

Info on Decree on Simplification of Registration of Grants from International Donors

Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev signed a decree facilitating the issuance of grants by the foreign donors to the Azerbaijani Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). Under the decree, starting from January 1, 2017, the “single window” principle will be applied to the procedure for issuance of grants by the foreign donors to the NGOs in Azerbaijan.

Moreover, relevant measures will be taken to simplify the review process of financial and economic relevance as well as of the implementation of the procedure relying on the appeal of both foreign donors and recipients.

The issues on the state registration and enrollment of the relevant documents of 15 member organizations of EITI have been resolved as a continuation of the current measures. The grant contracts of 5 Coalition NGOs issued by foreign donors were registered and provided with notification. Tax and banking problems as well as limitations on the accounts of the Coalition members were lifted and criminal cases were terminated.

Facts:

- 20 grant applications out of 24 on the EITI related projects were registered by the Ministry of Justice. 2 grant applications will be registered soon. Other 2 grant applications were submitted in 2012 and donors have terminated the contracts.

- There were 17 Coalition members in the list for cross border checks. This issue was also resolved. None of the Coalition members are in the list
- 15 organizations out of 17 were registered in the MoJ. 2 organizations rejected to be registered with their own request. No EITI related organization got rejection from the MoJ
- 1 criminal case was closed about Ogtay Gulaliyev
- All bank accounts were released from arrests
- Tax sanctions on G.Ibadoglu's organization were lifted
- The reasons for the civil society members being involved to inquiries by law enforcement agencies were not related to the EITI