CHAPTER ONE
Purpose, Scope and Definitions

Purpose
Article 1- The purpose of this Law is to establish the legal status of metropolitan municipality administration and ensure that services are provided in a planned, programmed, effective, efficient and consistent manner.

Scope
Article 2- This Law covers metropolitan municipalities and the municipalities located within the boundaries of a metropolitan area.

Definitions
Article 3- For the purposes of this Law:

a) “Metropolitan municipality” means a public entity having administrative and financial autonomy which comprises at least three district or first-tier municipalities, coordinates the functioning of such municipalities, discharges its statutory duties, responsibilities and exercises statutory powers, and whose decision-making body is elected by voters;

b) “Metropolitan municipality organs” means the metropolitan council, the metropolitan executive committee and the metropolitan mayor;

c) “District municipality” means a district municipality located within the boundaries of a metropolitan municipality;

d) “First-tier municipality” means a municipality which is instituted within the boundaries of a metropolitan municipality without a district being established, and carries the same powers, privileges and responsibilities as a metropolitan district municipality.

CHAPTER TWO
Establishment and Boundaries of Metropolitan Municipalities

Establishment
Article 4- Where the total population of the settlements located within the boundaries of a provincial municipality and of those located no farther than 10,000 metres away from those boundaries exceeds 750,000 according to the latest population census, that provincial municipality may, depending also on its spatial settlement pattern and level of economic development, be transformed by a law into a metropolitan municipality.

1 Article 3 of the Law No. 5747 dated 6/3/2008 provides that references to the first-tier municipality in the Law No. 5216 on Metropolitan Municipalities and other laws shall be considered made to the district municipality.
**Boundaries of metropolitan municipalities**

Article 5- The boundaries of a metropolitan municipality shall be the municipal boundaries of the city after which it is named.

The boundaries of a district municipality shall be the boundaries of that part of the district which lies within the metropolitan municipality.

A first-tier municipality may not have municipal boundaries located outside the boundaries of the metropolitan municipality.

**Merging into a metropolitan municipality**

Article 6- The provisions of the Law on Municipality shall apply to the merging into a metropolitan municipality of the municipalities and villages located in the vicinity of the boundaries of that metropolitan municipality and within the boundaries of the same province. In such case, the resolution to include them shall be passed by the metropolitan council at the request of the district or first-tier municipal council concerned.

(Repealed second paragraph: 6/3/2008-5747/3 Art.)

(Repealed third paragraph: 6/3/2008-5747/3 Art.)

(Repealed fourth paragraph: 6/3/2008-5747/3 Art.)

**CHAPTER THREE**

**Duties, Powers and Responsibilities of Metropolitan Municipalities**

**Duties and responsibilities of metropolitan, district and first-tier municipalities**

Article 7- Metropolitan municipalities shall have the following duties, powers and responsibilities:

a) In consultation with the district and first-tier municipalities, prepare the metropolitan municipality’s strategic plan, annual goals, investment programs and, accordingly the budget;

b) In compliance with the environmental plan, and within the metropolitan municipality and adjacent areas, draw up or cause to draw up, and approve and implement, the master plan of every scale between 1:5,000 and 1:25,000; approve, either unchanged or with amendments, the implementation plans drawn up in compliance with the master plan by the municipalities located in the metropolitan municipality, and any amendments to such plans, as well as the municipalities’ plotting plans and land development rehabilitation plans, and monitor the implementation of such plans; and draw up or cause to draw up the urban implementation plans and plotting plans of district and first-tier municipalities which fail to draw up those plans within one year of the entry into force of the master plan;

c) Draw up and license land development plans, plotting plans of all scales, and all land development implementations in connection with the design, construction, maintenance and repair works as required by the metropolitan municipality’s statutory duties and services, and exercise the powers conferred on municipalities by the Law No. 775 dated 20.7.1966 on Squatter Houses;

d) Issue permits to and inspect businesses in zones built or operated by the metropolitan municipality, and businesses to be operated in zones under the metropolitan municipality’s responsibility;
e) Exercise the powers provided for in Article 68 and 72 of the Law on Municipality;¹

f) Draw up or cause to draw up and implement the metropolitan transport master plan; plan and coordinate transport and public transport services; designate the numbers, fares and schedules, timing and routes of any type of service and public transport vehicles that are operated on land, sea, water and rail ways, together with taxis; designate and operate or cause to operate or lease the stops and vehicle parking spots on motorways, roads, avenues, streets, squares and similar places; carry out all works of traffic arrangement as assigned to the municipalities by laws;

   g) Build or cause to build, maintain and repair squares, boulevards, avenues and main roads within the metropolitan municipality’s purview, impose obligations with regard to the buildings thereon in accordance with urban design projects; determine the sites where notices and advertisements are to be posted, and their shapes and sizes; and perform the tasks for the naming and numbering of squares, boulevards, avenues, roads and streets and the numbering of the buildings thereon.

   h) Set up geographic and urban information systems;

   i) In accordance with the principle of sustainable development, ensure the protection of the environment, agricultural land and water basins; plant trees; gather polluting businesses, recreational facilities and other businesses that have impact on public health and environment in specific places in the city; designate storage areas and sales points for building materials, scrap materials, and storage areas for excavated soil and rubble, sand and gravel, places for the sale and storage of wood and coal; take necessary measures to prevent environmental pollution in such areas and places and during transport; draw up or cause to draw up the metropolitan area’s solid waste management plan; except for the collection of solid waste at origin and the transport of such waste to the processing plant, provide services for the recycling, storage and disposal of solid waste and excavated soil, establish or cause to establish, operate or cause to operate facilities for the purpose; provide services concerning industrial and medical waste, establish or cause to establish, operate or cause to operate facilities for the purpose; collect or cause to collect waste from maritime vessels, treat such waste and make the necessary arrangements in this regard;²

   j) Issue permits to and inspect grade one polluting businesses, including foodstuff enterprises, establish and operate laboratories to test foodstuffs and beverages;

   k) Provide municipal police services in areas under the metropolitan municipality’s authority and zones operated by the metropolitan municipality;

   l) Build or cause to build, operate or cause to operate or license passenger and freight terminals and closed and open parking spaces;

   m) Build, cause to build, operate or cause to operate social facilities serving the entire metropolitan area, regional parks, zoos, animal shelters, libraries, museums, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities and similar facilities; where necessary, provide amateur sports clubs with equipment and secure the requisite support; organize sports competitions between amateur teams and, by a resolution of the metropolitan council, reward athletes who showed outstanding performance or received first three places in competitions inside or outside the country;

¹ By Article 28 of the Law No. 5335 dated 21/4/2005, the expression “68th and 72nd” in this subparagraph was amended as “69th and 73rd”, and inserted in the text.

² By Article 85 of the Law No. 5393 dated 3/7/2005, the expression “gather polluting businesses, recreational facilities and other businesses that have an impact on public health and environment in specific places in the city; storage areas and sales points for building materials, scrap materials” was added to come after the expression “plant trees” in this paragraph, and inserted in the text.
n) Where necessary, build premises and facilities for health-care, educational and cultural services, carry out all forms of maintenance of and repairs to premises and facilities owned by public entities for such purposes and secure the necessary equipment for them;

   o) Ensure the conservation of cultural and natural assets, of the historical urban fabric and of areas and functions of historical significance to the town, carry out maintenance and repairs for the purpose and, where conservation is impossible, reconstruct them in their original form;

   p) Provide metropolitan public transport services, and to this end, establish or cause to establish and operate or cause to operate such facilities, and issue licenses for public transport vehicles, including taxis and service buses, on land and sea within the metropolitan boundaries;

   r) Provide water supply and sewer services and build or cause to build and operate the necessary dams and other facilities for the purpose; rehabilitate streams; market spring water and produced water;

   s) Designate cemetery areas, build, operate or cause to operate cemeteries, and provide burial services;

   t) Build, cause to build, operate or cause to operate wholesale food markets and slaughterhouses of all kinds; issue permits for, and inspect, private markets and slaughterhouses to be built on locations indicated in the land development plan;

   u) In accordance with provincial-level planning, make metropolitan-level plans and other preparations relating to natural disasters; where necessary, provide other disaster areas with support in the form of equipment and supplies; provide fire-fighting and emergency services; designate production and storage locations for explosives and inflammable substances, inspect homes, businesses, recreational facilities, factories, industrial enterprises and public entities with regard to fire and other disaster prevention measures and issue the statutory permits in this respect;

   v) Manage and develop health care centres, hospitals, mobile health care units and social and cultural services of all kinds for adults, elderly people, persons with disabilities, women, young people and children, and to this end, establish, operate or cause to operate social facilities, open vocational training and skills courses; cooperate with universities, colleges, vocational schools, public entities and civil society organizations in the provision of such services;

   y) Install, cause to install, operate or cause to operate central heating systems;

   z) Evacuate and demolish buildings that are liable to cause a disaster or that constitute danger to life and property.

   Metropolitan municipalities shall exercise the powers provided for in subparagraph (c) of the first paragraph in accordance with land development plans and inform the municipality concerned of such exercises. Metropolitan municipalities may, by a resolution of the metropolitan council, delegate those of the aforementioned duties which they consider appropriate to district and first-tier municipalities or perform such duties in cooperation with those municipalities.

   District and first-tier municipalities shall have the following duties and powers:

   a) Exercise duties and powers other than those conferred by laws solely on metropolitan municipalities and those listed in the first paragraph;
b) Collect solid waste and transport it to transfer stations in accordance with the metropolitan solid waste management plan;

c) Issue permits for, and inspect, non-polluting businesses, grade two and grade three polluting enterprises and leisure and recreational facilities open to the public;

d) Among the services provided for in the first paragraph, exercise powers conferred on municipalities by the Law No. 775 on Squatter Houses, build car parks, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities and parks; provide social and cultural services for elderly people, persons with disabilities, women, young people and children; open vocational training and skills courses; build, and carry out maintenance work on and repairs to health care, educational and cultural facilities and buildings, and protect cultural and natural assets and the historical urban fabric; and provide services for the development of areas and functions of historical significance to the town;¹

e) Provide burial services.

(Amended last paragraph: 1/7/2006-5538/23 Art.) The powers and responsibilities conferred on the Ministry of Industry and Trade and on organized industrial districts by the Law No. 4562 on Organized Industrial Districts, and airports open to civil aviation and all facilities therein lie outside the scope of this Law.

**Infrastructure services**

Article 8- An infrastructure coordination centre shall be established to coordinate the management of infrastructure services in the metropolitan area which shall be chaired by the metropolitan mayor or his designee, and include representatives of public entities and private organizations to be designated by the regulation. The mayors of metropolitan district and first-tier municipalities shall take part as members in the meetings of the coordination centre when issues of concern to their own municipalities are discussed. Representatives of public professional organizations (or their umbrella organizations in metropolitan areas if any) concerned with issues on the agenda shall also be invited for consultation purposes to the meetings of the infrastructure coordination centre.

The infrastructure coordination centre shall combine the draft programs drawn up in accordance with the development plan and annual programs for the infrastructure investments to be made in the metropolitan area by public entities and private organizations and adopt them in the form of a final program. Public entities and private organizations shall provide the infrastructure coordination centre with all the information and documents it requests for the purpose, including geographic information systems. Investments which are included in the final program and need to be made simultaneously by more than one public entity shall be incorporated into a joint program. The appropriations allocated to the budgets of municipalities and all other public entities for infrastructure services incorporated into the joint program shall be transferred to the infrastructure investment account to be opened by the infrastructure coordination centre.

