

REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
ASSEMBLY

**L A W**

**Nr.8872, dated 29.3.2002**

**FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

Based on the articles 78, 81 point 1 and 83 point 1 of the Constitution, according to a proposition submitted by the Counsel of Ministers,

**T H E A S S E M B L Y  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

**D E C I D E D:**

**CHAPTER I**

**GENERAL CLAUSES**

Article 1

**The intent of the law**

1. The intent of this law is to support the development of a VET common system in the Republic of Albania, which can be suited the social changes, economical and technological, the labour market needs, and also to enable an optimal use of the financial sources, human and infrastructure.

2. This law establishes/sets the basic principles, the structure, the organisation and management of VET in the Republic of Albania, based on the co-operation of the governmental institutions, with the social partners and other actors in VET field.

3. This law guarantees the right expressed in the Constitution of the Republic of Albania for lifelong learning, the possibility of accomplishment the primary vocational education and also of gaining the useful professional knowledge for employment, creating equal possibilities for all.

Article 2

**VET objectives**

This law defines the VET main objectives, which are:

- a) To develop the main personal objectives of the individual, necessary for his future professional activity and the independent existence within a society based on the democracy principals and the market economy;
- b) To adapt VET in today and future labour market;
- c) To offer a general professional knowledge and a specialised vocational training, in accordance with the development of science and technology, as well as with the national culture and tradition;
- ç) To create VET conditions, in order to enable the individual to be suited the changes and the labour market requirements
- d) To enquires the effectiveness of the use of VET infrastructure.

Article 3

**VET is public and non-public and guaranteed by the state.**

Article 4

**Definitions**

In this law the following terms mean:

- a) “VET system” is a system which covers all the measures and activities of the technical and vocational education as well as those of training, retraining and

vocational re-qualification in the labour market, as well as in their responsible and executive institutions.

b) “Vocational education” is an element of VET system, which gives pupils, who have finished the compulsory education, basic vocational education, as well as the necessary knowledge and skills for a qualified professional activity labelled as a qualified worker for a given speciality. Vocational education is performed in the vocational schools, in accordance with the plans and curricula approved by the Ministry of Education and Science.

c) “Technical education” is an element of VET system, which gives pupils, who have finished the compulsory education, a basic vocational education, as well as the necessary knowledge and skills for a qualified professional activity labelled as a qualified technician for a given speciality. Technical education is performed in the technical secondary schools, in accordance with the plans and curricula approved by the Ministry of Education and Science.

ç) “Vocational training” is an element of VET system, which covers training, retraining and vocational re-qualification, for gaining the necessary vocational qualification skills; in order to be suited the labour market requirements.

d) “VET institutions” are those public and non-public institutions, which offer or support VET in Albania.

dh) “Enterprise” is any juridical and physical subject, in which, according to its conditions, training courses are performed, training through work and where professional practices of pupils are performed as elements of VET process.

e) “A pupil” is the person, who received technical and vocational education in one of VET schools.

ë) “Course attendant” is the person, who takes part in one of vocational training program or course.

f) “A teacher” is the person, evolved in theoretical and practical teaching in VET accredited institutions.

g) “An instructor” is the person, evolved in theoretical and practical teaching in training centres and enterprises accredited in VET.

gj) “Social Partners” are the organisations which represent the employers and employees interests, which take part in VET system and in co-operation with the state administrative institutions they work for executing the law.

h) “Other partners” are chambers of commerce and industry, non-profit organisations, different communities, which take part in VET system and in co-operation with the state administrative institutions they work for the execution of the law.

i) “The school report certificate, maturity certificate, vocational qualification certificate, certificate (testimonial) and the certificate of the qualification known by the state” are documents that certify the accomplishment, on the side of pupils and course attendants, of the curricula of VET approved

j) “Vocational training centre” is public and non-public institution, in which nonprofit vocational training programs and professional practice for the pupils and course attendants are performed.

