

Montenegro

**MINISTRY OF HUMAN
AND MINORITY RIGHTS**

Number 04-090-491/16-1

Podgorica, 21/03/2016

Pursuant to Article 23 of the Law on the Legal Status of Religious Communities (Official Gazette of Montenegro 9/77) and Article 41, paragraph 1 of the Law on State Administration (Official Gazette of Montenegro 38/03, 22/08 and 42/11), the Ministry of Human and Minority rights adopted the following

**CRITERIA FOR AWARDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO RELIGIOUS
COMMUNITIES**

Article 1

The Criteria for Awarding Financial Assistance to Religious Communities (hereinafter referred to as the Criteria) sets forth rules on the basis of which funds are allocated to religious communities.

Article 2

Beneficiaries of financial resources referred to in Article 1 of these Criteria are registered religious communities or their organizational units, which have the status of a legal entity in accordance with law.

Article 3

Allocation of financial resources may concern the following fields:

1. social protection
2. humanitarian activities
3. construction and reconstruction of religious and other facilities
4. publishing and informative activity
5. organization of religious ceremonies, conferences and other forms of inter-religious cooperation
6. other material expenditures intended for the activities of religious communities.

Article 4

Justifiability of applications for funds submitted by religious communities or their organizational units shall be examined by the Commission Awarding Financial Assistance (hereinafter referred to as the Commission).

The Commission shall have three members.

President and members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Minister by means of a decision.

Article 5

Based on the Commission's proposal, the Minister shall issue a decision on the allocation of financial resources to religious communities.

When examining an application for funds, the Commission shall examine the overall material status of the religious community, and its ability to use the financial assistance pursuant to the established purpose.

Religious community or its organizational part shall spend the obtained financial resources for intended purposes in accordance with the submitted application.

Article 6

Evaluation of applications of religious communities for the allocation of financial resources shall be made on the basis of Article 3 of these Criteria.

Applications of religious communities for allocation of financial assistance should include the approval of the competent and responsible supreme religious representative or authority of the religious community.

The amount of awarded financial assistance per one justified application may not be higher than 5,000.00 EUR.

Article 7

Monitoring the intended use of allocated funds shall be conducted by the Commission.

Religious community or its organizational part shall submit to the Ministry a report on the use of allocated funds after half a year, using the established form and accompanied by the necessary evidence.

The report on the use of allocated funds for the first half of the year shall be submitted by 31 July and for the second half of the year by 31 January.

The form on the manner of spending allocated funds, which constitutes an integral part of these Criteria, shall be prescribed by the Ministry.

Religious community or its organizational part which is found to have spent allocated funds for unintended purposes shall return the allocated funds to the Ministry, within the period and in the manner established by the Minister in his decision.

Article 8

These Criteria shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Upon the date of entry into force of these Criteria, Criteria for awarding financial assistance to religious communities no. 01-1297/13 of 27/05/2013 and the Criteria amending the criteria for awarding financial assistance to religious communities no. 01-1297/13-1 of 19/02/2015 shall cease to have effect.

MINISTER
Suad Numanović, PhD
[signature]

FORM ON THE MANNER OF SPENDING ALLOCATED FUNDS

Ordinal number of the application	Purpose of the application	Date when funds were paid	Amount of funds granted	Amount of funds spent

I declare under moral, material and criminal liability that the information provided is accurate.

In _____ 20___

M.P.

Responsible person
