

04 July 2022

## **Press Release**

The Public Commissioner was present today at the Appeal Chamber while initiated the judicial review of the appeal filed against the Decision no. 491/2021, of the Independent Qualification Commission, of the assessee, Mr. Gjon Kodra, prosecutor of Tirana District Prosecution Office.

During the verification of the parties' presence in the hearing, the presiding judge informed that the assessee had addressed to the Chamber with a preliminary request to the partial opening of the judicial investigation. The adjudication panel, on the spot consultation decided the review of the request, after the respective parties presented their claims related to the appeal.

The Public Commissioner sustaining the appeal grounds presented in his appeal, also in consideration of the IMO Recommendation, assessed that the decision no. 491/2022, of the Independent Qualification Commission is vulnerable in its entirety, and that the assessee does not achieve trustable level to his confirmation in office. At the end of his submissions, the Public Commissioner requested the Chamber that after the overall assessment of the case, at the end of the judicial review, to decide the amendment of the decision no. 491/2021 of the Independent Qualification Commission and the dismissal from office of the assessee , Mr. Gjon Kodra.

The assessee through his legal representative objected the Public Commissioner's appeal grounds and asked the adjudication panel to administer new evidence in view of the opening of the judicial investigation.

Following consultation, the adjudication panel by the interim decision, decided to ask the Public Commissioner to conduct the completion of the financial analysis for the asset assessment criterion by July 12, 2022, to then make it available to the assessee. Thence, by the interim decision, the panel decided to open the judicial investigation and to administer new evidence deposited to the Chamber by the assessee in the view of this investigation.

The following hearing will take place on July 18, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. and in the meantime the parties will be prepared for the final conclusions as well.

Pursuant to point 1, Article 16 of the regulation of the Institution of Public Commissioners, the appeal and elements of the case are published on the official website of this institution: <u>http://ikp.al/ankime</u>

The Institution of Public Commissioners has been established and operates under Article 179/b and the Annex of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania and Law No. 84/2016, "On the Transitional Re-evaluation of Judges and Prosecutors in the Republic of Albania".

The Public Commissioners represent the public interest during the transitional process of reevaluation of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania.