

**4** vjetori  
anniversary  
godisnjica  
Asociacioni i Komunave të Kosovës  
Association of Kosovo Municipalities  
Asocijacija Kosovskih Opština

**30 June 2005, four years of AMK**

To realize in the best and effective way the objectives of the local government in Kosovo, the fourth anniversary of the work and activities of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities indicates that a lot has been done and a lot has remained to be achieved in the future. Congratulations and Success!!!



Asociacioni i Komunave të Kosovës  
Association of Kosovo Municipalities  
Asocijacija Kosovskih Opština

**ASSOCIATION OF KOSOVO MUNICIPALITIES**

# Bulletin

Year II,

**No.10**

May-June 2005

**An interview of Mr. Ismet Beqiri -the Acting President of the Head of Association of Kosovo Municipalities**

## The municipalities of Kosovo have fulfilled the majority of the objectives designed five years ago

For the tenth edition of the Bulletin of Association of Kosovo Municipalities is published, in the fourth anniversary of the work and activities of AKM, we had a brief interview with Mr. Ismet Beqiri the Acting President of the Head of AKM.

### Where is the local government of Kosovo and AMK itself as a representative of municipal interests of Kosovo?

The local government of Kosovo, respectively the Municipal Assemblies of Kosovo are where it has been projected five years ago, when the first municipal elections were held for the first time in Kosovo.

Each year, the priorities of Municipal Assemblies are undergoing changes, we began with the evidence of the damages and the consequences of the war, we continued with the rebuilding and now we are working on the local economic development, always being a part of national achievements of Kosovo. In this respect, a key and undeniable role has played the AMK which as a representative of the interests of municipalities has achieved satisfactory results in both aspects internal and external. No doubt that this success is assigned to the heads and chief executives of municipalities, the last leaderships of AMK and the international organisation IFES Ltd and the different international and local advisers where all of them deserve our praises and thanks in this anniversary of AMK.



### What is your opinion as a leader of Association of Kosovo Municipalities about the reformation of the local government in Kosovo?

AMK and I personally support the reformation of local government in Kosovo, since it is a process, that must bring good results to the local government, that is to say to have a good reformation and it is a process that have to pass all the governments of south-eastern Europe as a way to enter in big European family which is one of our national objectives.

### A few days ago AMK has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Local Government? What does this mean for the Association?

This memorandum has been prepared in order to clarify the co-operation and co-ordination of the activities between the Ministry of Local Government and the Association of Kosovo Municipalities. In this memorandum is specified that AMK is a representative of municipalities based in the voluntary participation and the common interest. The big importance of this signed memorandum consists of two sections. The first, in approaching the local government of Kosovo with the Council of Europe (where AMK has the status of the observer) since these two institutions pledge to the promotion of the Council of Europe's European Charter of Local Self-government and to strengthen the local elected governments as one of the base principles of local self-governing in whole Europe. The second, with this of memorandum understanding, the activities in the framework of partnership created through these two institutions will be led from principles as, the need to

develop the local democratic self-governing, to increase the capacity of municipalities to deal independently and with no needless intervention of local issues, the need to support the co-operation between municipalities and co-operation between the local and central level.

### What is your message in this anniversary of AMK?

We always have to offer better services and we dare not be pleased with what we have achieved. Therefore, the way begun by the legitimate municipal leaderships with the vote of the citizens must be continued further. This way involves the offering of daily services, creating an infrastructure for an easier life and to the advance and the increase of municipal institutions.

Interviewed by: Arsim Osmani

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**Activities of AMK**

IN A MEETING ORGANISED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF KOSOVO MUNICIPALITIES

## The Leaders of Municipalities and Minister of Local Government discussed about "The reforms in Local Self-government - The Work programme for 2005"

Association of Kosovo Municipalities organised a meeting with the heads and the chief executives of Kosovo Municipalities where they discussed about "The reforms in the Local Self-government-The Work Programme for 2005" where the document was presented to the municipal leaders "The reform of the local self-governing". In this meeting was also present the Minister of the Local Government Mr. Lutfi Haziri who presented the documents on administrative reforms, which was also approved by the Kosovo Government.

