

**THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF GEORGIA**

**UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION
As of February 2004**

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PART I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER I

The Basis for the Activities of the Georgian Parliament

Article 1

1. The Georgian Parliament (hereinafter referred to as "Parliament") is the supreme representative body of the country, which exercises legislative power and determines the principal directions of the country's domestic and foreign policy, controls the activities of

- Government as provided in the Constitution and exercises other powers determined by the Constitution, other legal acts and the Rules of Procedure of Parliament.
2. Parliament consists of 150 MPs elected according to the proportional system and 85 MPs elected according to the majority system. All serve for four-year terms.
 3. President of Georgia can dissolve Parliament only in the cases determined by the constitution of Georgia, except:
 - a) Within 6 months after the Parliamentary elections;
 - b) When Parliament exercises its power as provided in the Article 63 of the constitution of Georgia;
 - c) In the state of emergency or war;
 - d) During last 6 months of the term of office of the President of Georgia.
 4. The State grants the security of Parliament, thereby ensuring that its activities are unimpeded.
 5. The main principles of the work of Parliament are:
 - a) Multiparty system;
 - b) Ensuring representative proportionality;
 - c) Discussing/resolving the issues freely and collectively;
 - d) Uncompromisingly following the constitution of Georgia, the laws, the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, and other normative acts, and controlling their fulfillment;
 - e) Following the universal norms of international law and respecting them;
 - f) Transparency;
 - g) Community of interests of the State and the people.
 6. Parliament is authorized to adopt the constitution of Georgia, constitutional law, constitutional agreement, organic law, law, the Rules of Procedure of Parliament, decree, resolution, declaration, address, statement and other decision, also hear and recognize the information, work out the recommendations.
 7. Parliament works on the state language of Georgia.
 8. Parliament, its bodies and the officials guide their activities by the constitution of Georgia, the Rules of Procedure of Parliament (hereinafter referred to as “the Rules of Procedure”) and other normative acts.
 9. The Rules of Procedure are a legislative act with the power equal to the law. It determines the rules and procedures of exercising the powers of Parliament, internal structure of Parliament, and is obligatory for all MPs, in the determined cases – also for all bodies and organizations, which function under Parliament’s control.
 10. Authorities of a Member of Parliament (MP), committee, Parliamentary faction (hereinafter – faction), Parliamentary majority, minority (hereinafter – Majority, Minority), investigative and other temporary commissions are determined by the constitution of Georgia, the Rules of Procedure and other normative acts.
 11. Parliament makes decision on all issues concerning the activities of Parliament that are not determined by the Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts. (25.11.2005 #2150)

CHAPTER II

Constitutional Prerogatives of Parliament

Article 2

The constitutional prerogatives of Parliament are its special powers to serve the interests delegated by the people of Georgia to it as to the supreme legislative authority, exercise Parliamentary control and determine the country's domestic and foreign policy according to the forms and the rules established by the constitution and the legislation of Georgia, and these Rules of Procedure.

Article 3

The prerogatives of Parliament are:

- a. Making general or partial amendments to the Constitution of Georgia;
- b. Legislative activities;
- c. Determining the principal directions of the country's domestic and foreign policy;
- d. Hearing the annual reports of the President;
- e. Approving the structure, powers and the rules of work of Government;
- f. Giving or not (giving Government) a vote of confidence to government regarding its composition and its program;
- g. Electing, appointing, approving and consenting to the appointment and dismissal, dismissing, removing the officials as defined by the Constitution;
- h. Exercising control over officials and bodies accountable and responsible to Parliament and also over activities of Government;
- i. Ratifying, denouncing and abolishing international treaties;
- j. Determining the status of state borders;
- k. Approving the amount of military forces;
- k.¹ Approving the conception of national security and other conceptions.
(17.06.2005 #1690)
- l. Approving the use of military forces in the state of emergency or for the execution of international duties;
- m. Approving the decision of the President of Georgia to bring in, use and move the military forces of a foreign country on the territory of Georgia;
- n. Approving the decisions of the President of Georgia to institute state of emergency, martial law or truce;
- o. Determining its own internal structure, authorities and rules of operation;
- p. Confirming and voiding ahead of time the authorities of the Members of Parliament;
- q. Electing, dismissing, removing Parliamentary officials according to the Rules of Procedure;
- r. Holding special sessions or sittings of Parliament according to the constitution of Georgia and the Rules of Procedure;
- s. Impeaching officials as provided in the constitution of Georgia;
- t. Adopting the law on the State Budget and exercising the Parliamentary control over its implementation;
- t.¹ Adopting the Constitution of Adjara Autonomous Republic. (23.12.2004 #721)
- u. Determining the basic priorities of the State's fiscal-credit and currency policies;
- v. Hearing annual reports on the activities of the National Bank of Georgia;
- w. Determining the rules of introducing the taxes and duties, making the decisions on tax and duty exemptions, also on extracting the additional expenses from the State Treasury;
- x. Requesting and hearing the report of Government of Georgia on the implementation of its program;

- y. Hearing the reports of the officials in the cases and according to the rules determined by the constitution of Georgia and the law (Rules of Procedure).
- z. Consenting the decision of the President of Georgia on the termination or dismissal of self-governance bodies or other representative bodies of territorial units;
- aa. Approving the decisions of the President on issues set forth in Article 46 of the Constitution of Georgia;
- bb. Exercising other authorities as provided in the constitution of Georgia and other legislative acts.

CHAPTER III

Location of Parliament, the Sitting Hall and the Rites

Article 4

1. Parliament is located in the capital of Georgia (Tbilisi), Palace of Parliament, Rustaveli Avenue # 8.
2. A temporary change of Parliament's location for the purpose of convening is permissible only in the state of emergency or martial law. The President, Parliament (with a decree), the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, or an initiating group of the Members of Parliament (at least one-fourth of all MPs) in a given order determines such a case.
3. National flag of Georgia is raised on the Palace of Parliament.
4. Parliament's flag is hoisted in front of the façade of the Palace of Parliament before the beginning of the session and lowered after the session. The national anthem is performed at the opening and closing of the sessions.
5. The offices of MPs and other Parliamentary officials have the national flag on the right corner of the table and the state emblem centered on the back wall of the room.
6. Permissible forms of addressing in Parliament are:
 - a. Mr. Chairman;
 - b. Mr. Chairman of the Sitting;
 - c. Dear Colleague;

Article 5

1. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament sits in the presidium, and in cases set forth in paragraph 1 of Article 134, one of his/her deputies does so as well. The Chairman of the sitting sits in the center of the presidium.
2. State emblem is placed in the Sitting Hall on the wall behind the presidium.
3. The chair of the President of Georgia is placed on the left side of the presidium. National flag is raised behind the chair of the President.
4. The President's entrance in the Sitting Hall bears a special importance and is announced by the Usher.
5. Speeches and actions offensive to the honor and dignity of the President, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and the Chairman of the plenary sitting are not permitted in Parliament.
6. There are two platforms for speechmakers in front of the presidium.

7. An MP may only sit in the place accorded to him/her.
8. The balconies on the left side of the presidium are reserved for the members of Georgian Government, heads of other bodies of the executive branch of government and their deputies; the balconies on the right side are reserved for official and honorable guests of Parliament.
9. The middle of the upper balcony is reserved for representatives of Parliamentary Staff and citizens who wish to attend the session, adhering to the rules of Parliament. The right of the upper balcony is reserved for accredited representatives of the diplomatic corps and the left - for representatives of the mass media.
- 9.¹ Business style of outfits in the plenary sessions is the accepted style.
(25.11.2005 #2150)
10. The original of the Georgian Constitution and the book of honorable guests of Parliament are kept in a place of honor in Parliament building.

Article 6

1. Youth and student representatives may be invited to Parliament for educational purposes, such as to introduce them to the workings of Parliament and to teach them respect for the legislative process. It is permissible to hold their rewarding ceremony.
2. Tours are allowed in Parliament.

PART II

SUBJECTS OF PARLIAMENT AND THEIR AUTHORITIES

CHAPTER IV

Member of Parliament, Status of Member of Parliament

Article 7

1. The term of office of an MP starts at the moment of taking an oath and ends at the first convention of a new Parliament.
2. The powers of an MP are terminated ahead of time as provided in these Rules of Procedure if:
 - a. Powers are terminated by his/her personal decision;
 - b. Court decision recognizing him/her guilty comes into legal force;
 - c. Court announces him/her as disabled, missing or deceased;
 - d. S/he takes a position incompatible to the status of an MP or carries out business activities incompatible to it;
 - e. S/he loses Georgian citizenship;
 - f. S/he does not participate in Parliament's work for four months without a good reason;
 - g. S/he passes away.
3. Parliament decides the confirmation or early termination of an MP's powers except the cases provided in these Rules of Procedure. This decision of Parliament may be appealed in the Constitutional Court.

4. Parliament votes for a relevant decision when deciding the confirmation or termination of the powers of an MP. If this decision is not adopted, Parliament passes the decision on non-confirmation or early termination of the MP's powers without voting.
5. The President of Georgia, one-fifth of all MPs, also a citizen, whose powers as of an MP were not confirmed or were terminated ahead of time by Parliament, may submit a constitutional claim to the Constitutional Court on the decision of Parliament on confirmation or early termination of the MP's powers.
6. Constitutional claim shall be submitted within two weeks after the relevant decision of Parliament comes into legal force.

Article 8

1. If an MP does not participate in Parliament's work for four months without a good reason, in case of having relevant information, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules finds out the reason of absenteeism within 10 days of receiving the information. In case the reason is not good, the Committee prepares a relevant conclusion.
2. If an MP carries out entrepreneurial activities, within 10 days of the disclosure of the fact, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules requests the documents, gets his/her explanations and prepares a relevant conclusion.
3. If an MP loses Georgian citizenship, or court recognizes him/her as disabled, missing or dead, within 10 days of the disclosure of the fact, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules requests the documentary proof on this fact, examines their validity and prepares a relevant conclusion.
4. If court decision recognizing an MP guilty, comes into legal force, within 15 days of its coming into force, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules requests the court decision and immediately submits it to the Bureau of Parliament.
5. Written statement of an MP on the rejection of his/her powers is submitted to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, who immediately transfers it to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules. Within 15 days the committee examines the validity of the statement, studies the circumstances, which served as the basis for the statement, and presents the relevant conclusion to the Bureau of Parliament. Within 7 days of the submission of the statement on rejection of the powers to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, the MP may request back his/her statement and continue exercising his/her authority.
6. When an MP passes away, next day his/her powers are terminated ahead of time. When the MP passes away, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules requests the certificate of death and immediately informs the Bureau of Parliament about receiving the certificate. The committee reports to Parliament on this at the next plenary sitting and this information is written down in the protocol of the sitting.
7. In case Parliament elects, appoints, or confirms an MP on the position incompatible to the status of the Member of Parliament, the note is made in the same decision on early termination of his/her powers at the moment this decision comes into force.
8. In case of giving Parliament's consent to appointment of an MP on the position incompatible to the status of the MP, also in case of giving Government a vote of confidence (if an MP is proposed in the composition of Government), In case of electing, appointing or confirming an MP on the position incompatible with the status of the MP, except for the cases set forth in paragraphs 7, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules immediately studies the case of incompatibility and submits its conclusion to the Bureau of Parliament.

9. No longer in use (25.11.2005 #2150)
10. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules studies and discusses the issue of confirmation of the powers of an MP according to the rules established by the Rules of Procedure except for the cases set forth in Article 124 of these Rules of Procedure. The committee prepares a conclusion and submits it to the Bureau for Parliamentary consideration. Parliament adopts the decision on early termination of the powers of the MP according to the Rules of Procedure.
11. Based on the conclusion presented by the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules as set forth in paragraphs 1, 2-4 and 8 of this article, Bureau of Parliament puts on the agenda of the next plenary sitting the issue of early termination of the powers of an MP. Parliament shall immediately discuss the issue of early termination of the powers of the MP. It is not permitted to vote on other issues on the agenda before Parliament makes decision on the issue of early termination of the powers of the MP. (25.07.2006. # 3512)

Article 9

1. It is not permitted to combine entrepreneurial activity or any position in Civil Service with the status of the MP. The cases of incompatibility are determined in the constitution of Georgia, these Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts.
2. The requirements of incompatibility of the status of the MP with the entrepreneurial activity do not invalidate the constitutionally recognized right of property of the MP. S/he may possess stocks, share and other property.
3. MP does not have a right to:
 - a) Personally carry out profit oriented reiterated activity for managing material values and financial resources;
 - b) Personally carry out the responsibilities of a member of a permanent managerial, supervisory, controlling, inspecting and consulting body of an entrepreneurial subject;
 - c) Be a member of local self-government representative body (local council), have a position in other state of self-government representative body or/and state or local government body.
4. MP may simultaneously work in the sphere of science, education, art; if this work does not involve carrying out the administrative functions, (the administrative functions mean the authority of an official to make administrative decisions on personnel, disciplinary and other issues at scientific, academic, art establishment.
5. MP may simultaneously carry out political party work; occupy any position in party and public organizations.
6. Newly elected MP shall quite incompatible work/activity from the moment his/her powers are confirmed and within 7 days submit the certificate of quitting the incompatible work/activity to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules. In case of violating this requirement, the powers of the MP are terminated ahead of time as provided in these Rules of Procedure.

Article 10

1. MP represents whole Georgia, has a free mandate, and cannot be recalled. While implementing his/her duties, s/he is not restricted by the regulations and tasks of the constituencies or political organizations, which nominated him/her.
2. It is not permitted to transfer the powers of an MP to another person.

3. By the rule determined by these Rules of Procedure the free mandate of an MP does not exempt him/her from the work with constituency and the responsibility connected with this.

Article 11

Member of Parliament has an MP's ID and wears a badge, the regulations, samples and descriptions of which are approved by the Bureau of Parliament.

Article 12

1. As provided in the Law of Georgia on "Conflict of Interests and Corruption in Civil Service", an MP shall fill out the declaration on his/her property or/and financial conditions and submit it to the Information Bureau on Property and Financial Conditions of Public Officials.
2. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules periodically and in case of need analyses the information on the declaration on property or/and financial conditions of an MP submitted by the relevant bodies. If necessary, the committee submits the issue for discussion at the plenary sitting of Parliament.

Article 13

1. An MP is the principal subject of Parliamentary activities, who exercises his/her powers:
 - a) At the sittings of Parliament and through activities within committees (committee working group), faction, the Majority, the Minority, investigative and other temporary commissions, inter-factional group;
 - b) While meeting with the electorate, receiving them and answering their questions;
 - c) Through relations with state institutions and other bodies as defined by the legislation.
2. MP shall:
 - a) Follow the constitution of Georgia, laws and these Rules of Procedure;
 - b) Meet with citizens as provided in these Rules of Procedure, respond to the appeals and statements of the citizens as determined by the legislation;
 - c) Participate in discussions/solving issues at the plenary sittings of Parliament;
 - d) Support the adherence to the norms of the constitution of Georgia, laws and these Rules of Procedure; in case they are violated, demand a relevant respond from Parliament, its Chairman or respective committee;
 - e) Be a member of one committee of Parliament, except the cases provided in these Rules of Procedure;
 - f) Attend Parliament's plenary, committee, faction, investigative or other temporary commission sittings and participate in their work;
 - g) Not use his/her powers or/and the possibilities affiliated with them for personal interests;
 - h) Not use the information containing state secret or confidentially obtained information for personal interests;
 - i) Follow the standards of conduct determined for state-political officials;
 - j) Report to the constituency about his/her and Parliament's work at least once in six months.

Article 14

MP has a right to launch a legislative initiative as provided in paragraph 1 of Article 67 of the constitution of Georgia.

Article 15

1. MP has a right to:
 - a) Use any information that is necessary for exercising his/her powers, if a law does not provide otherwise;
 - b) Request relevant information and organizational-technical provision from Parliamentary Staff according to the determined rule;
 - c) See the text of his/her speech from the shorthand of the sittings of Parliament and its bodies; also get a text of a speech, which is not for publishing.
2. According to the rule determined by these Rules of Procedure, MP has a right to:
 - a) Hoist issues for discussion;
 - b) Submit comments and suggestions on all issues, which fall under Parliament's competence;
 - c) Participate in discussion, put a question to a speaker, a co-speaker and the Chairman of the sitting, receive and evaluate the answers;
 - d) Introduce citizens' letters and appeals with national importance to Parliament;
 - e) Submit to the Chairman of sitting the text of his/her speech as well as the written suggestions and comments on the issues that are to be discussed at the plenary sittings of Parliament, in case of non-participation in the discussion;
 - f) Express his/her opinion and clarify the question in case the issue or question s/he put was not responded by a speaker or the Chairman of sitting or was answered improperly;
 - g) Express his/her opinion on the bodies that are to be established by Parliament, composition of their staff and those officials that Parliament elects, appoints, confirms or consents to the appointment of.
3. While carrying out Parliamentary oversight, an MP has a right to:
 - a) Participate in the work of state and local self-government bodies with advisory vote and raise there the issues on violations of Georgian laws and other acts;
 - b) Address with a question a body accountable to Parliament, Government of Georgia, a Member of Government, City Mayor, head of an executive body of a territorial unit of any level, state establishments; receive and evaluate the answers;
 - c) Within legislative frames and according to these Rules of Procedure, participate in the inspection of the adherence to the laws of Georgia carried out by the administrative bodies or present a motivated refusal to fulfill the task;
 - d) Raise the issue of inspecting the adherence to the laws of Georgia and other normative acts before the relevant bodies;
 - e) Enter freely all state organizations except for the cases determined by law; meet without impediment the officials occupying the positions provided in the constitution as well as other officials;
 - f) Personally participate in the discussions on the issues raised by him/her.
4. Parliamentary official shall receive an MP without impediment at the latter's request.
5. MP has a right to exercise other powers as provided in the constitution of Georgia, these Rules of Procedure and normative acts.

Article 16

MP has a right to elect or be elected, appointed on or nominated for the Parliamentary positions (except the position of the Chief (Head) of Parliamentary Staff), in the composition of Parliamentary committee, investigative or other temporary commission, join a faction, resign or leave these bodies.

Article 17

1. According to the rule set forth in this Article, an MP may be given a right to enter a penitentiary establishment functioning on the territory of Georgia without a special permission.
2. Parliamentary committee (only the committee on Human Rights and Civil Integration, and the committee on Legal Issues), temporary investigative commission may raise the issue of giving the right set forth in paragraph 1 of this article exclusively in the cases when it is necessary to study correspondingly the work of a committee, a commission or a concrete issue.
3. Committee, temporary investigative commission submits a proposal to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament on giving the right set forth in paragraph 1 of this article to an MP from its composition.
4. The proposal of the committee, temporary investigative commission shall be motivated and propose the period of time for giving the MP the right set forth in paragraph 1 of this article. This term shall not exceed correspondingly the term of authority of the committee, commission or the time necessary for studying concrete issue.
5. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament makes a decision on giving the right to enter the penitentiary establishment without a special permission to the MP and passes a relevant order.
6. The MP, who was given the right set forth in paragraph 1 of this article, shall present the order of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament when entering the penitentiary establishment.
7. If the MP uses the right to enter the penitentiary establishment without a special permission for his/her personal interests, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament is authorized to deprive the MP of this right based on the information provided by the head of the penitentiary establishment.
8. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament has a right to enter the penitentiary establishment without a special permission or transfer this right to an MP when necessary.

Article 18

1. With the request of an MP elected by a majority vote (hereinafter – majoritarian MP), state and local self-government and government bodies shall provide him/her with an office, transport for traveling within administrative borders, communication facilities, including the governmental connection.
2. Local self-government and government bodies, in the limits of their capacity, may help the majoritarian MP in regards to exercising his/her powers, covering costs from the local budget. Once in a year the MP shall submit the information on the support provided according to this article to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules.
3. In order to organize the work with electorate, to participate in the activities of the relevant bodies of the executive branch of government and local self-government and government as well as in solving local issues, the bureau of majoritarian MP is opened on the spot.

The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament adopts the Regulations, which determines the functions, the rules of organization and activity of the bureau.

4. Based on factions' proposal, by the decree of Parliament's Bureau, an MP elected by proportional vote, as a rule, is attached to the election district, where s/he lives or has close relations with the electorate. Parliament, in the limits of its capacity, ensures the activities of the MP elected by proportional vote in the election district through corresponding Parliamentary representations.
5. State and local government bodies shall provide other necessary support to an MP by the latter's request.

Article 19

1. (A legal action can be taken against an MP), MP can be detained or arrested, his/her apartment, car, working place can be searched or personal search can be conducted only with Parliament's consent. Apprehending him/her at the place of crime committing a crime is an exemption, which shall immediately be reported to Parliament. If Parliament does not give its consent in 48 hours, the detained or arrested MP shall be immediately released. Suggestion on carrying out the aforesaid investigative activities is submitted to Parliament by the Prosecutor General of Georgia. Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules studies and considers validity of the submitted suggestion within 5 days and submits a written conclusion to the Bureau of Parliament. Bureau puts the issue on agenda of the nearest plenary sitting of Parliament. After discussing the issue on floor, Parliament adopts the decree. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. If an MP is caught at the place of crime, committing a crime in the period between sessions, the issue is considered as set forth in paragraph 2 of Article 61 of the constitution of Georgia.
3. Only the Prosecutor General can exercise the Criminal Proceeding against MP, and the Parliament must be immediately informed about this. (30.03.2007. #4577)
4. MP cannot be sued for his/her thoughts and opinions expressed while carrying out his/her duties in or outside of Parliament.
5. MP has a right not to give testimony on the fact, which was confided to him/her as to the Member of Parliament. It is not permitted to lay arrest on the written material concerning this issue. The MP maintains this right even after termination of his/her powers.
6. MP uses a diplomatic passport, which s/he maintains even after termination of his/her powers until the expiration date given in the passport.
7. Only the Prosecutor General of Georgia can take a legal action against an MP (who was a Member of Parliament for at least 6 months of a full Parliamentary term and his/her powers were not terminated as set forth in sections "a"-“f” of paragraph 2 of Article 54 of the constitution of Georgia). Former MP enjoys this right for the term of authority of newly elected Parliament.

Article 20

1. If there is Parliament's consent on detaining or arresting an MP, the powers of the detained or arrested MP are suspended by Parliament's decree until the decision on ceasing the criminal case or court decree is issued.
2. If the criminal case is ceased or court issues the justificatory decree with rehabilitative grounds, by Parliament's decree:

- a) The MP's powers are restored and s/he is given full compensation as provided in Georgian legislation if the term of authority of Parliament, which s/he was a member of, is not over;
- b) The period, during which the MP was detained or arrested, will be included in the general term of office of a Member of Parliament and s/he will be given a relevant compensation if the term of authority of Parliament, which s/he was a member of, is over or Parliament is dissolved.

Article 21

Conditions for executing MP's powers without impediment are ensured. If there is enough information proving that a life and health of an MP are threatened, based on the statement of the MP and the decree of the President of Georgia, the relevant state bodies ensure the security of him/her and his/her family as provided in Georgian legislation.

Article 22

1. The term of office of an MP is included in general continuous service of working by specialization.
2. Being elected as an MP does not cause ceasing of his/her membership in public organizations and other unions.
3. An MP receives 45 calendar days of vacation during the year. S/he may use the vacation during the summer or winter holidays and may divide it into two parts.
- 3¹ An MP can be given additional vacation time for no more than 3 months, once in a term. In such a case, the motivated statement of an MP must be submitted to the Bureau of Parliament and the decision is made by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament. According to this part, an MP will be given only 80% of the remuneration and other costs related to the carrying out of his/her responsibilities. (20.11.2005 #2150)
4. Former MP is given a pension and compensation as provided in the legislation.

Article 23

It is obligatory to ensure the life and health of an MP from Parliament's budget as provided in the legislation. MP shall pass medical and drug test every year.

Article 24

1. Law determines the amount of an MP's salary. The MP is also given other remuneration relating to exercising his/her powers.
2. Remuneration relating to exercising an MP's powers covers the following expenses: living in hotel or renting an apartment in Tbilisi, when the living place is changed; transportation with business purposes within Tbilisi; meeting with electorate according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure (except special business trips); medical, telephone, post and telegraph services; hiring an assistant; consultations and expertise relating to exercising the MP's powers.
3. Salary is given from the day of confirmation of an MP's powers and ends at the moment, when the term of authority of respective Parliament expires or the MP's powers are terminated.

4. Parliament through the Budget of the Parliament, in the frames of existing opportunities and determined limit provides the MPs who have no living space in Tbilisi with the apartment conditions. Application about this must be presented to the Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament. On the instruction of the Chairman of the Parliament the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules studies the justification of the announcement, the Property Declaration of the applicant (in the case of registration of living apartment in Tbilisi at the Property Declaration, despite the condition of apartment the apartment fees shall not be issued.) and prepares the relevant conclusion, which is presented to the Bureau of Parliament for making the proper decision. According to the demand of the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules MP is obliged to present to the committee any documentation necessary for studying the justification of the announcement. In the case of affirmative answer from the Bureau of the Parliament, MP presents to the Finance Supplies Department of the Parliament of Georgia notarially confirmed agreement on the rent of apartment. The sum for the rent of apartment is paid to the MP from enactment of the notarially confirmed agreement on the rent of apartment and is transferred to the bank account of the property owner. (26.10.2007 # 5421)
5. Parliamentary Staff provides Parliament with organizational-technical and informational services.

Article 25

1. If an MP perishes as a result of an assault, his/her family is given a single money aid amounting to ten years of wages. State covers the costs of burial of the passed away or perished MP.
2. An MP, who becomes disabled under the circumstances set forth in paragraph 1 of this article, s/he is given an aid:
 - a) Amounting to one year of wages in case of becoming partially disabled;
 - b) Amounting to five years of wages in case of becoming totally disabled.

Article 26

1. For executing Parliamentary activities, an MP is provided with working space in the building of Parliament, equipment, furniture, clerical aids, communication means, including the governmental connection.
 - 1¹ An MP who has obvious disabilities or is handicapped is given the car (adapted or special) is given appropriate working conditions, and is appointed a personal assistant. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. Parliament covers MP's communication costs in the limits determined by Parliament.
3. Post packages and telegraph messages, connected to the Parliamentary work of an MP, are sorted out and sent in governmental ways.

Article 27

An MP is free from the impressments and conscription during the term of office.

CHAPTER V

Committees of Parliament

Article 28

1. For its term of authority, Parliament creates committees for the preliminary preparation of legislative issues, for the assistance in the implementation of Parliament's decisions, control over the bodies that are accountable to Parliament, and control over Government's activities.
2. Committee creates working groups for controlling the implementation of Parliament's and committee's decisions, for the preliminary preparation of legislative issues and other ongoing issues. Committee staff ensures the activity of the working group.
3. Group of Trust is created in the Parliamentary committee of Defense and Security according to the rule establish by law. Law determines the activities and powers of the Group of Trust.

Article 29

1. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament provides the general coordination of the activities of committees.
2. The constitution of Georgia, these Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts determine the powers of committees, the rules of their creation and activities.

Article 30

1. There are Parliamentary committees on:
 - a) Agrarian Issues;
 - b) Human Rights Protection and Civil Integration;
 - c) Finance-Budgetary Issues;
 - d) Education, Science, Culture and Sport;
 - e) Environment and Natural Recourse;
 - f) Field (Sector) Economy and Economic Policy;
 - g) European Integration;
 - h) Defense and Security;
 - i) Regional Policy, Self-Government and Mountainous Regions;
 - j) Legal Issues;
 - k) Foreign Affairs;
 - l) Procedural Issues and Rules;
 - m) Health Care and Social Issues.
2. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, Bureau, faction, the Majority and the Minority have a right to raise the issue of creation of a new committee, providing relevant arguments in writing. Parliament decides this issue by adopting the changes or/and amendments into paragraph 1 of this article, according to the rule established for adopting the Rules of Procedure.

Article 31

1. Composition of a committee is determined proportionally to the representation of factions and the number of those MPs, who are not united in any faction. The number of committee members and the proportional representation are determined by the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules and approved by the Bureau of Parliament; at the first plenary sitting of Parliament the Temporary Mandatory Commission determines them and Parliament confirms by its decree.
2. Composition of a committee is determined by at least 15 MPs. Committee starts its work, when at least two-thirds of the minimum number of committee members are appointed and the Committee Chairman is elected. Committee session is authorized if the majority of its acting members are present.
3. Only MP can be a committee member. An MP shall be a member of at least one committee. The issue of the MP's membership in a second committee is decided by his/her faction according to the additional seats determined by the quotas of proportional representation.
4. In the case set forth in paragraph 1 of this article, within three days after Parliament (Bureau) confirms the quotas of the proportional representation of factions in the committees, a faction appoints the members of the committees by its decision and informs the Bureau of Parliament (Temporary Mandatory Commission) on this. The factions are not permitted to reallocate the quotas or exchange them.
5. Coordination Council of Independent MPs appoints an MP, who is not united in any faction, in a relevant committee according to his/her wish and the specifics of the committee's activities.
6. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and his/her deputies, Majority and Minority leaders cannot be in the committee composition. (25.11.2005 #2150)
7. If the changes within a faction affects the proportional representation of factions in committees, within one week the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules determines new quotas of proportional representation of factions and submits them to the Bureau of Parliament at its nearest sitting.

Article 32

1. Parliament elects the Committee Chairman from among the members of the committee by according to rule adopted by these Rules of Procedure.
- 1.¹ During the election of Committee Chairman there is open vote. If two candidates are nominated voting process is held by the electronic system simultaneously (the candidate who was nominated first will be given vote with the "Agree" button and the candidate who was nominated second will be given a vote with "Against" button.) However, if there are more than two candidates the vote is held with bulletins. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. Faction, the Majority, the Minority, a group of at least 10 MPs, who are not united in any faction (hereinafter – group of 10 MPs) can nominate a candidate for the position of Committee Chairman within 7 days after the two-thirds of the minimum number of the committee members are appointed.
3. If the authorized subjects do not nominate the candidate for the position of Committee Chairman by the time specified in paragraph 2 of this article, within 5 days of the expiration of this term, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament nominates the candidate for the position of Committee Chairman from among the members of the committee.
4. The statement on proposing the candidate is submitted to the Chairman of plenary sitting of Parliament, who makes a joint list of the candidates according to the sequence they were named.

5. After candidates are named, the Chairman of the sitting publishes the list of candidates. A candidate may withdraw his/her candidacy without any explanations.
6. The decision on electing Committee Chairman is made by the majority of acting members of Parliament.
7. If only one candidate was participating in the elections and s/he was not elected, the repeated elections are held. If two candidates were participating in the elections and none of them received the necessary number of votes, the candidate, who gained the most votes, is put to the vote again. If either in this case s/he does not gain the necessary number of votes, the repeated elections are held.
8. If more than two candidates were participating in the elections and none of them received the necessary number of votes, the second round of elections is held between those two candidates, who gained the most votes. The candidate, who receives more votes, but no less than of one-third of all Members of Parliament, will be considered elected. If the candidate, who enters the second round, withdraw his/her candidacy, the next candidate by the number of votes received, is put to the vote. If the votes are equally divided, the repeated voting is held. A candidate may withdraw his/her candidacy before each voting.

Article 33

1. Parliament can dismiss a Committee Chairman and Deputy Chairman can be dismissed by the Committee by the demand of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, Bureau, no less than two-thirds of all members of the corresponding committee, or no less than one-fifth of the MPs, provided with the relevant arguments in writing. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. The decision on the removal of the Committee Chairman is adopted, if the majority of the acting MPs vote for it. The Deputy Chairman is removed by the majority of Committee members. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. If a Committee Chairman does not fulfill the requirements established by these Rules of Procedure, the Chairman bears responsibility as provided in these Rules of Procedure.

Article 34

1. Committee Chairman may announce about his/her resignation any time without any explanations. A relevant statement is submitted to the Bureau of Parliament; the latter introduces it to Parliament. The Committee Chairman is resigned from the moment the statement is submitted to the Bureau.
2. Parliament accepts the Committee Chairman's statement as a notification, which is written down in the protocol of the plenary sitting.

Article 35

1. If a Committee Chairman resigns, s/he is dismissed or his/her powers as of an MP are terminated ahead of time, within 10 days Parliament elects a new Committee Chairman according to the rule set forth in Article 32 of these Rules of Procedure. If less than 10 days are left before the end of the session, the issues is discussed at the very first sitting of the next ordinary session.
2. If faction, the Majority, the Minority do not nominate a candidate for the position of the Committee Chairman within 7 days of the early termination of the powers of the Committee Chairman, within 5 days after this term expires the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament nominates the candidate from among the members of the committee.

