

**September 16, 2024**

### **Press Release**

The Public Commissioner was present today at the Appeal Chamber to initiate the judicial review of the appeal filed against the Decision no. 693/2023, of the Independent Qualification Commission, concerning the assessee, Mr. Saimir Hysa, who serves as a prosecutor at the Prosecution Office of First Instance Court of General Jurisdiction in Tirana.

After verifying the presence of the parties at the hearing, the presiding judge informed them that their submissions and objections regarding the appeal had been filed at the Chamber, and subsequently invited the parties to present their arguments during the hearing.

The Public Commissioner, adhering to the appeal grounds, presented as a case for trial, legal circumstances and facts primarily related to the control of assets and proficiency criteria as referenced in the recommendations and findings of international observers, as well as in public denunciations. In conclusion of his submissions, the Public Commissioner requested the adjudication panel upon a comprehensive investigation of the case, to amend decision no. 693/2023, of the Independent Qualification Commission, and the dismissal from office of the assessee, Mr. Saimir Hysa.

The assessee claimed against the findings in the appeal and expressed concerns about the IMO's recommendation, stating that the international observers mainly based their conclusions on public denunciations, which he claimed were unfounded. In conclusion, the assessee requested the submission of additional documents, the rejection of the Public Commissioner's appeal, and his reconfirmation in office.

Subsequently, the assessee responded to the international observer's questions regarding several investigative files.

The adjudication panel then decided to admit the documents submitted by the assessee. Since no further requests regarding the case were presented, the judicial review was closed, and the parties were invited to present their final arguments.

The Public Commissioner and the assessee demanded reasonable time to prepare their final positions. In light of this, the panel adjourned the following hearing on September 23, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

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

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 re-evaluation of judges and prosecutors in the Republic of Albania.