Article 5

### **Law beneficiaries**

Those who benefit by this law:

- a) All the pupils who have finished the compulsory education;
- b) People at the age of 18, who are jobseekers, and/or who want to be trained professionally
- c) Special groups, who want vocational re-qualification, like physically handicapped people, mothers with many children, people under 18, long-term unemployed people, peoples from families under the poverty level and any other category that will be considered as such based on a resolution of the Council of Ministers.

#### Article 6

##### **VET types**

VET is comprised of:

- vocational education;
- technical secondary education;
- vocational training;
- Other VET forms defined by the law.

Organisation forms of the above VET types are defined based on a resolution of the Council of Ministers.

#### Chapter II

##### **GENERAL CRITERIA**

#### Article 7

##### **VET institutions**

VET institutions are:

- a) Public and non-public vocational school, of the first and second level, which offer the technical education of the pupils following compulsory education. These schools realised vocational training with an emphasised practical character, giving pupils basic vocational education, as well as the necessary knowledge and skills for a qualified professional activity labelled as a qualified worker for a given speciality.
- b) Public and non-public technical schools, which offer the technical education of the pupils following compulsory education. These schools give pupils a basic vocational education, as well as the necessary knowledge and skills for a qualified professional activity labelled as a qualified technician for a given speciality.
- c) Vocational training centres and courses, which organise training, retraining and vocational re-qualification, for gaining the necessary vocational qualification, in order to be suited the labour market requirements.
- ç) VET specialised institutions for special groups.
- d) Enterprises.
- dh) other public and non-public institutions, whose activity is adjusted by special sublegal act.

#### Article 8

##### **VET institution registration**

All VET institutions should be registered in the Ministry of Education and Science and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The criteria's and regulations are defined based on a common orientation of the two ministries.

#### Article 9

##### **Accreditation of VET institutions**

Accreditation of VET institutions is made by the Ministry of Education and Science and Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in accordance with their abilities in

offering VET. The conditions and criteria's of the accreditation are defined based on special sublegal acts of the Council of Ministers.

Article 10

### **Admission in VET**

1. In public and non-public vocational and technical secondary schools those entire individual who have finished the compulsory education and have received the certificate are admitted. The criteria's of admissions and the procedures of registrations are defined based on a special orientation of the Minister of Education and Science.

2. In the different public and non-public training, retraining and vocational requalification, accredited, take part youngsters and adults, who accept the respective curricula approved by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The procedures of registrations in public training are defined based on an orientation of the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs.

Article 11

### **VET duration**

1. VET has different duration that depends on his type.

2. Public and non-public vocational education begins after the compulsory education is accomplished and according to the levels it has this duration: the first level lasts up to 3 years and the second level lasts 2 other years following the first level. When the first level is accomplished, the pupils received not only the certificate of accomplishment, but also received a vocational qualification certificate. When the second level is accomplished, pupils received the maturity certificate, vocational qualification certificate and so the secondary school is recognised to have finished and to them is given the possibility of continuing the University.

3. Public and non-public technical secondary education begins when the compulsory education is accomplished and it lasts 5 years. When the public and non-public technical schools are finished, except for the maturity certificate, pupils received even technical- vocational qualification certificate and can continue the University.

4. Public and non-public vocational training is performed through the training courses, retraining and vocational re-qualification with a duration under 3 years.

5. The duration in other VET tips is regulated based on the orientation of the minister whose competence is VET type.

Article 12

### **Passing from one of VET type to another**

Change of profiles and the passing from one of VET type to another is made based on a common orientation of the respective ministers.

Article 13

### **VET final assessments**

The final assessment of pupils and course attendants in VET public and non-public, accredited, is made based on the examinations, with the participations even the social partners. The criteria's and regulations of the examinations and tests are defined based on the orientation of the respective minister.

Article 14

## **Certification**

1. The certification system known by the state involves:
  - a) Certificate, school report certificate, maturity certificate, vocational education certificate, and technical-vocational-qualification certificate for the pupils;
  - b) Certificate (testimonial) and certificate for the course attendants.
2. The Minister of Education and Science defines contents, form and the procedures of delivering of the certificates to the pupils, while content, form and the procedures of delivering of the certificates to the course attendants are defined by the respective (relevant) minister.

