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Single document to enable better regulation and business environment and increase competitiveness

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1. The need for structural reforms

In Slovenia, as in other European countries, financial and economic crisis has shown a number of shortcomings in the existing systems thus **profound structural changes** are required for enhancing the recovery, which will stimulate economic activity and growth.

For the quality implementation of public services a regulatory framework in which business can operate effectively is essential. Relevant legislation is also a precondition to have a business-friendly environment for business entities. Better regulation, elimination of administrative barriers, reducing regulatory burdens and simplification of procedures are just one of the key elements for achieving a competitive economy.

"For better operations businesses also need a stable business environment such as: supportive fiscal policy, removal of administrative barriers, fast and efficient administrative procedures, a flexible labour market and a comprehensive reform of the pension system" (source: Vrh gospodarstva - CCIS, November 2012).

Different international organizations (among others OECD, EU, etc.) have pointed out that Slovenia needs to establish a favourable business environment. The European Commission in a document "in-depth review of Slovenia" dated 30.5.2012, among the areas, where it would be possible to design appropriate policies, mentions the creation of a healthy business environment for foreign direct investment. One of these analyses performed annually by the World Bank, which has since 2002 carried out an analyses of "Doing Business", which focuses on the rules and regulations and their enforcement, affecting small and medium-sized companies in 185 countries. The primary objective of the analyses is to ensure the objectivity, understanding and improvement of the regulatory environment for business.

2. The results achieved

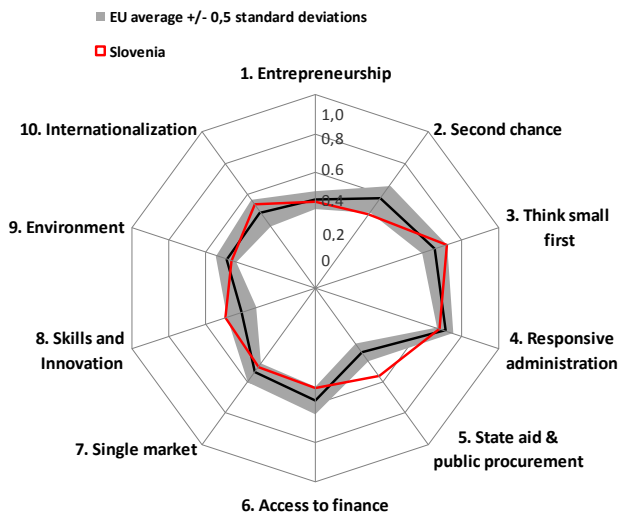
The latest report of the World Bank's on "Doing Business" performs regulatory burdens review in eleven areas of 185 economies. They measure primarily data on the number of necessary procedures, the length of time spent, how many documents must be enclosed, how to obtain the informatin, etc.

Slovenia, since the last survey or analyses of the World Bank "**Doing Business**", is at the 37th position in the area of "**Ease of doing business**" and on the 28th position in the area of "**Starting a business**". With the year 2007 it is expected for Slovenia to progress for **26 places**.

Slovenia has progressed the most in the area of "**Starting a business**" as we have in the period from 2007 to 2011 gained 70 places and are currently holding a 28th position. The reason for such increase lies in obtaining the title of **good practice**, which Slovenia has earned through the establishment of the e-VEM (one-stop shop). In this way Slovenia become the second country in the EU, which is providing free procedures for registering businesses (the first one was Denmark).

EU document "SBA Fact Sheet 2012," stipulates that the implementation of measures under the Small Business Act show that Slovenia is:

- better than the EU average in three areas: (i) the principle "think small first", (ii) state aid and public procurement, and (iii) Innovation;
- below average in the area of "fresh start or second chance" and
- average active in all other areas of: (i) entrepreneurship, (ii) the responsiveness of public administration, (iii) access to financial resources, (iv) the single market, (v) environment and (vi) Internationalization; also shown in the figures below.



Despite notable progress, further improvements are still possible and necessary.

3. Activities of ministries until present

The task of the individual ministries was to carry out a series of measures combined into action programmes on the basis of which would promote the development and competitiveness of economic operators and, on the other hand, reduce administrative barriers and regulatory burden. The implementation of measures is reported by individual ministries in the form of various documents, such as:

- Action Programme for the implementation of the Small Business Act (MEDT);
- Foreign direct investment (MEDT);
- Action Programme for the elimination of administrative barriers and reduction of the regulatory burdens by 25% (MIA);
- Agenda 46+ (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia);
- Small industry Agenda (CCIS);
- Requirements of Slovenian craft trade (Chamber of Craft and Small Business of Slovenia);
- Initiative of Slovenian Chamber of Commerce,
- Programme of measures to boost economy – 2012 (MEDT)
- Managing grey economy in the Republic of Slovenia.

3.1. Action Programme for the implementation of the Small Business Act (MEDT)

A Small Business Act for Europe, which had been adopted in 2008 at EU level, is the basis for the preparation of the action plan for the implementation of the Small Business Act. Action plan of the Republic of Slovenia for the implementation of the Small Business Act in the period 2012-2013 is already second two-year action plan and present a comprehensive and integrated programme of measures for creating a competitive business environment for small and medium-sized enterprises — SMEs. The aim of the Action Plan is an overview of Government policy and a set of concrete measures that will encourage the formation of companies, faster business development in the early stages of operation and their competitiveness, growth and development of all subsequent stages of development. The existing action plan includes all ministries and foreseen activities within the 10 principles of the Small Business Act (SBA).