The meeting was opened and headed by the Acting President of AMK Mr. Ismet Beqiri, who said that the reformation project of the local government in Kosovo is one of top priorities of the local and central institutions. We must face this process no matter how difficult and costly it is since such a process will strengthen and offer better services for the citizens by their respective municipalities.

Speaking in this meeting, the Minister of the Local Government Mr. Lutfi Haziri said that the document on the reformation of the local government in Kosovo is a document which was approved this year and it has already the consensus of Kosovo Assembly.

After the discussions in the Assembly, we have incorporated the deputy's recommendations and now it is a more complete



project and we will work on the legal infrastructure as a section of the local government in Kosovo.

So, the law-project on the Local Government will be discussed by the municipalities in order to have better and more applicable legislation. Afterwards, the Minister Haziri extracted some sections of the documents on the Reform in the Local Self-government and he explained the whole document as well.

In addition, the minister Haziri mentioned the signed Agreement of the Understanding between the MALG and AMK, where he pointed out that AMK will be side by side about the local policies in Kosovo.

The head of Kamenica municipality Mr. Shaip Surdulli said that "it has not been possible for us to analyse the document since it reached to us today and, but nevertheless the municipalities leaders will give their suggestions".



## AMK delegation participates in the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in Strasbourg

The delegation of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities, comprised of Acting AMK President, Mr. Ismet Beqiri, AMK Deputy President, Mr. Ramadan Gashi, and Municipal President of Novo Brdo, Mr. Petar Vasic, participated in the plenary session of the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in Strasbourg.

The Acting AMK President, Mr. Ismet Beqiri, expressed the full support of Municipalities of Kosovo to the local government reforms in Kosovo. He outlined the support given to Kosovo Institutions, the President, the Government, particularly the Ministry of Local Government Administration, and the cooperation between the local and central level.

We hope that this is a good beginning for a very crucial issue, the reformation of the local government in Kosovo.

The head of Vushtri municipality Mr. Muharrem Shabani said that these discussions are fruitful for the reformation of the local government and the institutions role must be transparent and serious as far as our activities are concerned.

It is necessary in our time to have a legislation that should offer more decision-making power to the municipalities.

The executive chief of Prishtina Mr. Sami Hamiti said that "it is a bit late to discuss about this issue". According to this document, we have municipalities with 5000 residents and as we know 30 municipalities are not enough in offering the public utilities.

The executive chief of Prizren Mr. Ragip Gajraku expressed that "MALG has advanced a lot by approving laws in the local level". This document on the reformation of the local government confirms that the local government does not imply the new reorganisation of Kosovo territory.

The head of Ferizaj Mr. Faik Grainca said that "the legislating on the local self-government is very needful, but he talked about a section of the document where it was unclear as for the power of any ministry that can revoke the decisions of the Municipal Kosovo Assemblies.

The vice-chairman of Kaçanik asked the minister Haziri why the representation in pilot-projects has tended to be done on the party and citizens sides.

After the discussions minister Haziri replied most of the issues and dilemmas of the municipal representatives of the participants and he promised that they will work through all the process.

# Collegium of Chief Executives writes to the Prime Minister Kosumi

**The Collegium of Chief Executives met in Podujeva on May 27 to discuss budget cutbacks and difficulties in finance management for 2005.**

Municipalities have drafted their 2005 budget based on MEF instructions (for which they were warned) as they did for the closure of 2004 budget year. Budget cutbacks in 2005 (in February 2005) changed the budgetary schemes that were approved in December 2004 (for the budget of 2005). These cutbacks also changed the MEF policies for the closure of budget year 2005.

This is an unprecedented case where MEF takes (if not to say "seizes") the financial means that have not been used because of works interruption in November, December, January, February, March, because of the weather. Meanwhile, these works are expected to restart with the beginning of the construction season. What should be done in this case? Let projects unfinished, or finish those projects started in 2004 with budget of 2005, and not have any new

investments at all in 2005? These problems carried over from 2004 and the budget cutbacks of 2005 will make this a very difficult budget year. It is expected that 2006 be even more difficult. Still we are prepared for 2006 while for 2005 everything happened very quickly and Municipalities had difficulties in adjusting to the changes and managing the situation. We do understand the difficulties of the Central Government, but they too should understand us - the local government. We are raising some concrete issues since it is the beginning of June 2005 and the second half of this year will be adjusted to the new situations and since the SRSG has transferred some of the Fiscal Economic Council's competencies to the Prime Minister's Office.