### Article 15

#### **VET career counselling/guidance and orientation**

VET career counselling/guidance and orientation aims at helping all the citizens in choosing the education, job/profession, training, retraining and vocational requalification most suitable for their interests, mentally and physical ability. The respective/relevant ministries promulgate sublegal acts for implementing of this law.

### Article 16

#### **Documentation, information and statistics**

The Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs are responsible for documentation, for giving information and for recording VET statistics according to the relevant fields that they cover. All the other ministries and the local governmental are obliged/forced to give information to these two ministries for VET activity.

### Article 17

#### **VET teaching staff**

1. In VET institutions are engaged:
  - theoretical and practical staff
  - management staff
  - assistant staff
2. The teaching staff is composed by:
  - General knowledge staff;
  - Vocational knowledge teachers;
  - Practical vocational teachers;
  - Instructors.
3. The basic requirements for the initial preparation and qualification of the teachers (letters a, b and c of the point 2 of this article) are defined by the Ministry of Education and Science, while for the instructors by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

### Article 18

#### **Enterprise**

Enterprise serves as a place where the training courses through work are organised as well as a place where the vocational practices of the pupils and course attendants are realised. The state supports the enterprises that are involved in VET system.

Article 19

### **Assessment of the system**

The mechanisms of the development and assessment of VET system are elaborated by the National VET Council. The assessment is made every year and its results are published in VET national annually reports, which be presented to the Council of Ministers.

### **Chapter III**

### **VET CO-ORDINATION**

Article 20

#### **The general criteria of co-ordination**

1. The general co-ordination of VET public and non-public system is made by the state.
2. VET responsible organisms in Albania are:
  - a) Ministry of Education and Science for vocational and technical secondary education;
  - b) Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, for vocational training;
  - c) The ministries and other public and non-public institutions, which should coordinate, work with the Ministry of Education and Science in relation to the vocational and technical secondary education and with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in relation to the vocational training.
  - ç) VET National Council.

Article 21

#### **VET National Council**

1. VET National Council is an advisory organism. It suggests the Council of Ministers policies for VET system development.
2. At the head of al VET National Council there are both: Minister of Education and Science and Minister of Labour and Social Affairs.
3. VET National Council is comprised of 14 members:
  - a) 2 members, including the minister, from the Ministry of Education and Science;
  - b) 2 members, including the minister, from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs;
  - c) 1 member from the Ministry of Finance;
  - ç) 1 member from the Ministry of Economy;
  - d) 1 member from the Ministry of Food and Agriculture;
  - dh) 1member from the Ministry of Public Health;
  - e) 1 member from the Ministry of Local Governmental and Decentralisation;
  - ë) 1 member from the non-profit organisation which perform activities in VET field;
  - f) 2 member from the employers' organisations;
  - g) 2 members from the employees' organisations.
4. The organisation and the activity of VET National Council is regulated based on a common orientation of the two-respective/relevant ministers.

Article 22

#### **The competencies of the Ministry of Education and Science in VET field**

Ministry of Education and Science:

- a) Creates, organises and closes the public vocational and technical education institutions, which are subordinate to it, in accordance with the defined procedures

based on a resolution of the Council of Ministers

- b) Approves the establishment or reorganisation of non-public institutions, which realise vocational and technical education, and also makes a proposition to the responsible bodies for their closing, when it has been proved that their activity doesn't fit the respective sublegal acts;
- c) Gives out licences for the vocational and technical education, as well as for vocational training courses in the vocational and technical schools, in relation to the specialities that they have, in accordance with the procedures defined by the Council of Ministers;
- ç) It defines the general criteria's for employment, qualification and certification of the teachers in the vocational and technical education;
- d) It defines the general criteria's of the functioning of vocational education institutions;
- dh) it takes part (or is involved) in the testing and the certifying of pupils and course attendants in VET institutions, which are subordinate to it;
- e) It oversees the activity of vocational and technical education institutions that are subordinate to it;
- ë) It gives permission for job exercising to the physical persons in vocational education.