In accordance with the decision of the Government, the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology is responsible for annual reporting on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Small Business Act (SBA). The Action Plan contains measures and activities in various fields within the ten principles of the Small Business Act, namely:

- to create an environment for entrepreneurs and family businesses where entrepreneurship is rewarded;
- ensure fair entrepreneurs in bankruptcy that he soon gets a second chance;
- design rules according to the "think small first" principle;
- Achieve responsiveness of public administration to the needs of SMEs,
- Facilitate SMEs' participation in public procurement and better use of State aid to SMEs;
- To facilitate the access of SMEs to finance and support the timely payment in commercial transactions;
- Help SMEs to benefit more from the opportunities of the single market;
- Promote the upgrading of knowledge and skills within the SMEs and all forms of innovation;
- Enable SMEs to turn environmental challenges into opportunities;
- Encourage and support SMEs to benefit from the growth of foreign markets.

3.2. Foreign direct investment (MEDT)

One of the main factors affecting the low the inflow of foreign direct investments (FDI) in Slovenia is discouraging business environment. Barriers for foreign investors and the chance to overcome them fall under the competence of the various state authorities. Recently, the activities have intensified at the governmental level in the different documents in order to improve the business environment (both for domestic as well as foreign investors).

Ministry of Economic Development and Technology from different sources gathered and compiled information from the review of barriers relating to business environment and affecting the lower inflow of FDI in Slovenia and identified the main problems that businesses faced with foreign capital in Slovenia. On the basis of identified barriers in cooperation with relevant ministries list of measures is being updated which are planned or are in the process of adopting or have recently been adopted and will also have a positive impact on foreign investors. The list also helps in informing foreign companies and the interested public on the measures taken or to be taken, and thus provide comprehensive information about the business environment and on improvements that can be expected when they decide to invest in Slovenia.

The document MEDT "Review of barriers to foreign direct investment (FDI) in Slovenia", which is an annex to the International Challenges 2013 - Partnership to promote international business in Slovenian businesses, which was adopted by the Government, presents barriers that relate to business environment, identifies the main problems that businesses with foreign capital in Slovenia are faced with.

The condition of FDI in each country is affected by the so-called structural / market factors that actually represent the underlying cause or motive of the foreign investor to invest in a given country (country specific market, availability and cost of production factors, the possibility of efficient production, etc.) and investment climate, which includes regulatory and economic-political framework and supporting entrepreneurship. Investment climate represents more or less favourable framework for the realization of the principal motives.

Various motivation analyzes of foreign investors and site-specific factors of FDI shows:

- that are of primary importance for a country's attractiveness as a location for FDI underlying economic factors consist of market size, population growth, GDP growth and size, access to export markets and the availability, cost and quality of the factors of production;
- It follows that the so-called regulatory and political factors and business environment in the broadest sense, which includes political stability, macroeconomic stability, the

regulatory framework, tax rates and structure, rules and regulation and labour market policy and product markets product policies, etc...;

- that it was only at the end of a specific policy towards FDI, which covers the regulatory framework for FDI, marketing the country as a favourable location for FDI and investment incentives.

Only by creating a specific policy for FDI, which is the responsibility of MEDT, it is not possible to effectively influence the situation of FDI in the country. Despite the fact that every year up to 2011, more and more resources were available for the promotion of FDI, they were not in a position to fully achieve the desired effect without sufficient economic and regulatory-political factors. While some of the elements, such as the size of the market can not be affected, others like regulatory-political factors and business environment depend on the action of the Government and public administration. It is therefore reasonable to target the functioning of all the responsible authorities for the common objective of improved operating conditions for FDI, which also means improving the conditions for domestic businesses.

3.3. Action Programme for the elimination of administrative barriers and reduction of the regulatory burdens by 25% (MIA)

Programme of Action for the elimination of administrative barriers (OAO) and the reduction of regulatory burdens was adopted in 2009 and renovated in 2012 with new measures, which aim to improve the business environment and reduce the regulatory burden.

The objective of the Action Programme is to reduce the administrative burden for the economy by 25 percent (360 million Euros per year). The project takes place in five stages. In the first stage the analysis of regulations and a list of rules for an action program was carried out, in the second phase measurements of administrative burdens (1.5 billion Euros per year) were put in place, the third phase of the ministries prepared a set of measures; the fourth, which currently takes place, consists of realization of measures being implemented, the fifth phase will be scheduled in 2014, when the evaluation will be carried out (verify the effects from the measures taken on the basis of a common methodology to measure savings by departments). On the realization of achieving the objectives of the program, the Government is committed to report to the European Commission at the end of 2013 - a commitment from the REFIT program and ABR. From Action Programme for the elimination of administrative barriers, more than 200 measures have been transferred into a Single document, which reduces the regulatory burdens.

3.4. Agenda 46+ (Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia)

In November 2012 Chamber of Commerce of Slovenia (CCIS) based on discussion between Ad hoc Parliament consist of business leaders and politics at Brdo pri Kranju and Call for successful business in Slovenia, which was signed by more than 700 businessmen, prepared the first set of 46 measures to overcome the crisis and were later amended.