1) There is no daily allowance given to Assembly members.



A way to pay additional allowance in a unique amount for every Municipality should be found.

2) MEF should reconsider the finances committed to concrete contracts in 2004 given that Municipalities have followed MEF Law and Instructions for 2005 (all Municipalities are certified for independent financial management, on the contrary to other budgetary agencies).

3) We still request from the Government of Kosovo and MEF to add the income for real estate transactions to the income base of Municipalities. In particular we ask that the Ministry approve this income for Municipalities and continue with the necessary legislative changes.

4) We ask the Ministry of Public Services that the Center of vehicle Registration collect a registration fee for Municipalities, which were entitled to this fee three years ago. Municipalities would utilize these funds to rehabilitate roads. Since the Center of Vehicle Registration is already collecting this fee, we are not asking to increase this

## **Letter signed by the following Chief Executives:**

1. Mustafë Pllana - Mitrovica
2. Mehmet Gashi - Podujeva
3. Imri Ahmeti - Liplan
4. Ibrahim Kryeziu - Rahovec
5. Halil Tolaj- Decan
6. Ejup Hashani - Obilic
7. Shpend Trdevaj - Klina
8. Gafurr Mustafa - Novoberdo
9. Agim Zenelaj - Suhareka
10. Islam Thaçi - Kamenica
11. Halil Musliu - Vitia
12. Naim Ismajli - Shtimje
13. Enver Muja - Gjilan
14. Sahit Krasniqi - Ferizaj
15. Muharrem Parduzi - Vucitrn
16. Ragip Gajraku - Prizren
17. Ramiz Zeka - Peja

fee, but 50% of this fee go to Municipalities and is utilized only for reconstruction of roads.

5) Pursuant to the Law on Forestry Municipalities should be entitled a 20% of exploited wood mass, as well as the utilization of income from mandatory fines should be regulated.

6) We ask for a meeting with the Prime Minister, although we know he is very busy./

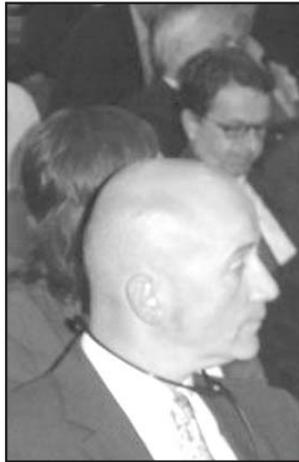
## **AMK participates in local government meeting in Antalia, Turkey**

**The participants discussed on capacity building, public institutions networks in SEE, finance management in local government in SEE, local self-government, etc.**

The Open Society Institute of Hungary organized a meeting on local government in Antalia, Turkey, from June 1-5. AMK was represented by its Executive Director, Mr. Sazan Ibrahim.

The participants discussed capacity building, presentation of NALAS work, public institutions networks in South-East Europe, finance management in local government in SEE, local self-government and democratization, etc./

# The reformation of local government important for democracy and economic development in Kosovo



The reformation of local government is a necessity for the democratic processes in Kosovo and it can contribute in economic development, without taking into account the future status of Kosovo, was one of the conclusions of the two day conference which was held.

In this event were gathered many local and international experts in order to exchange the expertise of the regional countries which have faced or are facing the same process. In the conference were also taken into account the positive results of the countries about the tough issue of the reformation of local government.

"In the future, Kosovo has to be sustained and should be sustained a lot in the regional experiences, and this is very significant in this suitable time," said the ambassador Werner Wnendt, the head of the mission of OSCE in Kosovo. Another view said in the conference was that, since this reform is a long-term process and it must be developed continually, the self-governing provisional institutions of Kosovo must play a key role in order for the process to be dealt with within the framework. This implies that the Assembly of Kosovo approves new laws, while the ministries improve their role in front of the municipalities.

At the same time, the local institutions must be enforced to offer better services and to control the municipal assets. The legislative reforms would support the local governments to increase their annual income and to improve the process of local planning that effects the economic development, better protection and the inclusion of the small ethnic communities and the return.