Article 36

1. An MP except the officials given in sections a), b) and d) of the first paragraph of Article 106 of these Rules of Procedure, shall join at least one committee. Joining of the Chairman of the faction in the committee is voluntary. If an MP is not united in a committee, it is considered that s/he is not fulfilling his/her rights and duties and s/he is not given the salary established by law. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
2. A committee member may leave the committee any time. The powers of the committee member are terminated, if his/her replacement is appointed in the respective committee except the cases, when the powers of the corresponding MP are terminated or s/he is elected, appointed or confirmed on the position incompatible for the member of the committee.

Article 37

1. Committee Chairman holds the first organizational sitting of the committee within 3 days after s/he is elected.
2. The Regulations of the committee is adopted and the deputy committee Chairmen are elected at the first organizational sitting.
3. The protocol of the first organizational sitting and the Regulations of the committee are submitted to the Bureau of Parliament for approval.

Article 38

1. By open vote and by the majority of its acting members, committee elects two Deputy Chairmen from among its members for the committee's term of authority and informs the Bureau of Parliament on this. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. Committee Chairman and a group of three members of the committee can nominate a candidate for the position of Deputy Committee Chairman.
3. If two candidates were participating in the elections and none of them gained the necessary number of votes, the candidate, who received the most votes, is put to the vote again. If either in this case s/he does not gain the necessary number of votes, the repeated elections are held. If more than two candidates were participating in the elections and none of them received the necessary number of votes, the second round of elections is held between those two candidates, who gained the most votes.
4. If the candidate, who enters the second round, withdraws his/her candidacy, the next candidate by the number of votes received, is put to the vote.
5. If it is impossible to determine only two winners in the first round of the elections, then those candidates, who shared the first or the second places by the number of votes received, are put to the vote in the second round.
6. The candidate, who receives more votes, will be regarded as elected in the second round of the elections.
7. If the candidates participating in the second round receive the equal number of votes, the winner will be revealed by the results of the first round. If the winner cannot be determined by this rule, repeated elections are held. The same candidate can be nominated only twice for the position of Deputy Committee Chairman.

Article 39

1. Committee Chairman:
 - a) Convenes and presides the committee sittings;
 - b) Represents the committee in Parliament, outside of it, and in relevant inter-Parliamentary relations;
 - c) Puts his/her signature on the committee decisions, conclusions and the protocols of its sittings;
 - d) Provides general supervision to the committee staff;
 - e) According to the annual results, submits to Parliament a brief written report on activities at the beginning of the autumn session;
 - f) Invites expert-consultants and introduces to the Chief of Parliamentary Staff;
 - g) Exercises the powers provided to him/her by these Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts.
2. Deputy Committee Chairman:
 - a) Carries out the duties of the Committee Chairman when the later is absent;
 - b) Performs certain tasks by the assignment of the Committee Chairman.

Article 40

In case a Committee Chairman resigns, s/he is dismissed, s/he cannot exercise his/her powers or his/her powers as of the MP are terminated ahead of time, by the majority of votes of its acting members the committee assigns his/her deputy to carry out the duties of the Committee Chairman.

Article 41

1. A committee member can participate in the activities of the committee on equal terms, express his/her comments, suggestions and views on the issues discussed, elect and be elected on the committee posts, participate in working bodies of the committee, take a different position.
2. If a committee member does not follow the requirements of the Rules of Procedure, s/he violates the work discipline and does not carry out the assigned duties, s/he will be hold responsible as provided in the Rules of Procedure and the respective faction or Parliament will be notified on this.

Article 42

1. Within its competencies, a committee:
 - a) Works out, considers and prepares for the plenary sitting of Parliament the drafts of laws, Parliamentary decrees and other decisions;
 - b) Participates in the discussions-elaborations of the draft laws submitted to Parliament, prepares its conclusions and submits to the relevant body of Parliament and specific authors of suggestions a paper showing how the suggestions into the draft law are considered in the project; (25.11.2005 #2150)
 - c) Considers the candidacies of the members of Government in case of giving Government a vote of confidence, also candidacies of those officials, who are elected, appointed, confirmed or consented to the appointment by Parliament, and submits its conclusions to the Bureau of Parliament;
 - d) Considers the draft budget and elaborates the conclusion;

- e) Controls the adherence to the laws, Parliament's decrees and other decisions and in necessary cases submits the relevant conclusion to Parliament;
 - f) Exercises control over the activities of state bodies accountable to Parliament as well as the activities of Government and in necessary cases submits the relevant conclusion to Parliament;
 - g) Decides the organizational issues of its own activity;
 - h) Uses a right to launch a legislative initiative;
 - i) Exercises other powers as provided in these Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts.
2. Based on the planned or the relevant petition, a committee studies the activities of administrative bodies, requests the relevant materials if necessary and submits its conclusion to Parliament for the discussion.
 3. By these Rules of Procedure, other powers of a committee are determined by the Committee Regulations, which is approved by the Bureau of Parliament.
 4. Based on the draft laws presented according to the Parliament's decisions, proposed suggestions, legislative initiatives, a committee works out and adopts at the committee sittings the current plans. The Chairman of the committee puts his/her signature on the plan, after which the plan is submitted to the Bureau of Parliament for approval.

Article 43

By the request of a committee, officials of the bodies accountable to Parliament and the members of Government must present the relevant documents, conclusions and other necessary material by the time given by the committee. The rule of presenting the information containing the State or military secret is determined by the legislation.

Article 44

A Member of Government, official, who is elected, appointed or confirmed by Parliament, also an official, to whose appointment Parliament gave its consent, are authorized, in case of the request – obliged, to attend the committee sittings, answer the questions raised at the sitting and report on the activities performed. The committee shall hear this official immediately s/he requests.

Article 45

1. Within its competencies, a committee considers the issues of giving a vote of confidence to Government of Georgia, also electing, appointing, confirming or consenting to the appointment of the officials determined by the constitution of Georgia and law. The nominator submits the information on the given candidacies to the committee.
2. A committee is authorized to request from the relevant candidate to present the information on his/her biography, work experience and professional knowledge.
3. Based on the received information, the committee prepares its conclusion on giving a vote of confidence to the officials determined by the constitution of Georgia and law, electing, appointing, confirming them or consenting to their appointment on the position. The conclusion is adopted with a secret vote by the majority of the committee members present at the sitting.
4. The conclusion of the committee is obligatory for the candidacies of those officials, who are elected, appointed, confirmed or consented to the appointment by Parliament.

5. The conclusion of the committee is submitted to the Bureau of Parliament, which presents it to the President of Georgia and Parliament.

Article 46

1. Relevant committee considers all the issues that will be submitted for the floor discussion.
2. Committees, according to their corresponding fields, study and analyze the adherence to the legislation, take measures for ensuring its observation, correct the defects in the legislation, prepare the suggestions on the changes or/and amendments into the legislation.

Article 47

As a result of the information heard on the issue under its competence, controlling and checking, a committee elaborates its conclusion. The conclusion of the committee shall provide the assessment and the concrete measures of reaction. The committee shall submit its conclusion at the nearest sitting of the Bureau of Parliament. Bureau puts the issue on agenda of the nearest plenary sitting of Parliament. Parliament discusses the respective conclusion at its plenary sitting, evaluates it and adopts the relevant decision.

Article 48

1. Committee Chairman, in his/her absence – his/her deputy, convenes and presides the committee sitting. The periodicity of committee sittings is determined by the committee, but there be no fewer than two sittings per month. (Committee is not obliged to hold the committee meeting in the period between sessions).The time of the next committee meeting is determined in advance. The time of committee meetings is determined according to the consultations between Chairmen of the Committees. By the assignment of Parliament and Bureau, committee shall hold a sitting by the given time and consider the issue. (25.03.2005 #1199)
2. Committee sitting is authorized, if the majority of its acting members are present.
3. Committee members shall attend committee sitting and participate in its work. Violating this requirement will cause the responsibility as provided in paragraph 9 of Article 264 of these Rules of Procedure.
4. If a committee member, appointed by faction, cannot take part in the work of the committee, the faction has a right to temporarily replace him/her by another member of the faction, about which the faction notifies the respective committee in a written form. This right towards the members of factions can be used no more than 5 times in only one session period. The sitting of the respective committee, attended by his/her replacement, is not considered to be missed by the committee member. (25.03.2005 #1199)
5. The materials for the committee sitting are given out to the committee members and they are informed about its agenda and date not later than two days before the sitting. The information about the committee sitting and its agenda are put on Parliament's web page not later than two days before the committee sitting.
6. Decision is made with an open or secret vote by the majority of the committee members present at the sitting, but no less than a half of the votes necessary for opening the sitting (determining its authority), except the cases determined by these Rules of Procedure. When at the open vote the votes are equally divided, the vote of the Committee Chairman is decisive.

7. By his/her own initiative, or the request of Parliament, the Bureau of Parliament, one-third of all the members of the committee, Committee Chairman convenes a special sitting of the committee. The committee members shall be informed about the date of the committee sitting no later than (one) a day before the sitting.
8. Committee Chairman determines the agenda of the committee sitting by his/her own initiative or by the request of the committee member (members). The decision on removing an issue from the agenda or putting a new one on it is made by the majority of votes of the acting members of committee.
9. Committee sitting is public. In special cases a committee holds a closed sitting. The decision on holding a closed sitting is made by the majority of votes of the acting members of committee.
10. MPs, members of Government of Georgia and invited guests may attend the committee sitting with an advisory vote.
11. The interested representatives of public can be invited to attend the committee sitting. They can be given the floor by the decision of the Committee Chairman.
12. The accredited mass media representatives can be invited to attend the committee sitting. It is possible to allow TV or radio to report on the committee sitting and publish the information on the results of the sitting in the press.

Article 49

1. Other draft laws presented to and worked out by the committee, information on the urgent issues of the committee's main directions, petitions, citizens' complaints and statements, explanations, information, other results of examinations of the members of Government of Georgia and the state officials are discussed at the committee sittings.
2. Committee adopts recommendation, conclusion, and suggestion. Committee Chairman issues directive on the internal organizational issues of the committee.
3. Committee conclusions, as a rule, are submitted to the Bureau of Parliament, plenary sitting of Parliament or are sent as appropriate.

Article 50

A joint sitting of committees can be hold by the request of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, the decision of the Bureau or the relevant committees. The committees decide the issues discussed at the joint sitting by separate votes.

Article 51

1. For ensuring the work of a committee, committee staff is created, which represents the structural unit of Parliamentary Staff and is subordinate to the committee.
2. Committee staff:
 - a) Participates in working out the committee's action plans, draft laws provided in the plans, drafts of Parliament's decrees and other decisions, drafts of the committee's decisions, preparing conclusions, comments and suggestions on the draft laws, the committee's controlling, organizational and other activities;
 - b) Performs consultative and analytical functions, organizational-technical services and office work;
 - c) Fulfills other functions determined by the legislation, Regulations of the committee, Parliamentary Staff and the committee staff.

3. The structure and the number of the committee staff units are proposed by the Committee Chairman, agreed with the Chief of Parliamentary Staff and approved by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament.

Article 52

1. Committee staff comprises the Head of Committee Staff and specialists (employees provided in the staff list and invited specialists).
2. Head of Committee Staff:
 - a) Provides general supervision to the committee staff along with the Committee Chairman, divides functions and obligations among the committee staff employees, is responsible for implementation of tasks and duties assigned to the staff of the committee, coordinates the relations between the committee staff and other structural units of Parliamentary Staff;
 - b) Organizes the preparation of the committee sittings, drawing up the adopted decisions and protocols of the sittings;
 - c) Ensures compliance with work discipline by the committee staff employees, proposes suggestions on offering them incentives and imposing disciplinary responsibilities;
 - d) Performs other functions determined by the legislation, and Regulations of the committee, Parliamentary Staff and the committee staff.
3. Committee staff specialists:
 - a) Work on the issues of the field directions determined by the committee Regulations; participate in working out, analyzing and generalizing draft laws provided in the committee's working plans, drafts of Parliament's decrees and other decisions, drafts of the committee's decisions, preparing conclusions and reports on the draft laws, the committee's controlling, organizational and other activities; carry out the tasks assigned by the Committee Chairman and the committee;
 - b) Record comments and suggestions expressed at the floor discussions of the draft laws;
 - c) Perform other functions determined by the legislation, and Regulations of the committee, Parliamentary Staff and the committee staff.
4. Head of committee staff and specialist are nominated by the Committee Chairman and appointed by the Chief of Parliamentary Staff according to the rule set forth in the Law of Georgia on Civil Service.

Article 53

1. Scientific-consultative councils are created at the committees. The councils are composed of competent, experienced, invited expert-consultants in the appropriate fields. The Committee Chairman appoints the composition of the council.
2. The committee convenes the sittings of the scientific-consultative council when necessary. The committee and scientific-consultative council may hold a joint sitting.
3. No longer in use. (30.03.2007. #4577)

CHAPTER VI

Temporary Investigative Commission

Article 54

1. In the presence of the bases set forth in Article 56 of the constitution of Georgia and this Article, a temporary investigative commission is created in Parliament of Georgia with the purpose to explore the facts of breaking Georgian legislation by the state bodies and public officials and to react appropriately, or study the particularly important State and public issues.
2. The bases for creation of temporary investigative commission is the information:
 - a) About illegal actions of state bodies, public officials, which threaten the state security, sovereignty, territorial integrity, political, economic or other interests of Georgia;
 - b) About misappropriation of state and local budgets;
 - c) Studying which is particularly important from the State and public points of view.

Article 55

1. With the purpose of creating a temporary investigative commission, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, committee, faction, or no less than one-fourth of the MPs are authorized to raise the issue of creation of the temporary investigative commission, providing relevant arguments in writing. Parliament votes on the relevance of this suggestion by the majority of votes of the MPs present at the plenary sitting, but no less than one-third of all the MPs. If the suggestion is accepted, then the draft decision on creation of the temporary investigative commission is put to the vote.
2. The decision on creation of the temporary investigative commission is made by the majority of votes of the acting MPs. The decision shall include the basis for creation of the temporary investigative commission, the range of the issues that need to be explored, the term of authority of the commission, the number of its members and the deadline for nominating the candidates for its membership.
3. Temporary investigative commission is created only for exploring a concrete issue and it is abolished according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure, immediately after the issue is settled.
4. Temporary investigative commission is accountable and responsible to Parliament.
5. Temporary investigative commission works out the Regulations, which is approved by the Bureau of Parliament.
6. By the majority of votes of its acting members, Parliament can make the decision on termination of the powers of the temporary investigative commission and the exploration of the issue or changing the composition of the commission before the term of authority of the temporary investigative commission expires.
7. In case of corruption and unlawful actions, Parliament can create Temporary Investigative Commission Against Corruption. (01.10.2004 #472)
8. The decision of the issue of discussing specific facts concerning corruption in Temporary Investigative Commission Against Corruption is determined according to the paragraph 1-2 of this article. (01.10.2004 #472)

Article 56

1. While creating it, Parliament determines the term of authority of the temporary investigative commission, but for no more than three months. The term of authority of the commission can be prolonged for (one) a month, but no more than three months in total.

- 1.¹During the creation of the Temporary Investigative Commission Against Corruption the term of authority can be determined by the Parliament, but for no more than a year. The term of authority can be prolonged according to the rules set forth by this article. (01.10.2004 #472)
2. If by the given time the temporary investigative commission does not present the draft decision or the conclusion on the considered issue, at the nearest plenary sitting Parliament hears the report on the work done by the commission, based on which, by the majority of votes of its acting members, it makes one of the following decisions:
 - a. Prolongation of the term of authority of the commission;
 - b. Prolongation of the term of authority of the commission and changing its composition;
 - c. Termination of the powers of the commission and the exploration of the issue.
3. The report of the temporary investigative commission can be enough for making the decision on the issue under consideration.
4. In case the conclusion is not prepared on the issue under consideration before the term of authority of the corresponding Parliament expires, the materials acquired by the commission along with the relevant report is transferred to the new Parliament, which makes the decision on further exploration and consideration of the issue according to the rule set forth in paragraph 1 of Article 55 of these Rules of Procedure.
5. It is forbidden to create a temporary investigative commission three months before the expiration of the term of authority of the respective Parliament. The powers of all temporary investigative commissions are terminated three months before the expiration of Parliament's term of authority. By this time they shall report on the work done.

Article 57

1. The Chairman of the temporary investigative commission is elected in accordance with the paragraphs 4, and 8 of the article 32 of these Rules of Procedure. His/ Her dismissal is implemented according to the rules established by the article 33 of this Rules of Procedure. Parliamentary faction, Parliamentary Majority, Parliamentary Minority, group of at least ten MPs who are not united in any faction have the authority to name the candidate for the Chairman of the temporary investigative commission. (30.03.2007 #4577)
2. Chairman of the temporary investigative commission is elected for the term of authority of the commission.
3. Parliament considers the statement on resignation of the Chairman of the temporary investigative commission and makes the appropriate decision by issuing a decree.

Article 58

1. The composition of the temporary investigative commission is determined proportionally to the number of the MPs united in factions and those MPs, who are not united in any faction.
2. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules determines the quotas of the proportional representation in the temporary investigative commission immediately after adopting the decree on the creation of the commission and the Bureau of Parliament approves them.
3. The representation of the Majority in the temporary investigative commission shall not exceed half of the number of its members.
4. Following the quotas of the proportional representation determined by the Bureau of Parliament, a Faction, the Majority, the Minority, in case set forth in paragraph 8 of this

- article - also an MP present the candidates for the membership of the committee to the Chairman of the temporary investigative commission.
5. A candidate presented by the Coordination Council of Independent MPs cannot be a member of any faction.
 6. Chairman of the temporary investigative commission submits the list of the candidates to Parliament at its nearest plenary sitting after the term of nominating the candidates for the membership of the commission, determined by Parliament, expires. The candidates are put to the vote together. The candidate for the membership of the commission, who was challenged, will be put to the vote separately. Parliament makes this decision by issuing the decree.
 7. One and the same candidate can be nominated only twice for the membership of the temporary investigative commission.
 8. If the number of nominated candidates for the membership of the temporary investigative commission is less than the determined number of the commission members, MPs are given a right to nominate the additional candidates. If the number of nominated candidates is still less than the determine number, the vacant seats are abolished.
 9. If after the MPs nominate additional candidates, the number of all candidates nominated is more that the determined number of the members of the temporary investigative commission, the candidates nominated by the MPs are put to the vote. Each candidate is voted separately. The candidate with better results, who received no less than one-third of votes of the acting MPs, will be considered elected into the commission. If after the vote the number of the commission members is less than determined, the remaining candidates are put to the vote again. The candidate with better results will be regarded as elected.
 10. If after composing the temporary investigative commission according to the rule set forth in paragraphs 8 and 9 of this article, the Majority is represented by more than a half of the determined number of the commission members, the quota of the Majority decreases according to the principle provided in paragraph 3 of this article.
 11. Any Member of Parliament has a right to reasonably challenge a candidate nominated by a faction, the Coordination Council of Independent MPs or an MP. The issue of challenge if put to the vote immediately. The challenge will be accepted if the majority of the acting MPs support it.
 12. Faction, the Majority, the Minority has a right to nominate a new candidate at the same or the next plenary sitting if Parliament rejects its candidate.
 13. The elections of the members of the temporary investigative commission are over within 10 days of the expiration of the term of nominating the candidates for the commission membership, determined by Parliament, if Parliament's decree does not give a different term.

Article 59

1. A member of the temporary investigative commission ceases his/her activities in the commission in case s/he is expelled from the faction, s/he leaves the faction or the faction calls him/her back from the commission. The faction has a right to nominate a new candidate, on which the Chairman of the commission informs Parliament at the nearest plenary sitting.
2. The new candidate nominated by the faction, the Majority, the Minority will be considered a member of the temporary investigative commission from the moment s/he is named at the plenary sitting of Parliament, if s/he is not challenged by the majority of the acting

MPs, and if Parliament does not support the challenge – from the moment the vote results are published.

Article 60

1. A member of the temporary investigative commission may leave the commission by his/her personal statement.
2. Temporary investigative commission can expel its member if the latter does not participate in the work of the commission for two weeks one after another without good reason, misses its sittings, exceeds his/her powers, also in other cases provided in the Regulations of the commission. This decision is made by two-thirds of the commission members present at the sitting. The commission informs Parliament on this.

Article 61

1. Temporary investigative commission has the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and the secretary, who are the commission officials.
2. Chairman of the temporary investigative commission:
 - a) Compiles the list of the candidates for the commission membership and submits it to the plenary sitting of Parliament;
 - b) Convenes the first organizational sitting of the commission within three days of the elections of two-thirds of the commission members;
 - c) Represents the commission in Parliament, outside of it and in relevant inter-Parliamentary relations;
 - d) Calls and leads the sittings of the commission;
 - e) Coordinates the work of the commission members;
 - f) Puts his/her signature on the commission decisions and the protocols of its sittings;
 - g) Exercises other powers provided by the legislation.
3. Deputy Chairman of the temporary investigative commission:
 - a) Performs the rights and duties of the Chairman of the commission by the latter's assignment or the assignment of the commission;
 - b) Performs the duties of the Chairman of the commission when the latter cannot exercise his/her powers, s/he is dismissed, s/he resigns or his/her powers as of an MP are terminated ahead of time, until the new Chairman of the commission is elected.
4. Secretary of the temporary investigative commission:
 - a) Organizes the conduct of the commission sitting;
 - b) Carries out the office work, signs the protocols of the commission sittings;
 - c) Temporarily performs the duties of the Chairman of the commission when the latter cannot exercise his/her powers and neither the Deputy Chairman is able to perform the Chairman's duties;
 - d) Exercises other powers provided by the Regulations of the commission.
5. A member of the temporary investigative commission has a right to participate in the work of the commission on equal terms, state his/her comments, suggestions and views on the issues considered, elect and be elected on the commission posts, have a different position and state about this at the floor discussions on the issue.

Article 62

1. The majority of the members present at the commission sitting elect Deputy Chairman of the temporary investigative commission with secret vote and Parliament is informed on this.
- 1¹ The Chairman of the temporary investigative commission and a group of three members of the commission have the authority to name the candidate for the Deputy Chairman of the commission. (30.03.2007 #4577)
2. If the Chairman of the temporary investigative commission is a Majority member, then the Deputy Chairman of the commission cannot be a member of the Majority.
3. If only one candidate participated in the elections and s/he was not elected, the new elections are held.
4. If two or more candidates were participating in the elections and none of them won, the second round of the elections are held. Those two candidates, who received more votes, are put to the vote in the second round. If a candidate, who enters the second round, withdraws his/her candidacy, the next candidate by the number of votes received, is put to the vote instead.
5. If it is impossible to determine only two winners in the first round of the elections, those candidates, who shared the first or the second places by the number of votes received, are put to the vote in the second round. The candidate, who receives more votes, will be considered as elected in the second round of the elections.
6. If the candidates participating in the second round receive equal number of votes, the winner will be determined by the results of the first round. If the winner cannot be determined by this rule, the new elections are held.
7. The same candidate for the position of the Deputy Chairman of the temporary investigative commission can be nominated twice.
8. The issue of removing the Deputy Chairman of the temporary investigative commission is put to the vote upon the request of at least one-third of the commission members. The decision on removing the Deputy Chairman should be considered approved if the majority of commission members support it. (30.03.2007#4577)
9. Secretary of the temporary investigative commission is elected and removed according to the rules of electing and removing the Deputy Chairman of the commission determined by these Rules of Procedure.

Article 63

1. It is obligatory to attend the sitting of the temporary investigative commission if it requests.
2. If the temporary investigative commission requests, state bodies, public officials, legal and private persons shall submit the conclusions necessary for exploring the issue and other needed materials according to the established rule in the term given by the commission.
3. By a written request, with the permission of the Prosecutor General of Georgia, according to the rule set forth in paragraph 1 of Article 139 of the Code of Criminal Law Procedures of Georgia, the temporary investigative commission is authorized to study on the spot a criminal case, which is in the stage of exploration or preliminary investigation, also the materials on rejection to proceed the criminal case, if the commission thinks that this case or the materials on this case include the data necessary for studying the issue considered by the commission.
4. Based on the written request of the temporary investigative commission, by the assignment of the Prosecutor General of Georgia, a researcher, investigator shall provide the commission members with the possibility to study the case materials on the spot.

5. The rule of admitting the temporary investigative commission to the State secret is determined by Georgian legislation.
6. With the purpose of obtaining information on the issue under consideration, the temporary investigative commission has a right to raise the issue before the body of State control, and with nongovernmental structures - sign a contract on carrying out the controlling-supervising measures.
7. Temporary investigative commission has a right to invite and take a written explanation from any person regarding the issue under consideration, except the cases provided in law and these Rules of Procedure.
8. The process of taking explanation from an underage shall be attended by his/her legal representative. A person under 16 is explained that it is necessary to give right explanation, but s/he is not warned about the criminal responsibility for refusal on giving the explanation or avoidance on giving the explanation or intentionally giving false explanation.
9. If a person does not speak the State language, an interpreter shall be invited. In case of taking the explanation from a deaf-mute, a person, who knows his/her speaking signs, shall be invited. If the interpreter or the person knowing the speaking signs of the deaf-mute, intentionally translates wrongly, s/he is hold responsible as set forth in Article 370 of the Criminal code of Georgia.
10. Explanation from the invited person is taken at the sitting of the temporary investigative commission. In exceptional case, the commission can assign three of its members, from whom at least one shall not be a Majority member, to take the explanation. Before taking explanation, the person is warned about the criminal responsibility for refusal on giving the explanation or avoidance on giving the explanation or for intentionally giving false explanation, which is noted in the text of explanation and is proved by the signature of the invited person.
11. Temporary investigative commission has a right to raise the issue of law violation, revealed as a result of hearing the information on the issue under consideration, controlling and checking, before that state body or public official, which should cease the law violation, and taking into account the nature of the law violation – raise the issue of making decision on proceeding a criminal, administrative or disciplinary case, requesting the state property from illegal ownership or recovering the losses inflicted on the State.
12. Temporary investigative commission shall be informed on the results of the discussions on the issue and the measures taken not later than one month or in the term determined by the commission.

Article 64

When necessary for its work, the temporary investigative commission has a right to raise the issue of giving its member MP the right to enter a penitentiary establishment functioning on the territory of Georgia without a special permission according to the rule determined by these Rules of Procedure.

Article 65

1. Location and periodicity of the sittings of the temporary investigative commission are determined by the commission, but there be no fewer than two sittings per month.
2. Sitting of the temporary investigative commission is authorized if majority of the commission members are present. The decision is made by the majority of the commission

members present at the sitting, if the law does not imply otherwise. In case the votes are equally divided, a new voting is held. If the decision is still not made, the issue is considered rejected.

3. Temporary investigative commission works out conclusions, makes decisions, recommendations and proposals regarding the issue under consideration and submits them to the Bureau, the plenary sitting of Parliament.
4. The members of the temporary investigative commission are informed in advance about the date and the agenda of the commission sitting. This information is put on Parliament's web page. The information on the sitting of the commission may be published in the press.
5. Other MPs and invited persons may attend the public sitting of the temporary investigative commission with an advisory vote.
6. The accredited mass media representatives may be invited to attend the public sitting of the commission. It is possible to broadcast the commission sitting on TV or radio.
7. By the suggestion of its member, the temporary investigative commission can make a decision on holding a closed sitting.
8. Publishing in full or partly the obtained information (materials), the protocol of the commission sitting, if they contain the data of the criminal case, is permitted with the consent of the Prosecutor General of Georgia. The rule of publishing the information (materials) or the protocol of the commission sitting containing State or military secret is determined by Georgian legislation.
9. Members of the temporary investigative commission as well as the other persons, who participate in the work of the commission, shall maintain the confidentiality of Parliamentary investigation.

Article 66

1. The work of the temporary investigative commission is fully and exactly recorded in the protocol of the commission sitting. The secretary of the commission is responsible for this.
2. Any member of the temporary investigative commission can see the protocol of the commission sitting and state his/her comments.
3. If the temporary investigative commission uses documents, which represent State, military or commercial secret, it shall follow the rules established by law for keeping and using such documents.

Article 67

1. Temporary investigative commission discusses the conclusion on the issue under consideration publicly, with obligatory TV and radio broadcast, except those issues from the conclusion, publicity of which is limited by the legislation.
2. The draft decision or the conclusion worked out by the temporary investigative commission is submitted to the Bureau of Parliament for putting it on the agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament. The Bureau shall put the issues on the agenda of the nearest plenary sitting.
3. From among its members, the temporary investigative commission chooses a speaker, who represents the position of the commission at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
4. Plenary sitting of Parliament, at which the draft decision or the conclusion of the temporary investigative commission is discussed, can be open or closed. By Parliament's decision a closed sitting can be held to discuss the conclusion of the commission. At the beginning of the closed sitting the Chairman of the Sitting warns the MPs and the persons,

- who have the right to attend the closed sitting according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure, about the responsibility established by law for spreading the data of the commission, exploration or the preliminary investigation, the information containing State or military secret.
- 4.¹ The discussion of the conclusion of the temporary investigative commission on the plenary sitting begins with the report of the Chairman of the temporary investigative commission or the person specially chosen by the commission. The speech can continue no more than 30 minutes. (If necessary, the length of the speech can be prolonged for 30 minutes by the decision of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament). (28.04.2006 #2957)
 - 4.² The MPs have the right to ask question after the reporter finishes up his speech. MP can take the floor for no more than 3 minutes. Also they can use a minute for clarification. The MP has the right to make a statement and use time for clarification only once. After time fixed for question is over the representative is answering questions one by one. (28.04.2006 #2957)
 - 4.³ After the speech of the Chairman, the representative of the temporary investigative commission who has the different viewpoint is expressing the opinion on related issues on behalf of the other members of commission. He can take floor no more than 10 minutes. MPs have the right to address him/her with a question. Each MP can use 3 minutes for a question only once. After the time allotted for question is over the representative is answering questions one by one. (28.04.2006 #2957)
 - 4.⁴ After the report done by the temporary investigative commission according to rule mentioned in the article 4³ the MPs are given the right to speak. Each MP can use no more than 5 minutes. For this purpose, MPs are registering in the plenary secretariat and the list is presented to the Chairman (Speaker) of the sitting. The MPs are reporting according to the list given to the Chairman (Speaker). It is mandatory to follow the list. It is not allowed to make statement without the Chairman's (Speaker's) consent. Also the MP can register in the list only once. If the MP is not at the plenary sitting at the time of his turn he is deprived the right to report on that issue. The MP who is enlisted in the list mentioned above does not have the right to give his time to the other MP. (28.04.2006 #2957)
 - 4.⁵ After the time given to MPs is over the time is given to the representatives of factions, who are not the members of Majority or Minority, Majority and Minority is also given time in the following order. The time given to the representatives of the fractions can be no more than 10 minutes, and for the Majority and Minority no more than 15 minutes. (28.04.2006 #2957)
 - 4.⁶ Reporter, the person who has the different viewpoint about the report of the Temporary Investigative Commission, MPs, representatives of factions, Majority and Minority are taking the floor at the tribune in front of the presidium. (28.04.2006 #2957)
 - 4.⁷ After the reports of the representatives of factions, Majority and Minority are over, the word is given to the main reporter, which must be no more than 10 minutes. (28.04.2006 #2957)
 - 4.⁸ After the final Report of the main Reporter is over the Chairman (Speaker) of the session considers the discussion on the conclusion (decision) temporary investigative commission closed. (28.04.2006 #2957)
 - 4.⁹ In case if the commission or faction demands, the Parliament can make a resolution on the conclusion (decision) of temporary investigative commission. The resolution project is discussed according the article 163 - 1¹ of these Rules of Procedure. (28.04.2006 #2957)
 5. By Parliament's decision, along with the conclusion the temporary investigative commission submits the materials it has on hand. If the materials of the criminal case are attached to the conclusion, for holding a public plenary sitting of Parliament it is

obligatory to have the permission of the Prosecutor General of Georgia. Law determines the rule of presenting the information containing State or military secret at the public plenary sitting.

6. Temporary investigative commission is authorized to offer Parliament a suggestion about collecting the MPs' signatures for raising the issue of impeachment of the public officials provided in the constitution of Georgia.

Article 68

With the purpose of preparing a concrete issue, the Temporary Investigative Commission can create a working group composed of the commission members, specialists of the commission staff and invited experts.