If it is notified that the appropriations in the budgets of public entities are insufficient for the services incorporated into the joint program, funds may be set aside for such services under the budget of the metropolitan municipality or that of the relevant affiliated entity. Public entities shall include the amount of the appropriation spent on joint investment infrastructure services in the next year’s budget, taking account of the revaluation rate. Such appropriation shall be transferred to the account of the municipality or of the relevant

¹ By Article 85 of the Law No. 5393 dated 3/7/2005, the expression “exercise powers conferred on municipalities by the Law No. 775 on Squatter Houses” was added to come after the expression “services provided for”, and inserted in the text.
affiliated entity. The public entity concerned may not make further investments within the metropolitan municipality boundaries until such amount is paid.

For the purposes of investments not included in a joint program, the ministries, the municipality concerned and other public entities shall make the necessary spending out of their own budgets in accordance with the program established by the infrastructure coordination centre.

Decisions on joint investment and public transport taken by the coordination centres shall be binding on municipalities, on all public entities and on all parties concerned.

The working principles and procedures of the infrastructure coordination centres and the representation of public entities in such centres shall be laid down in a regulation issued by the Ministry of Interior. The Ministry of Interior shall consult the opinion of the Ministry of Finance and the Undersecretariat of State Planning Organization on those parts of such regulations concerning the use of the infrastructure investment account and the allocation and transfer of appropriations.

**Transport services**

Article 9- A transport coordination centre shall be established to coordinate all land, maritime, waterway, lake and rail transport services in the metropolitan area which shall be chaired by the metropolitan mayor or his designee, and include representatives of public entities and private organizations to be designated by the regulation. The mayors of metropolitan district and first-tier municipalities shall take part as members in the meetings of the coordination centre when issues of concern to their own municipalities are discussed. Representatives of public professional organizations (or their umbrella organizations in metropolitan areas if any) concerned with issues on the agenda shall also be invited for consultation purposes to the meetings of the transport coordination centre.

The powers conferred by this Law on metropolitan municipalities concerning the traffic planning, coordination and routing, the designation of taxi, public minibus and service-bus stopping places and parking areas and the determination of the number of such vehicles, and the powers of provincial traffic commissions within metropolitan municipality boundaries shall be exercised by the transport coordination centres.

Decisions of the transport coordination centre shall enter into force upon the approval of the metropolitan mayor.

Decisions on public transport taken by the traffic coordination centres shall be binding on municipalities, on all public entities and on all parties concerned.

The working principles and procedures of the transport coordination centres and the representation of public entities in such centres shall be laid down in a regulation issued by the Ministry of Interior.

The provisions of the Law No. 2918 dated 13.10.1983 on Road Traffic which are contrary to this Law shall not apply in the discharge of duties and the exercise of powers conferred by this Law on metropolitan municipalities.

**Powers and privileges of metropolitan municipalities**

Article 10- In the matters within their purview, metropolitan, district and first-tier municipalities shall enjoy the powers, privileges and immunities conferred on municipalities, as appropriate, by the Law on Municipality and other statutory provisions in addition to this Law.
Metropolitan municipalities’ power to supervise land development planning and control

Article 11- Metropolitan municipalities shall be authorized to supervise the land development planning and control activities of district and first-tier municipalities. The power of supervision shall include the power to request and examine any information and documents on the subject, and where necessary, obtain copies thereof. All information and documents requested for this purpose shall be supplied within fifteen days. In supervising land development implementations, metropolitan municipalities may enlist the aid of public entities, universities and public professional organizations.

The municipality concerned shall be given a time-limit of no longer than three months to remedy the deficiencies and violations identified as a result of the supervision process. If it fails to remedy them within this time-limit, the metropolitan municipality shall be empowered to remedy them.

The municipality concerned shall be notified, with a view to taking the requisite action, of buildings identified by the metropolitan municipality as having no permit or being in breach of the permit or its annexes. If the municipality concerned fails to remedy the identified breach of the land development plan within three months, the metropolitan municipality shall be entitled to exercise the powers provided for in Articles 32 and 42 of the Law No. 3194 dated 3.5.1985 on Land Development Planning and Control. However, a second penalty may not be imposed on the grounds provided for in Article 42 of the Law No. 3194.

CHAPTER FOUR
Metropolitan Municipality Organs

Metropolitan council

Article 12- The metropolitan council shall be the metropolitan municipality’s decision-making body and comprise members elected according to the principles and procedures provided for by the relevant law.

The metropolitan mayor shall chair the metropolitan council; the mayors of other municipalities within the metropolitan area shall be natural members of the metropolitan council.

Other matters relating to the municipal councils of metropolitan district and first-tier municipalities and to their working principles and procedures shall be governed by the provisions of the Law on Municipality.

Metropolitan council meetings¹

Article 13- The metropolitan council shall convene at its usual meeting venue in the second week of each month on the date specified in advance by the council (…)¹. Meetings for discussion of the budget shall last no longer than twenty days and other meetings no longer than five days. (Supplementary sentence: 3/7/2005 - 5393/85 Art.) The council may take a vacation of one month specified on its own.

¹ By Article 85 of the Law No. 5393 dated 3/7/2005, the sentence “The council may take a vacation of one month specified on its own.” Was added to the end of the first paragraph of Article 13; and the sentence “November meeting shall be the opening of term meeting.” In the paragraph, and the expression “within ten days” in the third paragraph of Article 14 and the expression “in each opening of term meeting” were removed from the text.
Where it is essential for the council to convene elsewhere than at its usual meeting venue, the meeting shall be held at the venue designated by the chairman of the council, within the metropolitan municipality boundaries, provided that the councillors be informed in advance. In addition, the town’s inhabitants shall be informed of the venue and time of the meeting by the usual means.

(Supplementary paragraph: 30/5/2007-5675/1 Art.) The metropolitan mayor shall, when he deems necessary in emergencies, convene the metropolitan council not to be more frequent than three times a year and not to be more than one union per such meeting. The call for extraordinary meeting and the agenda shall be notified in writing to the councillors at least three days in advance and also announced by the usual means. The council may not deliberate on anything other than the matters that have necessitated such extraordinary meeting.

