

## DECISION

No. 459, dated 23.09.1999

### ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE STATE COMMITTEE ON CULTS

Based on articles 10 and 100 of the Constitution, upon the proposal of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Governmental Coordination,

#### THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

#### D E C I D E D:

1. The establishment of the State Committee on Cults as a state body subordinate to the Council of Ministers, in order to establish the relationships between the state and religious communities and social organizations of any kind that have as their object of activity and follow religious goals.

2. The State Committee on Cults reports to the Council of Ministers about its activity. This Committee has the following responsibilities:

- To co-ordinate relations with religious communities, associations, and religious or humanitarian foundations.

- To negotiate the preparation of agreements between representatives of the religious communities and the Council of Ministers.

- To be impartial on issues of faith, to recognize the equality of the religious communities and respect their independence. Also, to work to guarantee the freedom of religion as well as religious development, understanding, and tolerance in Albania.

- To help and support religious activities, based on the Constitution and relevant laws that regulate concrete problems.

- To co-operate with religious communities for the preparation of draft law and secondary legislation related to religious cults.

- To present to the Ministry of Education and Science its opinions on school curricula, subject syllabi, and non-secular texts; on requests presented to open non-public educational institutions, non-public supplementary educational institutions where religious subjects are instructed; and, in co-operation with that institution, depending on administrative territorial division, common economic needs and interests, as well as historical and religious tradition, to define the number of non-public educational institutions and additional non-public institutions where religious subjects are to be conducted.

- In cooperation with the Institute of Monuments of Culture and with religious communities, to care for the safeguarding of the value of cult objects.

- To make and develop connections with homologous institutions of other countries of the diaspora.

- To present to the Ministry of Finance its opinion regarding the entrance into the territory of the Republic of Albania of goods of a religious nature destined for religious communities, and their exemption from customs duties in compliance with the laws in force.

3. The State Committee on Cults is composed of a chair and 4 members. Its composition, organizational structure, and the regulation of its functioning are approved by the Prime Minister.

4. The salary of the Chairman of the State Committee on Cults should be at Level A12 of attachment I "Order of functions according to classification" of Council of Ministers

Decision No. 393, dated 3 November 1992, “On the salaries of the employees of budget institutions”, while the other employees are to be treated as employees of the ministries.

5. The establishment and functioning of the State Committee on Cults is to be financed by the budget funds allocated to the State Secretariat for Religion for the year 1999.

6. The State Committee on Cults is responsible for implementing this decision.

This decision enters into force after the publication in the Official Journal.

**PRIME MINISTER**  
**Pandeli Majko**