The reform of local government is a key factor in offering the effective services and the imple-



mentation of the European principle of subsidiarity," said the ambassador Wnendt. "In Europe, even the lowest level of administration is crucial and, and this has a significant importance for all the communities in



Kosovo. "Since the reforming process is still in the initial stage, Kosovo has already examples of good work in the local level, such as in Fushë Kosovë, Kamenicë, Novobërdë, Shtërpçë and Prizren.

The representatives from Gjakova, Shtime and Skenderaj took the word about work in their municipalities in the promotion of the local economic development. The ambassador of OSCE Wnendt has also mentioned that the mission has welcomed the establishment of five Working Groups, which will ensure that the process of reforming the local government and the decentralisation is followed, and the Kosovo Serbs and other communities are involved in this process. In the two-day conference the word was also taken by Mr. Lutfi Haziri, minister of the administration of the local government, Mr. Ismet Beqiri the acting head of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities etc. The conference was organised by the Mission of OSCE in co-operation with the Ministry of the Local Government and UNDP.

**Extracts from the speech of the Acting Head of the AMK Mr. Ismet Beqiri in the conference:**

## "The reform of Local Governance in Kosovo- experience from Southeastern Europe"



### **Honoured Ladies and Gentlemen,**

*Association of Kosovo Municipalities was established in the Assembly of 30 June 2001, after the first democratic municipal elections held in post-war Kosovo.*

*The second Assembly was held in 29 September 2003, after the second local elections in Kosovo. AMK is engaged in implementing the rules of the European Charter of local self-government, to organise and co-ordinate the members activities in the investment field, economic*

*development of municipalities, enhancing the legal base, supporting business communities, preventing crime in culture, education, science, health protection, social issue and support, solving the conflicts, improving the civil services and with the sister Associations abroad and with international organisations. This conference is being held in a time when the local government in Kosovo is in its initial stage of developing. It is expected to have a support and exchange of good experiences. The conference is organised by OSCE Mission in Kosovo, in co-operation with the Association of Kosovo Municipalities, the Ministry of Local Government and UNDP. The progress achieved in Kosovo is also a progress of the local government and Association of Kosovo in the national level of the Municipal Assemblies of Kosovo. Therefore, our aim has been the support and promotion of*

*the local government and the image gained indicates that our objectives have almost been achieved. But, we will not stop with this since we always aim to achieve more. The road taken from the Municipal Assemblies must be continued further. This involves the daily services of the citizens, the creation of infrastructure for an easier life and the enforcement of the municipal institutions where the doubts for stability in municipal level can be left out. After some years, the local government in Kosovo should have the same mission, with this service in the framework of continual improvements. The local government in the coming years will be reformed along with the political and economic developments with our national objectives with the basis created and the fulfilled preconditions.*

**Thank you  
Ismet Beqiri**

# The international conference about the role of the local and regional authorities in democratic consolidation of the countries of the Western Balkans

This conference was organised by the Committee Region in cooperation with the European Commission, Council of Europe and Stability Pact.

It is difficult for Kosovo to move forward without the financial and political support of the European Union, and the unsolved status of Kosovo may be the main obstacle for the economic development of the country, assessed the prime minister Bajram Kosumi in the international conference held on Wednesday about the role of the local and regional authorities in consolidating the democratic system in the coun-

tries of the Western Balkans. "The final status determines all the developments in the future and its prolongation has become an obstacle of the good relations between Kosovo and its neighbours", said the prime minister Bajram Kosumi. According to the prime minister, the reform of local government is an important segment in democracy. He also repeated that the ethnic minorities will not be isolated

in the state of Kosovo. "The citizens want to be close to the place where the decisions are made, so that they may have possibilities to influence as much as they can in decision-making issues that concern their daily life. Secondly, we want to stress the fact that in our future state the minorities will not be small ethnic marginalised groups, but they will be respected", said Kosumi. In the meanwhile, the international representatives said that the decentralisation is one of the basic conditions for the integration of the Western Balkans in Europe. Fabrizio Barbaso, the general Director of the Office for the Enlargement in European Commission said that the help will not lack, but it will not be free of charge. "As the referendums showed about the European Constitution, our citizens do not agree to open the doors to the countries which are not ready to implement the European values and to fulfill our standards" said Barbaso.