**Finalization of council resolutions**¹

Article 14- The metropolitan mayor may refer resolutions of the metropolitan council which he considers unlawful back to the metropolitan council for review, stating his reasons for doing so, within seven days.

Resolutions which are not referred back for review and resolutions which are referred back for review but upheld by the simple majority of the full membership of the metropolitan council shall become final.

The metropolitan mayor may take the resolutions finalized by the upholding of the municipal council to the administrative courts (….)¹.

(Amended fourth paragraph: 6/3/2008-5747/3 Art.) Resolutions of the metropolitan council and district municipal councils shall be transmitted to the highest civil administrator of the locality within seven days of finalization. Resolutions that are not transmitted to the highest civil administrator shall not enter into force.

The civil administrator may apply to the administrative courts (….)³ against such resolutions as he considers unlawful. ²³¹

(Repealed sixth paragraph: 6/3/2008-5747/3 Art.)

(Repealed seventh paragraph: 6/3/2008-5747/3 Art.)

The metropolitan council shall verify whether the resolutions passed on land development planning and control by district and first-tier municipal councils within the metropolitan area comply with the master plan within three months of receiving such resolutions and adopt them unchanged or with amendments and refer them to the metropolitan mayor. (Supplementary sentence: 6/3/2008-5747/3 Art.) Resolutions not deliberated in the metropolitan council within three months shall be considered adopted.

**Specialist commissions**

Article 15- The metropolitan council may set up specialist commissions of five to nine persons from among its own members. (…)¹

The specialist commissions shall be formed according to the ratio of the number of members of each political party group and the number of independent members in the metropolitan council to the total number of councillors. It is mandatory to set up a land development planning and public works commission, an environment and health commission,

---
¹ The fifth paragraph of this Article was annulled by the Decision of the Constitutional Court No. E.: 2008/28, K.: 2010/30 dated 4/2/2010 which also decided that the annulment would take effect one year after the date 22/6/2010 of publication in the Official Gazette.
² By Article 3 of the Law No. 5747 dated 6/3/2008, the expression “within ten days” in this paragraph was removed from the text.
a planning and budget commission, an education, culture, youth and sports commission and a transport commission.

After a council meeting, the land development planning commission shall meet and finalize the matters referred to it within ten working days, and other commissions shall do so within five working days. If the commission fails to submit a report to the council within this time-limit, the chairman of the council shall place the matter directly on the council’s agenda.

Commissions may enlist the aid of experts in the course of their work. In connection with the items on the agenda, representatives of institutions, public professional organizations, the relevant university departments, trade unions (umbrella organizations of professional organizations in metropolitan areas if any and trade union confederations in metropolitan areas if any) and civil society organizations that have acquired expertise in the matter, as well as invited experts, may attend a specialist commission’s meetings and state their opinions, without voting rights.

After a specialist commission has considered an item within its purview, this item shall be decided by the metropolitan council.

Commission reports shall be public, and publicized by various means, and copies shall be given to members of the public on request and on payment of a fee not exceeding the cost, as determined by the metropolitan council.

**Metropolitan executive committee**

Article 16- The metropolitan executive committee, to be chaired by the mayor, shall comprise five members elected by the metropolitan council by balloting from among its own members for a term of one year, (…)¹, and five members appointed each year by the mayor from among the heads of units where such appointees shall include the secretary general and the head of the fiscal services unit.

Executive committee meetings which the mayor is unable to attend shall be chaired by the secretary general.

The chairman and elected members of the municipal executive committee shall be paid a gross monthly allowance the amount of which shall be the product of the monthly coefficient applied to civil servants and an index figure of 12,000. Civil servant members of the executive committee shall be paid half of such amount.

**Metropolitan mayor**

Article 17- The metropolitan mayor shall be the head of the metropolitan municipal administration and represent its legal personality. The metropolitan mayor shall be elected directly by the voters residing within the boundaries of the metropolitan municipality in accordance with the principles and procedures provided for by the relevant law.

The metropolitan deputy mayor shall be designated according to the procedures provided for by the Law on Municipality. However, the mayor of a district or first-tier municipality in the metropolitan area may not be a metropolitan deputy mayor.

During their terms of office, the metropolitan mayors or mayors of district and first-tier municipalities in the metropolitan area may not hold office on the executive or supervisory bodies of political parties, nor serve as presidents or managers of professional sports clubs.

¹ By Article 85 of the Law No. 5393 dated 3/7/2005, the expression “in each opening of term meeting” here was removed from the text.
**Duties and powers of the metropolitan mayor**

Article 18- The metropolitan mayor shall have the following duties and powers:

a) As the top administrator of the municipal administration, govern the municipal organization and protect the rights and interests of the city and the municipality;

b) Govern the municipality in accordance with the strategic plan, formulate the municipality’s institutional strategies, prepare, implement, monitor and appraise the budget and the performance criteria for municipal activities and staff in accordance with such strategies, and submit reports on such subjects to the municipal council;

c) Chair the metropolitan council and executive committee and implement their decisions;

d) Take the necessary steps to ensure that the duties and services required of the metropolitan municipality by this Law should be performed in an effective and efficient manner;

e) Ensure that the metropolitan municipality and its affiliated entities and enterprises are managed effectively and efficiently, prepare their draft budgets, proposals for budget amendments and final budget accounts;

f) Pursue the metropolitan municipality’s rights and interests and ensure the collection of its revenues and of payments owed to it;

g) Subject to the decisions of the competent organs, conclude contracts, accept unconditional donations and conduct the necessary disposal transactions on behalf of the metropolitan municipality;

h) Represent the metropolitan municipality, or ensure that it is represented by the municipality’s or its affiliated entities’ lawyers or by private lawyers, before the judicial authorities whether as claimant or respondent and before the official authorities;

i) Appoint the municipal staff and oversee the municipality and its affiliated entities;

j) Where necessary, conduct weddings in person;

k) Among the duties and powers conferred on mayors by other laws, provide the services and exercise the powers relating to the duties of metropolitan municipalities;


m) Spend the budget appropriation set aside for the poor and destitute, establish the centre for persons with disabilities to support activities for the persons with disabilities.