Article 23

### **The competencies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in VET field**

The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs:

- a) Creates, organises and closes the vocational training institutions, which are subordinate to it, in accordance with the defined procedures based on a resolution of the Council of Ministers;
- b) It gives out the licences for the accomplishment/performing of the vocational training activities;
- c) It oversees the licensed vocational training activity and it closes this activity, when it is not in accordance with the relevant legal and sublegal acts;
- ç) It provides the continuity of the vocational training in accordance with the economical development perspective, national and regional, as well as with the labour market requirements;
- d) It guaranties the right of the individual for the vocational training, by easing the economical and social barriers for the continuity of this training;
- dh) it organises the continuous qualification of the vocational training instructors in the state sector;
  
- e) It defines the general criteria's of the functioning of the vocational training institutions;
- ë) It oversees the activity of the vocational training institutions that are subordinate to it;
- f) It takes part (or it is involved) in the testing and in the certifying of the course attendants in VET institutions which are subordinate to it;
- g) It gives permission for job exercising of the physical persons in vocational training.

Article 24

### **The competencies of the other ministries and VET state institutions**

The ministries and the other VET state institutions:

- a) Create, organise and close VET institutions that are subordinate to them, in accordance with the legal procedures;
- b) Prepare the training programmes and present the vocational training curricula in the responsible body defined by sublegal acts;
- c) Organise the training through the work of their employers and re-qualification of the teachers and instructors in the relevant institutions;
- ç) Take part (or are involved) in the testing and in the certifying of the pupils and course attendants in VET institutions which are subordinate to them;
- d) Take part in the development process of the state standards in relation to the vocational qualification;
- dh) take part in VET studies.

Article 25

### **The competencies of the local government in VET field**

Local government:

- a) Proposes the opening and the closing of the specialities, courses and schools, in accordance with regional development needs;
- b) Takes care and maintains VET institutions in accordance with the in power legislation;
- c) Open self-funded vocational training courses in accordance with in power legislation.

Article 26

### **The competencies of the social partners**

Social partners:

- a) Propose the opening and the closing of the specialities, courses and the new schools, in accordance with the economical development needs of the country
- b) Take part in the development process of the national standards in relation to the vocational training
- c) Organise qualification courses according to the specific needs in relation to the fields they cover. The certification of these courses is made in accordance with the procedures defined by the VET National Council
- ç) Take part in the exam commissions in accordance with the norms and procedures defined based on the sublegal acts of the relevant ministries
- d) Help in the development of the vocational practices of the pupils and course attendants.

CHAPTER IV

STANDARDS AND CURRICULA

Article 27

### **The list and the standards of jobs/professions**

1. The Council of Ministers, in co-operation with the social partners, sets a classifying system of jobs/professions and vocational qualification standards, based on the analysis of workplace of the employed population.
2. Vocational qualification standards will be classified in levels that may include national, industrial and enterprise standards.

3. The list of jobs/professions and national, vocational qualification standards is defined based on a resolution of the Council of Ministers. Industrial and enterprise standards will be formulated and published by the social partners.

Article 28

### **Curricula development**

1. The Council of Ministers defines/sets the standards for VET curricula development in suitable levels based on the recommendations of the VET National Council.

2. The Council of Ministers in co-operation with the social partners reviews VET curricula in continuance and in accordance with the economical development of the country

## **CHAPTER V**

### **VET FINANCING**

Article 29

#### **Financing sources**

Public VET is supported financially by the State Budget, by the local government budget, VET national and inter national programmes, contributions of the employers' and employees' associations, donors' contribution, sponsoring and other sources allowed by law (legal sources).

Article 30

#### **Self-financing**

1. VET public institutions may perform even financial profit economical activities in fields that are related with the implementation of the teaching program, in accordance with the legal clauses.

2. VET institutions in co-operation with practical preparation centres act as economical units for realising of the productive and service activities, by contracting with physical and juridical persons.

3. Except for vocational qualification and education of the pupils, in the public and non-public vocational and technical schools, there are performed even vocational training courses, as services on behalf of the thirds.