3.5. Small industry Agenda (CCIS)

Small businesses together with private entrepreneurs represents extremely important and at the same time a dynamic part of the Slovenian economy. The Slovenian micro and small enterprises (MSB) employs 43 per cent of all labour force in Slovenian companies. They generate more than a third of added value.

At the same time small Slovenian Business does not meet strength of small businesses in developed economies, to which we want to compare and compete with. Entrepreneurship Survey (GEM) shows alarming figures that in international comparison Slovenians' perception of

business opportunities is very poor. We are ranked even lower when it comes to business intentions. Given the importance of small business, which is particularly vulnerable in a crisis situation it becomes apparent that the situation is serious.

In the EU, 85 percent of new jobs are created by small and medium-sized enterprises. Nevertheless, they have already prepared an action plan Enterprise 2020 which aims to further strengthen the entrepreneurial spirit and entrepreneurial culture, not only change the business environment.

Chamber of Commerce of Slovenia (CCIS) has formed a set of priority measures for improving the conditions under which business entrepreneurs, micro and small enterprises, presented in a document "Agenda MG". These are measures that can, according to the Chamber of Commerce, generally be implemented short-term, or at least begin with the implementation in a very short time. They were discussed at the 2nd Summit of small industry on 19/06/2013.

3.6. Requirements of Slovenian craft trade (Chamber of Craft and Small Business of Slovenia)

At a series of debates and proposals is necessary to give more attention to significance of craft and trade. At the creation of an independent state, and transition of Slovenian economy, this was a vital part of Slovenian economy, which, at the time of disintegration of major economic systems, provided new jobs. Because Craft and Small Business of Slovenia (BAS), represents the interests of crafts and small business, since 1991, give annual initiatives and proposals for the further development of craft and small business as well as suggestions for the successful development of the country as a whole. Craft Business of Slovenia have decided to take this step because of accountability to its members, being a representative entity and help with the proposals, that are designed based on the experience of their members, trying to ensure the conditions for the further development of trade and business.

Understanding the importance of craft and small businesses in the overall economic development it has been pointed out as early as in 2003, when it was noted for the first time, that legislators should take into account the size of the economic operators. Self-employed and businesses with a small number of employees are operating substantially differently in a business environment than large companies. At that time it was pointed out that equality of large and small often means inequality of later ones.

Measures from the Requirements of Slovenian craft are aimed at improving the business environment, ensure the financial resources, to improve payment discipline, reducing the scope of gray economy, stimulating tax environment, reduce administrative barriers, etc.

3.7. Initiative of Slovenian Chamber of Commerce

In order to increase competitiveness and stimulate growth of the Slovenian economy special attention must be paid to the trade which is among the most important economic activities, as it creates 34 percent of revenue in the economy of the RS, and employs over one hundred thousand employees. Trade sector, like the rest of the Slovenian economy is increasingly feeling the effects of the economic crisis, which shows a negative index in the trade sector. Due to the aforementioned it is necessary to implement the proposed initiatives, which will consequently contribute to the stimulation of competitiveness and growth of the Slovenian economy.

3.8. Programme of measures to boost economy – 2012 (MEDT)

In 2012 the government of the RS set one of its most important objectives of its mandate: particularly balancing of public finances and consequently achievement of stable and sustainable internal macroeconomic environment.

The initial measure targeted particularly balancing Slovenia's budget expenditure. In order to balance the public finances it was essential to influence the revenue to the budget. Therefore the Ministry of economic development and technology has decided to prepare a set of measures to boost the economy in co-operation with other ministries with the aim of further enhancing economy activity. The proposed set of measures was based on the following starting points, explained in greater detail below.

Despite the important progress in simplification of business establishment and reduction of administrative barriers (eg. The introduction of electronic commerce), Slovenia has not done enough to support the business operation. As the main barrier in business operation the managers have recently mentioned particularly poor access to financial resources, which has become even more feeble since the beginning of the economic crisis. According to the survey of the World bank on the ease of doing business Slovenia ranks poorly in the field of obtaining operating funds (credits and loan capital). Another unstimulating factor to business operation is also the restrictive employment legislation which is far more restricting than in the majority of comparable European countries. The WEF survey states that legislative provisions in hiring and firing employees, rigid provisions for indefinite employment and lack of flexibility salary determination present the most important problems. Another obstacle to business operation is also the national bureaucracy, including the judicial powers, which are not efficient enough. Long procedures to obtain various documents and permits and unreasonably long judicial enforceability of contracts also remain a problem. The period from the beginning of the crisis has revealed a lack of good practices in the business environment, placing Slovenia very low as regards efficiency (and responsibility) of Supervisory Boards, enforcing accounting standards and credibility of managers in the competition surveys. IMD also states the ineffective state ownership of businesses, where Slovenia is ranked in the last place among all countries concerned.