The approval of the metropolitan mayor shall be sought for the delegation of the metropolitan municipality’s duties to district and first-tier municipalities under the terms of Article 7.

**Termination of mayor’s term of office**

Article 19- Without prejudice to the provisions of the Law on Municipality, the Council of State shall terminate the terms of office of mayors of metropolitan, district and first-tier municipalities who take part acts and actions that cause the dissolution of the metropolitan council.
Advisors

Article 20- No more than ten advisors to the mayor may be appointed in metropolitan municipalities with a population of more than two million, and no more than five in other metropolitan municipalities. Persons appointed as advisors shall be graduates of higher education institutions of at least four years. Appointment as an advisor shall not entitle those concerned to any other status including transfer to civil servant status or employment on a contractual basis or with worker status. Advisors’ periods of employment shall be limited to the duration of their contracts, but may not exceed the term of office of the mayor.

The amount of an advisor’s gross salary shall be determined by the metropolitan council not to exceed 75% of the gross monthly salary of the secretary general of a metropolitan municipality, including payments of all kinds.

CHAPTER FIVE

Metropolitan Municipality Organization and Staff

Metropolitan municipality administration

Article 21- The metropolitan municipality administration shall consist of the general secretariat, divisions and branches in accordance with the principles of standard job positions.

Units shall be set up, abolished or combined by a resolution of the metropolitan council.

There shall be no vice-mayor in metropolitan municipalities. To provide services effectively and efficiently, up to five assistant secretaries general may be appointed to assist the secretary general in metropolitan municipalities with a population of more than three million, and no more than three in other metropolitan municipalities.

The secretary general and his assistants shall manage the metropolitan municipality services on behalf of the mayor under his instructions and responsibility in accordance with the laws and regulations and with the municipality’s goals, policies, strategic plan and annual programs.

Employment

Article 22- The metropolitan municipality staff shall be appointed by the metropolitan mayor. Appointments to management positions at the grade of head of unit and above shall be made known to the metropolitan council at the first meeting.

The secretary general shall be appointed by the Minister of the Interior on a proposal from the mayor. Persons appointed to the post of the secretary general shall enjoy all the rights provided for by the relevant legislation in respect of the ministry’s general directors in the general administrative service category, while persons appointed to the post of an assistant secretary general shall enjoy all the rights provided for in respect of heads of independent divisions in the ministry.

The first legal advisor and heads of divisions in a metropolitan municipality shall receive the office and duty allowance payable to heads of divisions in the general directorates of the ministry.1

Municipal civil servants, with the exception of persons employed on a contractual basis or with worker status, may, on the basis of successful performance, be paid bonuses up

---

1 By Article 85 of the Law No. 5393 dated 3/7/2005, the expression “the first legal advisor” was added to come after the expression “metropolitan municipality” in this paragraph and inserted in the text.
to twice a year by a decision of the executive committee, in proportion to their length of service, including sick leave and annual leave, such bonus being paid to no more than 10% of the total number of municipal servants and not exceeding the amount obtained by multiplying the monthly salary coefficient applicable to civil servants by an index figure of 30,000.

CHAPTER SIX

Financial provisions

Metropolitan municipality revenues

Article 23- Metropolitan municipality revenues shall be as follows:

a) (Repealed: 2/7/2008-5779/8 Art.);

b) (Repealed: 2/7/2008-5779/8 Art.);

c) The remaining 50% of the Entertainment Tax collected by the metropolitan municipality on pool betting, including horse racing bets, according to the percentages and principles provided for in the Law No. 2464 on Municipal Revenues, after 20% of the tax has been allocated to the municipality of the locality where the pool betting races take place and 30% to the other district and first-tier municipalities for distribution in proportion to their population;

d) All municipal taxes, duties and charges to be collected from social and cultural facilities, sporting, entertainment and leisure facilities and green areas placed under the metropolitan municipality’s authority;

e) Taxes on all notices and advertisements posted up in the areas referred to in subparagraph (g) of the first paragraph of Article 7 and on the buildings having a front to such areas, and the related posting up, allocation and maintenance fees;

f) The remaining 50% of the revenue from the operation of the parking areas designated under subparagraph (f) of Article 7, after 50% has been deducted for distribution to the district and first-tier municipalities in proportion to their population;

g) The contributions to the spending on road, water supply and sewer works collected according to the percentages and principles provided for in the Law No. 2464 on Municipal Revenues, on condition that the metropolitan municipality provide the services concerned;

h) Revenues of rent, interest and fines;

i) Grants from public administrations and establishments;

j) Revenues to be transferred from the surplus in the balance of income and expenditures in the final accounts of the metropolitan municipality’s affiliated entities;

k) Shares acquired in the net proceeds of the metropolitan municipality’s economic enterprises, according to the percentage to be determined by the metropolitan council;

l) Revenues from the metropolitan municipality’s movable and immovable property;

m) Charges for the services provided;

n) Conditional and unconditional donations;

o) Other revenues;

(Repealed second paragraph: 2/7/2008-5779/8 Art.)
Where metropolitan municipalities or their affiliated entities or district or first-tier municipalities fail to deposit in time the apportionments they are required to pay one another out of the taxes they collect and similar financial obligations, or the amounts they owe for water supply, sewer and natural gas, the Bank of Provinces shall, at the request of the municipality or affiliated entity concerned, deduct the amount in question from the debtor municipality’s apportionment from the tax revenues under the general budget and shall transfer it to the obligee municipality’s account. (Amended second sentence: 21/4/2005-5335/28 Art.) The mayor and the accountant of the respective district or first-tier municipality shall be personally liable for the interest and any similar compensation for damage arising from the delay. This provision shall also apply to metropolitan mayors, general directors of affiliated entities and their accountants who have failed to timely make the required transfers to the accounts of district or first-tier municipalities.