4. The use of income benefited from these activities is made in accordance with the legal clauses.

## **CHAPTER VI**

### **LAST CLAUSES**

Article 31

#### **Invalidity**

1. Chapter I "General principals" of the law nr.7952, date 21.6.1995 "On the preuniversity education system", as well as the articles of the law in words, where vocational education is treated in framework to the secondary education of the preuniversity education system, they remain in power. The articles 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38,

55 point 4 and 57 point 2 of the law nr.7952, date 21.6.1995 "On the pre-university education system", as well as the other legal clauses and vocational education sublegal acts and which are against this law, are invalidated.

2. Article 5 second paragraph, article 10 and article 13 letters b and c of the law

nr.7995, date 20.9.1995 “On the employment incitement”, as well as the other legal clauses and sublegal acts, that are related with the vocational training and which are against this law, are invalidated.

Article 32

**The promulgation of the sublegal acts**

The Council of Ministers is charged to promulgate the sublegal acts within 3 months, since this law enter into force, while the relevant ministers within 4 months, since this law enter into force.

Article 33

**Enter into force**

This law enters into force 15 days after it’s publishing in the official legislation paper.

C H A I R M A N

**Namik Dokle**

**Annex 5.1-Law No.10011, dated 30.10.2008 - Amendments on VET Law**

REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA  
ASSEMBLY

LAW  
No 10 011 of 30 October 2008

**ON SOME AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW NO 8872, of 29 March 2002 “ON  
EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING IN THE REPUBLIC OF  
ALBANIA”**

Pursuant to articles 78 and 83, point 1 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania,  
upon the proposal of the Council of Ministers,

THE ASSEMBLY  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

DECIDED:

On the following amendments to the law No 8872, of 29 March 2002 “On education and  
vocational training in the Republic of Albania”:

Article 1

In all articles of the law the words “compulsory education” shall be replaced by the  
words “basic education”.

Article 2

In article 11, points 2, 3 and 4 shall be amended as follows:

“2. Public and private professional education shall commence after the completion of the  
basic education, with a duration of 3 years (2+1) and shall be divided into two levels:

a) the first level shall continue for two years;

b) the second level shall continue one year after the first level.

Upon the completion of the first level, in addition to the grade certificate for the  
completion of such level, the students shall be supplied with a vocational training  
certificate of the first level.

By the end of the second level, the students shall receive a certificate for the completion  
of such level and the vocational training certificate of the second level:

a) after the completion of the basic education and shall last four years;

b) after the completion of three years of professional education and shall last one year.

The students that finish technical, public and private schools, in addition to the high school certificate, shall receive the professional and technical training certificate and the completion of high school shall be officially recognized to them as well as the opportunity to follow studies in the institutions of higher education.

4. Vocational public and private training shall be conducted through vocational training courses, professional re-training with a duration of up to two years”.

### Article 3

This law shall enter into force within 15 days following its publication in the Official Gazette.

**Chairman of the Parliament**  
**Jozefina Topalli (Çoba)**

**Annex 5.2-DCM No.616, dated 4.12.2002 - Groups benefiting from Law on VET**

**LAW  
No 616 of 4 December 2002**

**On the definition of other categories of special groups that benefit from law no 8872,  
of 29 March 2002 “On education and vocational training in the Republic of  
Albania”**

Pursuant to article 100 of the Constitution and article 5 of law No 8872 of 29 March 2002 “On education and vocational training in the Republic of Albania”, and upon the proposal of Minister of Education and Science and Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

**Council of Ministers  
REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

1. Special groups, who benefit from the law no. 8872, of 29 March 2002, except those specified in Article 5 of the law include:

- a) Persons who benefit from income support programs;
- b) Unemployed persons resulting from companies and institutions in the process of reforming, restructuring and privatization;
- c) Unmarried unemployed mothers
- d) Trafficked girls and women;
- e) Divorced women that face social problems;
- f) Persons who returned from emigration that face economic problems;
- e) Graduates who are not oriented in the labor market
- h) Persons who have suffered imprisonment.

2. The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and Ministry of Education and Science are in charge to implement this decision.

This law shall enter into force following its publication in the Official Journal.

PRIME MINISTER

Fatos Nano

Published in the Official Journal nr.81, page 2332