3.9. Managing grey economy in the Republic of Slovenia

The occurrence of grey economy and other forms of hiding and avoiding responsibilities is not only an economic but also a social phenomenon. The avoidance of responsibilities is a growing problem in the times of worsening economic and social situation. The economic indicators of grey economy are economic growth, unemployment rate, self-employment, taxation and duties and administrative procedures. Lack of trust into the quality of public services and integrity of the state and institutions contribute to this issue. Increasingly, we encourage grey economy by considering it as natural and tolerating it. The prevention of grey economy should be dealt cohesively with encouragements and elimination of main reasons as well as with prosecution, control and sanctions. The objective can only be achieved if the measures will encourage the change in behaviour of individuals who act as a state, as businesses and as consumers. The objective is an increase in general culture of implementation of obligations and fairer burden-sharing. Avoiding different obligations in the form of taxes, contributions and other duties is a relatively common practice in Slovenia. Although numerous such cases are known, the measurement of this phenomenon and assessment of its scope is linked to various methodological barriers in defining the contents of the issue and the possibilities of scope, as it involves activities outside the frame of analysis' systematic scope. Grey economy is most difficult to detect in cases, where both parties win: e.g. a service is cheaper for a consumer, while the service provider does not pay tax and thus achieves a higher net income "in the pocket", and in case of payment for work also less social security contribution.

The measures thus focus on improving the detection of grey economy, improving criminal justice policy, while channelling the measures towards "prevention and cure" and encouraging the commitment with the aim of changing the citizens' perception of grey economy as well as the consequences of grey economy's actions.

The implementation of the document and the measures arising from it will be monitored and adapted regularly. It is a document of the government policy which will be adapted according to the situation in grey economy.

4. Weaknesses of existing reporting

In the previous report on the realization of measures which have identified certain deficiencies which represent opportunities for improvement in order to increase transparency of the implemented measures, and at the same time they may represent an opportunity for the drafting of policies and guidelines on the basis of the results achieved. The main disadvantages are:

- Preparation of various stakeholder reports for similar measures,
- inadequacy in the timing of reports
- inconsistent data and information in the reports
- Lack of transparency of measures implemented
- Lack of supervision and coordination of the work,
- Inconsistent timetable of the reports, etc.

5. Single document of Government of the RS to improve business environment and increase competitiveness

5.1 Single document

With a view to achieve greater synergy effects of measures that are also the basis for the design of policies and programs of Government of the RS and to avoid reporting to the various authorities of the similar measures, the pursuit of the unified coordination and consequently a much greater effect on realization, the Government of RS has assigned the Ministry of Economic Development and technology and the Ministry of the Interior to prepare a single document, conduct and coordinate the implementation of the projects / programs (in a table below) to increase competitiveness and a better business environment.

Single document for a better business environment and increasing competitiveness together with a concret measures, commitments, proposals for solutions, providers and deadlines for realization in one place combine key information from individual documents of stakeholders listed in Section 3. It contains a specific definition of measures, commitments, proposals for solutions with the results and indicators, providers and deadlines for realization.

Measures which are included in the document are logically grouped according to 16 key areas.

Table no. 1: Areas to which the measure of a single document relates

1	Supportive environment (PodO)
2	Shadow economy (SE)
3	Payment discipline (PD)
4	Public procurement (JN)
5	Taxes (Dav)
6	Labour law, retirement law (DeIP)
7	Elimination of administrative barriers (OAO)
8	Health, Safety (ZDR)
9	Environment, Spatial Planning (OK)
10	Education, human resources, youth (IZOB)
11	Development process (RAZ)
12	Internationalization (Inter)
13	Specialization (SPEC)
14	Transport (PR)
15	Social policy (Sociala)
16	Other

It represents key measures and areas that are perceived as such by experts and other interested public. With the realization of these measures primary intentions could be achieved.

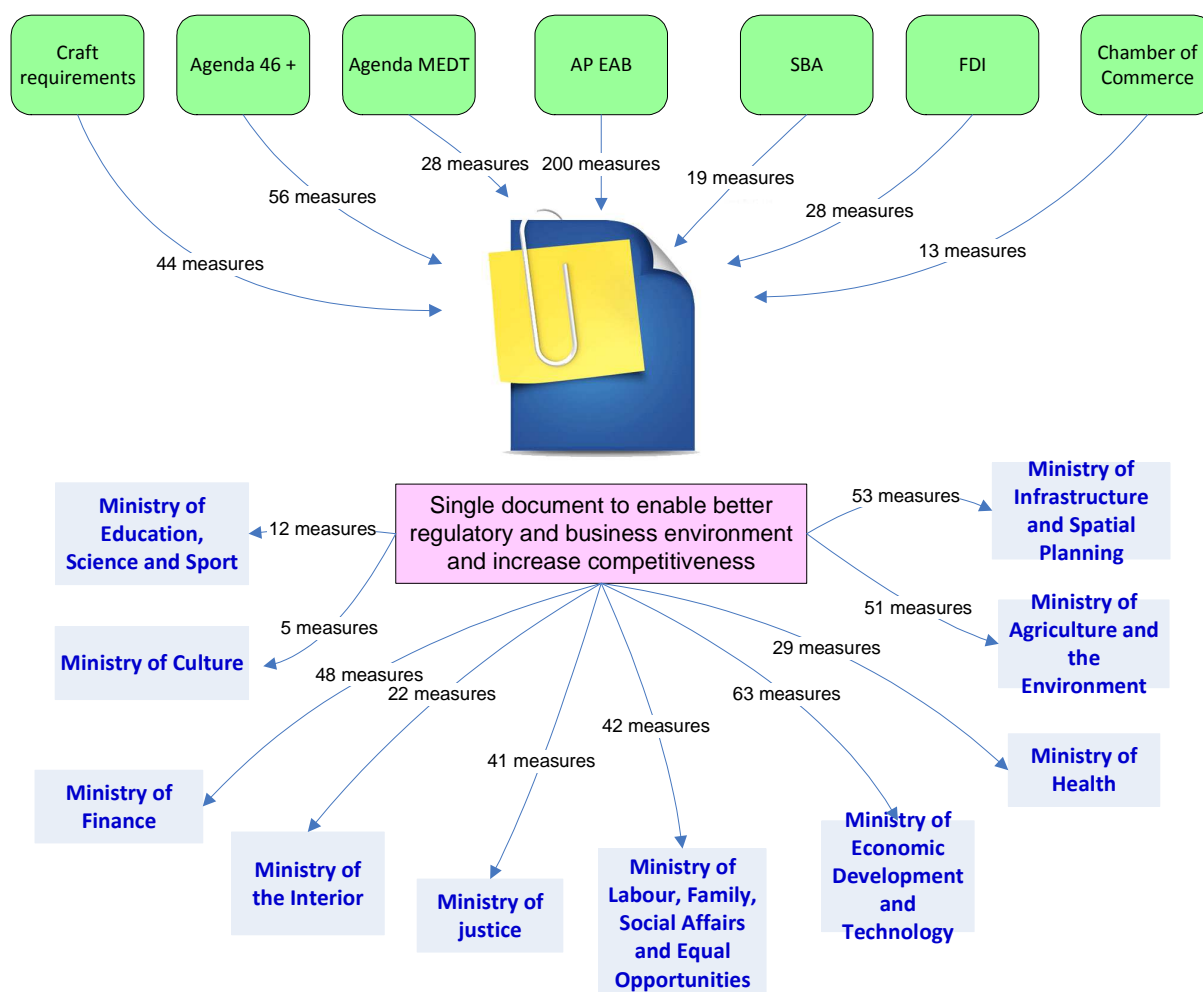
Single document, among others, provide a basis for the Government and line ministries to prepare policies, strategies and programs for the fiscal period 2014-2020.