Article 69

1. The Chief of Parliamentary Staff signs work contracts for a certain term with invited experts and specialists proposed by the Chairman of the Temporary Investigative Commission.
2. Temporary Investigative Commission uses the help of the supporting structures of Parliament.
3. Temporary investigative commission is authorized to incur expenses, the amount and the rule of paying of which are determined by the Bureau of Parliament according to the proposal of the Treasury Council, within the limits of the budget allocated for Parliament.
4. For doing a concrete task, the temporary investigative commission, in agreement with the head of the corresponding state body, is authorized to invite the employees of the Office of Public Prosecutor, the Ministries of Internal Affairs and State Security of Georgia and other establishments. These employees in case of need are freed from job duties; they maintain their salaries in the respective state bodies and are paid per diems. (25.11.2005 #2150)
5. The expenses of the Temporary Investigative Commission incurred in the period of its work are paid from Parliament's budget. The Bureau of Parliament determines the amount of expenses of the Temporary Investigative Commission.

CHAPTER VII

Other Temporary Commission, Inter-factional Group

Article 70

Other temporary commission (hereinafter – temporary commission) is a temporary body of Parliament, which is created by Parliament's decision in the cases determined by the constitution of Georgia and these Rules of Procedures.

Article 71

1. The bases of work of the temporary commission are the constitution of Georgia, these Rules of Procedure and other normative acts.
2. Temporary commission is accountable and responsible to Parliament.

Article 72

1. Temporary commission is created:
 - a. On the issues of restoring the territorial integrity;
 - b. For studying a petition or a complaint on the problems of State importance.
 - c. For studying the activities of Chamber of Control (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. By the request of the temporary commission, the state bodies, public officials, legal and private persons shall submit the conclusions necessary for the commission's work and other needed materials in given time according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure.
3. When necessary for its work, the temporary commission has a right to raise the issue of giving its member MP the right to enter a penitentiary establishment functioning on the territory of Georgia without a special permission according to the rule determined by these Rules of Procedure.

Article 73

1. By presenting the appropriate written arguments, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, a committee, faction or no less than one forth of the MPs are authorized to raise the issue of creation of the temporary commission. Parliament votes on the issue of the relevance of the given suggestion. If the majority of the present MPs, but no less than one-fifth of the acting MPs, votes in support of the suggestion, the draft decision on creation of the temporary commission is put to the vote.
2. The decision on creation of the temporary commission is made with Parliament's decree. The range of the issues to be studied, the term of authority of the temporary commission, the number of the commission members and the term of nominating the candidates for membership shall be given in the decree.
3. The composition of the temporary commission is determined proportionally to the number of the MPs united in factions and those MPs, who are not united in any faction.
4. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules determines the quotas of the proportional representation in the temporary commission immediately after the decree on creation of the commission is adopted, it is determined by the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules and the Bureau approves them. (25.11.2005 #2150)
5. The Majority representation in the temporary commission shall not exceed a half of the number of the commission members.
6. According to the quotas determined by the Bureau, a faction, the Majority, the Minority and the Coordination Council of Independent MPs nominate the candidates for the membership of the temporary commission to the Chairman of the temporary commission.
7. Within tree days of the election, the Chairman of the temporary commission submits the list of the candidates for the membership of the temporary commission to Parliament. The candidates are put to the vote together. A candidate for the membership of the temporary commission, who was challenged, is put to the vote separately. Parliament makes these decisions by adopting a decree. One and the same candidate can be nominated only once for the membership of the temporary commission.

8. The elections of the members of the temporary commission end within 10 days after the Chairman of the temporary commission is elected, if Parliament's decree does not determine otherwise.
9. The Chairman of the temporary commission, Deputy Chairman and secretary are the officials of the temporary commission.

Article 74

1. Parliament determines the term of the authority of the temporary commission, but it cannot exceed three months, except the case set forth in section "a" of paragraph 1 of Article 72 of these Rules of Procedure. The authority of Commission can be prolonged for 3 months in case of paragraph C of article 72. It is forbidden to create a temporary commission six months before the expiration of the term of authority of the respective Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. The temporary commission created in the case determined in section "a" of paragraph 1 of article 72 of these Rules of Procedure, shall submit to Parliament a report on the work done at least once in every three months, also at the time of termination or prolongation of authority they should submit the report. If it does not submit the report or Parliament considers it unsatisfactory, Parliament makes decision with its decree to change the Chairman and the members of the temporary commission. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. The draft decision or the conclusion presented by the temporary commission can be regarded as enough for making the decision on the issue under consideration.
4. If the temporary commission does not present the draft decision or the conclusion on the issue under consideration in the given time, at its nearest plenary sitting Parliament hears the report on the activity of the temporary commission, based on which it makes the decision on evaluation of the work of the temporary commission.
5. If Parliament considers the draft decision, conclusion or the report on the work done presented by the temporary commission as unsatisfactory, it makes the decision provided in paragraph 2 of this article.
6. Three months before the term of the authority of the Parliament expires, all the temporary commissions are obliged to present the report of their activities. (20.11.2007 #5459)

Article 75

A member of the temporary commission can participate in the activities of the temporary commission on equal terms, express his/her remarks, suggestions and views on the issue under consideration, elect and be elected on the positions of the temporary commission, take a different position and express it at the plenary sitting of Parliament.

Article 76

A member of the temporary commission may leave the commission by his/her personal statement.

A group of MPs, which nominated the member of the temporary commission, can recall him/her.

The temporary commission can remove its member, if the latter does not participate in the work of the temporary commission for two weeks one after another, misses the commission sittings, exceeds his/her powers, also in the cases determined by the Regulations of the

commission. The temporary commission makes this decision by no less than two-thirds of votes of the commission members present at the plenary sitting and informs Parliament on this.

Article 77

1. The Chairman of temporary commission is elected according to the paragraphs 4 and 8 of the article 32 of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament of Georgia; his/ her dismissal is implemented according to the rules established by the article 33. Parliamentary Faction, Parliamentary Majority, Parliamentary Minority, group of at least ten MPs who are not united in any faction have the authority to name the candidate for the Chairman of the temporary commission. (30.03.2007 #4577)
2. The Chairman of the temporary commission:
 - a) Compiles a list of the candidates for the membership of the temporary commission and submits it to Parliament's plenary sitting;
 - b) Convenes the first organizational sitting of the temporary commission within three days after two-thirds of the commission members are elected;
 - c) Represents the temporary commission in Parliament, outside of it and in the relevant inter-Parliamentary relations;
 - d) Calls and leads the sittings of the temporary commission;
 - e) Coordinates the activities of the members of the temporary commission;
 - f) Signs the decisions of the temporary commission and the protocols of its sittings;
 - g) Exercises other powers as provided by these Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts.

Article 78

1. The Deputy Chairman of the temporary commission performs the rights and duties of the Chairman of the temporary commission by the latter's assignment or the assignment of the temporary commission; in case the Chairman of the temporary commission cannot perform his/her rights and duties, s/he is removed, s/he resigns or his/her powers as of the MP are terminated ahead of time, performs the duties of the Chairman of the commission until the new Chairman of the temporary commission is elected.
2. Secretary of the temporary commission organizes the conduct of the sittings of the temporary commission, manages the office work of the temporary commission, signs the protocols of the sittings of the temporary commission and exercises other powers provided by the Regulations of the temporary commission.

Article 79

1. The temporary commission elects the Deputy Chairman and the secretary of the temporary commission at its first organizational sitting, works out the Regulations of the temporary commission, which is approved by the Bureau.
2. The Deputy Chairman and the secretary of the temporary commission are elected and removed according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure for electing and removing the Deputy Chairman and the secretary of the temporary investigative commission.

Article 80

1. The temporary commission determines the periodicity of the sittings of the temporary commission, but it cannot fall short of two sittings per month.
2. The sitting of the temporary commission is authorized if the majority of the members of the temporary commission are present.
3. The sitting of the temporary commission is public. A closed sitting can be held by the decision of the temporary commission. The members shall attend the sitting of the temporary commission. The commission members are informed in advance about the date and the agenda of the sitting.
4. Other MPs with the advisory vote, those persons, whose participation is necessary in the work the temporary commission by the commission's decision, also the accredited representatives of mass media can attend the sitting of the temporary commission. By the decision of the temporary commission, its sitting can be broadcasted live on TV and radio.
5. A lobbyist registered at Parliament according to the law, can attend the public sitting of the temporary commission, at which the normative act provided in the contract on the assignment of lobbying activities (other normative acts derived from it), draft normative act (other drafts of normative acts derived from it) are discussed. By the decision of the temporary commission s/he may be given the floor for a determined period of time.
As a rule, Parliament's press center publishes the information on the sitting of the temporary commission.

Article 81

1. The work of the temporary commission is recorded exactly and fully in the protocol of the commission sitting. The secretary of the commission is responsible for this.
2. Any member of the temporary commission can see the protocol of the commission sitting and state his/her comments.
3. If the temporary commission uses documents, which represent State, military or commercial secret, it shall follow the rules established by law for keeping and using such documents

Article 82

1. The temporary commission works out conclusions, makes decisions, recommendations and proposals on the issue under consideration and submits them to the Bureau of Parliament or/and plenary sitting of Parliament.
2. The temporary commission makes decision by the majority of the commission members present at the sitting. If the votes are equally divided, a new voting is held. If the decision is still not made, the issue will be regarded as rejected.

Article 83

1. The draft decision or the conclusion worked out by the temporary commission is submitted to the Bureau of Parliament for putting on the agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament. The Bureau shall put the issue on the agenda of the nearest plenary sitting of Parliament.
2. The plenary sitting of Parliament, at which the draft decision or the conclusion of the temporary commission is discussed, can be public or closed.
3. From among its members, the temporary commission chooses a speaker, who represents the position of the commission at the plenary sitting of Parliament.

4. The report of temporary commission is discussed according to the paragraph 4¹ -4⁹ of article 67 of these Rules of Procedure. (28.04.2006 #2957)

Article 84

1. Parliamentary Staff provides the temporary commission with organizational-technical service.
2. The Chief of Parliamentary Staff signs work contracts for a certain term with the invited experts and specialists proposed by the Chairman of the temporary commission.
3. In its work the temporary commission can use the help of the auxiliary structures of Parliament, for which it addresses the Chief of Parliamentary Staff.
4. The expenses incurred by the temporary commission in working period are paid from Parliament's budget. The bureau of Parliament, according to the proposal of the Treasury Council, determines the amount of the expenses of the temporary commission.

Article 85

In order to overcome the differences in views arisen in Parliament at the discussions of draft laws and other issues and for concretizing-conforming certain statutes, an inter-factional group is created by the order of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament based on the consultations with factions.

Based on the submitted relevant written arguments, the Bureau of Parliament decides to allocate necessary funds to the inter-factional group.

CHAPTER VIII

Parliamentary Faction

Article 86

1. The rules regarding the creation and activities of a Parliamentary faction are determined by the Constitution of Georgia, by these Rules of Procedure and other normative acts.
2. A faction is a voluntary union of the MPs created on the basis of common political attitudes for coordinating the activities.
3. The members of one political party can create only one faction. Member of Parliament except the Majoritarian MPs, if his/her party members have formed a faction, cannot join the other faction. (10.03.2005 #1066)

Article 87

1. At least 10 MPs, whose powers are confirmed by Parliament, can form a faction.
2. The MP can join only one faction.
3. No Parliamentary faction may be formed according to private, professional, local, regional or religious affiliations.
4. A union of MPs acquires the status of Parliamentary faction after the registration.

Article 88

1. The MPs, who intend to create a faction, work out the faction's political platform and Charter.
2. A faction is considered created from the moment at least 10 MPs united in it adopt the faction's political platform and Charter.
3. Registration of a newly created faction is obligatory.

Article 89

1. Parliamentary faction elects its Chairman from among its members before its registration.
2. In order to register as a Parliamentary faction, at the very first meeting of the newly elected Parliament the faction Chairman shall address the Temporary Mandatory Commission with a statement that contains the faction's official name and the names of its Chairman, other officials, and members. The political platform and the Charter of the faction are also to be attached to the statement. The Temporary Mandatory Commission immediately considers the issue of registration of the faction and makes the decision. If the Temporary Mandatory Commission fails to make any decision at the first sitting of Parliament, the faction is considered registered from the moment of submitting the document. The faction, which was rejected of registration, has a right to raise the issue of righteousness of the decision of the Temporary Mandatory Commission at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
3. In order to register a faction, except the case set forth in paragraph 2 of this article, within one week of the creation of the faction the faction Chairman shall address the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament with a statement that contains the faction's official name and the names of its Chairman, other officials, and members. The political platform and the Charter of the faction are also to be attached to the statement. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament immediately presents the materials submitted for registration of the faction to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules, which submits its conclusion to the Bureau of Parliament at the next sitting. If the Bureau of Parliament does not make other justified decision at the discussion on the conclusion of the committee, the faction will be regarded as registered from the moment of submitting the documents to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament. The decision of the Bureau is reported to the nearest plenary sitting of Parliament and published in "Parlamentis Utskebani". (Parliament's Newsletter)
4. If a faction does not meet the requirements of paragraph 3 of Article 87 and paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 88 of these Rules of Procedure, the faction shall be rejected from registration. The faction, which was rejected of registration, has a right to raise the issue of righteousness of the decision of the Bureau of Parliament at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
5. If less than 10 members remain in a faction after the members leave it or they are expelled, the faction will be regarded as abolished and the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules inform Parliament on this at the nearest plenary sitting.

Article 89¹

1. An MP who intends to register in the Parliamentary faction appeals in a writing form to the Chairman of the Parliamentary faction.
2. Faction discusses the issues of the MPs request and makes a decision.

3. The Chairman of the Faction within three days informs in writing form the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules and the Organizational Department. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 90

1. An MP may leave the faction any time without any motivation, on which within three days s/he informs in writing the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules and the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules informs Parliament on this fact at its nearest plenary sitting.
2. A faction has a right to accept a new member or expel a member as provided in its Charter.
3. Within three days the faction Chairman informs the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules and the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff on the expulsion of a member from the faction. If less than 10 members remain in the faction, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules informs Parliament on abolition of the faction at the nearest plenary sitting.
4. Election, removal, resignation of the faction Chairman and other officials, other changes in the faction composition, also the amendments in the founding documents of the faction within three days are reported to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules.
5. The information on the changes set forth in paragraphs 1, 2-4 of article 89¹ are reported to Parliament by the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules and published in Parliamentis Utskebani. (Parliament's Newsletter) (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 91

1. By means of representation, a faction participates in the activities of committees, investigative and other temporary commissions and Parliamentary delegations.
2. The number of faction representatives in Parliamentary bodies is determined proportionally to the number of MPs united in the faction.
3. A member nominated by the faction stops his/her activity in Parliamentary bodies if s/he is expelled from the faction, s/he leaves it or the faction recalls him/her from these bodies according to the rules determined by these Rules of Procedure. The faction can nominate a new candidate and the head of the respective Parliamentary body informs Parliament on this.
4. In case factions are abolished, they merge or the members leave the factions or they are expelled, the Bureau of Parliament reallocates the quotas of proportional representation of factions. If a faction does not agree with the decision of the Bureau, the issue is resolved at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
5. If the faction's quotas of proportional representation are decreased, the faction itself has to resolve the issue of withdrawing its members from this or that Parliamentary body.
6. If the quotas of proportional representation change, the relevant faction decides the personal issues of the faction representation in Parliamentary bodies.
7. The rules set forth in paragraphs 3 and 5 of this article do not spread over those MPs, who hold the elective positions in Parliamentary bodies.

Article 92

The faction exercises the powers provided in paragraph 1 of Article 88, paragraph 1 of Article 89 and paragraph 2 of Article 90 from the moment of the creation.

Article 93

The tasks of the faction are to:

- a) Express and pursue its political course regarding the issues of country's foreign and domestic policies;
- b) Participate in perfecting the activities of Parliament and its bodies; support the maximum realization of the potentialities of the MPs and enhancement of their activeness, also their adherence to these Rules of Procedure and the Parliamentary rules of behavior;
- c) Express the faction's conformed view when exercising the principal – legislative activity of Parliament.

Article 94

1. The faction sitting is the supreme body of a faction.
2. The Charter of the faction determines the periodicity of the faction sittings.
3. Regarding the draft law put in the agenda of the plenary sitting of the faction, after consideration the faction appoints a Chairman (Speaker) to present the faction's position at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
4. In case determined by the Charter of the faction or by the decision of the faction, there can be held a public or closed sitting.
5. The sitting of the faction is authorized to:
 - a) Decide the issue of faction's joining the Majority or the Minority;
 - b) Adopt the changes and amendments into the Charter of the faction;
 - c) Make a decision about expressing the faction's joint position on the issue that is to be discussed at the plenary sitting of Parliament;
 - d) Elect the faction officials;
 - e) Decide concrete issues regarding the activities of the faction;
 - f) Nominate candidates for the elective positions of Parliament;
 - g) Determine the rules of using of the quotas of proportional representation;
 - h) Work out the rule of spending the faction's budget;
 - i) Exercise other powers determined by these Rules of Procedure and Georgian legislation.
6. The officials of the faction are: faction Chairman, Deputy Chairman and secretary. These Rules of Procedure and the Charter of the relevant faction determine their authority and the rules of electing, removing, dismissing and resigning.

Article 95

1. The faction Chairman:
 - a) Manages the activities of the faction;
 - b) Represents the faction in Parliament and outside of it;
 - c) By the position is a member of the Bureau of Parliament;
 - d) Leads the sittings of the faction;
 - e) Exercises other powers determined by the Charter of the faction.
2. The Deputy Chairman of the faction manages a certain direction of the faction's activity by the assignment of the faction Chairman and when necessary, fulfils the duties of the faction Chairman as provided in the Charter of the faction.

3. The secretary of the faction fulfils the tasks of the faction Chairman and the Deputy Chairman, manages the internal organizational activity of the faction, exercises other powers provided by the Charter of the faction.

Article 96

1. A faction has a right to launch a legislative initiative as provided in Article 67 of the constitution of Georgia.
2. A faction has a right to address with a question the bodies accountable and responsible to Parliament and a Member of Government of Georgia, who have to answer the question.
- 2¹ MP, the official who was elected, appointed and confirmed by Parliament, also the official whose appointment was approved by Parliament in case of request is obliged attend the sitting of a faction, answer the questions asked during the sitting and report on the work done. The official must be given the floor in a faction upon request. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. According to the rule determined by these Rules of Procedure, a faction has a right to express its opinion at the plenary sitting of the committee or Parliament on the candidate that is to be elected, appointed or confirmed by Parliament or on the candidates, whose appointment needs Parliament's consent, also participate in the discussion, demand holding the political debates and exercise other powers provided by Georgian legislation.
4. A faction, which is not united in the Majority or the Minority, has a right to take the floor for 30 minutes twice during one session. The faction can raise this issue after the discussion on the issue is over, any time except during the voting procedure; Parliament has to immediately give the floor to the faction.

Article 97

1. A faction has a right to publish its opinion in "Parlamentis Utskebani." (Parliament's Newsletter).
2. By the faction's request Parliamentary Staff shall disseminate the official address of the faction among the MPs.
3. The head of the faction signs all documents disseminated by the faction.

Article 98

1. The Charter of the faction regulates the internal organizational issues of the faction according to the constitution of Georgia, these Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts.
2. The Charter of the faction shall determine the rule of creating the faction and adopting the changes in its composition, the rule of electing the managing bodies and the officials of the faction and their competencies, the authorities of the faction members, the goals and tasks of the faction, its structure and legal positions of its structural units, also the procedure of complete or partial revision of the Charter.

Article 99

1. In order to ensure the activities of the faction the appropriate conditions are created and the relevant sum is allocated as provided in these Rules of Procedure.
2. A faction is given a relevant place in the Sitting Hall and a working space – in the building of Parliament.

3. The staff of the faction ensures the activities of the faction. The Chief of Parliamentary Staff proposes and the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament confirms the salary fund for the employees of the faction's staff proportionally to the faction representation.
4. The faction Chairman proposes and the Chief of Parliamentary Staff appoints and dismisses the employees of the faction's staff according to the rule established by the Labor Law of Georgia and based on the work contracts drawn up for a determined term.
5. As a rule, the number of the faction's staff units, the working space given to the faction in the building of Parliament and the sum allocated for the activities of the faction are determined proportionally to the number of MPs united in the faction.

CHAPTER IX

The Majority and the Minority

Article 100

1. If the number of MPs united in the faction exceeds one-half of the total number of MPs, that faction receives the status of the Majority.
2. The Majority may be created by factions and by the MPs who are biased toward those factions but are not united in any faction so long as the number of unified members exceeds one-half of the total number of MPs.
3. In case of the creation of the Majority, the Minority may also be created.
4. If the total number of MPs united in the faction exceeds one-half of the number of those MPs who are not involved in the Majority, the faction may request and receive the status of the Minority.
5. The Minority may be created by Parliamentary factions and by MPs who are biased towards those factions but are not united in any faction so long as the number of unified members exceeds one-half of the total number of MPs not united in the Majority.

Article 101

1. The Majority and the Minority acquire authority after being registered by the Bureau of Parliament. For the registration, the leader of the Majority and the Minority address the Bureau with the statements that must contain the names of the leaders and the members of respectively the Majority and the Minority. The political platforms and Regulations of the Majority and the Minority signed by their respective leaders and by the chairs of the individual factions that are united under them, shall be attached to the statements.
2. Within three days the Bureau of Parliament is informed in writing about the changes in the compositions of the Majority and the Minority and in their political platforms and Regulations.
3. The registration information is reported to Parliament and is published in "Parlamentis Utskebani." (Parliament's Newsletter).

Article 102

1. The officials of the Majority and the Minority are:

- a) The leaders of the Majority and the Minority;
 - b) The deputy leaders of the Majority and the Minority;
 - c) The secretaries of the Majority and the Minority.
2. The Regulations of the Majority and the Minority determine the rule of adopting changes in the compositions of the Majority and the Minority, the rule of electing and removing the officials, the authority of the members and the structure.

Article 103

The Majority and the Minority have a right to take the floor for 30 minutes four times during one session. The Majority and the Minority can raise this issue after the discussion on the issue is over, any time except during the voting procedure; Parliament has to immediately give the floor to them.

Article 104

The activities of the Majority and the Minority are ensured by their staffs, created according to the rule established for the creation of the faction staff. The number of the staff units is determined by the number of staff units of the factions united in the Majority and the Minority.

CHAPTER X

The Coordination Council of Independent Members of Parliament

Article 105

1. In order to coordinate the activities of those MPs who are not united in any faction, the Majority or the Minority, the Coordination Council of Independent MPs may be created in Parliament.
2. The Coordination Council of Independent MPs can be created by the decision of more than a (one-) half of those MPs who are not united in any faction, the Majority or the Minority. The Coordination Council of Independent MPs elects its Chairman from among its members.
3. The Coordination Council of Independent MPs is authorized to exercise the powers provided by these Rules of Procedure.

PART III

PARLIAMENTARY OFFICIALS

CHAPTER XI

Parliamentary Officials

Article 106

1. Parliamentary officials are:
 - a) Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament;
 - b) Deputy Chairman of Parliament;
 - c) Committee Chairman;
 - d) Leaders of the Majority and the Minority;
 - e) Faction Chairman;
 - f) Chairmen of the Investigative and other Temporary Commissions;
 - g) Deputy Committee Chairmen and Deputy Faction Chairmen;
 - h) Chief (Head) of Parliamentary Staff.
2. An MP may be elected to only one position except the position s/he is holding in the faction.
3. Parliamentary officials within their competencies coordinate the work of Parliament and its bodies.
4. If the officials mentioned in subparagraphs a) and g) of paragraph 1 of this article are elected on inappropriate position, according to the same resolution their authority will be terminated at the time of election on the position. (25.11.2005 #2150)

CHAPTR XII

The Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament

Article 107

1. At its first session Parliament elects the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament by secret vote from among its members for its term of authority.
2. The Majority, the Minority, a faction, which is not united in the Majority or the Minority, and a group of ten MPs, have a right to nominate a candidate for the position of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament.
3. The written statement on nomination of a candidate for the position of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament is submitted to the Chairman of the plenary sitting, who compiles a joint list of the relevant candidates according to the sequence they were nominated. After the candidates are nominated, the sitting Chairman publishes the list and asks the candidates' consent to be voted on this position.
4. A candidate for the Parliamentary Chairmanship can withdraw his/her candidacy any time without any explanations.
5. A candidate for the Parliamentary Chairmanship is given the floor for 20 minutes and the relative time for answering the questions, after which the debates start according to the rule determined for conducting the first hearing of a draft law.
6. The elections of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament are held if two-thirds of all the MPs have registered. A candidate is elected, if s/he is supported by the majority of all the MPs.

Article 108

1. If only one candidate was participating in the elections of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and s/he was not elected, the new elections are held.
2. If two candidates were participating in the elections of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and none of them received the necessary number of votes, the candidate with more votes is put to the vote again. If s/he still does not receive the necessary number of votes, the new elections are held.
3. If more than two candidates were participating in the elections of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and none of them received the necessary number of votes, the next round of the elections is held between those two candidates, who received more votes. If still none of them receive the necessary number of votes, the candidate who received more votes, is put to the vote again. If neither in this case s/he receives the necessary number of votes, the new elections are held. If the candidate, who enters the next round, withdraws his/her candidacy, the next candidate according to the number of votes received, is put to the vote instead.
4. If the votes divide equally, the new voting is held.
5. A candidate for the Parliamentary Chairmanship (Speaker) can withdraw his/her candidacy before each voting.

Article 109

The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament:

- a. Represents Parliament of Georgia in domestic and foreign affairs;
- b. Performs all administrative functions in Parliament building;
- c. Leads the work of Parliament, guides the activities of the Parliamentary bodies and officials;
- d. Presides over the plenary sittings of Parliament and convenes and presides over the sittings of the Bureau of Parliament. If necessary he/she may pass these rights and duties to one of his deputies;
- e. By issuing the order, defines the responsibilities of the Deputy Chairmen and gives them specific work;
- f. Signs the reports detailing the draft laws adopted by Parliament that are submitted to the President of Georgia;
- g. Signs the draft laws and promulgates the laws in the cases mentioned in the Constitution and in Article 170 of these Rules of Procedure;
- h. Signs the acts adopted by Parliament;
- i. Performs the duties of the President of Georgia for a set period of time in cases mentioned in the Article 76 of the Constitution.
- j. Proposes, if necessary, the creation of investigative or other temporary commissions to Parliament;
- k. Guarantees the security of Parliament and the Member of Parliament and the protection of their dignity;
- l. Guides the activities of Parliamentary Staff and other subsidiary bodies;
- m. Appoints and dismisses the Chief of Parliamentary Staff, the Deputy Chief of Parliamentary Staff (in the presence of such), the heads of the departments and services comprising Parliamentary Staff as provided in these Rules of Procedure;
- n. Appoints the head of Parliamentary Delegation;
- o. Works out of Parliament's budget and submits it to Parliament for approval;
- p. Creates the Treasury Council in order to spend Parliament's budget appropriately;

- q. Approves the Regulations of the Treasury Council;
- r. Appoints, with the consent of the Bureau, members of the Treasury Council;
- s. Decides, on the basis of these Rules of Procedure, issues of foreign missions of individual MPs and of Parliamentary delegations;
- t. Decides the issues of disciplinary responsibility as provided in these Rules of Procedure;
- u. Issues the order within his/her competency;
- v. Approves the security regime in the buildings of Parliament and the surrounding territory;
- w. Confirms the appointment and the dismissal of the chief of Security Service of Parliament as provided in law;
- x. Proposes a suggestion on convening a special session or sitting of Parliament to the president of Georgia according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure;
- y. Approves the Regulations and the structure of Parliamentary Staff, the number of staff units, determines the salary amount and the appendage;
- z. Nominates the candidate for the position of committee Chairman in the case determined by paragraph 3 of Article 32 of these Rules of Procedure;
- aa. Nominates a candidate for the position of the Chairman of the Chamber of Control to Parliament for approval;
- bb. Is authorized to raise the issue of making a change in the agenda of Parliament's plenary sitting or discussing the issue from the agenda (except a draft law) out of turn and voting on it;
- cc. Approves the Regulations of a majoritarian MP's bureau;
- dd. Nominates a candidacy of his/her own deputy according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure;
- ee. Invites to Parliament's plenary sitting those officials who do not have a right to attend the plenary sitting, also the representatives of the public who wish to attend the plenary sitting;
- ff. Is authorized to participate in committee sittings;
- gg. Approves the rules of holding press conference and accrediting the mass media representatives at Parliament;
- hh. Signs and promulgates the Rules of Procedure;
- ii. Exercises the powers provided by these Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts.
- jj. According to these Rules of Procedure gives the right to MP to enter the penitentiary establishments without the special approval. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
- kk. Authorizes the rules of reimbursement of the expanses for the official visits, for the MPs and Parliamentary staff. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
- ll. Authorizes overtime work for the Parliamentary staff for special efficient workload and adds the salary. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
- mm. Exercises the rights provided by these Rules of Procedure and by other legislative acts. (25.11.2005 # 2150)

Article 110

1. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament has a right to publicly state about his/her resignation without any explanations. Parliament accepts this fact as a notification at the nearest plenary sitting and writes this down in the protocol of the sitting.
2. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament is regarded as resigned from the moment of making the public statement.

Article 111

1. Parliament may remove the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament from the position. No less than one-third of all the MPs, in writing, can raise before Parliament the issue of removing the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament.
2. The demand on removing the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament shall be motivated in writing.
3. Within 7 days the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules examines the validity of the MPs' signatures and presents its conclusion to Parliament at the plenary sitting.
4. After receiving the conclusion set forth in paragraph 3 of this article, with its decree Parliament makes a decision to start discussing the issue of removing the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament. Parliament makes a decision on removing the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament within 15 days of the start of the floor discussions.
5. If less than (one) a month is left until the end of the session, the issue of removing the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament is considered at the next session.
6. It is prohibited to hold the procedure of removing the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament at the special session or sitting of Parliament.
7. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament is considered removed if two-thirds of all the MPs register and the majority of all the MPs support the proposal on the removal.
8. If Parliament fails to make a decision on removing the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, the issue will be regarded as withdrawn and it is prohibited to discuss this issue on the same session.

Article 112

In case of early termination of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament's powers, Parliament, within ten days and according to the established rules, elects a new Chairman (Speaker); if only there are no plenary sittings in the period of considering the issue or ten days are left before the end of the session, the issue is discussed at a special session.

Article 113

1. In case the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament carries out the duties of the President of Georgia as provided in the constitution of Georgia, when the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament cannot perform his/her rights and duties or s/he is removed or s/he resigns, the Deputy Chairmen of Parliament carry out the duties of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament according to the following rules determined by the constitution of Georgia and these Rules of Procedure:
 - a) If the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament performs the duties of the President of Georgia as provided in the constitution of Georgia, s/he assigns one of his/her deputies to carry out the duties of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament for this period by issuing the order, which is confirmed by Parliament's decree;
 - b) When the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament cannot perform his/her rights and duties, one of his/her deputies carries out the duties of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament by the latter's assignment;
 - c) If the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament resigns from the position, one of his/her deputies carries out the duties of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament by the latter's assignment, if Parliament does not decide otherwise;
 - d) If the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament cannot assign one of his/her deputies to carry out his/her rights and duties, with its decree Parliament assigns performing the duties of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament to one of his/her deputies.

2. A faction, which is not united in the Majority or the Minority as well as the Majority and the Minority can propose the candidate for performing the duties of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament in the cases set forth in sections “c” and “d” of paragraph 1 of this article.
3. If in the case set forth in section “a” of paragraph 1 of this article Parliament fails to make a decision by the first voting, the candidate of another Deputy Chairman of Parliament is considered and the voting is held.
4. If in the cases set forth in sections “c” and “d” of paragraph 1 of this article Parliament fails to make a decision by the first voting, the candidate of another Deputy Chairman of Parliament is considered and the voting is held.
5. The issue of appointing (confirming) the performer of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament’s duties is resolved at the nearest plenary sitting of Parliament.
6. Before the adoption of decision envisioned by subparagraph a) and d) of paragraph 1st of this article the plenary sessions are led by oldest Deputy Chairman. (25.07.2006 # 3512)

Article 114

1. An MP who was the Chairman (Speaker) of the previous Parliament, is provided with the same salary and working conditions (working space, secretariat, communication and other technical facilities), which are provided to the acting Deputy Chairman of (active) Parliament.
2. The ex-Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament uses the work car and is ensured by the state security for the term of authority of active Parliament.
3. The expenses associated with the services set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article are paid from the budget of Parliament.
4. The restrictions determined by these Rules of Procedure for considering an issue at the plenary sitting of Parliament do not apply to the ex-Chairman of Parliament.