The representative of the Region Committee Albert Bore mentioned that the reform of the local government is a significant process and it can not be realised simply by investing money in the process, but this reform has to be initiated by the people themselves with no intrusion, or to take any similar models from the other countries. Owen Masters, a representative from the Council of Europe while discussing about the importance of the local government in the Western Balkans mentioned the experiences about the decentralisation in Macedonia. According to the head of the Fourth Pillar of UNMIK, Joakim Ryker,



**Fabrizio Barbaso - the general Director of the Office for the Enlargement in European Commission**

Kosova is in a challenging stage when the discussions about the status will begin. As he said, decentralisation is a crucial factor in this process. "The future of each Balkans country is the integration. None of these places can lag behind and they may be stabilised only through the political and economic integration", said Ryker. The government of Kosovo is expected to begin soon the 5 pilot-projects as a preparatory stage for the reform of the local government. The minister of the local government Lutfi Haziri said the process will be followed by drafting a packet of the relevant laws, census and expanding the economic issues in municipalities. "Through a monitoring of 15-18 months we will have results that indicate clearly how the local government will be organised. Our commitment is to set two administrative levels of the local government so that the legal and administrative accounts can be regulated. Soon this government will be done with the work the since the local power will be handed to the local representatives" - said Haziri.

## Speech of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities in the conference:



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Speaking in this conference, the Acting President of the AKM Mr. Ismet Beqiri after presenting the establishment and the activities of AKM added that "the progress achieved in Kosovo in the post-war years and approaching of the solution of the Kosovo status is also a progress of the achievements of the local government in Kosovo and in this case thanks to the Association of Kosovo Municipalities as a national organisation of the Municipal Assemblies of Kosovo.

After some years, the local government should have the same mission, in serving the citizens, but improving more and more. In the coming years, local government will be reformed parallel with the political and economic developments by creating a basis and the conditions which have been almost accomplished.

The reform of the local government is a necessity of time, with the intention of working as functionally as possible and effectively, and on the other hand for the citizen to be as close as possible to the decision-making process, and to avail themselves with the services offered to them. We believe that the AKM will be very proactive so that the citizens's rights can be realised in the best possible way, and as soon as possible. In this respect, we hope that this conference, and other activities will contribute to strengthen the role of municipalities in making changes, and to exchange mutual experiences with the region, in order to ensure stable developments and welfare for each citizen of Kosovo".

WITH THE ORGANISATION OF THE AMK AND CARE INTERNATIONAL

# The interethnic dialog continues

Association of Kosovo Municipalities and CARE International continued the meetings with the representatives of the villages in the frame of the interethnic Dialog interethnic groups. Thus, in 27 June was organised a meeting with the Serb representatives of the villages of Peja, Prishtina and Mitrovica region.

"Unfortunately, the region of the Balkans can still be considered as a region with economic and political instability. But all of us together with the Kosovo institutions and the international community are working to have a stable Kosovo no matter how we see it said Mr. Sazan Ibrahim, the executive Director of AKM in the opening of the meeting.

He continued that "Kosovo must be a model based in the ethnic tolerance and where there is enough place no matter from which community they come. A model based in the high standards for the protection of the rights of the communities and the active participation of these communities in the Governing Structures in Kosovo. Consequently, Kosovo is a stabilising factor in the region and as such, it is a partner for the international community.

I can say that we have a strong support from the representatives of the international community, although Kosovo joins and is committed for the fulfillment of the universal today's values: democracy, the human rights, indiscrimination, tolerance and the rule of law. We can have problems, but they can be solved through the institutions of Kosovo as well as with the close co-operation with our institutions and the interna-



tional community. Association of Kosovo Municipalities along with the municipalities and institutions of Kosovo will endeavour to eliminate all the reasons for ethnic tensions, without affecting the integration process of all the citizens in Kosovo's society.

Our objective is to build a democratic Kosovo, considering that the village is the closest place of the citizen, AKM believes that some problems can be solved by this level. This is necessary and we as AKM will try through institutions mechanisms to solve some of the problems that preoccupy the citizen of Kosovo.

By taking part in the discussion, the head of Lipjan municipality Mr. Xhevat Olluri said that "there are no signs that the situation is insecure. As far as the usurping properties are concerned we have what to talk about and we as a municipality are in contact with the court, so that the contested properties can be returned to the legal owners but we still have not had any co-operation with the UNHABITAT in this respect".