For first time documents are unified and measures are appropriately grouped by sixteen areas which pursue a better business environment and increase competitiveness. Reporting is also unified for all documents; Government of the RS will be notified two times per year on the realization and progress of the single document. Data below are summarized by areas and number of individual measures per area as well as the numbers of measures for individual documents.

Table no. 2: Number of measures envisaged by areas and individual documents

	Area	Total	Craft requirements	Agenda 46 +	Agenda MEDT	Chamber of Commerce	SBA	FDI	AP EAB	Economy promotion package	Grey economy management
1	Supportive environment (PodO)	10	2	3	2	1	4	3	6	4	3
2	Shadow economy (SE)	33	2	3	2	1	0	1	4	1	37
3	Payment discipline (PD)	7	2	1	2	1	0	1	1	0	0
4	Public procurement (JN)	11	0	4	1	0	1	1	8	1	0
5	Taxes (Dav)	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	0
6	Labour law, retirement law (DelP)	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
7	Elimination of administrative barriers (OAO)	35	1	0	0	0	0	0	36	0	0
8	Health, Safety (ZDR)	26	1	2	0	0	0	0	23	0	0
9	Environment, Spatial Planning (OK)	35	6	9	0	0	0	5	38	10	0
10	Education, human resources, youth (IZOB)	10	2	0	3	0	0	3	3	1	0
11	Development process (RAZ)	18	1	7	4	4	2	5	1	2	0
12	Internationalization (Inter)	9	1	4	2	0	3	0	0	1	0
13	Specialization (SPEC)	5	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
14	Transport (PR)	13	0	0	0	0	0	2	11	0	0
15	Social policy	10	0	0	1	0	0	0	9	0	0
16	Other	8	5	1	2	2	0	1	2	1	0
	TOTAL	245	29	37	19	9	11	22	154	22	40

Figure no. 1: Overview of a set of measures purposed by proposers and the ministries responsible for their realization



The figure no. 1 schematically shows who are the proposers of individual measures and what is the number of measure being proposed, identified by ministries as acceptable for the implementation. Figure no. 1 also shows the line ministries and a number of measures provided for the implementation of individual measures listed in a single document to ensure better regulatory and business environment and increase competitiveness.

An integral part of the material is also Annex 2 (overview of a single document for a better business environment and increasing the competitiveness of particular areas in xls spreadsheet). The table in xls format contains 14 tabs. In the first tab (Summary table) that lists all the measures according to the area in which it relates with the period of implementation of individual measures. Table tab contains a list of unacceptable measures of those which were contained in individual documents, but were for the ministries responsible for the implementation, labelled as unacceptable. The third tab (overview-table) contains the Summary printout of measures in relation to area and the document to which they relate. Other tabs represent an insight of measures by individual ministries.

