

National Vocational Education and Training Council

Extended Meeting

Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

15:00, 10 April, 2012

Minute

- 1. Welcome speech and introduction of an Agenda** - Irine Kurdadze, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Georgia
- 2. Resolution # 96 of the Government of Georgia (15 March 2012) – rule of vocational educational student financing for the first 3 levels of vocational educational programmes –** Tamar Samkharadze, Chief Specialist of Vocational Educational Development Division of Vocational Education and Inclusive Education Development Department, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia;
- 3. Presentation and discussion of the action plan of financing working group –** Ana Mchedlishvili, Senior Specialist of Vocational Educational Development Division of Vocational Education and Inclusive Education Development Department, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia
- 4. Discussion**
- 5. Summarize and closing session**

The meeting was attended by:

1. Irine Kurdadze - Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Georgia;
2. Marina Kvariani – Representative of the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia
3. Ilia Magalashvili – Deputy State Minister
4. Lali Ebanoidze – Head of Vocational and Inclusive Education Development Department
5. Giorgi Akhanashvili – head of Law Department
6. Paata Beltadze - Georgian Trade Union Confederation;
7. Elguja Meladze – Georgian Employer Association;
8. Zhako Jorjadze – Georgian Barmen’s Association
9. Kakha Baidurashvili - President of Georgian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

- 10. Leila Akhmetelashvili – Director of HR department of Hotel “Sheraton Metekhi Palace”**
- 11. Givi Kakhishvili - Executive Director of Welders and Material Engineers Union**
- 12. Ani Kitiashvili – Expert**
- 13. Nino Kopaleshvili – National Center for Educational Quality Enhancement**
- 14. Maka Kurdgelia – Chief Specialist of Vocational Education development Department**
- 15. Ana Mchedlishvili – Senior Specialist of Vocational Education development Department**
- 16. Nika Kochishvili – EU**
- 17. Elene Tskhakaia – GIZ**
- 18. Branko Wehnert – GIZ**
- 19. Giorgi Nanobashvili – UNDP**
- 20. Tamar Mamukelashvili – Deputy Director of National Center Educational Quality Enhancement**
- 21. Marina Zhvania – National Center Educational Quality Enhancement**
- 22. Dimitri Molashvili – Senior Specialist of Vocational Education development Department**
- 23. Gvantsa Tabatadze – Senior Specialist of Vocational Education development Department**

The session was opened by the deputy Minister – Mrs. Irine Kurdadze.

After a welcome speech she introduced an agenda. Attendees agreed with the agenda and after that Mrs. Tamar Samkharadze – Chief Specialist of Vocational Education Development Division presented rule of vocational education financing.

Ms. Irine Kurdadze hoped that private sector will involve in vocational education actively. He expressed her opinion that this would increase completion between colleges and at the same time and it will influence on development of private sector.

During the discussion she supposed that at this stage the voucher would be almost 2 million GEL, but in the case of increasing the willingness of getting vocational education the amount of money will rise proportionally.

Regarding to voucher distribution, the priority would be social vulnerable people who are under the line of poverty. The second category would be pupils, who have finished the 9th class. Also, pupils who have finished schools (12 classes) and they do not continue their education at Universities. People who does not belongs neither of above-mentioned categories, has two ways:

1. Co-financing – the state pays 70% of the voucher (700 GEL) and a person pays 30% (300 GEL) or
2. A person have an opportunity to get whole voucher (1000 GEL) if he/she pass the General Skill Test.

She added that voucher will be given only on the priority programmes that are approved by the Ministry of Education and Science.

Ms. Nika Kochishvili – representative of EU Delegation mentioned that mono voucher system is not acceptable, because it putting the institutions in unequal terms and she said that she sees such danger/threat.

Ms. Irine Kurdadze explained that in case of necessity certain types of aid are being planned. At this stage, determination of colleges' needs is very important. At this same time the Ministry is providing infrastructure development for state vocational educational institutions.

Attendees were interested in to be informed how were the priorities determined.

Ms. Irine Kurdadze mentioned that there is the lack of researches, but the Ministry used the state priorities and colleges' experience during the process of determination. She also highlighted

importance of the informational centers and informed the attendees that additional 3 informational centers would be opened in Akhaltsikhe, Zugdidi and Telavi by the end of the current year.

Regarding to the students mobility, Ms. Irine Kurdadze said that the sector is not ready for this issue. So it needs more discussions with different stakeholders.

Ms. Irine Kurdadze highlighted that the financing system deals with priority directions. People who will choose not priority professions they must cover tuition fees by themselves.

Mrs. Ana Mchedlishvili presented an action plan of financing thematic working group .

Ms. Irine Kurdadze thanked to the international organizations for participating in working thematic groups.

At the end of the meeting, Ms. Irine Kurdadze talked about teachers professional development issues. She said that trainings on pedagogical skills were done and the ministry and the National Center for Teachers Professional Development are planning to conduct subjective trainings for teachers of vocational educational institutions.