

Parliamentary Resolution 100/2007 (12 November 2007)
on the *Planning and Consultative Procedure of the Republic of Hungary's*
Long-Term Sustainable Development

Given

the importance of the determination and renewal of the Republic of Hungary's long-term sustainable development policy objectives, orientation and tools; given the necessity of coordinating the societal and political spheres in order to implement the strategic programme to create a society living in harmony with its natural environment; and taking into account preliminary national planning activities as well as the results of international and European Community cooperation,

the Parliament of the Republic of Hungary hereby enacts the following Resolution:

1. Based on the national conditions and on achievements thus far, the Parliament believes in the necessity of determining Hungarian sustainable development policy objectives and overarching tasks within the framework of a long-term sustainable development strategy. This strategy should be developed and updated regularly taking into account public welfare, economic development, commercial and natural resource issues, scientific achievements, along with the importance of safeguarding cultural values and the environment.
2. The guiding principles governing the overarching tasks should be those obligations arising under international collaborations, with particular emphasis on European Union strategies (including the EU Sustainable Development Strategy and the Lisbon Strategy) as well as UN programs promoting sustainable development and international collaboration in developmental issues.
3. In the framework of the planning and consultation process to be established, the long-term comprehensive and specialised sectoral development concepts and strategies must be examined, ensuring constantly reinforced harmony between these programmes and the sustainable development strategy.
4. Regarding the initiation of the further planning and wide-ranging consultative work, the Parliament acknowledges the national sustainable development strategy document (accepted by the Government after its second reading) provided to it for informational purposes.
5. The Parliament has decided that it shall found a body (the Council for Sustainable Development) to facilitate the formulation of the national sustainable development guiding principles, policy objectives and overarching tasks; to coordinate related planning and consultative work; and to enhance participation of the public sector and society at large. The Council is intended as a forum for the organisations participating in the ongoing renewal and implementation of the sustainable development strategy. The Government shall provide for the costs of the Council's Chair (i.e. the current Speaker of the Parliament) and for the Council's secretarial functions. Parliament hereby requests the Speaker of the Parliament to, after consulting with the parliamentary factions, present a proposal regarding the legal status, jurisdiction, composition, responsibilities and operational framework of the Council by May 31 2008 at the latest.
6. Parliament requests that the Government, when formulating future plans, strategies and specific policy documents, ensure that these comply with the sustainable development strategy and that any programs being updated also take this strategy into account.

7. Parliament hereby requests that the governmental and non-governmental organisations concerned – placing especial emphasis on the importance of the participation of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, social organisations, churches, chambers of commerce, employers’ organisations and professional unions – assist in the creation of the Council and (by virtue of their institutionalised rights) in its sustainable development strategic planning and consultative work. They shall also, insofar as the opportunity presents itself, play a role in raising social awareness about policy objectives and in the implementation of the latter.

8. The Council shall assist the Parliament in performing its control function vis-à-vis the Government, and to report regularly on its activities in this respect. The manner and format of these reports shall be defined by the Parliament along with the Council’s jurisdiction, responsibilities and operational framework.

The present Parliamentary Resolution shall come into effect on the day of its publication.

Dr. Katalin Szili

Speaker of the Parliament

Gabriella Béki

Clerk of the Parliament

Lajos Szűcs

Clerk of the Parliament