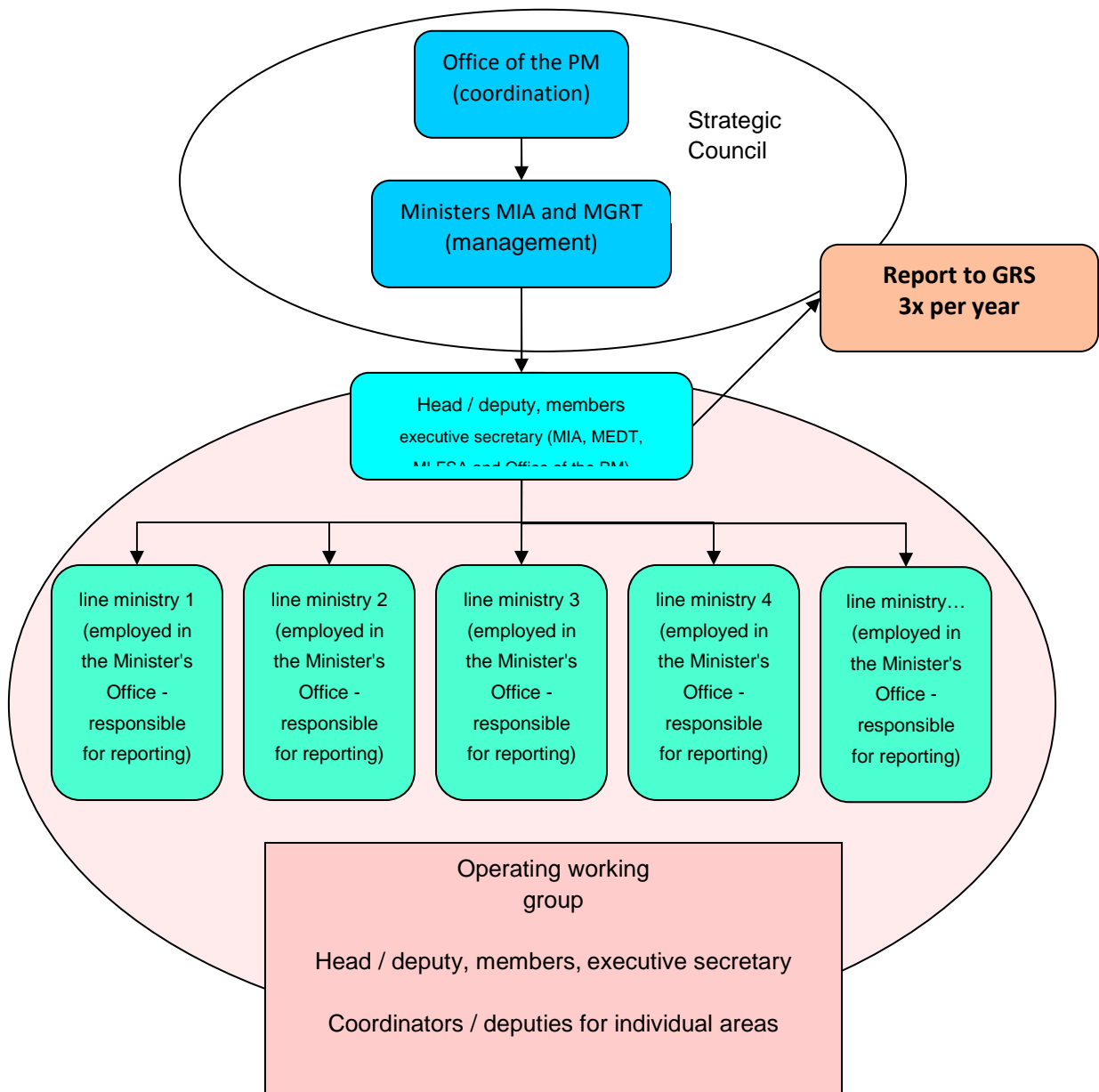
It should be emphasised that the single document will be promptly updated with new measures as a consequence of changes to relevant documents which are the basis for the measures. No special consent of the government will be necessary as it will already be provided for in the framework of the relevant document. The single document will visibly be published on the website of the RS and on the STOPbirokraciji.si portal.

Altogether there are 245 measures in the table but the total sum of the measures by ministries is higher as several line ministries can be responsible for the implementation of some measures. Also, some measures can be subdivided into sub-goals for which different bodies are responsible for the implementation.

5.2 Working group

In light of the aforementioned and considering the Decision on the appointment of a permanent inter-ministerial working group of the Government of RS to ensure better regulatory and business environment and increased competitiveness, a working group will be established and co-ordinated by the Cabinet of the Prime Minister and Secretary-General of the Government of RS. This group will be headed by the Minister responsible for internal Affairs and Minister responsible for the economy. The main task of the working group will be the implementation of measures and commitments to improve business environment and competitiveness, and regular reporting to the government on the objectives achieved.

Figure no. 2: Proposal for composition of the permanent inter-ministerial working group to ensure better regulatory and business environment and increase competitiveness



Coordination on project reporting will take place in the Prime Minister's Office. Minister responsible for the Interior and the Minister responsible for Economic Development and Technology are responsible for the management and supervision of the implementation of measures from a single document to ensure better regulatory and business environment and increase competitiveness in accordance with established deadlines.

Individual coordinators of inter-ministerial working group in charge of individual areas will report to the executive Secretary of operational working group on activities performed in accordance with the tasks assigned and on realization of measures from the Single document twice per year.

Operational Working Group will report three times per year to the Government of the RS on progress made in achieving the objectives of the projects / programs to increase competitiveness and better business environment. Regarding the means of reporting, timetable and content, head of the operational WG prepares a user manual which is then circulated to all members of the operational WG.

5.3 Important measures from a Single document to improve business environment and increase competitiveness

From the set of measures from a single document we have highlighted ones that will have at its realization strong effect on better legislative and business environment as well as on increase of competitiveness.