**Metropolitan municipality’s expenditures**

Article 24- Metropolitan municipality expenditures shall be as follows:

a) Expenditures on the acquisition, maintenance and repairs of municipal service buildings and facilities;

b) Salaries, wages, allowances, attendance allowances, travel expenditures paid to municipal staff and members of the elected municipal organs, vocational training spending and other expenditures;

c) Grants to district and first-tier municipalities and their affiliated entities and expenditures on joint projects;

d) Expenditures on all forms of infrastructure, construction, repairs and maintenance;

e) Expenditures on municipal police and fire fighting services and on the performance of other duties and services;

f) Expenditures on the pursuit and collection of taxes, duties, charges, contributions, service fees and other revenues;

g) Expenditures on equity shares and membership dues in respect of companies, organizations and unions of which the municipality is a founding partner or member;

h) Expenditures on the making, protection and maintenance of cemeteries;

i) Expenditures on interest, other payments for debts and insurance;

j) Social welfare and aid payments to people on low income, the poor and destitute, the desolate, and the persons with disabilities;

k) Expenditures on litigation and enforcement;

l) Representation, ceremonial, hospitality and promotion expenditures;

m) Payments for lawyers’ fees, consultants’ fees and audit services;


o) Expenditures on sporting, social, cultural and scientific events;

p) Expenditures on public opinion polls and surveys concerning metropolitan municipality services;

r) Other expenditures on the performance of statutory duties and services;
Metropolitan municipality budget
Article 25- Metropolitan municipality budgets and the budgets received from district and first-tier municipalities shall be submitted to the metropolitan council. The council shall adopt them, either unchanged or with amendments, in such a way as to integrate investments and services.

The metropolitan council shall deliberate and decide on the metropolitan, district and first-tier municipality budgets together, during the same union, which shall be printed in the form of a single budget.

When adopting district and first-tier municipality budgets, the metropolitan council shall be empowered to:

a) Delete or amend items and phrases in the text of the budget which are contrary to laws or bylaws and regulations;

b) Delete revenues which the municipality is not empowered to collect and reduce or increase to their statutory limits the percentages and amounts of taxes and fees which exceed or fall short of those statutory limits;

c) Add appropriations which should have been but have not been included in the budget for the municipality's final debts;

d) Add the necessary appropriations for investments included in the joint investment program.

Objections to amendments made to district and first-tier municipality budgets by the metropolitan council may be lodged with the Council of State within ten days. The Council of State shall rule on such objections within thirty days.

The provisions of the Law on Municipality shall apply to other matters relating to the preparation and implementation of the budget.

Founding companies
Article 26- In the areas relating to the duties and services assigned to it, the metropolitan municipality may set up capital companies according to the procedures provided for in the relevant legislation. The secretary general and management staff of the municipality and its affiliated entities may hold office on the executive and supervisory bodies of such companies. The metropolitan municipality may operate kiosks, car parks and tea gardens of which it is the owner, or may contract out the operation of such facilities without being subject to the provisions of the Law No. 2886 on State Procurement for a period and at a cost to be determined by the metropolitan council, to companies in which the municipality or its affiliated entities hold more than 50% of the equity capital or to enterprises in which those companies hold more than 50% of the equity capital.

CHAPTER SEVEN
Miscellaneous Provisions

Working relations and coordination between municipalities
Article 27- The metropolitan municipality shall harmonize and coordinate service provision among the municipalities located within its boundaries. In the event of a dispute between the metropolitan, district and first-tier municipalities concerning service provision, the metropolitan council shall be empowered to pass guiding and regulatory resolutions.
In the newly established metropolitan municipalities, the metropolitan council shall lay down the principles governing the distribution of squares, boulevards, avenues, roads, streets, parks and sporting and cultural facilities between the metropolitan municipality and the other municipalities within its boundaries.

The metropolitan council shall divide the metropolitan municipality's adjacent areas among the district and first-tier municipalities.

Within the limits of its financial and technical resources, and in the light of its population distribution and the types of service concerned, the metropolitan municipality shall provide the services listed in Article 7 in such a way as to distribute them evenly between the other receiving municipalities located within its boundaries. One or more of the duties assigned to district or first-tier municipalities may, on the basis of a metropolitan council resolution, be performed either jointly or by the metropolitan municipality itself provided that the municipalities concerned so request and meet the cost themselves.

The metropolitan municipality may develop joint projects and make joint investments with the district and first-tier municipalities. On a proposal from the metropolitan mayor and by a resolution of the metropolitan council, the metropolitan municipality may provide aids in cash and in kind to district and first-tier municipalities with a view to financing projects included in the investment program of the municipality concerned, provided that such aids not exceed 10% of the metropolitan municipality's final budget revenue for the previous year and that a budget appropriation has been set aside for the purpose.

The metropolitan municipality and its affiliated entities may, with the mayor's approval, meet one another's cash needs. Loans of this kind shall be interest-free.

If an investment concerns the metropolitan municipality and one or more of its affiliated entities at the same time and if it is apparent that placing it under the control of a single authority will reduce the costs, the metropolitan council may decide that one of the bodies concerned shall make the investment. In such cases, the spending on the portion of the investment concerning the other entity involved shall be debited to that entity's accounts and credited to those of the investing organization.

Other provisions
Article 28- Those provisions of the Law on Municipality and of the other relevant legislation which are not contrary to this Law shall also apply as appropriate to metropolitan municipalities and to metropolitan district and first-tier municipalities.

Provisions amended
Article 29- (It relates to the Law No. 2972 on Election of Local Governments, Neighbourhood Masters and Neighbourhood Executive Committees, and has been inserted in its proper place.)

Provisions repealed
Article 31- The Law No. 3030 dated 27.6.1984 on Amending and Adopting the Decree-Law on the Administration of Metropolitan Municipalities, and its appendices and amendments and the third item of subparagraph (a) of the first paragraph of Article 24 of the Law No. 2872 dated 9.8.1983 on Environment have been hereby repealed.

