



REPUBLIKA E SHQIPËRISË
KËSHILLI I MINISTRAVE

Official Gazette no. 147, 16 October 2018

DECISION

No. 593, dated 9.10.2018

ON

**“COMPOSITION, FUNCTIONS, OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTED AREAS”**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and paragraph 2, Article 41, Law no. 81/2017, “On Protected Areas”, on the advice of the Minister of Tourism and Environment, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. The Management Committee is a supervisory structure, of a non-management activity, which is established for every protected area and is organized at district level, presided over by the prefect or, where the environmental protected areas (EPA) comprise more than one district, by the prefect who governs the largest area of the environmental protected areas.
2. The Management Committee is presided over by the prefect, who is its chair and it is composed of:
 - a) Representative from the responsible ministry on environmental issues, member;
 - b) Representative from the National Agency of Protected Areas (NAPA), member;
 - c) Representative from the district prefect, prefect of other districts (in cases when EPA is located on more than two districts), a member from each district;
 - ç) Representative from the municipality/ies, member;
 - d) Director/s of the administration of protected area, a member from each district;
 - dh) Representative from local institutions which are directly related to the management plan of the environmental protected area, respectively from:
 - i. agriculture, member;
 - ii. tourism, member;
 - iii. infrastructure and energy, member;
 - iv. water, member;
 - v. science and education, member;
 - vi. cultural heritage, in cases when EPA contains values and protected areas of culture heritage and landscape, member, etc.;
 - e) Representative from environmental civil society at local level, who are related to the management plan of a EPA, member;
 - ë) Representative from forest and pasture owners, whose properties are located within the area of EPA, member.

3. In cases of transboundary environmental protected areas, representatives from the administration of the protected area are members of the common transboundary technical secretariat, whose obligations and responsibilities are determined according to the respective common transboundary agreement.

4. The district prefect, in collaboration with the ministry responsible for protected areas and NAPA, within two months of entry into force of this decision, requests from the heads of the above-referred public institutions in point 2 of this decision, to formally appoint their representatives and approves the list with respective names for the composition of each management committee, according to environmental protected areas.

5. In cases of representatives from civil society, the representative shall be chosen on case by case basis, depending on the topic to be treated in the management committee meetings and according to the management plan of the relevant area.

6. The Committee has a supervisory function on the implementation of management plans in the environmental protected areas. The way of its functioning is determined in the regulation approved by the committee.

7. The regional administration of protected area plays the role of the technical secretariat and administers the entire documentation, which reflects the work of the committee.

8. The management committee expands its activity on the entire territory of the district/districts, according to the approved environmental protected areas network, including here municipal nature parks. Management committee meetings take place within the territory of the protected area.

9. Management committee conducts its activity through common meetings, which are valid when 50%+1 of the members participate in them and it convenes not less than twice a year upon the chair's notice.

10. The management committee takes decisions by a majority voting and in cases when the number of votes is equally divided, the vote of the committee chair is decisive.

11. Experts of respective areas, scholars and researchers, environmental non-profitable organizations, representatives from business sector, are invited to participate in every committee's meeting.

12. The management committee has obligations and responsibilities, to:

a) Supervise the performance of the management plan of the area and the programs drafted in a detailed way, according to its requirements;

b) Include drafting of management plan and monitor the implementation of its elements to ensure its compliance with the strategy and local and sectoral development plans, taking care that the latter shall respect the requirements for the protection of the area;

c) Promote ecological development of the surrounding environment of the area, as a result of the plan implementation, aiming at its quality conservation;

ç) Analyze the conduct of duties and functions of the administration of protected areas to aid the implementation of management plan, as well as to report on income and financial expenditure related to the plan implementation;

- d) Recommend the specification of the direction of investments in the area;
- dh) Approve the annual report on the protected area conditions;
- e) Propose amendments on the area management plan, extension of the boundaries, as well as additional measures for the improvement of its quality to the responsible minister for environment and NAPA, when these proposals are based on carried out research work and arguments on the necessity for changes. If the proposal entails an area which in addition has culture heritage and landscape values, it shall also receive the approval of collegial decision-making bodies of the responsible ministry for culture heritage;
- ë) Promote drafting and implementation of projects on quality improvement of the area;
- f) Monitor the implementation of management plan of protected areas.

13. The management committee of the respective environmental protected area closely cooperates with RAPA on the implementation of its functional duties set forth in the provisions of the law “On Protected Areas”.

14. The Regional Administration of Protected Area (RAPA), in the role of the technical secretariat, fulfills these duties:

- a) defines the agenda and the date of the meeting in cooperation with the prefect, in the capacity of the management committee chair;
- b) organizes and assists the conduct of planned meetings;
- c) carries out the notification of the members 10 (ten) days in advance, before the real meeting takes place, prepares and distributes the relevant materials of the meetings to each member in due time;
- ç) keeps the minutes of the meeting, where the date, venue, members presence, matters discussed, discussions by the participants and conclusions and results achieved are entered;
- d) drafts a final report on reviewed issues at the meeting, by providing the necessary recommendations after each meeting and then renders them to the responsible ministry for environmental issues and NAPA.

15. Decision no. 86, dated 11.2.2005, of the Council of Ministers, “On the establishment of management committees of protected areas”, is abrogated.

16. The responsible minister for environment, district prefect, municipalities and National Agency of Protected Areas are responsible for the enforcement of this decision.

This decision comes into effect after its publication in the Official Gazette.

PRIME MINISTER

EDI RAMA

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENT

Blendi Klosi