1. Simplification of entrance conditions to pursue activity on the market

The aim is to simplify the conditions to enter the market with priority given to business subjects with knowledge and the necessary experience in a manner that is bureaucratically simple and does not pose administrative barriers – **knowledge and experience must be given priority over formal requirements**. This contributes to greater labour market flexibility, reduces grey economy and illegal work and consequently improves the competitiveness of our economy.

We will thus revise and improve the legislation as well as the conditions and procedures to pursue activity and the professions with the relevant and thorough implementation of the Services in the internal market Directive and Recognition of professional qualification Directive, in the sense of elimination of administrative barriers as well as standardisation and simplification of procedures supported by e-services. **Another important goal is the reduction of the scope of regulated professions and activities to the EU level**. The basic guideline of the regulation is the safety of life and health of people and environment.

2. Revision of legislation in the field of environment with the goal of spatial planning procedures integration and issuing of building permits with the procedures of issuing consents in the field of environment

In connection with the thorough revision of the spatial and building legislation a revision of legislation in the field of environment is also necessary with the goal of more effective placing of buildings into the landscape and more effective building.

3. Preparation of new spatial and building legislation

By November the Ministry of infrastructure and spatial planning and the Ministry of agriculture and the environment will prepare the concept to ensure more effective placing of buildings into the environment and more effective building. The changes to spatial planning and building legislation must introduce the following ideas:

- shortening of procedures to prepare spatial planning acts on the local and state level and transparency of such procedures,

- earlier inclusion of interested public in the process of adoption of spatial planning acts,
- shortening of procedures of obtaining building permit and transparency of such procedures,
- closer connection or complete integration of spatial planning and building procedures with environmental procedures: CPVO, PVO, OVD etc.,
- introduction of »one-stop-shop«,
- measures for active land policy,
- establishment of land acquisition and land rights,
- designation of spatial planning measures,
- establishment of project conditions acquisition and consents in the sectoral legislation,
- simplification of the contents of the main file regarding the project documentation in building permit acquisition,
- administrative exoneration of entry a new building into the cadastre of buildings.

4. Establishment of a spatial information system

Inter alia the two goals in setting up the spatial information system are:

- support of electronic business, record-keeping and communication in the field of building (eGraditev),
- support of electronic business, record-keeping and communication in the field of spatial planning.

5. Establishment, prompt upgrading and updating and public publication of water records

It has been established that many water information (e.g. maps of classes of flooding danger for the needs of spatial planning and building) have already been ordered, prepared and paid but never systematically arranged, collected and published. Last year an integral map of classes of flooding danger in RS and records of floods in 1980-2010 were set up in the field of managing flooding danger. The map and the records have been published and are available on the website of the Slovenian environment agency (Environmental atlas of Slovenia). The existing records should be regularly upgraded. Other water records (e.g. publication of planned water investments, records of effects and water burden etc.) should be set-up and published. Those will in the long term contribute to a higher quality and optimised timing of spatial planning and building.

6. Creating an Internet portal Business SOS - Save a problem with the country!

Online services that enables business users to solve concrete business problems or barriers that they encounter when dealing with the state.

7. Provision of more encouraging business environment for the investors

A revision of the one-stop-shop to support national and foreign businesspeople is necessary with the establishment of a point of single contact with the aim of providing comprehensive information to foreign business subjects and establish harmonised performance of all institutions implementing the measures for economy. It is necessary to publish a website for foreigners with information on the conditions for starting a business, namely:

- content renewal and re-designed web site for domestic businesses,
- renovation of electronic procedures on the Web site for domestic businesses and the creation of new electronic procedures for obtaining licenses and
- establishment of electronic procedures on the Web site for foreigners.

At the same time it is necessary to carry out the renovation of the physical "OSS" points to support domestic and foreign entrepreneurs and establish general and special OSS points with a focus on providing comprehensive information and expert advisory for business entities.

8. Establishment of a single procedure for obtaining the residence permit and work permit of foreigners through a single issuing point

It is necessary to simplify the procedures for obtaining single permit from the perspective of residence and work - to enable third-country nationals to access Slovenian labour market on the basis of a single permit that will enable them both to live and work. The permit is issued on the basis of a single application under a single procedure within 30 days.

9. Provide management information on business entities in one register

Provide information management on business entities in a single register - Slovenian Business Register and provide the original and re-use of data from a single point, while ensuring the simplification of these registration procedures.

10. The introduction of an effective system to fight illegal work and increase the efficiency of inspection services and tightening the penalties for offenders

It is necessary to curb illegal work and grey economy by increasing the efficiency of inspection services and tightening the penalties for offenders.

11. More consistent recording of data on overnight stays and simplification and establishment of a single entry point for the reporting of overnight stays

Relieving business subjects (respondents) of statistical and other reporting and rationalisation of the activities of all users and providing better quality of collected data with the objective to forward them to a single point and only once – activities for the implementation are undergoing between representatives MI, APLRS, SORS, MEDT, the police and municipalities. Implementation and transition to the test environment is foreseen for 01/01/2014.

By establishing a single entry point for reporting purposes of business entities, the availability of all relevant information on reporting in one place, electronic procedure for reporting, by combining the same type of data and reducing the number of required reports, eliminate reporting on the same matters to multiple authorities, rationalization and unified insight into the data - information exchange, ex officio, we contribute to:

- more efficient operations,
- time savings,
- cost reductions,
- rationalisation of the functioning of public administration and
- increased review of information and data on the operations of business entities.