CHAPTER XIII

The Deputy Chairmen of Parliament

Article 115

1. Parliament elects the Deputy Chairmen of Parliament according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure from among its members by the majority of acting MPs with a secret vote for the term of its authority:
 - a) One Deputy Chairman is elected from the MPs elected from the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and one - from the majoritarian MPs elected from the Autonomous Republic of Adjara by the nomination of the majority of these MPs;
 - b) In the presence of the Majority or/and the Minority, one Deputy Chairman is elected from the MPs united in the Majority, one – in the Minority by their nomination. In case the Majority or the Minority dismiss, the authorities of the Deputy Chairmen elected by their nomination, terminate immediately.

- 1¹. Written statement on nomination of Deputy Chairman is submitted to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, who puts the issue on the agenda of upcoming plenary session. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. If the candidate nominated according to the rules set forth in paragraph 1 of this article does not receive the necessary number of votes, the subjects who have a right to nominate them (the MPs), can nominate a new candidate. If s/he either does not receive the necessary number of votes, both candidates are put to the vote together and the candidate, who receives more votes, but no less than one-third of all the votes of Parliament, is regarded as elected. If both candidates receive equal number of votes, the candidate nominated first will be regarded as elected.
3. The subjects determined in paragraph 1 of this article can any time withdraw the Deputy Chairmen of Parliament elected by their nomination. The statement on the withdrawal of the Deputy Chairman of Parliament is submitted to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, who informs about this the Bureau of Parliament and Parliament at the nearest plenary sitting. Parliament accepts this fact as a notification. Immediately after accepting this fact as a notification, the authority of the Deputy Chairman of Parliament is terminated, which is written down in the protocol.
4. The MPs elected from the Autonomous Republic of Abkhazia and the majoritarian MPs elected from the Autonomous Republic of Adjara make the decision on the withdrawal of the Deputy Chairman of Parliament by the majority of votes, which they confirm by signing the statement submitted to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament.

Article 116

The Deputy Chairman of Parliament can resign from the position according to the rule determined in Article 110 of these Rules of Procedure.

Article 117

If the Deputy Chairman of Parliament resigns, s/he is dismissed or his/her powers as of the MP is terminated ahead of time, as a rule, within 15 days Parliament elects a new Deputy Chairman of Parliament. If less than 15 days are left before the end of the session, the issue is considered at the first sitting of the next session.

CHAPTER XIV

The Bureau of Parliament

Article 118

In order to organize Parliament's activities the Bureau of Parliament is created comprising the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, his/her deputies, and the Chairmen of committees and factions.

Article 119

1. By the rules provided in these Rules of Procedure, the Bureau of Parliament:
 - a. Works out and presents for Parliament's approval draft agendas for the two-week cycles and the plenary sittings of the session week, proposals on convening the sittings devoted to the discussions on the questions and to the political debates;
 - b. Is authorized to put an issue on the draft agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament, if the terms and rule of committee discussions determined by these Rules of Procedure are not violated;
 - c. By the proposal of the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules, approves the quotas of proportional representation in committees, investigative and other temporary commissions, permanent Parliamentary delegations;
 - d. Confirms the Regulations of committees, investigative and other temporary commissions;
 - e. Decides the issues of registration of factions, the Majority and the Minority according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure;
 - f. Ensures that the reports of the MPs and the delegations sent abroad are heard during the session of the Bureau of Parliament or at the plenary sitting of Parliament;
 - g. Considers the conclusions on the draft laws that are to be discussed on the floor, conclusions of the committees, investigative and other temporary commissions, drafts of resolutions and addresses;
 - h. Discusses the conclusions of relevant committees on giving a vote of confidence to Government of Georgia, on electing, appointing and confirming the officials as provided in the constitution of Georgia, based on them works out the conclusion and presents it to the President of Georgia and Parliament;
 - i. Makes decisions on separate organizational issues of Parliament's activities;
 - j. Approves official compositions of Parliamentary delegations;
 - j ¹ Approves the recommendations accepted by the Board of Treasurers. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
 - k. Submits for Parliament's approval the corpus of the MPs for inter-Parliamentary assembly;
 - l. Determines the amount of expenses of the investigative and other temporary commissions;
 - m. Exercises other powers provided by these Rules of Procedure and other legislative acts.

Article 120

1. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament or by his/her assignment – the Deputy Chairman of Parliament convenes and leads the sittings of the Bureau of Parliament.
2. In the session period the sittings of the Bureau of Parliament are held at 15 pm every Monday, and in non-session period – as needed. (28.04.2006 #2957)
3. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament can convene a special sitting of the Bureau of Parliament by his/her own initiative or by a well-reasoned written request of a committee, a faction, the Majority or the Minority.
4. The members of the Bureau of Parliament are given the materials of the sitting of the Bureau of Parliament not later than two hours before the sitting. In the week of plenary sittings the draft laws that are to be discussed at the sitting of the Bureau of Parliament (with materials attached) and other issues are submitted to the Bureau of Parliament not later than one week before the relevant sitting.
5. The sitting of the Bureau of Parliament is authorized if the majority of acting members of the Bureau of Parliament are present. It makes a decision by the majority of the Bureau

- members present at the sitting, but by no less than a half of the quorum necessary for opening (authorizing) the sitting.
6. As a rule, the sitting of the Bureau of Parliament is public. The Bureau sitting may be closed if it is requested by the member of the Bureau and his request is approved by the majority of Bureau members. The number of people attending the closed Bureau sitting is determined by 1st paragraph of this article. (25.11.2005 #2150)
 7. The members of the Bureau of Parliament shall attend its sitting. If the committee Chairman cannot attend the sitting of the Bureau of Parliament for a good reason, his/her deputy can replace him/her with the same vote, the faction Chairman can be replaced with his/her deputy or a member of the faction by presenting the relevant document, with the same vote.
 8. The Chairmen of investigative and other temporary commissions, the leaders of the Majority and the Minority, a head of inter-factional group, an MP, the Chief of Parliamentary Staff can attend the sittings of the Bureau of Parliament with advisory vote.
 9. A Member of Government of Georgia, the Chairman of the Constitutional Court of Georgia, the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Georgia, the Prosecutor General of Georgia, the Chairman of the Chamber of Control of Georgia, the President of National Bank of Georgia, the Public Defender of Georgia, the Parliamentary Secretary of the President of Georgia, and the Chairman of the Central Election Commission of Georgia can raise an issue before the Bureau of Parliament and with an advisory vote, participate in the discussion of the issue. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 121

1. The decisions made by the Bureau of Parliament are reported to Parliament at the nearest plenary sitting.
2. Parliament can abolish the decisions of the Bureau of Parliament or adopt changes in them by the majority of votes of the MPs present at the plenary sitting, but no less than one-fifth of the acting MPs.
3. The decisions of the Bureau of Parliament are drawn up in the protocols of the sitting. The extracts from the protocols of the sittings are sent to factions, committees, the Majority, the Minority, investigative and other temporary commissions, also to the Personnel and Financial Departments of Parliamentary Staff.

PART IV

SESSIONS OF PARLIAMENT

CHAPTER XV

The First Meeting and the First Sitting of the Newly Elected Parliament

Article 122

1. The first sitting of the newly elected Parliament is held within 20 days after the Central Election Commission of Georgia publishes the final protocol of the election results. The

- President of Georgia appoints the day of the first sitting of Parliament. Parliament starts its activity if the Central Election Commission confirms the election (announces as elected) of at least two-thirds of all the members of Parliament.
2. The first sitting of the newly elected Parliament can be opened, if the majority of all members of the newly elected Parliament attend (passes the registration) the sitting. Parliamentary Staff carries out the registration of the MPs by means of temporary certificates issued by the Central Election Commission. The MPs confirm their presence at the sitting by signing the registration sheet.
 3. The President of Georgia opens the first sitting of the newly elected Parliament. The Chairman of the Central Election Commission attends the sitting.
 4. The President of Georgia gives the floor to the eldest MP, who leads the sitting until the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament is elected.
 5. The Catholicos-Patriarch of Georgia, the supreme representatives of other religious confessions of the country, the Chairmen of the Constitutional and the Supreme Courts of Georgia and the representatives of electorate may be invited to the sitting.

Article 123

1. At the first sitting of a newly elected Parliament, as a result of preliminary consultations with the political forces elected to Parliament and by the suggestion of the Chairman of the Central Election Commission, in accordance with the principle of proportionality, from among the MPs and by the majority of those present, are elected:
 - a) Temporary Vote-Counting Commission consisting of 11 members that will choose a Chairman and a secretary from among its members by the majority of votes. The Temporary Vote-Counting Commission oversees the preparation and distribution of ballot papers and the voting procedure, supervises and counts the votes during open or closed voting. The Temporary Vote-Counting Commission ceases its activities after the completion of the agenda approved at the first sitting of Parliament, but may be later recreated for a period of every one session if Parliament does not consider it expedient for the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules to perform the functions of the Temporary Vote-Counting Commission.
 - b) Temporary Mandatory Commission of Parliament consisting of 17 members that will choose a Chairman and a secretary from among its members by the majority of votes.
2. The authority of the Temporary Mandatory Commission is terminated after the election of the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules.

Article 124

1. The Chairman of the Central Election Commission informs Parliament on the results of the elections and hands over the necessary documentation (election protocols, materials on the results of the elections, validity of their conduct and the complaints received, statements on the discovered facts of violation of the election legislation, activities incompatible with the status of a Member of Parliament) to the Temporary Mandatory Commission for the confirmation of the authority of the Members of Parliament.
2. The Temporary Mandatory Commission studies the documentation and reports its findings to Parliament, which confirms the authority of the MPs by its decree according to the joint list presented by the Temporary Mandatory Commission.
3. The decree of Parliament on confirmation of the authority of the MPs does not include the name of a person, the legitimacy of whose election:

- a) Is sued in the Constitutional Court of Georgia or in the Supreme Court of Georgia;
 - b) Is doubted by the Temporary Mandatory Commission.
4. In the case set forth:
 - a) In section “a” of paragraph 3 of this article Parliament discusses the issue of confirming the authority of a person elected to Parliament at its nearest plenary sitting based on the conclusion of the Temporary Mandatory Commission and after the creation of the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules – of this committee only in case if the court decision declares this person as elected to Parliament.
 - b) In section “b” of paragraph 3 of this article the temporary Mandatory Commission or the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules, which prepares the relevant conclusion. Parliament considers this conclusion at its nearest plenary sitting and makes the appropriate decision.
 5. The first sitting of the newly elected Parliament is regarded as conducted, if Parliament confirms the authority of at least two-thirds of all the MPs. From this moment the authority of the previous Parliament is ceased.
 6. If the number of members whose authority was confirmed by Parliament is less than two-thirds of the total number of MPs, then Parliament’s plenary sitting is suspended. The Chairman of the Central Election Commission convenes the new sitting of the newly elected Parliament within 10 days after it becomes possible to raise the issue of confirming the authority of as many persons elected in Parliament, which is enough for composing at least two-thirds of Parliament. The issue of confirming the authority of these persons is regulated according to the rule determined by this article.
 7. After the authority of at least two-thirds of all the MPs is confirmed, the MPs take an oath of commitment. The Chairman of the Central Election Commission reads the text of the oath: ““I, as a representative of all Georgia, accountable to my country, declare before God and the nation that I will honestly perform the rights and duties of an MP, and that I shall serve to preserve the Constitutional system, independence, unity and integrity of my country, the interests of the people, the rights and freedoms of the citizens and the might of Georgia.” After reading the text the MPs say “I swear” and sign the text of the oath, after which the national anthem is performed.
 8. If the confirmation of the powers of an MP is delayed, or if a member is elected through the second round or instead of an excluded MP, he/she reads the text of the oath and confirms it with his/her signature immediately after the confirmation of his/her powers.

Article 125

1. At the first meeting of the newly elected Parliament, the MPs submit to the Temporary Mandatory Commission of Parliament the relevant statement and documentation on creating the factions.
2. The Temporary Mandatory Commission informs Parliament on the creation of the factions, if the Temporary Mandatory Commission does not decide otherwise.
3. Immediately after the creation of the factions the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff works out and submits to the Temporary Mandatory Commission of Parliament the quotas of the proportional representation of the factions in the committees. The temporary Mandatory Commission submits to Parliament’s nearest plenary sitting for the approval the quotas of the proportional representation of the factions in the committees. Parliament makes the decision on the quotas by its decree.

Article 126

1. As a rule, the newly elected Parliament considers issues in the following order:
 - a. Election of the Chairman (Speaker) and Deputy Chairmen of Parliament;
 - b. Creation of committees and election of committee Chairmen;
 - c. Consideration of matters regarding members of Government in cases determined by these Rules of Procedure.
2. An electronic voting system can be used for the voting at the first sitting of the newly elected Parliament.

CHAPTER XVI

The Rule of Parliament's Work on Sessions

Article 127

1. Parliament assembles for a regular or special session.
2. Parliament assembles for a regular session twice a year – at spring and autumn sessions. The spring session convenes on the first Tuesday of February and adjourns on the last Friday of June; the autumn session convenes on the first Tuesday of September and adjourns on the third Friday of December. Parliament's session opens and closes at the plenary sitting, when necessary – at the Bureau sitting.
3. Parliament assembles for a special session only in the period between the regular sessions.
4. A regular session of Parliament does not need to be officially convened. A special session is convened in the cases and according to the rule determined by the constitution of Georgia and by these Rules of Procedure.

Article 128

1. A session of Parliament consists of plenary and committee sittings and is planned in two-week cycles. The first week, except the first session week of the newly elected Parliament, is intended for work in the committees and meetings with electorate on the spot, the second week - for plenary sittings.
2. Parliament's plenary sittings, except during the state of emergency and the martial law, are held from 11 am to 19 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday only of the week of plenary sittings; a break is announced from 14 pm to 16 pm. A plenary sitting can be prolonged by the majority decision by no less than one fifth of MPs until 21 pm, on purpose to finish the discussion of an issue or to vote on it. As a rule, from 16 pm to 19 pm on the last Thursday of plenary sittings of every month the Government Hour is held. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. As a rule, during the plenary working cycle of a regular session, plenary sittings are not held on the holidays established by law. These holidays are not included in the terms given in these Rules of Procedure except the cases directly determined by the constitution of Georgia and law.
4. In necessary cases, Parliament makes changes in its work schedule by the majority of votes of the present MPs, but no less than one-fifth of the acting MPs.

5. As a rule, in the year of Parliamentary and Presidential elections Parliament's plenary sittings are not held for a period of one month before the Parliamentary and Presidential elections. If necessary, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament may convene plenary sittings during this period by his/her initiative or by the request of one-fourth of the total number of MPs if this period coincides in time with the plenary working cycle of a regular session. In other cases, the plenary sitting is convened and conducted according to the rules determined in Article 130 of these Rules of Procedure.
6. After the elections of the new Parliament, the regular sittings of the previous Parliament are not held. A special session or sitting is held only on the issues determined by Article 46, paragraph 2 of article 52 and subparagraphs "g" and "h" of paragraph 1 of Article 73 and paragraph 3 of Article 76 of the constitution of Georgia. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 129

A Member of Parliament shall participate in the work of sessions and plenary sittings of Parliament. The MP comes to the regular session without a special invitation.

Article 130

1. The President of Georgia convenes a special session during the period between sessions or a special sitting during the current session by the written request of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament or of no less than one-fourth of the Members of Parliament, which the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament submits to the President of Georgia within 24 hours, or by his own initiative.
2. The written request on convention of a special session or sitting must contain a list of matters to be considered during the special session or sitting.
3. The act of convention of a special session or sitting is issued within 48 hours of the presentation of the written request. Otherwise, Parliament is authorized to start its work within next 48 hours.
4. The President of Georgia convenes a special session or sitting not later than 72 hours after making such decision. If the special sitting must be convened immediately, the MPs must be notified personally at least 24 hours in advance of the sitting.
5. Special sitting has a specific agenda which is determined by Part XVII, and the sitting adjourns once that agenda has been completed and is closed after the completion. (25.11.2005 #2150)
6. The requirements set forth in paragraphs 2-4 of Article 128 of these Rules of Procedure spread over the special session and sitting.
7. Extra session or sitting must adjourn at least one day before the beginning of the next regular session. Parliament can put the issue (issues) considering which it could not finish at the special session, on the agenda of the regular session.
8. Parliament convenes within 48 hours of the declaration of a state of emergency or martial law by the President of Georgia. MPs are required to appear at the sitting without personal notification.

PART V

PLENARY SITTING OF PARLIAMENT

CHAPTER XVII

The Agenda of the Plenary Sitting of Parliament

Article 131

1. The Bureau of Parliament compiles a list of draft laws and other issues that are to be discussed at the plenary sitting of Parliament. Parliamentary Staff distributes in advance the list among the members of the Bureau along with the list of draft laws for the further committee discussions, indicating the terms of discussions.
2. The Bureau of Parliament works out the draft agenda of the plenary sittings of the session week of Parliament based on the list of draft laws and other issues for discussion. The time allocated for discussing each issue at the plenary sitting shall be given in the agenda.
3. The Bureau of Parliament is authorized to put an issue on the draft agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament if the terms of committee discussions determined by these Rules of Procedure are not violated.
4. Parliamentary Staff sends the draft agenda of the plenary sittings of Parliament with indication of the draft laws and other issues to the committees, factions, the MPs and Government of Georgia at least 5 days before the start of the plenary sittings.

Article 132

1. The Chairman of the plenary sitting presents the draft agenda, which is approved by the majority of votes of the MPs present. Agenda items may be moved around or the debates on the related or identical issues may be merged by the decision of the Chairman of the sitting.
2. The President of Georgia, Government of Georgia, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, an MP, a faction, the Minority and the Majority are authorized to request putting those issues on the agenda of the plenary sittings, which were not put by the Bureau of Parliament or request excluding of certain issues, which is confirmed by the majority of votes of the MPs present, but no less than one-fifth of the acting MPs.
3. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and an MP are given the floor for three minutes regarding the agenda of the plenary sittings of Parliament. Prolongation of this time shall not be discussed.
4. If the President of Georgia, Government of Georgia, an MP, the Minority and the Majority demand putting an issue on the agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament, the Chairman of the sitting explains why the issue was not put on the agenda, after which it is obligatory to put the issue to the vote. The decision on putting the issue on the agenda is made without a discussion by the majority of votes of the MPs present, but no less than one-fifth of the acting MPs.
5. If a proposal to consider an issue is submitted to the plenary sitting of Parliament by-passing the Bureau, Parliament makes the decision on assigning the subject responsible for preparing and considering the issue at the upcoming plenary sitting.

Article 133

1. As a rule, draft laws and appeals submitted by the President and Government of Georgia are considered out of turn at the plenary sitting of Parliament, on the grounds of their demand.
2. By the initiative of the Chairman of the plenary sitting of Parliament and by the majority of votes of the MPs present, but no less than one-fifth of the acting MPs, a decision can be made on moving around the issues of the agenda or on out of turn consideration of the issue or/and putting the discussed issue to the vote.
3. If the consideration of the issues on the agenda was not finished at the plenary sitting of Parliament, they are transferred to the first place in the nearest plenary sitting's agenda, with the succession that existed at the moment of the cessation of the sitting.

CHAPTER XVIII

The Conduct of the Plenary Sitting of Parliament

Article 134

1. Parliamentary sittings are as a rule conducted by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament. If he/she is not conducting the sitting, by the oral or written order of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament one of his/her deputies is assigned to chair the sitting.
2. The Chairman (Speaker) of the Sitting:
 - a) Notifies Parliament about the opening and the end of the sitting;
 - b) Guides the consideration of the issues;
 - c) Ensures compliance with these Rules of Procedure;
 - d) Determines the succession of participants in the debate and calls them up to speak;
 - e) Puts issues to the vote and declares the results of the voting;
 - f) Signs the protocol decisions taken at the sitting;
 - g) In the cases determined by these Rules of Procedure deprives speakers of the right to speak, warns speakers with or without inclusion of the warning in the protocol, and requests that MPs and invited guests leave the Sitting Hall;
 - h) In the cases determined by these rules of procedure ends the sitting or declares a break;
 - i) If necessary puts to the vote a motion to end the debate and to organize a conciliatory commission or consultative meeting with the participation of the parties involved while a draft law is under consideration;
 - j) In the case of multiple versions being put to the vote or when necessary concerning a separate issue conducts the rating interrogation and suggests that the authors withdraw less practical proposals.
 - k) Exercises other powers provided by these Rules of Procedure.
3. The Chairman of the sitting has a right to participate in the discussion of the issues according to the rule determined by these Rules of Procedure so long as s/he transfers his/her power as Chairman. The Chairman of the sitting returns to the performance of his/her duties after the consideration of the issue is finished.
4. The Chairman of the sitting does not have a right to comment a speech of an MP or interrupt his/her speech for this purpose, evaluate the speech of an MP, answer a question not put to him/her personally, except the cases, when the MP violates the requirements of these Rules of Procedure.

Article 135

1. A sitting is authorized if the absolute majority of the MPs are presented. (25.03.2005.#1199)
2. The registration of MPs is held before the opening of the morning sitting and before voting. (25.03.2005.#1199)
3. If necessary, after the registration its results are confirmed by the Usher, who is personally responsible on the validity of the information s/he is providing. (25.03.2005.#1199)
4. If the registration result and the information of the Usher are doubtful, the Majority, the Minority, a faction not united in the Majority or the Minority and a group of ten MPs can write a request of verifying the registration results by reading the names of the persons registered. Parliament decides to hold a new registration only if the number of doubtful votes changes the final result of the registration. (25.03.2005.#1199)
5. If at the opening of the plenary sitting of Parliament according to the registration results there is not a necessary number of MPs in the Sitting Hall, within 15 minutes of the registration the Chairman of the sitting holds a new registration. If either in this case there is not a necessary number of MPs, within next 45 minutes the Chairman of the sitting holds a new registration. If either in this case there is not a necessary number of MPs, according to the same procedure the registration is held at the evening sitting. In a special case the Chairman of the sitting is authorized to make other decision. (25.03.2005.#1199)
6. If the information is not submitted to the Usher according to the rule determined in paragraph 5 of this article then the absence is not considered justified. (25.03.2005.#1199)
7. The absence of an MP will be submitted if he/she does not register in the morning session and during the days of voting – before the voting procedure or during session period. (25.03.2005.#1199)
8. If the Majority, Minority, Faction, an MP who is not in any political factions, because of the political views refuses to participate in discussion of the decision the absence is not considered unjustified. According to the above mentioned issue the statement is made after the registration process or the Chair of the session is notified about the issue. (25.03.2005.#1199)
9. The permissible reasons for not attendance are: illness, family conditions, business trip. According the issue the Chairman (Deputy Chairman) of the committee should be notified in case of nonattendance of committee sitting and Chairman(Deputy Chairman) of faction in case of nonattendance of plenary session. (25.03.2005.#1199)
10. If at the beginning of the plenary session registration results are not enough the Chairman of the sitting holds another registration in 15 minutes. If the number is not enough, even after that procedure the Chairman of the sitting in 45 minutes holds another registration. If the enough number is not attending after that procedure then the same procedures should be held during the evening session. In special cases, the Chairman of the sitting can make the other decision. (25.03.2005.#1199)

Article 136

1. Plenary sittings of Parliament are open to the public unless specified as closed. The mass media representatives accredited according to the determined rule have a right to attend the public sitting.
2. Public sitting is broadcasted live on TV and radio.

3. The President of Georgia, the Prime Minister of Georgia, other Members of Government of Georgia, their deputies, the Chairman of the Constitutional Court of Georgia, the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Georgia, the Prosecutor General of Georgia, the Chairman of the Chamber of Control of Georgia, the President of the National Bank of Georgia, the Parliamentary Secretary of the President of Georgia, the Parliamentary Secretary of Government of Georgia and the Public Defender are authorized to attend the sittings of Parliament if they wish.
4. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament has the right to invite representatives of society and foreign guests to the sittings. These guests take the distinguished seats in the Sitting Hall.
5. While considering issues that require keeping the secrecy, the President of Georgia, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, the Prime Minister of Georgia, other Members of Government of Georgia, factions and committees can raise the issue of declaring as closed the plenary sitting of Parliament in whole or partially. The decision is regarded as adopted if the majority of the present MPs, but no less than one-third of all the MPs, supports it.
6. The Chairman of Parliamentary sitting determines those who may attend a closed sitting.
7. During consideration of the issue at the closed sitting the door of the Sitting Hall is closed.
8. MPs and invited guests must behave in accordance with the norms of Parliamentary ethics during the plenary sittings of Parliament.

Article 137

1. The Chairman of the sitting notifies the attendants about the start of a plenary sitting of Parliament with two strokes of a gavel, and with three strokes – about its end. The start and the end of any other procedure are marked with one stroke. The Mandatory Service helps the Chairman of the sitting to keep the order in the Sitting Hall.
2. Except the MPs, only the Usher, the messengers and responsible staff of Parliament have a right to move in the Sitting Hall during the plenary sitting of Parliament. A member of committee staff responsible for the issue under consideration can enter the Sitting Hall during the plenary sitting.

CHAPTER XIX

The Political Debates

Article 138

1. A faction, the Majority and the Minority have a right to demand the appointment of a day of political debates. As a rule, the day of political debates is appointed once during a plenary working cycle. The decision on the appointment of the day of political debates is made by the majority of votes of the MPs present, but no less than one-third of all the MPs.
2. For making speech during the political debates the Majority and the Minority are given 45 minutes each, a faction and the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament (the Chairman of the sitting) – 15 minutes each, the Deputy Chairman of Parliament – 10 minutes, an MP not affiliated with any faction – 5 minutes. Within the time allocated to them, the faction, the Majority and the Minority determine the number of speakers and the scheme of dividing

- the time among them. It is prohibited to prolong the time given to the participants of political debates.
3. At the end of political debates the Chairman of Parliament has a right to use the limit of time provided to him/her by these Rules of Procedure and put the discussed issue to the vote.

CHAPTER XIX¹

Statements

Article 138¹

1. Every Tuesday during the plenary session week after the adoption of the agenda, the MPs have 30 minutes for statements according to this chapter. This time can be prolonged by the decision of Chairman (Speaker) of the session for no more than 30 minutes. Each MP can make a statement for no more than 5 minutes and the prolongation of time for them is inadmissible. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
2. Before the adoption of the agenda the MPs sign up for the statements in the secretariat and this list is represented to the Chairman (Speaker) of the sitting. MPs can sign up during the statement period. The order of the reporters is determined according to the time when they signed up for it. The order should be followed. It's inadmissible to make a statement without Chairman's permission. Also the MP can sign up for the statement only once. If an MP is not attending the sitting during his turn, he does not have time to make a statement later. MP cannot give his/her time for statement to another MP. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
3. If during the adoption of the agenda nobody is willing to sign up for the statement then this procedure will not be held, according to which the Chairman makes a statement on the plenary session. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
4. In some cases the Chairman (Speaker) is eligible to give some time for statements during the other days of the session week. In such cases the time allocated for the statements must not exceed 3 minutes, and overall time 30 minutes. Also an MP has the right to make a statement only once. (25.11.2005 # 2150)

CHAPTER XX

Voting and Counting

Article 139

1. Voting on all issues, except personal, staff and other exceptional issues outlined in these Rules of Procedures, is held from 11 am to 14 pm on Tuesday and from 16 pm to 19 pm on Friday of the week of plenary sittings. The speeches of the MPs are prohibited before the voting procedure. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament can make a statement only on exceptional issues, not exceeding 10 minutes.
2. The quorum must be checked before each vote. To participate in a vote, an MP who has not passed the last registration must confirm his/her presence through a verbal declaration.

3. While summarizing the results of the vote, the majority of those present is calculated from the total number of MPs who have notified their presence before the beginning of the voting plus those who registered before the beginning of the voting. If the number of MPs present is not sufficient for holding a vote, the Chairman of the sitting announces the time of the postponed vote.
4. If a motion to postpone the vote is made, it must be put to the vote in the first place. The decision is made by the majority of presented MPs but no less than one fifth. (25.11.2005 #2150)
5. During the voting procedure, the MPs are allowed to speak for one minute only about procedural matters of voting. Also, the Minority and the Majority can use this right four times, a faction – twice, an MP who is not united in any faction – once.
6. If demanded by an MP, parts of the proposals (corrections, amendments) are put to the vote separately. Afterwards, the whole proposal is put to the vote.
7. If all the parts of the proposal are rejected, the proposal as a whole is considered rejected too.
8. With the consent of the initiator of the main proposal, it is possible to put to the vote all proposals (corrections, amendments) before voting on the main proposal. If there are two or more proposals (corrections, amendments) relating to the same article, the Chairman of the sitting puts them to the vote in the order of their submission. If one or several corrections or amendments are accepted, the main proposal is put to the vote taking these into account. A correction to a correction or an amendment is put to the vote before the main correction or amendment is voted on.

Article 140

1. The MP votes personally. It is inadmissible to hand over the right to vote or the voting card to another person.
2. If an MP did not participate in a vote, s/he has no right to vote on that issue after the results of the vote are announced.

Article 141

1. Voting at the plenary sitting of Parliament is open (raising hands and reading the list, printing out names by an electronic voting system - nominative voting) or secret (with ballot papers or through the use of an electronic voting system without recording the names).
2. Voting is open except cases determined by the Constitution and Law of Georgia. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. Before each vote, the Chairman of the sitting announces the form of voting, which if necessary, is confirmed by the majority of the attendants. During the vote, an MP expresses his/her will either for or against a motion.
4. A faction has a right to demand a break for not more than ten minutes during the voting procedure.
5. An MP cannot leave the Sitting Hall while the voting procedure is conducted.

Article 142

1. When a secret vote is held with the use of ballots, the vote-counting commission or the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules determine the location of the vote and the form of the ballot. The ballot papers may not differ from each other.
2. While filling out the ballot papers, an MP crosses out the name of an undesirable candidate and leaves the name of the candidate s/he supports unmarked. If there is only one name on the ballot paper, supporting him/her is marked by circling the name, rejection – by crossing it out.
3. Ballot papers marked differently from the rule set forth in paragraph 2 of this article are considered invalid.
4. If the electronic voting system does not receive a signal from an MP's voting card, his/her vote will be counted as valid if this is confirmed before the results of the vote are announced. If it is confirmed that a statement was made for the purpose of falsification of the vote results, it will not affect the results of the vote. If, following the announcement of results, it is confirmed that a vote was not registered by the electronic system or another MP's voting card was used to vote and this vote is decisive, a new vote is held.
5. If the results of the open vote are doubted, by the demand of the Chairman of the plenary sitting, a group of ten MPs, a faction, the Majority, the Minority the issue of a nominative vote may be raised. The decision is made by the majority of votes of the present MPs, but no less than one-fifth of the acting MPs.
6. In case of doubting the results of the vote, by the demand of a faction, the Minority, the Majority the records of the vote may be read out.
7. A well-reasoned statement of doubt about the results of the vote must be immediately submitted to the Chairman of the sitting, who gives it to the Usher for studying the issue. The Usher inspects the issue and immediately submits the conclusion to Parliament. If the falsification is proved by this conclusion, a new vote is held only if the number of dubious votes changes the outcome of the vote. It is prohibited to hold another vote before settling the existing dispute. If the doubts expressed by a group of ten MPs, a faction, the Majority, the Minority on the vote results are not proved after inspection, correspondingly the group of ten MPs, the faction, the Majority, the Minority cannot demand examining the results of other vote on the same day.
8. If registration data change during the votes, based on the request of an MP, the Usher may inform Parliament on the changes in the registration data.
9. The Chairman of the sitting presents the results of all votes to Parliament. The results are published in "Parlamentis Utskebani" (Parliament's Newsletter) also, they are put on Parliament's web page.
10. Relevant service of Parliamentary Staff registers MPs as they take out and return their voting cards. It is prohibited to hand over a voting card to another person; this brings on the responsibility as provided in these Rules of Procedure. An MP immediately informs the Parliamentary Staff if s/he loses the voting card.

PART VI

LAW-MAKING PROCESS

CHAPTER XXI

Drafting a Bill and Submitting It to Parliament

Article 143

The law-making process is a joint procedure of preparation and adoption of a draft law, which includes: drafting a bill by the subject, which has a right of legislative initiative, submitting it to Parliament, its consideration, adoption and presenting to the President of Georgia by Parliament, the President's right to hand the adopted draft law back to Parliament with his/her comments, signing the adopted draft law by the President and its promulgation.

