

Optimization of the functions of executive authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan as a factor in improving the quality of public services

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Abstract: Currently, in the Republic of Uzbekistan, the search for ways to increase the efficiency of the organization and functioning of the system of state bodies, the choice of their optimal model, the use of rational forms and methods of their impact on social processes is very relevant.

Keywords: rights and freedoms, citizens, standard of living

Introduction

As you know, in 2017, an administrative reform was initiated in Uzbekistan. How important is it today? Without the implementation of administrative reform, it will be impossible to fully implement high-quality socio-economic transformations in the Republic of Uzbekistan. The standard of living in the country, the full realization of the rights and freedoms of citizens directly depends on the quality of public administration, first of all.

What is administrative reform really? This is a set of measures aimed at:

- to build an effective system of executive authorities,
- changing the powers and responsibilities of state bodies, i.e., optimizing their functions; their structural organization;
- improvement of the organization of the civil service, human resources;
- improving the quality of public services, etc.

Material and Methods

In preparing this article, such methods as historical, systemic, comparative legal were used. Legislative norms are also considered and scientific sources are comprehensively investigated.

The object of the study is the system of legal relations in the field of improving the quality of public services in the process of optimizing the executive authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Results

As foreign experience shows, administrative reform should be preceded by a full-scale functional analysis of the entire apparatus of public administration. Functional analysis is a technology widely used in the world for studying the public administration system, as well as its individual organizational structures, which allows you to determine the effectiveness of the functional and organizational structures of management in the light of current goals and priorities of public policy.

Functional analysis allows you to answer questions such as: is the current functional management structure optimal, how effective are the organizational management structures, taking this into account, which functions are redundant, duplicated, which functions should be abolished, which should be redistributed; what functions can be transferred to the mode of public-private partnership or completely privatized; what functions should be decentralized, etc.¹

¹ <https://www.gazeta.uz/ru/2019/03/14/administrative-reform/>

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP), together with national partners, has initiated a number of studies in this area. As the study showed, at the beginning of 2018 in Uzbekistan, about 10% of the functions of local authorities had the same meaning and the same result of implementation, that is, they are duplicated within the department. The Ministry of Finance had 10.9% of such functions, the Ministry of Economy - 22.8%, and the Customs Committee - 34.6%. Thus, in the process of managing taxation in Uzbekistan, 22 executive authorities are involved, including the government apparatus and khokimiyats, which are entrusted with a total of 68 different functions in this area (25% of these functions are controlling). At the same time, 14 out of 22 government agencies involved (more than 50%) are vested with control functions in the field of taxation. Obviously, such organizational activity cannot be called effective in any way.²

The basis of the organization of the modern system of executive authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which marked a new stage in the construction and development of the system of executive authorities, which is fundamentally different from previous schemes for organizing executive authorities, is a functional approach.

The beginning was laid by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 21, 2022 “On measures to implement the administrative reforms of New Uzbekistan”, which, as one of the priority areas of administrative reform, singled out the organizational division of functions related to the regulation of economic activity, supervision and control, management of state property and provision of services by state organizations to citizens and legal entities.³ The proposal of the Council of the Agency for Strategic Reforms under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the formation, from January 1, 2023, as part of the first stage of the administrative reforms of New Uzbekistan, a compact, unified system of republican executive bodies based on the principles of professional management and focused on results, including ministries, committees, agencies and inspectorates. By this Decree, the number of independent executive bodies has been reduced from 61 to 28, including 21 ministries. Since January 1, 2023, a number of government bodies have changed organizational subordination or have been abolished.

The consequence of such optimization of the functions of state bodies is to improve the quality of services provided by the state. At one time, the "one window" system was introduced in Uzbekistan without the integration of electronic databases of state bodies. For this, a new digital infrastructure, the “electronic government” infrastructure, was needed.⁴ It, in turn, can develop effectively only if all management processes related to both intradepartmental organization and interdepartmental interaction are put in order. As you can see, this, in turn, requires the optimization of the functions of state bodies.

By the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 21, 2022 “On measures to implement the administrative reforms of New Uzbekistan”, the functional and structural organization of the executive authorities was put in order⁵. In accordance with the idea of separation of functions, the executive power in Uzbekistan is now represented by four types of bodies: ministries, committees, agencies and inspections. As you know, before that, the system of central executive authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan was represented mainly by ministries (sectoral bodies) and state committees (intersectoral bodies)⁶.

² <https://www.gazeta.uz/ru/2019/03/14/administrative-reform/>

³ National database of legislation, 12/24/2022, No. 06/22/269/1117

⁴ Elizaveta, K., Abdurashidovna, M. F., & Aitmuratov, D. B. (2022). Civil Law Ways to Protect Digital Rights and Digital Jurisprudence. *BiLDLawJournal*, 7(1), 119-122

⁵ Elizaveta, K., Abdurashidovna, M. F., & Aitmuratov, D. B. (2022). Civil Law Ways to Protect Digital Rights and Digital Jurisprudence. *BiLDLawJournal*, 7(1), 119-122

⁶ Аманиязова Света. (2022). РАҚАМЛАШТИРИШ ЖАРАЁНИДА ИЖРО ЭТУВЧИ ҲОКИМИЯТ ОРГАНЛАРИ ВАКОЛАТЛАРИНИ ТАКОМИЛЛАШТИРИШ (ҚОРАҚАЛПОҒИСТОН РЕСПУБЛИКАСИ ВАЗИРЛАР КЕНГАШИ МИСОЛИДА). *Innovations in Technology and Science Education*, 1(1), 253–265. Retrieved from <https://humoscience.com/index.php/itse/article/view/36>

I would especially like to dwell on the features of the ministries as the main link in the system of executive authorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan. As A.V. Bezrukov, the ministries that form the basis of the government of the state, in comparison with the parliament, are more mobile structures, their functions and powers extend to all spheres of public life, being filled with specific content, taking into account the state of legislation, the needs of social development, the socio-economic situation⁷.

Discussion

As can be seen from the above definition, the ministry is the main link in the system of executive authorities (after the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan), which perform the following functions: develops and implements a unified state policy in relevant areas, coordinates the activities of executive authorities in a certain direction, and also organizes activities on intrasystem management on the basis of unity of command. In our opinion, this definition does not fully reflect the functions that they are called upon to implement on the basis of this Decree. This is especially true of their coordinating function. The new regulations on the ministries to be adopted should specify this function, defining that they (the ministries) coordinate and control the activities of the committees, agencies and inspections under their jurisdiction in the established area.

Conclusion

Thus, we see that the optimization of the functions of executive authorities is important in terms of improving the quality of public services and the efficiency of the public administration system.

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⁷ Безруков А.В. Конституционное право России: Учебное пособие. 3-е изд., перераб. и доп. М.: Юстицинформ, 2015. С. 254.