The vice-chairman of the Klina municipality Mr. Prenk Gjetaj

said that "the main obstacle for our municipality to go forward is issue of the disappeared citizens as well as the war consequences and the slowness of the rebuilding of the houses damaged during the war. In the municipality of Klina, the first step was taken in rebuilding the houses for the returns, but all the citizens must show willingness to accept the new reality and the public services.

The representative of CARE international Mr. Alban Ibrahim said that "this meeting offers possibilities for a dialog between the representatives of the villages and the municipal leaders to surpass the possible obstacles".

The Head of the general administration in Mitrovica municipality Mr. Isa Hyseni said that "we as a separate city are for an ethnic dialog and for this reason we established the Multiethnic council, while for big issues there must be a volition of the two sides and it is known that the Municipality of Mitrovica is for a real democracy and equality for all in order to fulfill the European values.

Mr. Ivica Milic, a representative of a village in Lipjan Municipality said "as far as the freedom of movement is concerned it has advanced a lot and we have also a commitment from the municipal leadership.

And we as a community have problems like other communities. Lipjan is a multiethnic municipality but there is a transport problem not only within the municipality but also with the neighbouring municipalities as well". After the discussions of the participants came out these conclusions.

1. The dialog between the ethnic groups with the leaders of the villages is an important factor in the stabilization of the situation in Kosovo and moving the processes forward.

2. The situation in Kosovo has improved a lot in comparison with the last years but we must not be happy with this. We have to work further in improving the fields such as freedom of movement, the return, the integration of the communities in social and political life of Kosovo.

3. The initiatives from the minority communities in Kosovo are welcome and very necessary to improve their life in Kosovo.

4. The debates with the citizens initiated by the municipalities and different communities play an important role in the relaxation of the difficulties of the communities.

5. Electronic and press media have to give or launch more information about the positive events that occur in Kosovo and not only the negative ones.

6. The improvement of the economic situation in Kosovo is one of the key factors in the process of the return and the integration of the different non-Albanian communities in the decision-making processes.

7. We must have more: a) such meetings where the communities can discuss about different problems. b) activities in the field of culture, sport between the different communities

8. The public transport must be solved for the minorities

9. The standards apply to all communities and not only for Albanians, so all of us must work together to implement the standards

10. The majority of population must take the responsibilities for protecting the minorities.

11. The loyalty towards each other may impact in increasing the mutual trust

12. The more frequent contacts from the minorities with the local and central authorities raises the mutual trust and information

13. The property rights must be solved as soon as possible, so that the real owners can come back in the previous dwellings

14. There must be a mutual willingness for solving the problems.

## MESP and AMK organize meeting on "Sustainable City 2005 - Recycling and Compression of Waste"

The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning and the Association of Kosovo Municipalities organized a workshop on "Sustainable City 2005 - Recycling and Compression of Waste" at Villa Gërma in Pristina on May 26th 2005. This meeting was attended by representatives of the central government, Municipal Assemblies, Health and Environment Institutions, international donors, local and international NGOs. In this meeting talked Mr. Pierpaolo Gintoli of Cooperazione Internazionale (International Cooperation) and Mr. Agim Zajmi of the Ministry of Agriculture. Also, the Acting AMK President, Mr. Ismet Beqiri, talked for the "Role of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities in regional environment projects".

# The presentation of the plan for the municipal co-ordinators about the Children Rights

Association of Kosovo Municipalities along with the Forum presented the Strategic Plan for the municipal co-ordinators about the Children Rights. This plan came out as a result of the training seminar which was held in Struga in April, where all the municipal co-ordinators were trained for the compiling of the strategic plan about the children rights. Up to the presentation of this plan, the co-ordinators and other activists involved in compiling this project were focused more in working groups which have worked intensively to accomplish the plan for the municipal co-ordinators about the children rights. The role of the AKM was very helpful by taking part directly in all meetings of the working groups for drafting this plan. By taking part in the presentation of the strategic plan for the municipal co-ordinators about the children rights, minister of the local government Mr. Lutfi Haziri said "we welcome the initiative and we will continue to support the municipal co-ordinators along with the Association of Kosovo Municipalities.