Article 144

Draft law submitted to Parliament by legislative initiative passes the following procedures:

- a) The draft law is transferred to the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff;
- b) Within 72 hours the receipt of the draft law, the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff submits it to the nearest sitting of the Bureau of Parliament with the relevant draft decision of the Bureau; after the expiration of time, the draft is submitted to the next sitting of the Bureau. (25.11.2005 #2150)
- c) The Bureau of Parliament makes decision on starting the procedure of discussing the draft law, at the same time it transfers the draft law to the leading committee (committees), other committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority, the Legal Department of Parliament, also Government of Georgia. (23.12.2004 #721)
- d) The leading committee discusses the draft law at its sitting within 3 weeks of the receipt;
- e) After being discussed by the leading committee and other committees, together with relevant conclusions, not later than one week before the discussion by the first hearing the draft law is transferred to the Bureau of Parliament for putting it on the agenda of the nearest plenary sitting for the discussion by the second hearing and discussion;
- f) After being discussed by the first hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament, the draft law is transferred to the leading committee in order to incorporate the comments favored at the first hearing into the draft law, prepare it for the discussion by the second hearing at the committee sitting and for putting it to the vote by the second hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament;
- g) Within two weeks of the adoption by the first hearing, the leading committee discusses the draft law at the committee sitting by articles, chapter or/and parts;
- h) After being discussed by the leading committee, the draft law, together with the relevant conclusions and alternative proposals, is submitted to the nearest sitting of the Bureau of Parliament for putting it on the agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament for voting by the second hearing;
- i) After being discussed and adopted by the second hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament the draft law is handed over to the leading committee for preparing it for the third hearing;
- j) Within 5 days of the adoption by the second hearing the leading committee incorporates the comments favored at the second hearing into the draft law and submits it to the Bureau of Parliament for putting on the agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament;
- k) After the discussion by the third hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament is over, the final edited version of the draft law the title-page of which is approved by the reporter on the draft law, the Chairman of the leading committee (in his/her absence – by his/her replacement), a responsible member of the committee staff, by the head of the Legal department (in his/her absence – by his/her replacement), by the head of editorial unit of

the Legal Department (in his/her absence – by his/her replacement), is put to the vote for adopting the final version; (28.04.2006 # 2957)

- 1) Within 7 days of its adoption, the draft law is presented to the President of Georgia for signing and promulgation of the draft law.

Article 145

1. The law-making process starts with drafting a bill and submitting it to Parliament by the subject having the right to launch a legislative initiative.
2. As provided by Article 67 of the constitution of Georgia, following subjects have a right to launch a legislative initiative: the President of Georgia – in exceptional cases, Government of Georgia, a Member of Parliament, a committee, a faction, the supreme representative bodies of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara, at least 30,000 voters.
3. Only the President of Georgia is authorized to submit to Parliament the draft law on the endorsement of the number of military forces.
4. Only Government of Georgia is authorized to submit to Parliament the draft law on the State Budget and structure, authority and rule of activity of the Government.
5. Only an MP, a committee, a faction are authorized to submit to Parliament a draft law on adopting changes or/and amendments to the Rules of Procedure.
6. The subjects having the right to launch a legislative initiative can request public organizations and institutions or NGOs (including organizations of foreign countries), an expert or a group of experts (including foreign nationals) the drafting of a bill.

Article 146

1. A subject having a right to launch a legislative initiative can submit a draft law as an independent draft law or as changing/amending or abolishing a law.
2. The draft law on changing/amending or abolishing a law can be submitted if:
 - a) A law is adopted, which requires adopting changes or/and amendments to the Georgian legislation;
 - b) It is necessary to establish a new rule of regulating a sphere controlled by the relevant law;
 - c) A new relation has emerged in the sphere regulated by the legislation, which requires amending the relevant law;
 - d) The relevant law did not work during one year or other term established by law and the contradictions arose in its sphere of regulation;
 - e) It is necessary to eliminate legal discrepancies.
3. The submission, consideration and adoption of the draft law on adopting changes or/and amendments into the law is conducted according to rule established for the submission, consideration and adoption of the relevant law.
4. A law is abolished by the law, which is adopted by the same number of votes and according to the same rule as was used for adopting the relevant law.

Article 147

1. The subject having the right of launching a legislative initiative drafts a bill as provided by the Law of Georgia on Normative Acts.
2. The draft law defines:
 - a) Normative act to be declared invalid in case of the draft law's adoption.

- b) New normative act instituted with the draft law's adoption, the terms of its adoption, and the name of the adopting body.
3. The draft law should include an explanatory letter, which should reflect:
 - a. The general information on the draft law, which includes:
 - aa. The reason for adoption of the draft law
 - ab. The aim of the draft law
 - ac. The main principles of the draft
 - b. Financial consequences of the draft law
 - ba. The sources of financing the expenses concerning the draft law.
 - bb. The influence of the draft law on State Budget income part
 - bc. The influence of the draft law on State Budget expenses part
 - cd. New state financial obligations
 - be. Possible financial results for the people who may be influenced by the draft law.
 - bf. The rules of determining the way of paying taxes, duties and other fees determined by law.
 - c. Accordance of the draft law with the standards of International Law.
 - ca. Accordance of the draft law with E.U. directives.
 - cb. Accordance of the draft law with obligations of Georgian state in International Organizations
 - cc. Accordance of the draft law with bilateral and multilateral treaties concluded by Georgia
 - d. Recommendations received during the drafting process
 - da. State or non-state members, international organizations, experts, who participated during the drafting process
 - db. The conclusions done by the international organizations, experts, in existence of such.
 - dc. Author of draft law
 - dd. Initiator of the draft law. (25.11.2005#2150)
- 3¹ Draft shall also include:
- a) The draft law on amendments and supplements to the other normative acts, which will be caused by the adoption of the draft law. Also, the draft on supplements to the law for the violation of responsibilities set forth by normative acts.
 - b) Also a conclusion of an independent expert in existence of such.
 - c) Conclusion of the relevant state body established by the Georgian legislation on a conclusion of a lobbyist registered at the relevant body according to the rule established by law, in existence of such. (25.11.2005#2150)
4. If a draft law requires adoption of changes or/and amendments into the law, it shall include the drafts of the relevant changes or/and amendments and be proposed as a joint legislative package.
 5. A draft law submitted according to legislative initiative of a committee shall include the protocol of the committee sitting indicating its decision on the submission of the draft law.
 6. A draft law submitted according to legislative initiative of Government of Georgia shall include the protocol of Government sitting indicating its decision on the submission of the draft law.

Article 148

1. A draft law drafted and submitted by a subject having the right to launch a legislative initiative is transferred to the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff, which records and registers the submitted draft law.
2. The date of registration of a draft law at the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff drafted by a subject with the right to launch a legislative initiative is considered the date of its submission to Parliament.
3. Within 72 hours the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff introduces the draft law submitted to Parliament to the Bureau of Parliament. After the expiration of time, the draft law is submitted to the next sitting of the Bureau of Parliament. At its nearest sitting the Bureau makes decision on starting the procedure of its consideration. (25.11.2005 #2150)
4. The draft introduced to the Bureau of Parliament should be enclosed with the Bureau's draft decision on starting the procedure of discussing the draft law prepared by the Legal and Organizational Departments of Parliamentary Staff. The draft decision should indicate the following:
 - a) Title of the draft;
 - b) Initiator of the draft;
 - c) Author of the draft;
 - d) Date the draft was submitted to Parliament;
 - e) Leading committee;
 - f) Tentative date of committee discussion on the draft law;
 - g) Tentative date of the discussion of the draft law at the plenary sitting of Parliament;
 - h) Other committees that must attach their conclusions to the draft law;
 - i) No longer in use (23.12.2004 #721)
5. The Bureau of Parliament decides on the issues determined in sections "e"- "i" of paragraph 4 of this article. (23.12.2004 #721)
6. If the documents determined in paragraphs 3-6 of Article 147 of these Rules of Procedure are not enclosed with the submitted draft law, based on the well-reasoned conclusion of the Legal Department of Parliamentary Staff the Bureau of Parliament is authorized to hand back the draft law to its initiator for eliminating the discrepancies.
7. If a draft law is not presented to the Bureau of Parliament within the term determined in this Rules of Procedure, an MP, a member of a committee, a faction, the Majority, the Minority can request from the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament explanations regarding the non-submission of the draft law to the Bureau. If a fact of the non-submission of a draft law by the same subject is revealed, by the decision of the Bureau the issue of the responsibility of the respective person may raise.
8. After decision is made in the Bureau of Parliament on starting the procedure of discussion of the draft law, no earlier than 10 days and no later than 14 days the Government of Georgia sends their suggestions concerning the draft to the leading committee (committees). If within the term determined by law Government of Georgia does not present its comments on the draft law that is to be discussed in Parliament, the draft law will be considered approved by Government. (23.12.2004 #721)
9. Draft law that implies increasing the expenses, decreasing the incomes of the State Budget of the current year or taking new financial liabilities by the State, can be adopted by Parliament only after they are approved by Government, and the abovementioned draft laws regarding the future financial year – within the main parameters of the State Budget, which Government has agreed with Parliament.

10. After the Bureau of Parliament makes the decision on starting the procedure of discussing the draft law, it is handed over to the committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority, the Legal Department of Parliamentary Staff, to the Government of Georgia, in case of such demand – to separate MPs, and is put on Parliament’s web page. (23.12.2004 #721)

Article 149

1. After the Bureau of Parliament makes the decision on starting the procedure of discussing a draft law, the draft law submitted to the Bureau sitting shall include the information of the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff and the conclusion of the Legal Department of Parliamentary Staff.
2. The Legal Department works out its conclusion regarding the following issues:
 - a) Whether or not the draft law is in compliance with the Georgian legislation and universal norms of the international law or whether it contradicts them;
 - b) Whether or not it is necessary to adopt a new law;
 - c) Whether or not the draft law is in compliance with Georgia’s commitments in international treaties and agreements or whether it contradicts them;
 - d) Whether or not the list of normative acts that are to be abolished and the necessary changes or/and amendments is comprehensive;
 - e) Whether or not the draft law is in compliance with the legislation of European Union.
3. The information of the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff includes the issues of compliance of the preparation and consideration procedures of the draft law with the requirements established by these Rules of Procedure and other normative acts. If the term of drafting and discussing the draft law is violated, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules is informed on this and the committee works out the relevant conclusion.
4. If the draft law presented according to legislative initiative is not taken into account in Parliament’s working plan or is included with violation of the term determined by the plan, or the President or Government of Georgia demand to consider it out of turn, the Bureau or the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament determines the terms of Parliamentary consideration of the draft law and hands it over to the leading committee.
5. If the draft law was not prepared for Parliamentary consideration in the determined time, the Bureau of Parliament prolongs the term if necessary.
6. The initiator of a draft law may withdraw the draft law with an appropriate justification before it is considered by first hearing.

Article 150

1. A legislative proposal is a well-reasoned address submitted to Parliament by a subject not having a right to launch a legislative initiative, drawn up according to the established rule, on adoption of a new law or changes or/and amendments to the law.
2. A legislative proposal can be submitted by: citizens of Georgia, state bodies (except the establishments of the executive branch of government), the representative and executive bodies of local self-government, political and public unions registered in Georgia according to the established rule, and other legal entities.
3. A legislative proposal can be submitted as a draft law or/and the main principles of the draft law that should be prepared or as concrete proposals. The legislative proposal should include the author’s justification of its need, author’s signature and address.
4. The Bureau or the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament passes the legislative proposal to the committees with indication of a leading committee, which discusses the draft law within

20 days. If this does not happen, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament can prolong the term of consideration of the legislative proposal in agreement with its author by not more than 10 days. The legislative proposal is discussed within the committees as provided by Articles 152-153 of these Rules of Procedure. As a result of the committee consideration, with a well-reasoned decision, the legislative proposal can be considered accepted or rejected.

5. A committee reports its decision to the nearest sitting of the Bureau of Parliament.
6. If a legislative proposal is presented as main principles of the draft law that should be prepared or as concrete proposals and the leading committee considers it as acceptable, in agreement with the Bureau of Parliament, the committee drafts the draft law and hands it over to the Bureau according to the rule determined by these Rules of Procedure.
7. If a legislative proposal is presented as a draft law and the leading committee considers it acceptable, the draft law is handed over to the Bureau of Parliament according to the rule and in the time determined by these Rules of Procedure
8. The author of a legislative proposal may withdraw it before the committee discussion.
9. In case a legislative proposal is accepted, the leading committee will be considered the subject having a right to launch the legislative initiative.

CHAPTER XXII

Consideration of a Bill (Draft Law) in Committee

Article 151

1. A draft law submitted to Parliament is discussed according to these Rules of Procedure in committees. The leading committee appointed by the Bureau of Parliament holds a committee sitting for discussing the draft law before the consideration of this draft law by the first hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament, for preparing the draft law to be adopted by the first hearing and put to the vote by second hearing, before putting it to the vote by third hearing. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. The decision of the Bureau of Parliament on starting the procedure of discussing the draft law appoints a leading committee in the consideration of the draft law, which leads the procedures of its consideration in Parliament and is responsible for following them.
3. A draft law is discussed at the leading committee sitting as provided by articles 152-153 of these Rules of Procedure before its consideration by the first hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
4. For preparing the draft law for discussion by the first and second hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament, the draft law is discussed at the leading committee sitting according to the rule established for the consideration of a draft law at the committee sitting. (25.11.2005 #2150)
5. Before its consideration by third hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament, the draft law is discussed at the leading committee sitting according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure for the consideration of a draft law at committee sitting.

Article 152

1. After the adoption of the decision by the Bureau of Parliament on starting the procedure of discussing the draft law other committees present their comments regarding the draft law to the leading committee no earlier than 10 days and no later than 14 days. If a committee does not present its comments in time, the issue will be considered agreed with it. (23.12.2004 #721)
2. Within 3 weeks of the adoption of the decision by the Bureau of Parliament on starting the procedure of discussing the draft law, the leading committee convenes a committee sitting. The information on the committee sitting is provided to the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff, which ensures spreading it in Parliament according to the established rule.
3. A draft law is discussed article by article at the committee sitting. If necessary, the comments are put to the vote.
4. After being discussed at the committee sitting the draft law may be deemed ready, not fully ready, or unacceptable to be discussed at the plenary sitting of Parliament. Even if deemed not fully ready or unacceptable, the draft law is not prevented from being presented to Parliament sitting for consideration.
5. It is prohibited to present the draft law to the plenary sitting of Parliament without the leading committee's conclusion. If within one month of the adoption by the Bureau of Parliament the decision on starting the procedure of discussing the draft law the leading committee fails to hold the sitting and present its position regarding the draft law, the initiator of the draft law is authorized to request the Bureau to put the draft law on the agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament without the conclusion of the leading committee.
6. If the leading committee does not manage to hold the sitting and present its conclusion, based on the well-reasoned proposal of the committee Chairman the Bureau of Parliament is authorized to determine a new term of the committee consideration of the draft law. If either in this case the leading committee does not hold the sitting and present its conclusion regarding the draft law, the initiator is authorized to request the Bureau to put the draft law on the agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament without the conclusion of the leading committee. The Bureau has to put the draft law on the agenda of the nearest plenary sitting of Parliament. If the initiator does not raise the issue of further consideration of the draft law before the Bureau, the draft law is considered withdrawn.
7. The leading committee's decision on the draft law is reflected in the conclusion of the committee, which is signed by the committee Chairman, in his/her absence – by his/her replacement.
8. The negative conclusion of the leading committee on the draft law does not prevent the start of the consideration of the draft law at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
9. After the committee, sitting the draft law is handed over by the Chairman of the Committee or in case of his/her absence – by the officially authorized Deputy Chairman to the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff in order to put it on the agenda of the nearest sitting of the Bureau of Parliament. Together with this, the draft has to be signed by the Head of Staff of the Committee. (25.11.2005 #2150)
10. The draft law presented to the Bureau of Parliament shall include the conclusion of the leading committee as well as the conclusions presented by other committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority, separate MPs, the Legal Department of Parliamentary Staff and other authorized subjects, also the record on the status of consideration of their comments in the draft law, prepared in agreement with the initiator of the draft law.

Article 153

1. The committee Chairman convenes and leads the committee sitting, in his/her absence – his/her Deputy.
2. The committee members are informed about the date of the committee sitting at least two days before the sitting. The draft law to be discussed at the committee sitting is disseminated among the committee members within the same term. The information about the committee sitting and its agenda is put on Parliament's web page at least two days before the sitting.
3. Committee sitting is authorized if the majority of the acting members of committee are present. The decision is made with an open or closed voting by the majority of votes of the committee members present at the sitting. When the votes divide equally at the open voting, the vote of the committee Chairman is decisive.
4. The draft law is presented for consideration at the committee sitting by a representative of the same committee. An opponent can be an authorized representative of the corresponding interested institution.
5. If the draft law is submitted by other subject entitled a right to launch a legislative initiative, it assigns its authorized representative as a reporter on the draft law.
6. A committee shall discuss at its nearest sitting the draft law submitted by the President, Government of Georgia if they demand its consideration out of turn.
7. A lobbyist registered at Parliament according to the rule established by law can attend the public committee sitting when the draft law considered in the contract of the assignment on the lobbyist activity. By the committee's decision s/he may be given the floor.
8. The interested representatives of the public may be invited to attend the committee sitting and may be given the floor by the decision of the Chairman of the sitting.
9. The mass media representatives accredited according to the established law may be invited to attend the committee sitting. The committee sitting may be broadcasted on TV and radio and the information on the results of the sitting may be put on Parliament's web page.
10. If there are two or more leading committees on the draft law, by the agreement among the respective committee Chairmen or the decision of the Bureau of Parliament, these committees may hold a joint sitting. As a rule, voting is not held at the joint sitting. Voting may be held only at separate committees.

Article 154

1. An alternative draft law can be submitted within two weeks of the adoption of the decision by the Bureau of Parliament on starting the procedure of discussing the main draft law, but not later than 3 days before the committee consideration of the main draft law by first hearing. The alternative draft law is presented to the Bureau of Parliament and the leading committee on the main draft law. The alternative draft law is discussed at the sitting of the leading committee together with the main draft law.
2. An alternative draft law should essentially differ from the main draft law.
3. The leading committee, in agreement with the initiator of the alternative draft law, makes the decision on presenting a unified version for the first hearing. If the agreement was not reached, the main and the alternative draft laws are presented for the first hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament. By its decree Parliament solves the issue of accepting or rejecting one of them as the bases.
4. It is prohibited to submit the alternative proposal on separate norms of the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution of Georgia.

5. A committee, a faction, the Majority, the Minority, an individual MP has a right to submit the alternative proposal on separate norms of a draft law. (25.11.2005 #2150)
6. The alternative proposal on separate norms of a draft law can be submitted in writing not later than two days before the sitting of the leading committee on the respective draft law or the voting on the draft law by second hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament no later than 24 hours. The alternative proposal is presented to the leading committee or the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff. The alternative proposal can be orally presented at the second hearing of the respective draft law at the sitting of the leading committee and it is written down in the protocol of the committee sitting. The committee staff ensures recording the alternative proposals at the committee sitting. (25.11.2005 #2150)
7. The issue concerning the adoption of the alternative draft law is considered adopted if the reporter approves it. If the reporter does not accept the alternative draft law, leading committee or the plenary sitting of Parliament by voting resolves the issue of accepting or rejecting the alternative proposal on the separate norms of the draft law. (25.11.2005 #2150)

CHAPTER XXIII

Consideration and Adoption of a Bill (Draft Law) at the Plenary Sitting of Parliament

Article 155

1. After the sitting of the leading committee, Parliament discusses the draft law by three hearings.
2. At the first hearing of the draft law, its basic principles and main provisions are discussed.
3. At the second hearing of the draft law it is discussed by articles, chapters or/and parts and is put to the vote at the plenary sitting of Parliament as a whole, the decision on discussing a draft law by parts, chapters, articles, paragraphs, sections is made upon request from the leading Committee and is approved by the Chairman of the session. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
4. At the third hearing of the draft law, only editorial corrections are adopted.

Article 156

1. The consideration of the draft law at the plenary sitting of Parliament starts with discussing it by the first hearing.
2. Discussing the draft law by the first hearing at the plenary sitting of Parliament starts by the speech of the initiator of the draft law or his/her representative.
3. On the draft law submitted by the President or Government of Georgia, President's Parliamentary Secretary or the Parliamentary Secretary of Government may be reporter (or co-reporter) only in the cases when the President or Government of Georgia does not appoint other authorized representative as a reporter (or co-reporter) by an administrative-legal act. The reporter on the draft law submitted by a faction or committee is the Chairman of faction or committee or a representative appointed by the faction or committee. The reporter on the draft law submitted by the MP is the initiator MP. On the draft law submitted by the supreme representative bodies of Abkhazia and Adjara the

reporter is member of the relevant supreme bodies appointed by them. On the draft law initiated by 30 000 voters reporter is the representative selected by the initiative group and the co-reporter is the member of the relevant committee. A person appointed as a reporter on the draft law initiated by the President or Government of Georgia cannot be an MP. The co-reporter on a draft law submitted by MP, committee or faction is the authorized representative of the relevant state body. (28.04.2006 # 2957)

4. The speech of the reporter on the draft law made at the plenary sitting of Parliament should not exceed 20 minutes (if necessary, the time can be prolonged to 30 minutes by the decision of the Chairman of the sitting).
5. During the consideration of the draft law at the plenary sitting of Parliament the reporter, along with other issues, reminds the sitting of comments (indicating the author of the comment), made before the consideration of the draft law at the plenary sitting, which have been incorporated in the draft law, which - have not, and why.
6. After the reporter finishes his/her speech, the MPs may put questions to the reporter regarding the draft law. Time given to an author of each question shall not exceed 2 minutes, s/he can also use no more than one minute for specifying the question. An MP can take the floor for putting and specifying the question only once. The microphones in the Sitting Hall are used for putting and specifying the questions. After the questions are asked, the reporter has a right to answer all of them together. His/her answer shall not exceed 20 minutes.
7. After the reporter's speech, the co-reporter takes the floor, whose speech shall not exceed 15 minutes. After the co-reporter finishes his/her speech, the MPs may put questions to the co-reporter regarding the draft law. An author of each question may take the floor only once for not more than (one) a minute. The microphones in the Sitting Hall are used for putting and specifying the questions. After the questions are asked, the co-reporter has a right to answer all of them together. His/her answer shall not exceed 10 minutes.
8. After the speech of the co-reporter, the representatives of the leading and other committees take the floor if a representative of the leading committee is not the co-reporter. The speech of a representative of the leading committee shall not exceed 10 minutes, the speech of a representative of other committee – 5 minutes.
9. After the representatives of the leading and other committees finish their speeches, individual MPs take the floor for not more than 3 minutes. For this purpose the MPs personally register in the list of the speakers compiled at the secretariat of the sitting before the reporter finishes his/her speech. The list is submitted to the Chairman of the sitting, who determined the sequence of the MPs according to the order they were registered in the list. It is obligatory to follow the order of the speakers. It is prohibited to take the floor without the agreement of the Chairman of the sitting. Also, an MP may register in the list only once. An MP, who is registered in the list and attends the sitting at the time when his/her turn comes, s/he may give the time allocated for his/her speech to another MP. If the MP does not attend the sitting when his/her turn comes, s/he cannot take the floor regarding this issue.
10. After the MPs finish their speeches, the representative of the factions not united in the Majority or the Minority, the representatives of the Minority, the Majority takes the floor in the given order and presents their positions to the sitting regarding the basic principles and main provisions of the draft law. The speech of a faction representative shall not exceed 10 minutes, one of the Majority or the Minority representative – 15 minutes.
11. The reporter, the co-reporter, the representatives of committees, factions, the Minority, and the Majority make the speech from the tribune in front of the presidium in the Sitting Hall.

12. After the speeches of the representatives of factions, the Minority, and the Majority the reporter makes the concluding speech for not more than 10 minutes.
13. A comment regarding the draft law made during the consideration at the plenary sitting of Parliament is considered adopted, if the reporter agrees with it or Parliament favors as a result of the vote.
14. After the concluding speech of the reporter the Chairman of the sitting announces the consideration of the draft law as completed and informs the MPs on the date of voting on the draft law by the first hearing.
15. The time of the speeches determined by this article may be prolonged based on the speaker's request by the decision of the Chairman of the sitting and by the majority of votes of the present MPs. If the time given for the speech was not enough for an MP, by his/her request the text of this speech is put in the shorthand of the sitting.
16. As a rule, the speakers use the State language of Georgia. If an MP cannot make a speech in the State language, before the start of the sitting s/he should warn the Chairman of the sitting in order to ensure that the text of his/her speech is translated.

Article 157

1. After the first hearing of the draft law is over, based on the vote Parliament makes one of the following decisions:
 - a) On the adoption of the draft law (as a base of one of the alternative draft laws) by the first hearing. (25.11.2005 #2150)
 - b) On drafting a new bill, considering expressed remarks. With comments included (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. By the decision of the Chairman of the sitting, the comments made on the basic principles and main provisions of the draft law at the first hearing (of the draft law) may be put to the vote separately.
3. The draft law that cannot receive necessary number of votes determined by the Constitution and these Rules of Procedure for the adoption by first hearing is considered rejected and the resolution is made concerning the fact of rejection. It is inadmissible to discuss the same draft law during the same session period. (25.11.2005 # 2150)

Article 158

1. After adoption of the draft law by the first hearing it is handed over to the leading committee in order to incorporate the comments made regarding the draft law and prepare it for the second hearing. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
2. Within 2 weeks period from the adoption of the draft law by first hearing the leading committee discusses it and prepares it for the second hearing. If the draft law is not prepared within the stated time, it can be prolonged upon the motivated request from the Chairman of the committee and by the decision of the Bureau. In case of violation of the time limit, the Bureau is eligible to discuss this fact and to put the issue of responsibility of the Chairman of the relevant Committee. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
3. The draft law within 3 weeks of the adoption by the first hearing, with incorporated comments shared by Parliament at the first hearing, signed by the Chairman of the committee, in his/her absence by the authorized Deputy Chairman is submitted to the Organizational Department of Parliamentary staff, in order to be discussed and voted at the plenary sitting of Parliament by the second hearing. Also, each page of the draft law should be signed by the head of the staff of the committee. (25.11.2005 # 2150)

4. The draft law submitted to the plenary sitting of Parliament for the second hearing shall include the comments made on the draft law during the first hearing at the plenary sitting and the second hearing in the leading committee, the record on the status of their incorporation into the draft law, conclusions of the leading committee and the Legal Department of Parliamentary Staff, also alternative proposals, which were submitted to the leading committee. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
5. The discussion of the draft law starts with the report of the reporter, who presents the draft law according to the rules set forth in the paragraph 3 of Article 155. The MP has the right according to the paragraph 3 of Article 155, to make a statement, suggestion or clarification (concerning the sub-paragraph, paragraph, article or part) only once. Each speaker may take floor for no more than 2 minutes. Also, he/she may use 1 minute for clarification. For putting a question and clarification MPs are using microphones situated in the sitting Hall. In some specific cases, before the beginning of the discussion of the draft law upon the request of an MP the Speaker of the sitting may give him/her 2 minutes for questions, and 1 minute for clarifications. In case of need, the Speaker of the sitting may make a decision on finishing the question time. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
- 5.¹ After the finishing of the question time, the Reporter has the right to answer questions all together. The answer period may last no longer than 15 minutes. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
6. After the Reporter the Co-reporter takes the floor and he/she may take floor for no longer than 10 minutes. The MPs have the right to ask the questions concerning the draft law to the Co-reporter. The author of each question may take a floor only once for 1 minute. For putting a question MPs are using microphones situated in the sitting Hall. Co-reporter has the right to answer questions all together. The answer period may last no longer than 10 minutes. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
7. After the speeches of the reporter and the co-reporter are over, the MP, the representative of a committee, a faction, the Majority, the Minority, whose alternative proposal made at the sitting of the leading committee was presented at the plenary sitting of Parliament, takes the floor. The author of alternative proposal may take floor for not more than 5 minutes. MPs can ask him/her questions only once in a one minute period. A faction, the Majority, the Minority can take the floor on the procedural issue once for one minute. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
8. After the reports of the specific people mentioned in paragraph 5-7 of this article the representatives of leading committees and other committees are taking floor, if the co-reporter is not the leading Committee. The representative of the leading Committee can take a floor for 10 minutes and representative of other Committees for 5 minutes. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
9. After the reports of leading Committee and other committees, the MPs who are not united in any faction are taking the floor. The time of their statements must be no more than 3 minutes. The MPs sign up for the statement in the secretariat which is represented to the Speaker of the Sitting. The order of the MPs statements is determined according the time when they signed up. The order must be followed. It is inadmissible to make a statement without Speaker's permission. Also the MP may sign up for the statement only once. The MP who is attending the Session during his/her turn cannot give his time to the other MP. If the MP is not attending the session during his turn, he/she cannot make a report on that issue. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
10. After the reports of the MPs are finished the representatives of the factions who are not united in Majority or Minority take floor, according to the same order representatives of Majority and Minority take floor and express their views concerning the draft law. The

- faction statements must not exceed 10 minutes and for Majority and Minority 15 minutes. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
11. Reporter, Co-reporter, representatives of factions, Committees, Majority and Minority make their statements in the Sitting Hall from the podium situated in front of the Presidium. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
 12. After the statements of Factions, Majority, Minority is finished the final word is given to the reporter, whose speech may not exceed 10 minutes. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
 13. At the second hearing the draft law is put to the vote as a whole. Alternative Proposal is voted first. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
 14. After the second hearing of the draft law is over, based on the vote Parliament makes one of the following decisions:
 - a) On the adoption of the draft law by the second hearing.
 - b) On handing back draft law to the leading committee for additional elaboration and appointing a new date of the second hearing. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
 15. Draft law that did not get the votes necessary according to the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure is considered rejected and the record is made on the rejection of the draft law by second hearing. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
 16. The draft law might be adopted by the second hearing omitting the certain articles. These articles might be presented at the third hearing. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
 17. If the draft law rejected on the second hearing is not put to the vote during one month in one session period by the initiator for voting the draft law is considered rejected. Also the draft law is considered rejected if it did not get necessary votes during 3 times voting at one session period. Parliament is notified on above mentioned issue and the record is done. (25.11.2005 # 2150)

Article 159

1. After the adoption of the draft law by second hearing the leading committee discussed it to prepare for the third hearing at the plenary session. After the committee sitting the draft law is sent to the Organizational Department by the Chairman of the Committee or in case of his/her absence by the authorized Deputy Chairman to be put in the next coming Bureau. Also each page of the draft law has to be signed by the Head of Staff of the Committee (25.11.2005 #2150)
- 1¹. At the third hearing the edited version of the draft law, with comments of the second hearing incorporated, is handed to MPs. At the third hearing, only the editorial changes can be made to the draft law. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. The draft law presented to the plenary sitting of Parliament for the third hearing shall include the record prepared by the leading committee, on the status of the incorporation into the draft law of the comments approved by voting at the second hearing, also the conclusions of the leading committee and the Legal Department of the Parliamentary Staff. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. At the third hearing the draft law is presented by the reporter, MPs can give recommendations on editorial changes. The time allocated for statements concerning this kind of changes must not exceed 3 minutes. An MP can use the time only once concerning one issue. (25.11.2005 #2150)
4. After the addresses of the MPs, the reporter delivers the conclusive speech. The Chairman of the sitting considers the discussion of the draft law closed and informs the MPs on the date of the third hearing voting. (25.11.2005 #2150)

5. At the second hearing, the articles set aside for the additional consideration are put to the vote separately. The draft law can be adopted without these articles if they do not represent its principal provisions and if they are put in the transitional provisions for their further consideration.
6. Before the third hearing, it is obligatory to disseminate at the plenary sitting of Parliament the final edited version of the draft law with the comments made and approved at the third hearing. The title-page of this version shall be approved by the reporter on the draft law, the Chairman of the leading committee (in his/her absence – by his/her replacement), a responsible member of the committee staff, editorial sections of the Legal and Organizational Departments of Parliamentary Staff.
7. After the third hearing, the final edited version is put to the vote as a whole.
- 7¹ The draft law that for the third hearing gets not enough votes according to the Constitution and these Rules of Procedure is considered killed. In such case a resolution is made concerning non approval of the draft law by third hearing. (25.11.2005 #2150)
- 7² If the draft law not adopted by third hearing is not put to the vote during a month by the initiator the law is considered rejected. Also the draft law is considered rejected which can't get the necessary votes for 3 times. According to this issue the Chairman of the sitting notifies Parliament and the protocol is done on the concerning fact. (25.11.2005 #2150)
8. It is prohibited to make any corrections in the draft law after voting on it by the third hearing.

