agency may establish an advisory board to assist the Chief Executive Officer in the

discharge of his duties.

(2) An advisory board established under this article shall consist of not less than two and not more than four members appointed by the Minister responsible for the Agency.

(3) The remuneration paid to members of the Agency's Advisory Board shall be in accordance with any directives and guidelines which may be issued by the Agency from time to time.