At the same time, we urge

you to continue these activities until we can help directly in the clarification of the position of the officials in this direction.

Association of Kosovo Municipalities as a representative of the local government has supported the initiative for the nomination of the municipal co-ordinators about the children's rights said in the beginning Mr. Sazan Ibrahim, the executive director of AKM.

He added that "there were organised some different meetings through this initiative in co-operation with Forum about the Children Rights. In this respect, there has been a good work as far as the strategic plan is concerned, since we think the co-ordinators and municipalities have better conditions which makes their work easier to approach and address the different issues that concern the children rights, considering that one of the aims of AKM is strengthening the role of the municipalities and the local government and AKM will be always helpful in the future so that all the citizens and especially children of Kosovo which make up a high percentage of society may bene-



fit from it".

The representative of UNICEF Mr. Rober Fredrich said that "this strategy is a concrete answer in protecting the children rights. Strategy being discussed here has a big significance for the children and so it can start to be implemented in all municipalities.

Ms. Arbena Kuriu, a representative of Forum for the Children Rights said that "After naming the municipal co-ordinators, there has been done a lot in strengthening their role since their position was unclear". Ms. presented also in detail the process that has brought the draft of this Strategic Plan.

The municipal co-ordinator of Ferizaj Ms. Fatbardha Zogaj presented the Strategic Plan on behalf of municipal

co-ordinators for the children rights by summarizing each section.

The director for the good government and the children rights from the prime minister office Mr. Abit Hajredini emphasised the need to institutionalise the municipal co-ordinators "our office supports this initiative in compiling the strategic plan". The representative of MEST Ms. Miranda Kasneci said that "MEST welcomes this initiative and will give its suggestions to the organisations that have worked in the plan for the children rights.

The chairperson of Ferizaj Mr. Sahit Krasniqi, after welcoming this meeting said that the presentation of the strategic plan is viewed as a big barrier and it is going to be a responsibility of the chief executives and we welcome the work of municipal co-ordinators about the children rights. In this meeting the word took also the chairman of Kamenica Mr. Islam Thaci.

After the discussions, came out the idea that it would be good to have another meeting with all the participants in order to have a review of remarks, recommendations and suggestions so that this strategic plan can be handed to the executive chiefs for its approval.



## "Streetball Kosova" and AMK organised the basketball tour in seven cities of Kosova.



Association of Kosovo Municipalities and the Sports Company "Street Ball Kosova" have coordinated the activities through an agreement of understanding by organising the traditional tour, which this year was

called "Dukagjini Street ball Kosovo 2005". This project has been implemented in the following municipalities: Prishtina, Prizren, Gjilan, Mitrovicë, Pejë, Gjakovë and Ferizaj. According to the plan, the tour has been organised in due time and Municipal Directorates of Sport have helped a lot in the respective municipalities. The winners of this tour from municipalities have participated in the final match which was held in Prishtina. /

## AMK and KSRC organize a seminar on bringing together investors for road constructions



The Association of Kosovo Municipalities and Kosovo Society of Road Constructions organized a seminar to bring together investors and road companies who deal with road constructions. This seminar was planned in consultations with KCBS project in order to develop a classification of construction materials. The seminar will enable Municipalities to guarantee that their limited budget is spent prudently. Some of the topics discussed in this seminar included: the importance of standards in general and in particular related to road construction, the process of security and the importance of specific conditions, the importance of control, the obligation of investors to control and

to approve / refuse; the coordination with other public actors on immediate improvements; recent samples of road constructions, etc. In this opening of this meeting discussed the Acting AMK President, Mr. Ismet Beqiri, the KSRC Board Chairman, Mr. Muhamet Dervishi and KCBS project representative, Mr. Martin Wood.

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	<p>Street "Rexhep Mala"</p>	
	<p><b>AMK</b></p>	<p>Ombudsperson</p>
	<p>Institute of Albanian Studies</p>	

ASSOCIATION OF KOSOVO MUNICIPALITIES

### BULLETIN

Year II, No. 10 - May & June 2004

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The Association of Kosovo Municipalities is supported by the European Agency for Reconstruction through its project, "Support for Decentralization to the municipalities", implemented by IFES Ltd.



Observer Status

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