Article 159¹

1. At the plenary session during the discussion of the draft law in case of need after the motivated reason declared by the reporter or co-reporter Parliament can make a decision to return the draft law from the third hearing to the second hearing. (25.11.2005 # 2150)
2. The draft law rejected by second and third hearing can be discussed in the Parliament according to the Rule of new legislative initiative. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 159²

At the beginning of the discussion of the draft law (or the other kind of draft) in case of non attendance of the Reporter or Co-reporter the draft is dismissed from the agenda of that week and is put into the agenda of the next week. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 160

1. Parliament can discuss and adopt a draft law in an accelerated manner.
2. The consideration and adoption of the draft law in an accelerated manner means discussing and adopting the draft law by all three hearings during one week of the plenary sittings. At the same time, it is prohibited to discuss and adopt the draft law by more than one hearing on one day of the plenary sitting. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. The Bureau of Parliament makes the decision on the consideration of the draft law in an accelerated manner based on the well-reasoned proposal of the initiator of the draft law and the conclusion of the leading committee. If the Bureau does not make the decision on the consideration and adoption of the draft law in an accelerated manner, the plenary sitting of Parliament discusses and decides the issue.

- 3¹ In case of the decision on the consideration of the draft law in an accelerated manner by the Bureau or the plenary session, all the bodies determined according to these Rules of Procedure should submit their suggestions concerning draft to the leading committee (committees) within the time determined by the Bureau or the plenary session. (23.12.2004 #721)
4. It is prohibited to discuss and adopt the constitution, constitutional law and organic law of Georgia in an accelerated manner.
 5. A draft law can be discussed in an accelerated manner if it only implies adopting changes or/and amendments to the law.
 6. If the decision is made to discuss the draft law in an accelerated manner, at the consideration at the plenary sitting of Parliament it shall include the relevant conclusions required by these Rules of Procedure. The consideration and voting on the draft law in an accelerated manner at the plenary sitting of Parliament is conducted according to the rule of discussing and voting on the draft law established by these rule of procedure.
 7. When the draft law is adopted in an accelerated manner, the voting can be held after the draft law is discussed at the relevant hearing, on the same day. Also Parliament votes on the draft law by the third hearing only in case if its final edited version is presented. The title-page of this version shall be approved by the reporter on the draft law, the Chairman of the leading committee (in his/her absence – by his/her replacement), a responsible member of the committee staff, by the head of the Legal department of the Parliament of Georgia (in his/her absence – by his/her replacement) and by the head of editorial section of the Legal Department (in his/her absence – by his/her replacement). (28.04.2006. #2957)

Article 161

No longer in use. (25.07.2006. #3512)

Article 162

The Minority, a faction not united in the Majority or the Minority, an MP not united in a faction, the Majority or the Minority have a right to request certain time for the consideration of a draft law or decree or other act of Parliament in the first half of Friday of the last week of each month's plenary sessions, according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure. The Bureau of Parliament has to put the issue on the agenda of the plenary sitting of Parliament as provided by these Rules of Procedure. The issue is discussed according to the rule of consideration of the relevant issue established by these Rules of Procedure.

Article 163

1. Draft resolution is submitted to the Parliament and discussed in the committees according to rule of submission and discussion of the draft law in the committees set forth by these Rules of Procedure. (25.11.2005 #2150)
- 1¹ The draft resolution in general is discussed according to the rules established by the procedure for the first hearing according to these Rules of Procedure. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. By the decision of Parliament, a draft decision with the normative character may be discussed by two hearings. After the consideration of the draft decision at the first hearing, based on the vote Parliament makes one of the following decisions:

- a) On the adoption as a base of the presented draft, passing to the leading committee for the consideration by the second hearing. (25.11.2005 #2150)
- b) On the rejection of the presented draft.
3. All the proposals regarding the draft decision shall be presented to the leading committee. If the leading committee rejects the proposal regarding the draft, by the request of the initiator Parliament discusses it along with the draft decision. A new proposal can be made and discussed only with Parliament's consent.
4. After the consideration of the draft decision by the second hearing, based on the vote Parliament makes one of the following decisions:
 - a) On the adoption of the presented draft as a whole;
 - b) On assigning a relevant body to draft a new decision.
5. Parliament's resolution, declaration, statement and address are discussed and adopted according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure for the discussion and adoption of a decision.
6. Parliament's decision, resolution, declaration, statement and address as well as a law and a ratified international agreement and treaty are put on Parliament's web page.

Article 164

1. A draft of a constitutional law is considered adopted if at least two-thirds of all the MPs support it.
2. A constitutional treaty is considered approved if at least three-fifth of all the MPs supports it.
3. A draft of an organic law is considered adopted if the majority of the acting members of Parliament support it.
4. Drafts of a law, the Rules of Procedure or a decision of Parliament are considered adopted, if the majority of the MPs present at the plenary sitting, but no less than one-third of all the MPs support them, if the constitution of Georgia does not imply otherwise.
5. Parliament's resolution, declaration, statement, address or recommendation are considered adopted if they are supported by the majority of the MPs present at the plenary sitting, but by no less than one-third of all the MPs.
6. As a rule, Parliament's consent is adopted by the decision.
7. The date of the adoption of a draft law or decision or other act of Parliament is a day, when Parliament adopted its final version.

Article 165

1. The protocol and the shorthand of the sitting are drawn up at the consideration of a draft law at the plenary sitting of Parliament. The protocol of the plenary sitting of Parliament, except the confidential issues, can be published in "Parlamentis Utskebani" (Parliaments Newsletter) and put on Parliament's web page.
2. Only the MPs, an authorized representative of the President of Georgia, also those representatives of state bodies, who participated in the work of the sitting, can see the protocol and the shorthand of a closed plenary sitting of Parliament.

Article 166

1. Parliamentary Staff ensures recording the draft laws submitted to Parliament, controls the status of their consideration according to the stages of the legislative process and reports

this information quarterly to the Bureau of Parliament and the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules.

2. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules considers the provided information. In case of revealing a fact of violation of the procedures established by these Rules of Procedure for the consideration of a draft law it is authorized to require and receive necessary information and documents from the relevant bodies and officials of Parliament. The committee systematically reports to Parliament the results of the consideration.

CHAPTER XXIV

Promulgation and Enforcement of Georgian Laws and Other Acts of Parliament

Article 167

Within 7 days (the day offs is not included in this term) of the adoption by Parliament, a draft law signed by the initiator of the draft law or by his authorized representative, Chairman of the leading committee (in his/her absence – by his/her replacement), a responsible representative of the committee staff, and the Chairman of the plenary sitting, and approved by the head of Legal Department of Parliamentary Staff and by the head editorial section of the legal department (or their replacements in case of need), is sent to the President of Georgia. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 168

1. Within 10 days the President of Georgia signs a draft law and promulgates a law as provided by the Constitution of Georgia.
2. A law is promulgated via an official publication “Georgian Legislative Newsletter” Sakartvelos Sakanonmdeblo Matsne and enters into force on the 15th day after being published, unless that same law specifies another term.

Article 169

1. If the last day of the term given in these Rules of Procedure is a day off or a holiday, the term expires on the next working day.
2. The day of distributing the appropriate documents among the MPs is not included in relevant terms.

CHAPTER XXV

Consideration of a Bill (Draft Law) Returned with the Comments of the President of Georgia

Article 170

1. The President of Georgia is authorized not to sign a draft law in the given term and to return it to Parliament with motivated comments.
2. Parliament discusses the draft law returned with motivated comments of the President within 15 days. President's motivated comments shall be formulated in a form of a draft law.
3. If Parliament adopts the comments as a whole, within 5 days the draft law is sent to the President of Georgia, who signs its final version and promulgates within 7 days.
4. If Parliament does not adopt the comments completely, the first version of the draft law is put to the vote. A draft of a constitutional law is considered adopted if at least two-thirds of all the MPs support it. A draft of an organic law or law is considered adopted if at least three-fifths of all the MPs support it.
5. If the President of Georgia does not promulgate a draft law in time, the Chairman of Parliament signs the draft law and promulgates it within 5 days in "Sakartvelos Sakanonmdeblo Matsne." (Georgian Legislative Newsletter)
6. If in the cases set forth in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this article the draft law does not receive the necessary number of votes, it is considered rejected and after holding the consultations with the President of Georgia Parliament may return to its consideration according to the established rule at the next ordinary session.

Article 171

1. If the President of Georgia returns the draft law with motivated comments to Parliament, but the term of authority of Parliament is expired, the comments are discussed by a newly elected Parliament.
2. If the President of Georgia returns the draft law with motivated comments to Parliament, but it is the time of Parliamentary holidays or 15 days remain before them, a special session can be convened according to the established rule in order to discuss the comments.

CHAPTER XXVI

The Full or Partial Revision of the Constitution of Georgia

Article 172

The President of Georgia, the majority of all the MPs, at least 200,000 voters have a right to submit to Parliament a draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution of Georgia approved with the appropriate signature (signatures).

Article 173

The President of Georgia submits to Parliament a draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution of Georgia according to the rule of executing the President's right to launch a legislative initiative determined by the constitution of Georgia and these Rules of Procedure.

Article 174

The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules examines the validity of the signatures on the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution of Georgia submitted by the majority of all MPs and reports the results to Parliament.

Article 175

1. The citizens of Georgia with a right to vote create an initiative group consisting of no less than 10 members, in order to execute their right to submit a draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution of Georgia. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. An initiative group submits a request of registration to the Bureau of Parliament. The request shall include a draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution of Georgia and the following data on the members of the initiative group: name, last name, address, and contact phone number. Within 3 days the Bureau passes this information to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules.
3. Within 7 days of the reception of the registration request, the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules provides the initiative group with a registration certificate or a well-reasoned refusal on registration. The violation of the requirements set forth in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this article serve as the bases for the refusal on registration.
4. In case of receiving a refusal on registration, the initiative group has a right to address Parliament, which discusses the request in the nearest week of the plenary sittings and makes a final decision.
5. The initiative group can withdraw its request of registration before the reception of the registration certificate.
6. From the day of receiving the certificate of registration, the initiative group is authorized to start collecting the signatures of the supporters of the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution.
7. Not more than 50 voters sign each sheet of the form established by the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules. They personally indicate the following data: name, last name, number of IDs, address and date of signature. A person responsible for collecting the signatures confirms each of these sheets by signing them. His/her signature shall be certified at the Notary Bureau or local self-government or government body.
8. Within 4 months after receiving the registration certificate, the initiative group hands over the sheets with signatures to the Bureau of Parliament, which passes them to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules within 3 days.
9. Within one month of the reception of the sheets the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules examines the validity of the signatures and reports the results to the Bureau of Parliament. If the violation of the requirements of these Rules of Procedure is established, the Bureau refuses the initiative group to present the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution for Parliamentary consideration.
10. Any signature is nullified if:
 - a) Is put on the sheet, which does not comply with the established form or/and is not confirmed and certified according to the rule set forth in paragraph 7 of this article;
 - b) Is affixed under cheating, threat, pressure or by other person, if the voter confirms this in writing.
11. The person responsible for collecting the signatures bears responsibility for forgery as provided by the Georgian legislation.

12. If after the verification the number of signatures is less than 200,000, the execution of a right to present a draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution by citizens' initiative is considered rejected.
13. If the presentation of the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution is rejected, the initiative group has a right to address the Supreme Court of Georgia within 5 days.
14. A positive conclusion of the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules on the validity of the voters' signatures, the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution presented by 200,000 voters, and the signatures of the voters are submitted to the Bureau of Parliament, which presents these materials to Parliament in the nearest week of plenary sittings.
15. Parliament accepts the conclusion of the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules on the validity of the signatures as a notification and within 15 days publishes the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution in "Sakartvelos Sakanonmdablo Matsne" (Georgian Legislative Newsletter) for general public discussion.

Article 176

1. In order to ensure the general public consideration of a draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution Parliament makes decision to create the Organizational Commission of General Public Discussion.
2. Parliament determines the number of the members of the Organizational Commission of General Public Discussion and its composition.
3. Within (one) a month the Organizational Commission of General Public Discussion considers the materials concerning the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution.
4. Parliament starts discussing the draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution after one month from its publishing. Before the consideration of the draft law starts at the plenary sitting, the Organizational Commission of General Public Discussion informs Parliament on the results of the general public discussion.
5. Parliament discusses a draft law on the full or partial revision of the constitution according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure for the consideration of a draft law.

CHAPTER XXVI¹

Consideration and Adoption of the Draft Organic Law on the State Symbols

Article 176¹

Preparation, consideration and adoption of the draft organic law (Georgian Organic law on "State flag", "State Emblem", "State Anthem") on the state symbols is determined according to the Law of Georgia and to this Rules of Procedure. (26.11.2004 # 616)

Article 176²

1. Parliament of Georgia publishes the draft laws on State Symbols in the “sakartvelos sakanonmdeblo matsne” (Georgian Legislative Newsletter) for the public discussion. (26.11.2004 # 616)
2. In the aim to provide public discussion of draft organic law on state symbols, Parliament decides to create Organizational Committee for Public Discussion. (26.11.2004 # 616)
3. The number and composition of the Organizational Committee for Public Discussion is defined by the Parliament. (26.11.2004 # 616)
4. The Organizational Committee for Public Discussion discusses the materials concerning the draft law on State symbols within a month. (26.11.2004 # 616)

Article 176³

1. Parliament starts discussion on the draft law on state symbols after a month of its publication, according to these rules of Procedure. (26.11.2004 # 616)
2. On the plenary session before the discussion of the above mentioned organic draft laws starts the Organizational Committee for Public Discussion reports on the results of public discussion. (26.11.2004 # 616)
3. The draft laws on state Symbols is discussed and adopted by first hearing according to article 156 of these Rules of Procedure. (26.11.2004 # 616)

CHAPTER XXVI²

Exercising the Legislative Initiatives by the Voters

Article 176⁴

1. No less than 30000 voters may initiate a draft law and an initiative group is formed by five citizens. (13.05.2005 #1433)
2. Initiative group appeals to the Bureau of Parliament with a written statement about the registration of the initiative group. Draft law and the following data of the initiative group shall be added to the statement: name, surname, date of birth, the personal Number of ID, address and telephone number. These data are transferred from the Bureau of Parliament to the Committee of the Procedural Issues and Rules within two days. (13.05.2005 #1433)
3. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules within five days after receiving data from the Bureau of Parliament gives registration form to the initiative group or a motivated refusal. The reason for refusal is the violation of the 1st and 2nd paragraphs of this article. (13.05.2005 #1433)
4. Initiative group may request back the statement before the registration form is provided. (13.05.2005 #1433)
5. After the initiative group receives the registration form, they are eligible to start gathering signatures of supporters of the draft law. (13.05.2005 #1433)
6. Each page given by the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules is signed by no more than 50 voters. The person responsible for the correctness of signatures includes the following data: name, surname, date of birth, personal number of ID, address and date of signature, which is approved by a voter with a signature. Each page is verified by the

- member of the initiative group, who is responsible for the righteousness of the signature and also is responsible for falsification. His signature is verified by the Notary Bureau or by the self-government or/and government organizations. (13.05.2005 #1433)
7. The filled forms must be submitted to the Bureau of Parliament within 45 days after taking the registration forms and Bureau transfers these forms within 2 days to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules. (13.05.2005 #1433)
 8. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules according to the selection principle checks the validity of the signatures within 2 weeks and results are transferred to the upcoming Bureau of Parliament for discussion. If the validity of signatures are under doubt and because of this principle the number of signatures is less than 30000, then the Bureau refuses to give a floor for the discussion of the draft law after the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules gives a negative resolution. Accordingly, the draft law is denied. (13.05.2005 #1433)
 9. All signatures are nullified which are:
 - a) Not signed on the appropriate paper, which is not in accordance to the rules mentioned in the paragraph 6 of this article.
 - b) Does not contain the data mentioned in paragraph 6
 - c) Is conducted by falsification by the inappropriate person, which can be certified by a voter. (13.05.2005 #1433)
 10. After the refusal the initiative group is eligible to appeal to the first instance court within 5 days. (13.05.2005 #1433)
 11. Positive resolution of the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules on the signatures together with the draft law and the signatures is transferred to the Bureau of Parliament. (13.05.2005 #1433)
 12. On the draft law initiated by 30000 voters the reporter is one of the members of initiative group of the eligible representative and the co-reporter is the representative of leading committee. The reporter of the draft law cannot be a member of the Parliament or Government or the representative of President and Government. (13.05.2005 #1433)
 13. The draft law is discussed according to these Rules of Procedure. (13.05.2005 #1433)

CHAPTER XXVI³

Consideration and Adoption of a draft Law on the “denunciation of a Georgian Law”

Article 176⁵

The draft law on the Denunciation of the law of Georgia is adopted by the 1st hearing, according to the rules mentioned in the article 156 of these Rules of Procedure. (25.07.2006 #3512)

CHAPTER XXVII

Consideration and Adoption of a Bill (Draft Law) on the State Budget

Article 177

1. Drafting, consideration and adoption of the draft law on the State Budget are conducted according to the Law of Georgia on the Budgetary System of Georgia and these Rules of Procedure.
2. Government of Georgia submits the documents on the main data and directions of the law on the State Budget prepared according to the rule established by the law of Georgia on the Budgetary System of Georgia to the Parliamentary committees of economic profile not later than May 1 of the current fiscal year.
3. The Financial-Budgetary Committee organizes the consideration and coordination of the main data and directions of the law on the State Budget. When needed, the Committee is authorized to request and receive the necessary information from Government, Ministries, other institutions, other bodies of executive power.
4. The Financial-Budgetary Committee drafts a conclusion taking into account the results of the consideration of the main data and directions of the law on the State Budget at the committees with economic profile, and sends it to Government not later than June 1.

Article 178

1. Not later than October 1 Government of Georgia in agreement with the President of Georgia submits to Parliament for approval of a draft law on the State Budget with the materials determined by the legislation
2. Along with the draft budget, Government presents a report on the implementation of the current budget.
3. No longer in use. (30.03.2007 # 4577)

Article 179

1. Within 2 days of the reception of the draft law on the State Budget the Financial-Budgetary Committee, after the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament meets with the representatives of committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority, ensures that the schedule of the consideration of the draft is worked out and approves it. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. The draft law on the State Budget as well as the schedule of its consideration on the next day is approved, are sent to all the committees and factions, the Majority, the Minority, to the Coordination Council of independent MPs , also the Chamber of Control of Georgia, Legal Department of Parliament, the National Bank, Chamber of Control, and to Government – only the schedule of its consideration. Chamber of Control submits the conclusion to the plenary session on the rightfulness of the budget expenses two days before the conclusive sitting of Financial-Budgetary Committee. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. The committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority discuss the draft law on the State Budget and the report of government on executing the budget of the current year according to the approved schedule. They draft the relevant conclusions and send them to the Financial-Budgetary Committee. Committees may prepare a joint conclusion. (25.11.2005 #2150)
4. The consideration and coordination of the draft law on the State Budget according to the schedule are organized by the Financial-Budgetary Committee, which reports once a week

- to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament on the process of the consideration and coordination of the draft.
5. A person authorized by Government with such right, the Chairman of the Chamber of Control or his/her representative attend the considerations of the draft law on the State Budget within the committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority.
 6. That part of the draft law on the State Budget, which concerns the State secret, is discussed by the trust group. The conclusions adopted by the trust group concerning the relevant facts of financing those programs and on the allocation of resources on those expenses is submitted to the Financial-Budgetary Committee. (25.11.2005 #2150)
 7. Not later than October 20 the Financial-Budgetary Committee presents to the Chairman of Parliament the conclusions of other committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority, Legal Department, National Bank, Chamber of Control, and MPs who are not united in any faction. (25.11.2005 #2150)
 8. Within two days after the Financial-Budgetary Committee presents the conclusions on the draft law on the State Budget to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, s/he sends them to Government.
 9. Government presents to Parliament for consideration a revised draft law on the State Budget not later than November 1. (each page of the revised draft has to be authorized by responsible person) The information on the submitted proposals and comments with indication of the status of their consideration shall be attached to the draft. (25.11.2005 #2150)
 10. The proposals (comments) approved by Government shall be incorporated into the draft law on the State Budget.

Article 180

1. The draft law on the State Budget is discussed at the plenary sitting of Parliament as provided by this chapter, by one hearing.
2. A Member of Government of Georgia presents the draft law on the State Budget and the report on fulfillment of the State Budget of the current year at the plenary sitting of Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. While presenting the draft law on the State Budget, the Member of Government takes the floor for no more than 60 minutes, which can be prolonged by Parliament's request. After the speech of the Member of Government, the co-reporter – a representative of the Financial-Budgetary Committee takes the floor for no more than 30 minutes.
4. Speeches for not more than 20 minutes are made by:
 - a) The Chairman of the National Bank, who presents the main directions of monetary-credit policy;
 - b) The Chairman of the Chamber of Control of Georgia, who presents the conclusion on the legitimacy and validity of the expenses of the draft budget;
 - c) Representatives of the committee presenting the conclusions of these committees on the draft budget;
5. After the speeches are over, there are held debates according to the rule determined by these Rules of Procedure for the consideration by the first hearing.
6. After the debates, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament announces a break in the consideration of the draft law on the State Budget. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 180¹

According to article 180 paragraph 2 of this Rules of Procedure Parliament discusses the report of the member of Government about the State Budget in accordance with the rules of the first hearing set forth by these Rules of Procedure, taking into consideration the fact that after the report of the Government of Georgia, Parliament hears the report of the representative of the Chamber of Control of Georgia. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 181

1. Within 10 days of the announcement of the break in the consideration of the draft law on the State Budget, separate MPs, committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority submit their conclusions and proposals (comments) to the Financial-Budgetary Committee, which presents them to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament along with its own conclusion and proposals (comments).
2. The Chairman of Parliament sends the received conclusions and proposals (comments) to Government of Georgia in one day. (25.11.2005#2150)

Article 182

1. At least 5 days before the recommencement of the consideration of the draft law on the State Budget, received according to the rules set forth by the paragraph 2 of article 181, Government of Georgia presents the final version of the draft (each page authorized by the responsible person) to Parliament with the information set forth in paragraph 9 of Article 179 of these Rules of Procedure, which is sent to committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority, Parliament's independent Coordination Council and separate MPs in case of request, on the same day. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. The consideration of the draft law on the State Budget is continued at the plenary session after recommencement of the consideration of the draft to the Government, no earlier than 5 days. Discussion of the draft is continued by the report of the member of Government, which shall not exceed 1 hour. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. The representatives of the committees, factions, the Majority, the Minority, separate MPs have a right to put questions to the Member of Government according to the rule of putting a question at the consideration by the first hearing determined by these Rules of Procedure or take the floor.
4. After the speeches are over, the Member of Government makes the conclusive speech for no more than 30 minutes. S/he has a right to propose Parliament to adopt the draft law on the State Budget.
5. Parliament adopts the draft law on the State Budget by the majority of votes of acting MPs. The draft shall be adopted before the beginning of the next fiscal year.
6. If Parliament fails to adopt the draft law on the State Budget, the same or a new version of the draft law on the State Budget revised by the joint efforts of the coordinating commission of the Members of Government and Parliament, can be put to the vote again before the start of a new fiscal year.
7. The law on the State Budget and its supplements are published according to the established rule. They shall be accessible to the public.
8. If Parliament fails to adopt the draft law on the State Budget before the start of a new fiscal year, the President of Georgia makes the decision as provided by the constitution of Georgia.
9. If Parliament fails to adopt the draft law on the State Budget on time, the President confirms the State Budget by his/her decree.

10. The supplements or/and amendments to the law on the State Budget are adopted according to the rule of the adoption of the draft law on the State Budget established by these Rules of Procedure. Within 2 days after the adoption of the decision, the Financial-Budgetary Committee represents the draft resolution according to the articles 179 and 182 of these Rules of Procedure. The draft law that aims to lessen the state expenses can be discussed at the plenary session after a month it was presented. (25.11.2005 #2150)

CHAPTER XXVII¹

Adoption of the Constitution of Adjara Autonomous Republic

Article 182¹

The Rule of adoption of the Constitution of Adjara Autonomous Republic by the Parliament is determined by the Law. (23.12.2004 # 721)

CHAPTER XXVII²

Adoption of Conception

Article 182²

1. According to the existing rules the Conceptions received in Parliament is transferred to the Bureau of Parliament, which makes a decision about the beginning of the discussion procedure and assigns the leading committee (committees). Within 48 hours the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff transfers the conception to the leading committee, to the factions, other committees, Majority and Minority, Legal Department of Parliament which within 10 days submit motivated conclusion to the Bureau of the Parliament. (17.06.2005 #1690).
2. Bureau of the Parliament discusses the conclusion and makes a decision on putting it on the agenda for discussion of plenary session. (17.06.2005 #1690).
3. The Conception is discussed on the plenary session according to the rule of first hearing of these Rules of Procedure. (17.06.2005 #1690).
4. Parliament adopts the conception with the majority of votes. (17.06.2005 #1690).
5. If the conception fails to be adopted on the plenary session of Parliament the issue is discussed on the meetings of Speaker of Parliament, Committee Chairmen, leaders of factions, Majority and Minority. After which the issue is discussed again on the plenary sitting of Parliament. (17.06.2005 #1690).
6. If Parliament does not adopt the conception according the sections 3-5 of this article the conception is sent back to the initiator who should make the amendments within a month and send it back to the Parliament, which discusses the same conception according to the procedures mentioned in this article. (17.06.2005 #1690).

PART VII

GIVING A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE TO GOVERNMENT OF GEORGIA, ELECTING, APPOINTING, CONFIRMING, CONSENTING THE APPOINTMENT AND DISMISSAL, DISMISSING, REMOVING THE PUBLIC OFFICIALS

CHAPTER XXVIII

Parliament's Relation with Government and Other State Bodies

Article 183

1. Parliament is authorized to give a vote of confidence to Government of Georgia.
2. Within 7 days of Government's resignation, dismissal or taking off the authority, the President of Georgia after holding the consultations with the factions, selects the Prime Minister's candidacy; within 10 days, the candidate for the Prime Minister selects the candidates for the membership of Government. In order to ensure the aforementioned, the President appoints the date of the consultations with the factions and meets with the faction Chairmen or other persons authorized for this by the factions. Within 3 days after the procedure set forth in the first sentence of this article is finished, the President presents the composition of Government to Parliament for a vote of confidence.
3. Within 4 days of the presentation of the composition of Government, the committees and factions, according to their fields, consider it as well as the issue of giving a vote of confidence to the composition of Government and the governmental program, and submit their conclusions to the Bureau of Parliament.
4. Within 5 days of the presentation of the composition of Government by the President of Georgia and on the basis of the conclusions of the committees and factions, the Bureau of Parliament discusses the issue of giving a vote of confidence to Government and adopts a conclusion, which is submitted to the President and Parliament.
5. On the next day of the sitting of the Bureau of Parliament, according to the rule of the consideration by the first hearing established by these Rules of Procedure, at its plenary sitting Parliament considers and votes on the composition of Government and on the issue of giving a vote of confidence to Government.
6. The support of the majority of all the MPs is needed for gaining Parliament's confidence.
7. Parliament is authorized not to give a vote of confidence to the composition of Government and the governmental program and raise the issue of challenging a separate Member of Government in the same decision.
8. If the President of Georgia shares the decision of Parliament on challenging a separate Member of Government, the challenged Members cannot be appointed in the same composition of Government instead of a dismissed or resigned Member of Government.
9. If the composition of Government or the governmental program does not gain Parliament's confidence, the President of Georgia presents the same or a new composition of Government within 1 week. In this case, Parliament follows the procedures set forth in paragraphs 2-7 of this article.

10. If the composition of Government or the governmental program does not gain Parliament's confidence three times in the end, within 5 days the President of Georgia nominates a new candidacy of the Prime Minister or appoints the Prime Minister without Parliament's approval, and the Prime Minister within 5 days appoints the Members of Government with the President's approval. In this case, the President dissolves Parliament and appoints extraordinary elections. (25.11.2005 #2150)
11. If the presentation of the composition of Government coincides with the Parliamentary holidays or a non-session week, a special session or sitting will be convened as provided by these Rules of Procedure.

Article 184

1. If the initial composition of Government is revised by one-third, but no less than 5 Members after giving a vote of confidence to the composition of government and the governmental program, within a week the President of Georgia presents the composition of Government for gaining Parliament's confidence.
2. Parliament gives a vote of confidence to the composition of Government as provided by the constitution of Georgia and these Rules of Procedure.

Article 185

1. An appropriate committee considers the issue of consenting the appointment of an ambassador of Georgia or other diplomatic representative within 1 week after the President of Georgia nominates the respective candidate to Parliament.
2. Based on the conclusion of the committee the Bureau of Parliament considers the issue of the appointment of an ambassador of Georgia or other diplomatic representative and adopts the conclusion, which is submitted to the President and Parliament of Georgia.
3. Parliament gives the President of Georgia its consent on the appointment of an ambassador of Georgia or other diplomatic representative with a decree.
4. If the President of Georgia does not receive consent on the appointment of an ambassador of Georgia or other diplomatic representative, s/he is authorized to nominate the same or other candidate again. The same candidate can be nominated only twice.
5. On the basis of section "a" of paragraph 1 of Article 73 of the constitution of Georgia, an appropriate committee considers the issue of consenting the appointment of an ambassador of Georgia or other diplomatic representative within 1 week after the President of Georgia nominates him/her. The committee is authorized to request and receive the information, data concerning the personality and activities of the diplomatic representative (except the information and data, the disclosure of which is restricted or prohibited by law).
6. Parliament gives its consent to the President of Georgia on the appointment of an ambassador of Georgia or other diplomatic representative with a decree.

Article 186

Based on the proposal of the President of Georgia and by the majority of votes of acting MPs, Parliament elects the members of the supreme body of the National Bank of Georgia – the Council.

Article 187

Based on the proposal of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and by the majority of votes of acting MPs, Parliament elects the Chairman of the Chamber of Control of Georgia for five-year term. The same candidate can be nominated only twice.

Article 188

1. Parliament elects the Public Defender by the majority of votes of all the MPs for five-year term. The President of Georgia, a faction, a group of ten MPs have a right to nominate his/her candidacy.
2. Before the vote, the Chairman of the sitting presents to Parliament the list of candidates and their written consent to be elected as the Public Defender of Georgia. Each candidate is put to the vote separately.
3. A candidate who receives more votes, but no less than the majority of all the MPs, is considered elected.
4. If more than one candidate receives enough number of votes, but the winner cannot be revealed because of the equal number of the votes received, these candidates are put to the vote together and a candidate who receives more votes, but no less than the majority of votes of all the MPs, is considered elected. If the votes divide equally again, the procedure continues until the winner is revealed.
5. If none of the candidates receive the necessary number of votes, new elections are held between 7th and 14th days after the vote.
6. In one cycle of the elections, the same candidate can be nominated twice.

Article 189

The members of the Council of Justice of Georgia and other public officials provided in the Georgian legislation are elected according to the rule of electing a committee Chairman if these Rules of Procedure or other normative acts do not imply otherwise.

Article 190

1. At the time of vote of Confidence to the Government of Georgia also during the election, appointment, adoption or giving approval for adoption, removal or giving approval for the removal of the authorities determined by the Constitution and the law of Georgia. Before Parliament considers the issues of the election and appointment of the state-political officials of the bodies accountable, responsible to Parliament, an appropriate committee considers their candidacies within 1 week after they are nominated. As a result of the consideration the committee drafts a conclusion and submits to the Bureau of Parliament, which based on it, adopts its own conclusion and presents it to the President and Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. If after the Parliamentary consideration and the vote the candidates do not receive the necessary number of votes, new candidates for the election and appointment on the relevant state-political positions are proposed to Parliament, if law or these Rules of Procedure do not imply otherwise.
3. A Member of Government, public officials elected, appointed or consented to the appointment by Parliament are given IDs with the signature of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament according to the established pattern in order to move in the building of Parliament.