1 By Article 28 of the Law No. 5335 dated 21/4/2005, the expression “3%” in this paragraph was amended as “10%”, and inserted in the text.
(Supplementary paragraph: 30/12/2004 – 5281/40 Art.) References in laws and other legislation to the Law No. 3030 dated 27.6.1984 on Amending and Adopting the Decree-Law on the Administration of Metropolitan Municipalities shall be deemed made to this Law.

Supplementary Article 1- (Supplementary: 1/7/2005-5378/40 Art.)

Service units for the persons with disabilities shall be set up within metropolitan municipalities to provide services of information, awareness, guidance, and counselling, social and occupational rehabilitation relating to the persons with disabilities. Such units shall conduct their activities in cooperation with foundations, associations and umbrella organizations thereof established to serve the persons with disabilities. Procedures and principles regarding the organization, duties, powers, responsibilities and functioning of the service units for the persons with disabilities shall be laid down in a regulation to be issued by the Ministry of Interior after consulting the opinion of the Administration for the Persons with Disabilities.

Supplementary Article 2- (Supplementary: 6/3/2007-5594-1 Art.)

The buildings, facilities, vehicles, equipment, movable and immovable properties, and investments, claims and debts regarding the services of water, sewer, solid waste, transport, all sorts of passenger and cargo terminals, wholesale food markets, slaughterhouses, cemeteries and fire fighting being performed by the municipalities within the metropolitan municipality pursuant to unification, merger or Transitional Article 2 shall be transferred to the metropolitan municipality or its relevant affiliated entity.

Those persons working as civil servants in the service areas listed in the first paragraph of this Article, together with their job positions, and those persons working in the status of contracted personnel pursuant to the third paragraph of Article 49 of the Law No. 5393 on Municipality, together with the job positions serving as their employment basis, shall be transferred to the metropolitan municipality or its relevant affiliated entity. Article 50 of the Law No. 5393 shall apply to the continued payment of salaries, supplemental index, pays and allowances of all kinds and other financial rights, and the appointment and rearrangement of their job titles.

Those working, under the Law No. 4857 on Labour, in the permanent worker job positions established or approved pursuant to the relevant legislation or temporary job positions in the service areas listed in the first paragraph of this Article shall be transferred to the metropolitan municipality or its relevant affiliated entity together with their existing job positions. Wages and other financial and social rights of the transferred workers shall continue to be determined according to the collective labour agreement or individual employment contracts in effect prior to the transfer. Such act of transfer including position change shall not entitle any person to changes in wages and other financial and social rights or to demand application of any other collective labour agreement. Collective labour agreements to be concluded after the transfer may not include provisions that will increase such workers’ existing wages and other financial rights beyond the rates or amounts to be determined for other workers or introduce new financial and social rights different than those of other workers.

The Ministry of Interior shall be authorized, upon a request from the metropolitan municipality to which the personnel were transferred pursuant to this Article, to redetermine the standard job positions subgroup or the number of positions that could be established in the current subgroup for the metropolitan municipality or its affiliated entity within one year following the transfer.
Such acts of transfer under this Article shall be executed by commissions to be formed the governorships in a manner to allow representation from the said municipalities.

Except the transfers that were done previously, the transfers shall be completed within six months following the publication of this Article. The relevant municipality shall continue to provide the said services until the transfers are finalized.

Licenses, concession contracts and transport vehicle lease contracts granted to natural and legal persons for performing public transport services on the basis of powers conferred by laws by the municipalities merging into the boundaries of a metropolitan municipality shall be included in the public transport system of such metropolitan municipality with no further action required provided that such inclusion be limited to the terms and routes specified in the licenses.

Transitional Article 1- Within two years of the date of entry into force of this Law, metropolitan municipalities shall draw up or cause to draw up the 1:25,000 master plans for their metropolitan areas.

Transitional Article 2- On the date of the entry into force of this Law, the metropolitan municipality boundaries for the provinces of Istanbul and Kocaeli shall be the administrative boundaries of the province. As regards other metropolitan municipalities, taking the existing provincial governor’s office building as the centre and remaining within the administrative boundaries of the province, the metropolitan municipality boundary shall be a circle with a radius of 20 kilometres for cities with a population of up to one million, a radius of 30 kilometres for cities with a population of between one and two million and a radius of 50 kilometres for cities with a population of more than two million.

(Repealed second paragraph: 6/3/2008-5747/3 Art.)

Villages located within such boundaries shall lose their legal personality and become neighbourhoods. The metropolitan council shall determine the district or first-tier municipality to absorb the neighbourhoods so formed. Forest villages shall retain their legal personality. However, in land development planning and control terms, without prejudice to the provisions of other relevant laws governing forests, such villages shall be regarded as part of the adjacent areas of the metropolitan municipality concerned. The duty and power to manage water supply and sewer services in such villages shall rest with the water and sewer administration of the metropolitan municipality concerned.

Among the municipalities and villages located within the administrative boundaries of districts merging into a metropolitan municipality under the terms of the first paragraph, and the villages located within the adjacent areas of municipalities merging into the metropolitan municipality, those municipalities and villages which lie beyond the distances indicated in the first paragraph may, within six months of the date of publication of this Law, at the request of the municipal council or the village executive committee, be included in the boundaries of the metropolitan municipality by a resolution of the metropolitan council, and with the approval of the Ministry of Interior with no further action required. The same council resolution shall indicate the district or first-tier municipality to absorb such villages as neighbourhoods.

In view of the requirements of the settlement pattern within the boundaries of municipalities included in a metropolitan municipality under the terms of the first paragraph, the Ministry of Interior may make the necessary changes at the request of the metropolitan council within one year from the date of publication of this Law.

The organs of municipalities incorporated into a metropolitan municipality shall remain in office as organs of the metropolitan district or first-tier municipality until the first
nationwide local elections; the masters and executive committees of villages incorporated into a metropolitan municipality shall likewise continue in office as neighbourhood masters and executive committees until the first nationwide local elections.