12. Inadequate bankruptcy regulation

It is necessary to provide greater opportunities for efficient and real restructuring of insolvent companies, to improve the position of creditors, particularly workers as one of the most vulnerable groups of creditors. It is also necessary to improve the possibilities for maintaining economic operators, thereby creating the conditions for the a more stable operation of the Slovenian economic system.

13. Increase in effectiveness of enforcement procedures

Draw up amendments to the Law on Execution and insurance the aim of which is to increase the effectiveness of enforcement procedures.

14. Implementation of the e-procurement

Complement the existing public procurement announcements with the possibility of electronic submission of the tender, e-catalogs, e-auctions and e-files.

15. The simplification of the application process for compulsory social insurance (e-filing), mandatory for all business entities

There shall be further simplification of the application process for compulsory social insurance (e-filing).

16. Simplify the field of first aid training for private entrepreneurs - self-employed and micro-businesses

Reduce administrative barriers and costs for smaller employers and self-employed, and extend the range of providers of first aid training.

17. Ensure the online tools that will be available free of charge, in particular to employers who employ a small number of employees to self-assess the risks in their organizations

The objective of this measure is to reduce the regulatory burdens posed by the Law on Safety and Health at Work.

18. Adopt implementing regulation relating to the methodology for keeping records in the field of labour and employers

New regulations should facilitate the administrative and financial burdens for small businesses. This would eliminate the management of specific records in the field of labour, as data are shown from the payrolls as well as from reports to the Tax Administration or the Health Insurance Institute of Slovenia.

19. Establish an e-service

The newly introduced IT system in the Tax Administration of RS shall allow filing and issuing certificates of paid tax obligations via e-tax system. This will shorten the period from application to receipt of a certificate. The period for issuing a certificate shall also be shortened to 3 working days from the date of application.

20. Support to the economy in obtaining EU projects and promoting the internationalization by the state

It is necessary to prepare the Government action plan to simplify public tenders procedures for business and prominent support to the economy in obtaining EU projects.

In addition to this the need to promote the internationalization in accordance to set up a program to promote the internationalization support the Slovenian business clubs abroad and to strengthen the cooperation with the European Centre for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises abroad.

5.4 Reporting

A single document will at monitoring and reporting on realization i.e. three times per year, be appropriately updated with any new measures that will be proposed by either the professional or the interested public, on the basis of which it will possible to effectively achieve the objectives pursued through a better business environment and increasing competitiveness of the economy.

To this end the process of intensive communication will continue with interested public via the portal »STOPbirokraciji.si« other activities will be carried out routinely, focusing on debureaucratisation and implementation of individual measures from a single document.

The aim of the realization of the individual measures from the document is as quality as possible to realize the measures to reduce regulatory burdens, where the greatest emphasis should be paid to the realization of the 20 key measures contained in documents forming a Single document for a better business environment and increased competitiveness, that are normatively most burdensome.

6. Conclusion

The key for Slovenia is a continuation of the activities and achievement of the outputs to improve the business environment and thus achieve a higher level of competitiveness of the Slovenian economy.

With a view to achieving greater synergy effects of the measures which are also the basis for the establishment of directions, programs and policies of Government of the RS and to avoid reporting to the various authorities on the same kind of measures, with the aim of uniform coordination and consequently a much greater impact on the realization, the present document together with proposed measures, which will be supplemented three times per year, had a significant effect on better business environment and increased competitiveness that is being pursued. It will represent the basis and a tool for the preparation of policies, strategies and programs of Government of the RS and all line ministries as well as efficiency measurements on the economy.

Individual documents that make up a single document have their foundations and commitments in the National Reform Programme for the years 2013 and 2014, which is a medium-term plan of the government on priority measures and projects aimed at fulfilment of the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

In particular, a set of measures by different sectors that make up a single document, expressed through third pillar of the planned reform measures in 2013 and 2014, namely: Improving the competitiveness of the long-term sustainable growth. The third pillar comprises a wide range of measures that contribute to the strengthening of conditions for long-term growth while contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy and support short-term measures to boost growth, with the same objective as the single document. National development plan measures are divided into six chapters, namely: effective rule of law, promotion of foreign investment, labour market flexibility, the efficiency of the public sector, promoting entrepreneurship and care for health and the environment.

For the effective functioning of the rule of law in the context of the National Reform Programme will thus be implemented organizational and legislative measures to optimize the network of courts and simplification of legislative solutions. Implementation of the adopted reform of the labour market will be reinforced by changes regarding labour and illegal employment, regulation of student work, minimum wages as well as regulated professions. Slovenia will stimulate the inflow of foreign direct investment and strengthen the presence of their businesses in foreign markets. In order to improve the business environment effective procedures of spatial planning and obtaining permits for construction will be established. Derivatives will continue with the removal of administrative barriers and measures to improve the quality of public administration. A comprehensive set of measures to simplify financing and operation of enterprises will improve terms of growth and business development throughout the life cycle. Due to the limited budgetary resources to boost the economy, the key source of investments will represent EU cohesion policy funds. To support key priorities Slovenia also foresees measures, among others in the field of public health, social policy, environment and energy.

The single document, which comprises of more than 240 concrete measures in 16 different fields and line ministries that are responsible for the implementation, the following commitments taken by the Government in the national reform program for 2013

and 2014 constitutes a basis for long-term strategies (such as Slovenia's Development Strategy) and the implementing Government of the RS programs and ministries.