Article 191

1. For ten-year term, Parliament elects three members of the Constitutional Court of Georgia by at least three-fifths of all the MPs.
2. Based on the proposal of the President of Georgia, for ten-year term, Parliament elects separately the Chairman and the Deputy Chairmen of the Supreme Court of Georgia by the majority of votes of the acting MPs.
3. Based on the proposal of the President of Georgia, for five-year term, Parliament appoints the Prosecutor General of Georgia by the majority of votes of the acting MPs.

Article 192

1. After the candidates for the positions of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairmen of the Supreme Court of Georgia as well as the Prosecutor General of Georgia are nominated and considered within corresponding committees, the Bureau of Parliament presents these candidates to Parliament.
2. The corresponding committees draft the conclusions for other state-political officials according to the rule established by Article 45 of these Rules of Procedure.
3. If the candidates nominated for the positions of the Chairman of the Supreme Court and the Prosecutor General do not receive the necessary number of votes determined by the constitution of Georgia and these Rules of Procedure, new candidates are proposed to Parliament.
4. The same candidate can be nominated twice for election on the position of the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

Article 193

1. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, a faction, a group of ten MPs have a right to nominate a candidate for the membership of the Constitutional Court of Georgia.
2. Before the vote the Chairman of the plenary sitting presents to Parliament the list of the candidates and their written consent to be elected as a member of the Constitutional Court of Georgia. Each candidate is put to the vote separately.
3. The same candidate can be nominated twice for the election on the position of the member of the Constitutional Court.
4. A candidate who receives more votes, but no less than three-fifths of all the votes of Parliament, is considered elected.
5. If 3 candidates were participating in the elections and if any of them did not receive the necessary number of votes, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, the faction, the group of ten MPs is authorized to nominate the same candidate 10 days after the vote.
6. If the first vote is held on the last day of Parliament's session or it is impossible to elect a candidate in the time remained, a new voting is held at the very first sitting of the next session.
7. If more than 3 candidates were participating in the elections and the necessary number of judges were not elected, a new vote is held. In this case those candidates, who received more votes than others in the first round, are put to the vote.
8. In case of the resignation of these public officials, Parliament accepts this as a notification, which is drawn up in the protocol of the plenary sitting. The public official is considered resigned from the day of the submission of the statement to Parliament.

CHAPTER XXIX

Other Relations between Parliament and the Executive

Article 194

As a rule, on the first day of the summer sessions Parliament hears the annual report of the President of Georgia on the issues of major national importance. A two-hour break is announced after the report of the President. The faction Chairmen take the floor after the break for the time determined by the Bureau of Parliament. The resolution may be adopted after the debates.

Article 195

1. Parliament is authorized to give a vote of no confidence to Government. The Majority, the Minority a faction not united in the Majority or the Minority, a group of ten MPs have a right to demand raising the issue of no confidence. The subjects having a right to demand raising the issue of no confidence address the Bureau of Parliament, which puts the issue on the agenda of the nearest week of plenary sittings. If at least one-third of all the MPs support raising the issue of no confidence, a draft decision on giving a vote of no confidence to Government is put to the vote. The decision is adopted by the majority of votes of all the MPs.
2. If Parliament fails to give a vote of no confidence to Government, it is prohibited to raise this issue during next 3 months.
3. After giving a vote of no confidence to Government, the President removes Government or does not share the decision of Parliament. If Parliament again gives a vote of no confidence to Government between 90th and 100th days after giving a vote of no confidence, the President dismisses Government or dissolves Parliament and appoints extraordinary elections. In the presence of the circumstances set forth in section “a”-“d” of Article 51¹ of the constitution of Georgia a repeated voting shall be held within 15 days of the elimination of these circumstances. (25.11.2005 #2150)
4. By passing a decision, Parliament is authorized to raise the issue of giving an unconditional vote of no confidence to Government. If three-fifths of all the MPs give a vote of no confidence to Government between 15th and 20th days after the adoption of the decision, the President of Georgia removes government.
5. If Parliament fails to give a vote of no confidence to Government, it is prohibited to raise this issue during next 6 months.
6. In case of the removal of Government according to the rule set forth in paragraph 4 of this article, the President cannot appoint the same person as the Prime Minister or nominate the same candidate for the position of the Prime Minister in the next composition of Government.
7. The Prime Minister is authorized to call for a vote of confidence of Government in the draft laws on the State Budget, the tax code, and the structure, authority and rule of activity of Government that are to be discussed in Parliament. Parliament gives a vote of confidence to Government by the majority of votes of all the MPs. If Parliament does not

- give a vote of confidence to Government, within 1 week the President of Georgia dismisses Government or dissolves Parliament and appoints extraordinary elections.
8. The motivated statement on giving a vote of confidence by the Prime Minister to Government shall be presented to the Bureau of Parliament. (25.07.2006#3512)
 9. The Bureau of Parliament receives the solution concerning the start of Procedure of giving a vote of confidence, determines the leading committee (committees) and sends the motivated statement of the Prime Minister to the leading committee (committees), other committees, factions, majority and Minority. (25.07.2006#3512)
 10. Committees, factions, majority and Minority after the start of the discussion of the issue by the Bureau no earlier than 5 days discusses the issue of confidence presented by the Prime Minister and submits the suggestions to the leading committee. (25.07.2006#3512)
 11. After the discussion of the suggestions submitted by the leading committee, other Committees, factions, Majority and Minority the decision on putting the issue on the agenda is made. (25.07.2006#3512)
 12. The reporter on the issue during the plenary session is Prime Minister. (25.07.2006#3512)
 13. The issue of vote of Confidence is discussed according to the rules set forth by the rule established for the 1st Hearing. (25.07.2006#3512)
 14. After the discussion of the issue, by the initiative of the Speaker the issue of vote of confidence is put to the agenda. The voting should be held within 15 days. The refusal to hold the voting within this term means vote of confidence to the Government. (25.07.2006#3512)
 15. The draft law on the Vote of Confidence will be considered approved. (25.07.2006#3512)
 16. If the vote of confidence coincides with the non-session week or holiday period then the emergency session will be held. (25.07.2006#3512)
 17. During this procedure, it is inadmissible to remove the President of Georgia by the Impeachment process. (25.07.2006#3512)

Article 196

1. Once in a year in a very first week of plenary sittings of autumn sessions the Prime Minister has to report to Parliament on the process of implementation of the governmental program.
2. Parliament has a right to demand from the Prime Minister to present an extra report on the process of implementation of the governmental program. Parliament makes the decision on the demand of presenting an extra report from the Prime Minister based on the request of a committee or faction by the majority of votes of the present MPs, but no less than one-fourth of the MPs, which is written down in the protocol of the sitting and immediately sent to the addressee.
3. The Prime Minister presents the relevant report to Parliament within 15 days of the reception of the demand.

Article 197

1. On the basis of the request of a committee or faction and by the majority of votes of the present MPs, but no less than one-fifth of all the MPs, Parliament is authorized to make a decision on inviting a Member of Government of Georgia to the plenary sitting, on the issue to be discussed and the date of its consideration at the plenary sitting, which is written down in the protocol of the sitting and immediately sent to the addressee.

2. The report of a Member of Government at the plenary sitting of Parliament is considered according to the rule established for the Government Hour. The report can be oral or written.
3. After hearing the report and information of the Member of Government, Parliament may adopt a decree or resolution.

Article 198

1. In case of such demand, a Member of Government has to attend the sitting of a committee, investigative or other temporary commission, answer the questions put at the plenary sitting of Parliament and present a written report on the work performed. (25.07.2006#3512)
2. The written demand is sent to the Member of Government 10 days before the plenary sitting. The committee, the investigative or other temporary commission makes the decision on sending the demand by the majority of votes of the acting MPs.
3. The Member of Government immediately upon his request shall be heard by Parliament, Committee or Commission. (25.07.2006#3512)
4. The Member of Government is obliged to submit in a written form the Issues he wants to appeal to the Parliament to the Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament not later than 3 days before submitting these issues to the Parliament. The Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament through Organizational department ensures immediate distribution of the written appeal to the Factions, Majority and minority. (25.07.2006#3512)
5. The appeal of the Member of Parliament shall not exceed 20 minutes; if necessary, it can be prolonged by the Chairman of the sitting for 10 minutes. (25.07.2006#3512)
6. After the appeal of the Member of Government MPs may ask him questions concerning only the preliminary submitted issues. Time estimated for each question shall not exceed 2 minutes. Not more than a minute can be added for specification of the question. The Member of Government answers the questions all together. (25.07.2006#3512)
7. After the questions are answered according to the article 138 of these rules of procedure, the political debates may be held. (25.07.2006#3512)

Article 199

After hearing, controlling and checking the information on the issues of their competence, committees, investigative and other temporary commissions work out the recommendations on the revealed facts of the violation of the constitution and other laws of Georgia and send them to Government, other bodies of the executive branch of government. The results of the discussion of these recommendations or the taken measures are reported to the corresponding committee, faction within 1 month or in the term established in advance.

CHAPTER XXX

Parliament's Relations with the Bodies of Local Self-Government and Government

Article 200

1. A group of MPs created according to the election district or territorial unit within its competencies provides the general coordination of Parliament's relations with bodies of local self-government and government. The members of this group can look into the activities of the bodies of local self-government and government; request the information on the activities in the financial-economic, farming, social, cultural-educational and law enforcement fields as well as in maintenance of public order and protection of the constitutional rights of the citizens of Georgia.
2. Within 1 month of the demand the local self-government and government bodies have to submit to the group of the MPs the information on their activities. Based on the presented information a report with relevant suggestions is drawn up, which might be discussed by Parliament.

Article 201

1. The President of Georgia submits to Parliament the decision on the termination of activities or the dismissal of local self-government or other representative bodies of territorial units.
2. Parliament adopts its decree regarding the decision of the President of Georgia.

PART VIII

CONTROLLING FUNCTIONS OF PARLIAMENT

CHAPTER XXXI

The Rule of Parliament's Controlling Activity

Article 202

1. Parliament directly or by means of the bodies created by it, within its competencies encourages the adherence to the constitution, laws of Georgia, other acts of Parliament, determines the main directions of internal and foreign policies of the country, gives a vote of confidence to the composition of Government of Georgia as provided by the constitution and controls the activities of Government, Members of Government, the protection of constitutional rights, freedoms and obligations of the citizens of Georgia, the implementation of the State Budget, the activities of public officials elected, appointed or consented to the appointment by Parliament.
- 1¹ Parliament controls the harmony of normative acts adopted by the government, Ministers and other executive officials with the Georgian legislation, it also observes the implementation process, effectiveness of the implementation of the acts, the drawbacks that were found during its implementation process and discusses the measures that are supposed to be implemented in order to eliminate the subjective and objective factors. In case of necessity Parliament adopts the statement which reflects the Parliament's position

on the implementation process of the normative act that gives the special recommendation in the following acts. (25.11.2005. # 2150).

2. If the public officials determined by the constitution of Georgia violate the constitution of Georgia, commit high treason and other criminal offence, the rule of impeachment established by the constitution and the Law of Georgia on the Impeachment is used.
3. In order to investigate an urgent issue and work out a relevant draft decision, the plenary sitting of Parliament, the Bureau, a committee is authorized to appoint from the MPs a reporter or a group of reporters, which elects a reporter from among its members. The reporter draws up a plan and a schedule of consideration of the issue, determines the specialists who will take part in it, manages the consideration of the issue, and is responsible for its elaboration and preparation of a draft decision. The reporter appointed by the plenary sitting of Parliament has a right to request and receive any information (including confidential) and explanations on any issue from an administrative body. The reporter submits the draft decision to the Bureau of Parliament or a committee sitting.

Article 203

1. A petition is a written address of a group of persons on the issues, which concerns the State and general problems.
2. The petitions are written and submitted on the name of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and are registered in a special registration journal. The author is informed on the submission and registration number of the petition.
3. A petition is passed to a respective committee or temporary commission for investigation and consideration. The committee or the commission makes one of the following decisions:
 - a) Regards as apt to be investigated and considered by itself or at the plenary sitting of Parliament, during holidays – in the nearest working week;
 - b) Sends the petition to a relevant Ministry, establishment;
 - c) Regards as unapt to be investigated and considered.
4. Within one week the author of the petition is informed on the decision.

Article 204

1. Within 1 month the Ministry, establishment answers the author of the petition and respectively the committee or the temporary commission. With the agreement of the corresponding committee or commission, the term can be prolonged for 1 month. If the Ministry or establishment does not answer the author in the given term, Parliament makes a relevant decision.
2. In order to consider the petition at the plenary sitting of Parliament, the conclusion of respective committee or temporary commission along with a full text of the petition shall be submitted to the Bureau of Parliament.
3. After discussing, the issue Parliament adopts a decree, resolution or other decision.

Article 205

Citizens of Georgia, public and political unions, enterprises, establishments and organizations, bodies of state power and public officials, local self-government and government bodies are authorized to address with a statement the members, bodies and officials of Parliament.

Article 206

1. In order to better introduce Parliament's activities to citizens, effectively respond to their complaints and statements, the Public Reception of Citizens is created in Parliament as a structural unit of Parliamentary Staff. (25.11.2005. # 2150).
2. The Public Reception of Citizens works every day except Sundays. (25.11.2005.# 2150).

Article 207

1. It is prohibited to forward appropriately the statements and complaints submitted to Parliament without proper examination (drawing up a plan and determining the date of consideration, allocating persons responsible).
2. The MPs, state bodies and public officials have to consider submitted statements/complaints and respond to them appropriately. The authors are informed about the answer within 1 month.

Article 208

On Mondays (except the days when MPs meet with the electorate on the spot), from 14 pm to 19 pm except the weeks of plenary sittings, Parliamentary Staff, the staffs of committees, investigative and other temporary commissions, secretariats of officials, MPs receive the citizens. The committee, investigative or other temporary commission, official, an MP is responsible for investigating/considering and responding appropriately to the received statement/complaint.

Article 209

As a rule, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament receives the citizens of Georgia, representatives of public and political unions, enterprises, establishments and organizations, officials of state bodies, local self-government and government, if:

- a) The issues raised in the statements/complaints are important and there is a well-reasoned request of the meeting with the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament;
- b) The statements/complaints submitted by them are not appropriately responded;
- c) The MPs, committees, investigative or other temporary commissions have not responded to the submitted statements/complaints at all.

Article 210

After the investigation and consideration of the issue, the conclusion or recommendation adopted by the committee, investigative or other temporary commission may be submitted to Parliament or its Bureau or sent appropriately for the response. The respective body informs the committee, investigative or other temporary commission on the result of the response, which can be reported to Parliament or the Bureau. If necessary Parliament adopts a decree or resolution on the issues heard. The decision is adopted according to the same rule when without forwarding, the committee submits to the plenary sitting of Parliament its conclusion or recommendation on the results of the consideration

CHAPTER XXXII

A Question of an MP, an Inquiry of a Group of Ten MPs and a faction, the Government Hour

Article 211

1. An MP is authorized to address with a question a body accountable to Parliament, Government of Georgia, a Member of Government, City Mayor, head of an executive body of a territorial unit of any level, state establishments and receive their answers. The question can be put only in a written form. Each body and official that was addressed with a question within 15 of the reception of the question has to submit a written answer to Parliament. In agreement with the author of the question the term given to a respective official for answering the question can be prolonged for 10 days.
2. A group of ten MPs, a faction have a right to address with an inquiry a body accountable to Parliament, Government of Georgia, and a Member of Government, who have to answer this inquiry at the plenary sitting of Parliament. The inquiries are answered on the last Thursday of each month's plenary sitting during the Government Hour. An inquiry can be written or oral. The answer on the inquiry is submitted to Parliament in a written form.
3. Only the subjects and heads of relevant bodies listed in this article sign the answers.
4. A public official may not answer a question and an inquiry only when the information contains State or military secret.
5. The MP, the group of ten MPs, the faction can withdraw their questions or inquiries any time.

Article 212

1. An oral inquiry can be put at the plenary sitting of Parliament, but no later than 14 days before the Government Hour. A written inquiry can be submitted not later than 11 days before the Government Hour.
2. A written inquiry is submitted to Parliamentary Staff, which records it in a special book and gives out a certificate on the reception of a written inquiry.
3. Within 4 days Parliamentary Staff elaborates an oral inquiry in writing and the author confirms it by his/her signature, after which Staff records the inquiry in a special book and give out a certificate on its reception.
4. Parliamentary Staff passes a written inquiry and an oral inquiry elaborated in writing to the addressee not later than 1 day.
5. The term of answering an inquiry can be prolonged to the next Government Hour by the agreement between the author and the addressee of the inquiry.
6. An inquiry, which was not answered in the term and according to the rule established by this article, is put automatically at the nearest Government Hour.

Article 213

1. In agreement with a respective official, the Chairman of the sitting determines the time for answering an inquiry at the plenary sitting of Parliament.

2. For making clear separate issues an MP can address a reporter once for not more than 3 minutes. After the final speech of the reporter, there are not more speeches on the issue.

Article 214

The issues heard during the Government Hour can become the subject of Parliamentary discussion, with the purpose of which a special group, composed of no less than one representative of each initiator of the issues, can be created for preparing a draft decision.

Article 215

1. By the majority of votes of all the MPs, Parliament is authorized to raise the issue of responsibility of a separate Member of Government before the Prime Minister.
2. The issue can be raised by a faction, a group of ten MPs. A written statement on raising the issue is submitted to the Chairman of the plenary sitting, which immediately starts the appropriate procedures. By the majority of votes of the MPs present at the sitting, but no less than one-third of all the MPs, Parliament makes the decision on putting the issue to the vote. If a positive decision is made, the issue is immediately put to the vote.
3. If Parliament fails to make a positive decision, it is prohibited to raise the issue of responsibility of the same Member of Government during the next 3 months.
4. If the Prime Minister does not dismiss the Member of Government, within 2 weeks s/he shall submit to Parliament his/her justified decision.

CHAPTER XXXIII

Controlling the Activities of the Officials of the Bodies Accountable and Responsible to Parliament, Termination of their Powers, Removal from the Positions, Resignation and Dismissal

Article 216

1. In conformity with the rules envisaged by the constitution of Georgia and other legislation, Parliament controls the activities of high-ranking officials of the Chamber of Control and the National Bank of Georgia.
2. At the presentation of preliminary and complete reports on the implementation of the State Budget, the Chamber of Control of Georgia presents the report on Government's report twice in a year, and once in a year, not later than June 1 of the next year – the report on its own activities. Parliament makes a relevant decision after discussing the report.
3. While working out plans of its activities, the Chamber of Control takes into consideration the suggestions of the committees, investigative and other temporary commissions.
4. The Chamber of Control of Georgia is authorized, in case of the demand – obliged, to provide the materials of revision and control to the relevant committees and temporary investigative commissions.
5. Based on the request of Parliament and temporary investigative commissions the chamber of Control carries out unplanned revision and checking.

6. A temporary commission created by the decision of Parliament oversees the activity of the Chamber of Control. The above mentioned commission is created no later than December 1st. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 216¹

Georgian Parliament adopts the resolution on the budgetary estimate of CEC presented by the Central Election Commission. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 217

1. According to the rules established by the constitution and other legislation of Georgia Parliament controls the activities of the National Bank and high-ranking officials of the National Bank of Georgia.
2. 3 months before the start of a new fiscal year, the National Bank of Georgia submits a draft of the main directions of next year's monetary-credit and currency policies. By its decree Parliament determines the main directions of next year's monetary-credit and currency policies.
3. Every year, within 3 months of the end of a fiscal year, the National Bank of Georgia submits the report on the implementation of the monetary-credit and currency policy to Parliament. Parliament confirms this report with its decree.
4. In case of non-confirmation of the report of the National Bank of Georgia, Parliament makes decision on the measures for improving the work of the National bank, gives recommendations to the National Bank in order to eliminate the revealed imperfections or raises the issue of responsibility of a relevant official.
5. During a fiscal year, Parliament is authorized to request by perforce from the National Bank of Georgia the information on the process of implementation of Parliament's decree on the main directions of the monetary-credit and currency policy. The National Bank has to present the information at the plenary sitting of Parliament in the term given by Parliament.

Article 218

1. The Public Defender of Georgia presents a report on the state of the protection of human rights and freedoms in the country once in 6 months, in March and October of a calendar year, also a special report once in a year, based on the discussion of which Parliament adopts its decree or resolution.
2. In the cases set forth in section "b" and "e" of paragraph 1 of Article 10 of the Law of Georgia on the Public Defender of Georgia Parliament terminates the powers of the Public defender.

Article 219

The officials elected, appointed or confirmed by Parliament, and officials appointed with Parliament's consent, if required shall attend the sittings of Parliament, committees, investigative and other temporary commissions, the Majority, the Minority. They must present relevant documents, conclusions, other materials, and provide explanations relating to the matters under consideration within an established timeframe. Parliament, committee or commission hears to this person immediately after the request.

CHAPTER XXXIII¹

Discussing the reports on the other Independent Bodies in Parliament

Article 219¹

1. The Organizational Department of Parliament presents the report of the independent body at the nearest (upcoming) sitting of the Bureau of Parliament. (25.07.2006 # 3512).
2. The Bureau of Parliament decides on starting the discussion of the presented report, it also determines the leading committee (committees) and determines the dates for Parliamentary discussion. (25.07.2006 #3512).
3. After the decision on starting the procedures of discussion on a report of Independent bodies the issue is transferred to the leading committee, other committees, factions, Majority and Minority. (25.07.2006 #3512).
4. Committees, factions, Majority and Minority give their suggestions (comments) to the leading committee (committees) within the terms determined by the Bureau of Parliament. (25.07.2006 #3512).
5. Leading committee calls for the committee sitting within the time determined by the Bureau of Parliament, discusses the presented report together with the changes offered by the committees, factions, Majority and Minority, prepares the conclusion and represents that to the Bureau of Parliament for a discussion. (25.07.2006# 3512).
7. Discussion of a report given by the Independent bodies on the plenary sitting is necessary if according to the law the Independent body is formed by the Parliament of Georgia. (25.07.2006# 3512).
8. If Parliament of Georgia does not participate in formation of the Independent Body then discussion of a report on the plenary sitting is not necessary, if leading committee (committees) or Bureau (majority of representatives) does not ask for that. (25.07.2006 #3512).
9. The leading committee (committees) mentions about the issue of obligatory discussion of the report of Independent Body on the plenary session in its resolution. (25.07.2006 # 3512).
10. The report represented by the Independent Body is discussed at the plenary session according the article 156 of these Rules of Procedure. (25.07.2006 #3512).
11. On the plenary sitting the issue of Report of the independent body is discussed by a reporter appointed by decision of the leading committee (committees). (25.07.2006 # 3512).
12. At the end of a discussion, Parliament acknowledges the report or is eligible to receive a resolution. (25.07.2006# 3512).

CHAPTER XXXIV

Control over the Implementation of the Normative Acts Adopted by Parliament and the Executive

Article 220

1. Within its competencies, a committee controls the state of the enforcement of the normative acts adopted by Parliament in the committee's field.
2. Parliament regularly hears the information from respective committees and officials of the executive branch of government on the state of the enforcement of the normative acts adopted by it.
3. On the basis of the working plan of the session, the Bureau of Parliament is authorized to put on the agenda of the plenary sittings of a session week a list of those normative acts, the information on the state of the enforcement of which Parliament needs to hear. The committee, which was responsible for drafting a respective normative act, presents this information to Parliament.
4. The report of a committee and a respective institution of the executive branch of government shall include the information on the state and effectiveness of the enforcement of the normative acts, the imperfections revealed while implementing them and the necessary legislative corrections in order to eliminate these imperfections, also the analysis of the objective and subjective factors that impede the thorough enforcement of the normative act.
5. After hearing the information of the committee, the representatives of factions, the Majority, the Minority may take the floor.
6. After Parliamentary hearing of the state of the enforcement of normative act, if necessary Parliament adopts a decree, in which Parliament may give its evaluation regarding the state of the enforcement of the normative act, the assignment of a respective committee on making corrections into the normative act or raise the issue of responsibility of an official of the respective institution of the executive branch of government.

Article 221

1. Within its competencies a committee controls the compliance of normative acts of the Ministry, Minister and head of other institution of the executive branch of government working in the committee's field to the Georgian legislation, the state of their enforcement, investigates and analyses the imperfections revealed while implementing these acts and works out the recommendations and sends them to the corresponding institution. The committee should be informed on the discussion of the recommendations and the measures taken within 1 month or the timeframe determined by it.
2. Committee controls the timely execution of the obligations assigned by the transitional provisions of laws and Parliament's decrees to the institutions of the executive branch of government working in the committee's field.
3. If there is not timeframe determined for implementing the assignments set forth in paragraph 2 of this article, the committee establishes the term for the respective institution. The term can be prolonged by the agreement between the committee and the respective institution, but it shall not exceed a half of the initial term.

CHAPTER XXXIV¹

Reports of the Committees

Article 221¹

1. The Chairmen of the committees represent the written report on the annual working results to the Parliament at the very start of the Autumn Session. (25.11.2005.2150)
2. The report is sent to the Organizational Department of Parliamentary Staff, which immediately sends that to the Speaker of Parliament, Bureau, Majority and Minority, factions and to the Coordination Council of Independent MPs. (25.11.2005.2150)
3. Bureau puts in the agenda the discussion of the reports in the first plenary sitting of the Autumn Session. (25.11.2005.2150)
4. On the plenary sitting, the reporter can take floor for no more than 20 minutes. (In case of necessity, the length of the reporter's speech can continue by the permission of the Speaker of Parliament for 30 minutes.) (25.11.2005.2150)
5. At the end of reporter's speech MPs have the right for an enquiry. Time allotted for the question can be no more than 2 minutes, also he/she can use additional 1 minute for clarification. MP has right to use time for enquiry and clarification only once. Reporter answers the questions separately. (25.11.2005.2150)
6. After the reporter the members of the Coordination Council of Independent MPs take turn, also members of those factions who are not the members of Majority or Minority, also the members of Majority or Minority in the same order and report the sitting on their position concerning the speech delivered. The representatives of Coordination Council of Independent MPs and factions can take floor for 10 minutes, Majority and Minority for 15 minutes. (25.11.2005.2150)
7. At the end of speeches of representatives of Coordination Council of Independent MPs, factions, Majority and Minority the final word is given to the main reporter which can last for 10 minutes. (25.11.2005.2150)
8. Parliament can acknowledge the report of a committee as a resolution. (25.11.2005.2150)

PART IX

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OF PARLIAMENT. RAFITICATION, DENUNCIATION, ABOLITION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND TREATIES

CHAPTER XXXV

International Relations of the Parliament

Article 222

1. The Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament of Georgia is the supreme representative of the Parliament of Georgia in foreign relations. (25.11.2005.2150)

2. The Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament not later than 14 days after his/her visit to the foreign state informs the Bureau of the Parliament on the visit, gives the information about the results of the work done within the framework of the visit, submits the report of the visit and his/her considerations about it. If necessary, this report may also be presented at the Plenary Session. (25.11.2005.2150)

Article 222¹

1. Parliament is eligible to set agreements on cooperation with Parliaments of other states, international inter-Parliamentary and other organizations. (25.11.2005.2150)
3. Parliament is eligible to approve the program on the cooperation annually, which is worked out by the opinions of the committees, factions, permanent Parliamentary delegations and MPs. Parliament works out and approves the working regulations of the Parliamentary delegations. (25.11.2005.2150)
4. Parliament should be notified about the members of the delegation and departure time no later than a week. (25.11.2005.2150)
5. Usually head of the Parliamentary delegation is the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, or by his/her assignment Deputy Chairman or an MP. If the Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament or one of his deputies leads the delegation, other deputies of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament cannot be in the delegation. (25.11.2005.2150)
6. During the session period, MP has to notify the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and the Chairman of an appropriate committee about being in the Parliamentary delegation and missing the sittings no later than 3 days. (25.11.2005.2150)

Article 223

The head of Parliamentary delegations submit to the Bureau of Parliament the information on the visit to a foreign country and the results of their work there, a report and comments regarding the visit within 14 days of the end of the visit. The report may become a matter of consideration at the plenary sitting of Parliament by the request of a group of at least ten MPs, a committee, or a faction. (25.11.2005.2150)

Article 224

1. Parliament is informed of the visit of a foreign official delegation at least 3 days before receiving the delegation.
2. Parliamentary Staff provides MPs and officials with the information about the arrival of an official delegation of a foreign country and the goals of its visit to Parliament
3. Parliament is authorized to adopt a resolution on rejection to receive an official delegation of a foreign country.
4. During the visits of the heads (Speakers) of Parliaments of foreign countries, Heads of States, leaders of Parliamentary delegations in Parliament, the Chairman (Speakers) of Parliament or by his/her assignment – one of his/her deputies receives them and holds the conversation. During their visit to Parliament, the state flag of the country whose delegation is visiting Parliament shall be raised (exhibited) in front of the façade of Parliament's building.
5. At the desire of the heads of Parliaments of foreign countries, Heads of States and Governments, leaders of Parliamentary delegations, they can meet with members of committees, factions and separate groups of MPs.

Article 225

1. The Chairman of the sitting or at the Chairman's assignment - the Usher of Parliament announces to Parliament about the official delegation of a foreign country entering the Sitting Hall of Parliament and introduces its members.
2. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament or a person (Member of Parliament) authorized by the Chairman (Speaker) delivers a welcome speech, describing the goals and objectives of the visit of the official delegation of a foreign country to Georgia, relations between the relevant foreign country and Georgia, introduces the position of the Georgian Parliament.
3. At the desire of the heads of Parliaments of foreign countries, Heads of States, leaders of Parliamentary delegations, they can deliver a speech at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
4. Parliament has the right by the majority of votes of those present, to make a decision about the Parliamentary consideration of the issues raised by the official delegation of a foreign country. By the same decision, Parliament may allow the official delegation of a foreign country or its certain members to be present at the Parliamentary consideration.
5. Parliament discusses the recommendations of international inter-Parliamentary assembly and makes decision on their realization. A relevant committee considers these recommendations in advance and presents the relevant conclusion along with the recommendations to Parliament for consideration. The recommendations of international inter-Parliamentary assembly will be taken into consideration while preparing the draft laws.

Article 226

By the initiative of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, a group of not less than ten MPs, a committee, a faction, the Majority, the Minority, Parliament may adopt a resolution or other decision about the results of a visit by the official delegation of a foreign country at the nearest plenary sitting.

CHAPTER XXXVI

Permanent Parliamentary and Inter-Parliamentary Delegations

Article 227

1. Pursuing its goal to establish regular relations with international inter-Parliamentary organizations, Parliament confirms the compositions of permanent Parliamentary delegations on the principle of proportional representation, according to the rule of forming a committee.
2. Head of the permanent Parliamentary delegation leads its activities and submits to Parliament the report on the work done every year, within one month of the opening of spring session. At the hearing of the report, the committee on Foreign Relations appears as a co-reporter. Following the hearing of the report, Parliament makes a relevant decision. The composition of the delegation may change by this decision.

Article 228

1. Pursuing its goal of establishing regular relations with Parliaments of foreign countries, temporary inter-Parliamentary (Groups of Friends) delegations are formed. (25.11.2005.2150)
2. Temporary inter-Parliamentary delegations (Groups of Friends) are composed according to the principle of proportional representation. Quotes are approved by the Parliamentary resolution. (25.11.2005.2150)
3. The committee of Foreign Relations leads the activities of the temporary inter-Parliamentary delegations, (Groups of Friends) and the report on the work done is annually submitted to the Bureau of the Parliament. (25.11.2005.2150)
4. The head of the inter-Parliamentary delegation not later than 10 days after the visit, informs the Bureau of the Parliament on the visit and the work done within the framework of the visit, and submits the report of the visit and his/her considerations about it. (25.11.2005.2150)
5. The scope of authority, the rules of formation and activity of the temporary inter-Parliamentary delegations are proposed by the committee of Foreign Relations and approved by Parliament.
6. The activities of the temporary Parliamentary delegations and the temporary inter-Parliamentary delegations are coordinated by the committee of Foreign Relations, which submits an annual report to the Bureau of Parliament on the work performed.

CHAPTER XXXVII

Ratification, Denunciation and Abolition of International Agreements and Treaties

Article 229

1. The President of Georgia submits international agreements and treaties to Parliament for ratification, denunciation and abolition.
2. International agreements and treaties submitted for ratification, denunciation or abolition shall include copies of the official text confirmed according to the established rule and the documents comprising:
 - a) Justification of the expediency of its ratification, denunciation or abolition;
 - b) Determination of its compliance with the Georgian legislation;
 - c) Estimation of possible financial-economic and other consequences.
3. Taking into account the contents of an international agreement (treaty), the Bureau of Parliament determines the leading committee for preparing the international agreement (treaty) for ratification, denunciation or abolition, and sends the attached materials to this committee.
4. By the decision of the Bureau of Parliament, other committees may also participate in preparing an international agreement (treaty) for ratification, denunciation or abolition.
5. The committee of Foreign Relations, if it is not a leading committee, along with other committees organizes the preparation of an international agreement (treaty) for ratification, denunciation or abolition.

