VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 192 of 2014

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ACT (CAP. 497)

National Literacy Agency (Establishment) Order, 2014

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 36(1) of the Public Administration Act, the Prime Minister has made the following Order:-

Citation.

1. The title of this Order is the National Literacy Agency (Establishment) Order, 2014.

Interpretation.

2. In this Order, unless the context otherwise requires:

Cap. 497.

"Act" means the Public Administration Act;

"Agency" means the Agency established by means of this Order;

"Minister" means the Minister responsible for education;

"Permanent Secretary" means the Permanent Secretary responsible for education.

Establishment of the Agency.

3. (1) There shall be an Agency, to be known as the National Literacy Agency, which shall be autonomous and which shall carry out functions related to promote and ensure the delivery of the different aspects of the National Literacy Strategy for All in Malta and Gozo and shall serve as a main driver in the field of literacy.

(2) Public officers deployed with the Agency shall be deemed to be detailed with the Agency in accordance with article 43 of the Act.

Functions and duties of the Agency.

4. (1) The Agency shall have the following functions and duties:

(a) to submit proposals and recommendations to the Government concerning a national policy for literacy that will take due account of the specific situation and requirements of the Malta;

(b) to prepare short and medium term plans for literacy in Malta largely oriented towards perceived national needs in the Maltese;

VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

(c) to undertake periodic reviews of existing educational programmes and structures, to recommend improvements in such programmes and to identify sources for the training of Maltese personnel in relevant fields of activity so as to ensure the continued availability of suitably qualified personnel;

(d) to manage the national budgetary allocation for the development of literacy in Malta;

(e) to prepare periodic assessments concerning the effectiveness and relevance of the national literacy policy;

(f) to promote effective liaison between all stakeholders;

(g) to identify overseas developments in literacy that are of direct interest and relevance to the Malta situation;

(h) to assist Government in the formulation and negotiation of agreements with foreign governments or international bodies;

(i) to act as a focal point with respect to various regional, interregional and international organisations and to organise participation in seminars, conferences and action and working groups of relevance to Maltese interests;

(j) to act upon such other matters which are ancillary, incidental or consequential to the matters stipulated in paragraphs (a) to (i) as the Minister may from time to time determine.

Minister responsible for Agency.

5. (1) The Minister responsible for the Agency shall be the Minister for Education.

(2) The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry for Education shall supervise the Agency in terms of article 39 of the Act.

Financial arrangements. Cap. 174.

6. The Agency shall be governed by the provisions of the Financial Administration and Audit Act unless otherwise stated in the Agency Agreement between the Permanent Secretary and the Malta National Literacy Agency, in which case the provisions of the Agency Agreement shall prevail.

Other special arrangements applying the Agency.

7. The operations of the Agency shall follow an Agency Agreement which is to be agreed between the Permanent Secretary and the Malta National Literacy Agency.

VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

Advisory board.

8. (1) The Minister 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.

(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.

Amendment to the Public Administration Act. Cap. 497.

9. In the Fourth Schedule to the Public Administration Act, immediately after the Agency "National Agency for Examinations" there shall be added the following:

Agency	Agency Function
"National Literacy Agency	To support the Government in matters relating to literacy.".

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