The property, rights, claims and debts of villages which lose their legal personality shall be transferred to the municipality in which they are included as neighbourhoods.

Changes to administrative boundaries resulting from merging into a metropolitan municipality shall be settled under the provisions of the Law No. 5442 on Provincial Administration in accordance with the merger.

Transitional Article 3- (Amended first paragraph: 26/12/2006-5568/6 Art.)

The public and private law claims of metropolitan municipalities, their affiliated entities and companies in which they hold more than 50% of the equity capital from public entities as of 31/12/2004 shall be set off against their debts to other public entities until the date of 28/2/2007. The Minister in charge of the Undersecretariat of Treasury shall be authorized to extend this period to 31/3/2007. The terms “claims” and “debts” in this Article also include accessory obligations and penalties relating to such claims and debts.

The debts of the organizations referred to in the above paragraph, whether subject to the clearing and offsetting transaction or not, shall be collected by deducting no more than 40% of their monthly apportionment of tax revenues under the general budget.1

The clearing, offsetting and deduction transactions to be conducted under this Article shall be determined by the organization concerned and the settlement commission without reference to the year’s budget laws; and be decided by the Council of Ministers on a proposal from the Minister in charge of the Undersecretariat of Treasury. The Council of Ministers shall be authorized, considering the capacity of relevant organizations to pay their debts, to arrange instalments for the payments, not to apply surcharges and interest on the portion arranged in instalments from the day immediately following the publication of this Law, reduce the amounts owed without exceeding the accessory obligations and penalties attached to such debts.1

(Supplementary paragraph: 26/12/2006-5568/6 Art.) Statutory time limitations in the relevant laws shall not apply to the debts and claims subject to offsetting and deductions pursuant to this Article.

(Supplementary paragraph: 21/4/2005-5335/28 Art.) Any attachment on the debts prior to 31.12.2004 shall be removed following the acceptance by the settlement commission of the application of the relevant institution for settlement and removal of attachment.

The settlement commission shall be composed of a chairman appointed by the minister in charge of the Undersecretariat of Treasury and one representative each of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Finance, the Undersecretariat of State Planning Organization, the Undersecretariat of Treasury, the Court of Accounts, the Social Security Institution and the General Directorate of Bank of Provinces. No separate commission shall be established for metropolitan municipalities. The commission established for municipalities shall also serve for metropolitan municipalities.1

---

1 By Article 28 of the Law No. 5335 dated 21/4/2005, the expression “offsetting” was amended as “clearing and offsetting” in the second paragraph, the expression “offsetting and deduction transactions” was amended as “clearing, offsetting and deduction transactions” in the third paragraph, and the expression “Social Security Institution” was added to come after the expression “Court of Accounts” in the fourth paragraph.
Transitional Article 4- Mayors who are presidents or managers of professional sports clubs on the date of the publication of this Law shall resign from such posts in such clubs by 1.1.2005.

Transitional Article 5- (Supplementary: 26/12/2006-5568/7 Art.; Repealed: 28/1/2010-5951/13 Art.)

**Entry into force**

Article 32- Subparagraph (b) of the first paragraph of Article 23 of this Law shall enter into force on 1.1.2005, the second paragraph of Article 23 at the beginning of the month following the publication of this Law and the other Articles on the date of publication.

**Execution**

Article 33- The Council of Ministers shall execute this Law.
1- The following is a provision of the Law 5390 dated 2/7/2005:

Transitional Article – The municipalities and villages that are within the administrative boundaries of the districts included in the metropolitan municipalities as required by the first paragraph of Transitional Article 2 of the Law No. 5216, but are outside the boundaries specified in the same paragraph may be included into the metropolitan municipality boundaries within two years following the issue date of this Law, upon the request of municipal council or executive committee of the village with the resolution of the metropolitan municipal council and the approval of the Ministry of Interior, with no further action required. The same council resolution shall indicate in which district or first-tier municipality such villages are to be included as neighbourhoods.

As required by the first paragraph of Transitional Article 2 of the Law No. 5216, the municipalities and villages which fall into the metropolitan municipality boundaries of the districts whose centres fall outside of the metropolitan municipality boundaries may be taken out of the metropolitan municipality boundaries, in their old status, with the resolution of the municipal council or executive committee of the village, the opinion of the metropolitan municipal council and the approval of the Ministry of Interior within two years following the publication date of this Law, with no further action required.

According to Transitional Article 2 of the Law No. 5216, the legal personality of the forest villages which fall into the metropolitan boundaries continues. However, in land development planning and control terms, without prejudice to the provisions of other relevant laws governing forests, such villages shall be regarded as part of the adjacent areas of the metropolitan municipality concerned. The duty and power to manage water supply and sewer services in such villages shall rest with the water and sewer administration of the metropolitan municipality concerned. The apportionment to be taken from the general budget through the Bank of Provinces in return for such services according to the population living in the forest villages shall be transferred to the relevant metropolitan municipality.
## LIST INDICATING DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE LEGISLATION SUPPLEMENTING AND AMENDING THE LAW NO. 5216

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amending Law</th>
<th>Amended articles of the Law No. 5216</th>
<th>Date of entry into force</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5281</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31/12/2004, to be effective from 23/7/2004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5335</td>
<td>6, 7, 23, 27 and Transitional Article 3</td>
<td>27/4/2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5378</td>
<td>Supplementary Article 1</td>
<td>7/7/2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5390</td>
<td>Article 6 and Provision not inserted</td>
<td>13/7/2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5393</td>
<td>7, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 22</td>
<td>13/7/2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5538</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>12/7/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5568</td>
<td>Transitional Article 3 and 5</td>
<td>30/12/2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5594</td>
<td>Supplementary Article 2</td>
<td>10/3/2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5675</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7/6/2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5747</td>
<td>6, 14 and Transitional Article 2</td>
<td>22/3/2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5779</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>15/7/2008, to be effective from 1/7/2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5951</td>
<td>Transitional Article 5</td>
<td>5/2/2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>