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Relation between Hungarian Public Administration Offices and national agencies

1. Reform in the structure of state administrative organs in 2006:

Central state administrative organs:

- Government
- Government offices
- Prime Minister's Office
- Ministries
- Autonomous state administrative organs
- Government offices (set up by government decree)
- Central offices (set up by acts)
- National Office of Civic security organs
- right to set up territorial organs eg: regional public administration office!

2. Relation between regional public administration offices and central organs

- as the territorial organs of the government, perform chiefly regulatory law enforcement functions, but the core functions of the public administration office are:
- a) legal control of local governments located within its area of competence
- b) second instance competence in several state authority issues
- c) within its coordination competence arranges for the territorial coordination of the implementation of government decisions affecting more than one sectors, the establishment of the regional state administration colleges
- d) supervision of certain decisions of other state territorial organs (eg. labour decisions)
- e) methodological and educational centres at territorial level (tuition of civil servants)
- f) IT functions (eg. during elections)

Relation with central organs:

Government: directs the offices via the minister responsible for local self-governments Ministers: <u>Divided supervision:</u>

Organisational/systemic supervision: minister responsible for local self-governments (the supervision covers operational, budgetary, labour issues)

Professional supervision: minister in charge for the issue in case (eg.: the office issues permission for building in preferential investments: the supervisory organ in this case is the minister responsible for building and territorial development)

New elements:

The content of direction – supervision – control was settled in an act in 2006!

It is only the public administration office where supervision can be divided. It is due to the fact that these offices are the territorial organs having general competence!

3. National Agencies: a special one: National Development Agency

The Agency is a <u>central office</u> set up by a government decree and directed by the minister responsible for national development and economy.

Core functions:

- a) prepare proposals for the Government's development policy principles and objectives;
- b) prepare the country's general development plan and the national development plan;
- c) provide assistance in the harmonisation of the Government's responsibilities concerning national development, development planning and programming;
- d) within its organisation establish and operate the managing authority of the operational programmes, organise the implementation and the monitoring system of the operational programmes and co-ordinate the use of the EU and national funding related to this task;
- i) carry out the organisational and co-ordination tasks in connection with Phare programmes and the Schengen Fund, within the framework of which it shall ensure the operation of the Central Finance and Contracts Unit; the Assistance Coordination Committee shall provide assistance with this activity.

4. Relation between the public administration offices and the National Development Agency

The National Development Agency has **no territorial organs!** \rightarrow Regional Development Agencies: labour organisation of the Regional Development Councils that are legally supervised by the public administration offices!

Relation between the public administration office

- no institutionalised, formal relation
- the offices are beneficiaries of certain EU programmes (mainly the two central operational programmes supporting state administration: State reform and Electronic Public Administration OP) eg.: tender planned to be launched in January 2009 for the development of the operation of public administration offices
- public administration offices play an important role in providing local self-governments with information on the ongoing or planned tenders, programmes
- with regard to their knowledge and experiences the offices take part in a number of committees conciliating EU programmes

Thus, the paths followed by the public administrative office and the Agency are not competing, but in some cases converging.