6. The leading committee or/and the committee of Foreign Relations can request the information regarding the preparation of an international agreement (treaty) for ratification, denunciation or abolition of from other state institutions. The international agreement (treaty), which needs financial expenses, is agreed in advance with the committees of Financial-Budgetary Issues and Foreign Relations.
7. As provided by the constitution of Georgia, according to the rule established by these Rules of Procedure, Parliament ratifies the agreements (treaties) concluded with foreign countries, international financial organizations or bodies of foreign countries on receiving State foreign credits or giving State guarantees on credits.
8. Those drafts of credit agreements and agreements on state guarantees concluded in regards to State foreign credits of Georgia, which determine the deadlines of ratification and the terms of observing these deadlines, are submitted to Parliament according to the established rule with the purpose of giving recommendations.
9. The leading committee or/and the committee of Foreign Relations shall submit the full information regarding an international agreement (treaty) to Parliament.
10. The discussions on the issues concerning an international agreement (treaty) in committees are conducted with the necessary participation of the President of Georgia or his/her proxy who shall be informed about the committee discussion no later than 48 hours in advance. His/her absence will not impede the committee discussion if the committee does not consider necessary his/her participation in the consideration. In this case, the committee discussion is postponed until the next sitting of the committee.
11. The conclusion of the leading committee shall include the recommendation to ratify or to reject the ratification, proposal on indispensable ratification, denunciation, abolition or reservation, also the recommendations that are to be adopted by Parliament.
12. If the leading committee decides that ratification, denunciation or abolition shall happen with reservation, it should agree with the president of Georgia. If the President gives his/her consent, the ratification, denunciation or abolition of an international agreement (treaty) will happen with an appropriate reservation, if s/he is against, the leading committee discusses the issue again at its nearest sitting. If the President considers reservation necessary again, the issue will be discussed at the plenary sitting of Parliament with reservation.
13. The President of Georgia or his/her proxy delivers a speech regarding the ratification, denunciation or abolition of an international agreement (treaty). The Chairmen of the leading committee determined by Parliament regarding the issue under consideration and the committee of Foreign Relations may be the co-reporters.
14. Parliament considers an international agreement (treaty) submitted for ratification, denunciation or abolition at its plenary sitting according to the rules established for the first hearing of a draft law and makes the relevant decision by the majority of votes of all the MPs.
15. If the decision is not adopted on ratification, denunciation or abolition of an international agreement (treaty), it is not considered to have passed an appropriate procedure and is handed back to the leading committee for consideration.
16. Parliament is authorized to adopt a decision to postpone the consideration of the issue of ratification, denunciation or abolition of an international agreement (treaty). If Parliament adopts the decision on postponing the consideration of a relative issue concerning ratification, denunciation or abolition of an international agreement (treaty), the decision shall be justified, well reasoned and adopted with the decree.

17. If an appeal on the constitutionality of an international agreement (treaty) is submitted to the Constitutional Court, the issue of its ratification will be postponed until the Constitutional Court adopts its decision.

Article 230

1. According to article 65 of the Constitution of Georgia, Parliament withdraws from international agreements and treaties ratified by Parliament or acceded to upon its decision by the majority of votes of all the MPs.
2. The committee of Foreign Relations together with other relevant committees beforehand considers an international agreement (treaty) submitted for denunciation and prepares the relevant conclusion.
3. Upon the President's motion, Parliament abolishes international agreements and treaties concluded and signed on behalf of Government of Georgia as well as the agreements not requiring ratification that were acceded to on behalf of the Government of Georgia by the majority of votes of all the MPs.
4. Treaties and international agreements cannot be ratified, denounced and/or abolished article-by-article, except the cases when this happens with reservation.
5. The heads of the committee of Foreign Relations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, as well as other relevant officials, shall attend Parliamentary consideration on ratification, denunciation or abolition of an international agreement (treaty).

Article 231

The committee of Foreign Relations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia are obliged to inform Parliament about the conclusion of the international agreements and treaties not requiring ratification within one month of their conclusion. Parliament accepts with information as a notification (accepting as a notification means providing the relevant information to the nearest sitting of the Bureau, which adopts a decision on the acceptance of this information as a notification) or it may become an issue of Parliamentary consideration.

Article 232

If a motion on the accession of Georgia to an international agreement (treaty) is submitted to Parliament, the committee of Foreign Relations together with other relevant committees prepares its conclusion according to the rules established by these Rules of Procedure and submits the issue to the Bureau for the consideration at the plenary sitting of Parliament. Parliament adopts the decision by the majority of votes of all the MPs.

PART X

SPECIAL PROCEDURES

CHAPTER XXXVIII

Consideration and Approval of an Annual Report on the Implementation of the State Budget. Parliamentary Control over the Implementation of the State Budget

Article 233

1. Parliament, through the Financial-Budgetary committee, exercises general and consistent control over State Budget implementation. As a rule, other committees exercise control over budget implementation in their respective fields.
2. Within 20 days of the end of each quarter, Government of Georgia submits to Parliament the information on the implementation of the State Budget.
3. Parliamentary committees discuss quarterly the implementation of the State Budget of Georgia during a fiscal year. The committees have the right to require and receive information regarding the implementation of the State Budget from the appropriate state agencies. The Financial-Budgetary committee organizes the process of discussion in committees. If necessary, the results are reported to Parliament and they may become a matter of Parliamentary consideration.

Article 234

1. Government submits to Parliament a report on the implementation of the State Budget no later than 3 months after the end of the fiscal year. The Parliamentary staff according to the rule set forth sends the report on the implementation of State Budget to the Chamber of Control and National Bank. (17.06.2005. #1711)
2. The report on the implementation of the State Budget is considered by:
 - a) Committees as a rule according to their competences
 - b) Factions, Majority, Minority and the MPs (17.06.2005. #1711)
3. Parliament discusses the issue of implementation of State Budget in no later than 60 days. (17.06.2005. #1711)
4. Within 1 month of the submission of the report on the implementation of the State Budget by Government, the Chamber of Control of Georgia submits to Parliament a report on Government's report on the implementation of the State Budget. (17.06.2005. #1711)
5. The Parliamentary staff sends the report on the implementation of the State Budget by Government, Chamber of Control's Report on the Government's report on the implementation of the State Budget to the leading committee (committees), other committees, factions, Majority, Minority, separate MPs within 3 days. Financial-Budgetary committee in two after receiving the reports makes a schedule for the annual report and sends that to other committees, Factions, Majority, Minority, separate MPs, National Bank and Chamber of Control. The Financial-Budgetary committee and other committees discuss the report of the Government and Chamber of Control's Report on the Government's report on the implementation of the State Budget according to their competence and prepare their conclusions. (17.06.2005. #1711)
6. On the plenary session, the conclusion of The Financial-Budgetary committee and other committees will be presented. After the discussion of the of the report on implementation of State Budget done by Government and Chamber of Control's Report on the Government's report and receiving the conclusions from committees, factions, Majority, Minority, separate MPs, Chamber of Control and after holding the discussion according to the rules set for by the Rules of Procedure for the first hearing, Parliament adopts the resolution on the implementation of State Budget. The Report of Government on the

implementation of State Budget is adopted if it is clearly defined and fully describes the amount of expenses and incomes. The Georgian Parliament adopts the resolution on approval or rejection of the State Budget, no later than November 1st. In case of rejection President of Georgia discusses the issue of responsibility of Government and submits his/her well-reasoned decision within a month. (17.06.2005. #1711)

7. If in case of not fulfillment of the State Budget Parliament does not approve the State Budget implementation report, the President of Georgia considers the issue of Government's responsibility and informs Parliament on his/her well-reasoned decision within 1 month. (17.06.2005. #1711)

Article 235

Parliament is authorized to control the legality of spending the State Budget resource by Government. In case of revealing the facts of misappropriation of the State Budget resources while exercising the Parliamentary control over the activities of Government, a Ministry, other agency of the executive by a committee, investigative or other temporary commission, a reporter, these subjects submit to Parliament a draft decision on addressing the President of Georgia with the demand to stop ceasing the relevant budget expenditures. The decision is considered adopted if the majority of votes of those present, but not less than one-third of all the MPs, support it. The President makes a relevant decision if the fact of misappropriation of the State Budget resources is proved.

Article 236

1. The National Bank of Georgia, responsible to Parliament - the banker of the Government of Georgia and its fiscal agent - is bound to submit to Parliament a report of the Bank's annual activity every year, not later than April. (17.06.2005. #1711)
2. Chamber of Control annually submits its report on concerning its activity on 1st June of every upcoming year. The report is published in the official printing body. (17.06.2005. #1711)
3. The annual reports of National Bank and the Chamber of Control is discussed in appropriate committees and the conclusions are presented no later than 30 days, Parliament discusses and approves the appropriate decision. The Committee of Finance and Budget is co-reporter and represents the draft resolution of Parliament. (17.06.2005. #1711)

CHAPTER XXXIX

Drawing Up Parliament's Budget

Article 237

1. Parliament ensures drawing up and submission of Parliament's budget to Government of Georgia before the start of a fiscal year, not later that April 15. (25.11.2005.2150)
2. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament manages and coordinates the process of drawing up Parliament's budget. Parliament's budget is drawn up on the basis of the proposals of the

- relevant committees, factions, Council of Treasurers and Parliamentary Staff, and is submitted to Parliament for its approval. The respective draft shall be disseminated at the consideration of Parliament's budget at the plenary sitting of Parliament will be held with the following code (0101). The represented indicators can be reduced only but with the preliminary approval of Parliament. During the discussion of the State Budget distribution of the draft law is necessary. (25.11.2005.2150)
3. Along with other expenses, the allocations for each committee, faction, the Minority and the Majority shall be specified in Parliament's budget. (25.11.2005.2150)
 4. The current expenditures allocated to Parliament in the State Budget can be reduced comparing to the last year's expenditures only with Parliament's consent given in advance. Parliament itself makes decision on the division of the budget resources allocated to Parliament in the State Budget. The decision on the division of the budget resources allocated to Parliament from the State Budget, if the amount of the resources does not exceed 15% of the budget resources allocated to Parliament, is made by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, otherwise – with Parliament's decree. (25.11.2005.2150)
 - 4¹ Decision on the management and reduction in the labor wages fund is made on the advice of Parliamentary Staff Financial Support Department by the Speaker of Parliament. (28.04.2006 # 2957)
 5. In case of no funding from the central budget, Parliament has a right, by its own judgment, to take a loan from the National Bank of Georgia with drawing up a relevant agreement. The Council of Treasurers prepares this agreement and agrees it with the relevant committees, after which the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament considers and signs it. Exercising this right represents a force-major and Parliament is not limited by the provisions of the Law of Georgia on state Purchases. (25.11.2005.2150)
 6. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, within his/her competencies, controls the financial activities in Parliament by means of the relevant committee as well as the Council of Treasurers. The Council of Treasures is an advisory body of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament determines the number of the Council members and appoints them from among the MPs with the approval of the Bureau of Parliament. The authorities and rule of activity of the Council of Treasurers are determined by the Regulations of the Council of Treasurers, which is approved by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament. (25.11.2005.2150)
 7. A fund of financial support to each other can be formed in Parliament. The money withheld as a penalty in the cases determined by these Rules of Procedure from the salary and monthly addition of the authority of an MP as well as the volunteer donations of the MPs are transferred to the fund. The rule of formation and activity of the fund and the amount of donations are determined by the Regulations of the fund, which is approved by the Bureau of Parliament. (25.11.2005.2150)
 8. The Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament of Georgia ensures the formation of the Budgets of Audit Council and State Heraldic Council existing at the Parliament as well as of the National Library of the Parliament and transfers them to the Government of Georgia. (07.12.2007# 5583)
 9. The Heads of the Audit Council and State Heraldic Council existing at the Parliament of Georgia as well as National Library of the Parliament by March 1st submit to the Parliament the draft budget statements on budget estimates and marginal number of employees for the upcoming year. (07.12.2007# 5583)
 10. The submitted budget statement with the corresponding conclusion from the Parliamentary Financial Support department will be discussed in the Committee of Finance and Budget within 3 weeks and will be presented to the Speaker of Parliament, who sends with the

- appropriate decision to the Government of Georgia no later than April 15th. (25.11.2005.2150)
11. The submission of Budget of the Chamber of Control is done by the Parliament of Georgia. (25.11.2005.2150)
 12. The Chairman of the Chamber of Control submits the budget of upcoming year with the calculations and exact number of staff by March 1st. (25.11.2005.2150)
 13. Committee of Finance and Budget discusses the issue within 3 weeks and makes a decision that will be submitted to the Parliament no later than April 1st. During the discussion, it is necessary to distribute the copies of the draft law. (25.11.2005.2150)
 14. After the discussion of the Budget of Chamber of Control the draft law on budget will be submitted to the Government of Georgia by no later than April 15th. (25.11.2005.2150)
 15. During the adoption of the average amount of the Budget for the Chamber of Control, it has to be taken into consideration that it must not be less than the budget of previous year. The reduction of budgetary resources is possible only with the preliminary approval of Bureau of the Parliament. (25.11.2005.2150)

CHAPTER XL

Consideration of Issues Related to the Declaration of a State of Emergency or Martial Law, War and Truce, Approval of the Numerical Strength of Military Forces

Article 238

1. The President of Georgia submits the decisions on the declaration of a state of emergency or martial law as well as the issues considered in Article 46 of the constitution of Georgia to Parliament within 48 hours for approval. The decisions are immediately put to the vote, without passing preliminary consideration at the committee level and other relevant procedures.
2. The President of Georgia shall present the relevant information pertaining to the declaration of a state of emergency or martial law as well as to the necessity of restriction of human rights and freedoms outlined by Article 46 of the constitution of Georgia during a state of emergency and martial law.
3. Parliament sits until the end of the state of emergency or martial law according to the plan set by the Bureau of Parliament.
4. The decision of the President of Georgia on the declaration of a state of emergency or martial law is discussed at a special sitting of Parliament according to the rule set forth in these Rules of Procedure, taking into consideration the following exceptions:
 - a) The president of Georgia or his/her special proxy is a main reporter;
 - b) There is no dispute;
 - c) Only the President of Georgia or his/her special proxy makes the final speech.
5. In case of agreement, the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament signs Parliament's decree on consenting the declaration of a state of emergency or martial law, and promulgates it.
6. If Parliament does not agree with the decision of the President of Georgia, within 24 hours the issue is discussed at the meeting held by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, his/her deputies, heads of committees and factions, groups of MPs, and the President of Georgia or his/her proxy, after which the President of Georgia makes the relevant decision on the

submission of the issue for consenting to the plenary sitting of Parliament. If the consent is not given again, the issue of declaring a state of emergency or martial law will be considered not settled and the President of Georgia does not have a right to address Parliament again on this issue within 48 hours of the refusal to give consent.

Article 239

1. Parliament approves a decision by the President of Georgia on the declaration of a state of emergency or martial law as well as on restrictions of some human rights and freedoms as outlined in Article 46 of the constitution of Georgia by the majority of votes of all the MPs.
2. If the declaration of a state of emergency coincides with election period in some part of the country, the decision on holding elections on the rest of the territory of the country is made by the majority of votes of all the MPs.

Article 240

1. In case of declaring a state of emergency or martial law by the President of Georgia in the period between coming into force of the President's decree on the dismissal of Parliament and the first sitting of a newly-elected Parliament, the issue of approval a state of emergency or martial law or/and prolongation of a state of emergency or martial law is decided by Parliament (dismissed) according to the rule set forth in paragraphs 1, 2-5 of Article 238 and Article 239 of these Rules of Procedure.
2. If in the case set forth in paragraph 1 of this article Parliament fails to convene within 5 days or approve (prolong) the President's decree on the declaration (prolongation) of a state of emergency, the declared state of emergency is abolished. Martial law shall be abolished, if within 48 hours after convening Parliament fails to approve the President's decree on the declaration (prolongation) of martial law.
3. In the case set forth in paragraph 1 of this article, the decision on the declaration of a state of emergency or martial law shall indicate the term of this state, which is prolonged by Parliament according to the rule determined by this article and Articles 238-239.

Article 241

1. Parliament gives its consent to the President of Georgia to use armed forces in a state of emergency or in order to fulfill international obligations. The decision of the President of Georgia comes into force if Parliament approves it. Within 24 hours of the submission of a relevant decision Parliament discusses the issue of consenting or rejecting it after the preliminary consideration in the committee of Defense and Security. The representatives of other committees can participate in the work of this committee or by the agreement there can be held a joint committee hearing. If Parliament does not agree with the decision of the President of Georgia, within 24 hours the issue is discussed at the meeting held by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, his/her deputies, heads of committees and factions, and the President of Georgia or his/her proxy, after which the President of Georgia makes the relevant decision to submit the issue again for consenting to the plenary sitting of Parliament. If the consent is not given again, the issue of using armed forces in a state of emergency or in order to fulfill international obligations will be considered not settled and the President of Georgia does not have a right to address Parliament again on this issue

- within 48 hours of the refusal to give consent. At the same time the President of Georgia can address Parliament with the relevant issue only twice.
2. The President of Georgia immediately submits to Parliament the decision on bringing in, the use and movement of foreign armed forces within Georgia. The President of Georgia's proposal enters into force if Parliament gives its consent. Within 24 hours of the submission of a relevant decision, Parliament discusses the issue of consenting or rejecting it after the preliminary consideration in the committee of Defense and Security. The representatives of other committees can participate in the work of this committee or by the agreement there can be held a joint committee hearing. If the consent is not given, the President of Georgia is authorized to address Parliament for approval again, 48 hours after the refusal to give consent. At the same time the President of Georgia can address Parliament with the relevant issue only twice.

Article 242

1. The President of Georgia submits the decision on the declaration of war or on conclusion of a truce at the presence of appropriate conditions to Parliament for approval within 48 hours of the adoption of this decision. (25.11.2005.2150)
2. Parliament considers the decision of the President of Georgia on the declaration of war or truce within 24 days without preliminary committee hearing and adopts a decision at the same sitting by the majority of votes of all the MPs. If Parliament does not adopt a positive decision, within 24 hours the issue is discussed at the meeting held by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, his/her deputies, Chairmen of committees and factions, and the President of Georgia or his/her proxy, after which the President of Georgia makes the relevant decision to submit the issue again to the plenary sitting of Parliament. If the consent is not given again, the President of Georgia does not have a right to address Parliament again on this issue within 48 hours of the refusal to give consent. At the same time the President of Georgia can address Parliament with the relevant issue only twice.

Article 243

1. The Council of National Security of Georgia submits the proposed numerical strength of Georgia's military forces to Parliament for approval. The issue is sent to the relevant committee for consideration; this committee presents its conclusion to Parliament within 10 days.
2. After the Parliamentary consideration of the committee conclusion, Parliament approves the numerical strength of Georgia's military forces with the majority of votes of the acting MPs.
3. If Parliament does not approve the numerical strength of Georgia's military forces, a conciliatory commission may be formed, which presents a final draft to Parliament for approval within 10 days.
4. Draft law on number of Georgian military forces is discussed and approved on the plenary session of the Parliament of Georgia by first hearing, according to the rules set in Article 156 of the Rules of Procedure." (30.03.2007 #4577)

CHAPTER XLI

Submission of Constitutional Appeal and Constitutional Motion to the Constitutional Court of Georgia

Article 244

1. A group of not less than one-third of all Members of Parliament has the right to submit a constitutional motion to the Constitutional Court on the violation of the constitution of Georgia by the President of Georgia, by the Chairman of the Supreme Court of Georgia, by a Member of Government, by the Prosecutor General, by the Chairman of the Chamber of Control or by the Council members of the National Bank.

Article 245

The rejection of the constitutional appeal or motion by the MPs, who signed them, after the constitutional appeal or constitutional motion is submitted to the Constitutional Court of Georgia does not cause the refusal to discuss it and the cease of the case except the cases when all the MPs who submitted the constitutional appeal or motion reject it before its essential consideration.

Article 246

The signatures on the constitutional motion are verified by a notary or according to the following rule: after drawing up a motion on raising the issue of impeachment of a public official, an MP or a faction announces the place of putting the signatures and within 3 days of the submission of the relevant motion to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules the committee Chairman verifies the validity of the signatures.

Article 247

1. A group of not less than one-fifth of all Members of Parliament has the right to submit a constitutional appeal to the Constitutional Court on the correspondence with the constitution of Georgia of the laws of Georgia, these Rules of Procedure, the normative acts of the President of Georgia, the supreme bodies of authority of the Autonomous Republics of Abkhazia and Adjara, and normative acts adopted by relevant bodies before the constitution of Georgia came into legal force.
- 1¹ Parliament according to the resolution can submit in the constitutional court the appeal concerning the harmony of normative acts of Adjara Autonomous Republic with the Constitution of Georgia, Constitutional Law on “the Status of Adjara Autonomous Republic”, Constitutional Agreement, International Treaties.
(22.12.2004 #691)
2. A group of not less than one-fifth of the Members of Parliament has the right to submit a constitutional appeal to the Constitutional Court on the constitutionality of the formation and activities of political unions of citizens, on holding referenda or elections, or refusal to hold such (not appointment), on Parliament’s decision related to the recognition of the authority of an MP, or on the pre-term termination of his/her powers.

3. A Constitutional complaint submitted by not less than one-fifth of the MPs may refer to a breach of constitutional authority of Parliament of Georgia or any other state body.
4. Certification of signatures on constitutional appeal is conducted according to the Article 246 of these Rules of Procedure.
- 4¹ Parliament resolution is approved with a common rule in the case of 1¹ of this article and the appeal is signed by the Speaker of Parliament or the Chairman of the sitting. (22.12.2004 #691)

CHAPTER XLII

Impeachment

Article 248

1. At least one-third of all the Members of Parliament can raise the issue of impeachment of the President of Georgia.
2. The motion shall contain charges of violation of the constitution of Georgia, or signs composing the crime he/she is accused of. The case is then handed over accordingly to the Constitutional Court or the Supreme Court of Georgia for judgment.
3. If the Supreme Court confirms the existence of signs composing a crime in the activities of the President of Georgia, or if the Constitutional Court confirms a violation of the constitution of Georgia, Parliament discusses the court's conclusion at the plenary sitting. The sitting may be closed to the public by a decision of Parliament.
4. Parliament may invite the official whose impeachment is being considered to participate in the consideration of the conclusion. If it is impossible for the official in question to attend, an authorized representative may attend the hearing in his/her stead (as a substitute).

Article 249

1. After discussion of the conclusion of the Supreme or Constitutional Court of Georgia, by the majority of votes of all the MPs, Parliament adopts a decision to put to a vote the issue of the impeachment of the President of Georgia.
2. The President is considered impeached and removed if not less than two-thirds of all the MPs support the decision.
3. The decision is adopted within 30 days after the consideration of the issue started at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
4. If Parliament does not adopt a decision, the motion is considered dropped and introduction of the same motion is impermissible during next one year.
5. The President is immediately notified of the decision made by Parliament.
6. Discussion of charges brought against the President of Georgia and passage of a motion to impeach is not permitted in Parliament during war, a state of emergency or martial law.

Article 250

If Parliament adopts the decision on the pre-term termination of the powers of the President of Georgia, within 45 days of the adoption of this decision according to the organic law of

Georgia - Election Code of Georgia, early elections are held, the holding of which is ensured by Parliament.

Article 251

1. At least one-third of all the MPs has a right to raise a question of the impeachment of the Chairman of the Supreme Court, a Member of Government, the Prosecutor General, the Chairman of the Chamber of Control, and the Council members of the National Bank in cases of violation of the constitution of Georgia, high treason, or the commission of other criminal offences. The motion shall contain concrete charges of violation of the constitution of Georgia, or signs composing the crime he/she is accused of. The motion is then handed over to the Constitutional Court or the Supreme Court of Georgia for judgment.
2. If the Constitutional or the Supreme Court, in its verdict, confirms the violation of the constitution of Georgia or the presence of the signs composing a crime, Parliament is authorized to remove the officials listed in paragraph 1 of Article 64 of the constitution of Georgia by a majority of votes of all the MPs.
3. The official is considered impeached and removed if the majority of all the MPs vote in favor of this decision.
4. The decision is adopted within 30 days after the consideration of the issue started at the plenary sitting of Parliament.
5. If Parliament does not adopt a decision, the motion is considered dropped and introduction of the same motion is impermissible during next one year.
6. The relevant official is immediately notified of Parliament's decision.
7. During the implementation of the procedures set forth in Article 195 of these Rules of Procedure it is prohibited to raise the issue of impeachment of the President of Georgia.

CHAPTER XLIII

Referendum

Article 252

1. A group composed of one-fifth of all the MPs, on the basis of respective justification and with a written document certified with relevant signatures, has the right to table a motion to hold a referendum on issues covered by the constitution of Georgia and/or organic laws. The motion is considered at the plenary sitting of Parliament within 20 days of the submitted.
2. Parliament, by a majority of all votes, adopts an application requesting the holding of a referendum and submits it to the President of Georgia.
3. If Parliament fails to decide the holding of a referendum, the issue is considered dropped and the question shall not be put to a vote again during the next six months.

Article 253

If the President of Georgia decides, to hold a referendum on his/her own initiative or by request of 200,000 voters on the same issue that was submitted to Parliament, the issue is dropped from the agenda of the sitting.

PART XI

ORGANIZATIONAL PROVISION OF THE ACTIVITY OF PARLIAMENT

CHAPTER XLIV

Parliamentary Staff and Other Auxiliary Structures

Article 254

1. Parliamentary Staff is formed in order to ensure organizational and technical provision of the activity of Parliament. The structure, functions and rules of activity of Parliamentary Staff are envisaged by these Rules of Procedure and the Regulations of the Staff in compliance with the Rules of Procedure.
2. The functions of Parliament staff are to render organizational, legal, documentation, informational, financial, material-technical and social services to the Bureau of Parliament, Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and his/her deputies, MPs, committees, factions, the Majority and the Minority, investigative and other temporary committees in their activities.

Article 255

Parliament staff provides:

- a. The publication of a collection of the pre-election platforms of the MPs elected by the majority system and elected political parties within three months after the authority of a newly elected Parliament is confirmed;
- b. Arrangement of the plenary sittings of Parliament;
- c. Members of Parliament with draft laws included in the agenda of two weeks cycle plenary sittings before the plenary week starts;
- d. Solution for legal, material, technical, financial and other problems Parliament, the Bureau, committees, factions, investigative and other temporary commissions are dealing with;
- e. The maintenance of a record of the proposals and comments expressed during consideration of draft laws or other issues at the plenary sittings of Parliament;
- f. Support to MPs to exercise their powers;
- g. Fulfillment of the tasks imposed by the Bureau of Parliament, Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and his/her deputies, committees, investigative and other temporary commissions;
- h. Preparation of information and data and other materials for the administration of Parliament and the MPs, preparation of collections of the legal acts passed by Parliament;

- i. Compilation of necessary information for MPs in the period between sessions;
- j. The maintenance of the protocols and shorthand of the sittings of Parliament and the Bureau, the publication of Parliamentis Utskebani; (Parliament Newsletter)
- k. The publication, transmission and broadcasting of the documents produced by Parliament, its committees, factions, investigative or other temporary commissions in the press, television, radio;
- l. Settlement of the organizational and technical issues related to the visits of delegations from foreign countries, separate statesmen, political and public figures, and diplomatic representatives to Parliament.

Article 256

1. Parliament staff is managed by the Chief of Parliamentary staff.
2. The Chief of Parliamentary Staff is appointed on the position and removed from it by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament.
3. The Chief of Parliamentary Staff cannot be an MP.
4. The issues of introduction of a position of the Deputy Chief of Parliamentary Staff and its number (not more than two) are decided by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament.
5. The Deputy Chief of Parliamentary Staff (in the presence of such), heads of the departments and services of Parliamentary Staff are appointed on the position and removed from it by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament based on the nomination of the Chief of Parliamentary Staff.

Article 257

1. The departments, services, and staffs of the committees are included in Parliamentary Staff as a structural coordinative units, the members of which are appointed and dismissed by the Chief of Parliamentary Staff according to the established list of staff and rule determined by the Law of Georgia On Public Service, and on the basis of a motion by the head of the corresponding department or service and the committee Chairman.
2. The qualification requirements and authorities of the members of Parliamentary Staff are determined by the law, the Regulations of the relevant structural coordination unit and the job instructions.
3. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament approves the Regulations of Parliamentary Staff and its structural coordination units based on the proposal of the Chief of Parliamentary Staff.
4. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament approves the rule of employment of the public servants of Parliamentary Staff.
5. The Chief of Parliamentary Staff approves the job instructions of public servants of Parliamentary Staff in agreement with a head of relevant structural coordination unit.
6. Internships are permitted in Parliamentary Staff. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament approves the rule of internship in Parliamentary Staff.
7. The Chief of Parliamentary Staff, after taking on board the opinions of the committees, determines the structure of the Staff, number of personnel, their remuneration, working conditions, and submits it for approval to the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament.

Article 258

Scientific-consulting councils, with experts and consultants from the relevant fields working on a social basis, are created at the Parliamentary committees. The Chairman of the committee appoints the members of the council. The committee Chairman has a right to draw up a working contract for limited period with an expert according to law in order to work on some particular issue.

Article 259

1. The Office of Mandator (Usher) is established within Parliamentary Staff for the purpose of keeping order in the building of Parliament and in the hall during the plenary and committee sittings. Its structure and activity is envisaged by the relevant Regulations.
2. The Office of Mandator (Usher) is managed by the (head of) Usher, who is appointed on the position and removed from it by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament based on the nomination of the Chief (head) of Parliamentary Staff.
3. The Regulations of the Office of Mandator (Usher) is presented by the Head of Parliamentary staff and confirmed by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)
4. A Mandator (Usher) of Parliament shall not be a member of a political party. A Mandator (Usher) shall not be less than 35 years old.

Article 259¹

1. For the purpose of informing with financial budgetary and economic information the Parliament of Georgia, Committees, Factions, Majority, Minority, separate MPs, Parliament's Budgetary Office is created at the Budgetary-Finance Committee. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. The head of Parliament's Budgetary Office is appointed and removed by the Speaker of Parliament after the nomination from the Chairman of Budgetary-Finance Committee. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. Employees of the Budgetary Office except the case mentioned in paragraph 2 of this article is appointed and removed by the Head of Parliamentary Staff. (25.11.2005 #2150)
4. The structure and activities of the Budgetary Office is determined by the appropriate resolution which is represented by the Chairman of the Budgetary-Finance Committee and approved by the Speaker of Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 259²

1. For the purpose of participation in local issues by the MPs, for the reason of working with the electorate, for the coordination of majoritarian MP's work in the local and regional levels Parliamentary Representation may be created. (25.11.2005 #2150)
2. The decision of creation of Parliamentary Representation is adopted by the Speaker of Parliament in cooperation with Bureau. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. The provision of Parliamentary Representation, range of employees, their wages are presented by the Head of Parliamentary staff and confirmed by the Speaker of Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)
4. The Head of Parliamentary Representation is presented by the Head of Parliamentary staff and appointed and removed by the Speaker of Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)

5. The employees of Parliamentary Representation, according to the Labor Law of Georgia based on labor agreements are appointed and removed by the Head of Parliamentary staff upon the presentation by the head of Parliamentary Representation. (25.11.2005 #2150)

CHAPTER XLIV¹

Institutions existing at the Parliament

Article 260

1. The national library of Georgia - the main library within the system of libraries in Georgia - is a library of Parliament. Its activity is regulated by the Law of Georgia on the National Library of Georgia, other laws and relevant Regulations.
2. The director (Head) of the National library of Georgia is appointed and dismissed by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament and confirmed by Bureau of the Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)
3. The structure and rule of activity of National Library, range of employees and their wages are presented by the Head National Library and is confirmed by the Speaker of Parliament. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 261

1. The Council of Audit Activity is created at Parliament to ensure execution of the state functions within the system of audit regulation.
2. The authority and structure of the Council of Audit Activity, the competence and general functions of the Chairman of the council are envisaged by the Law of Georgia On Audit Activity and a relevant by law confirmed by a decree of Parliament.
3. The structure and rule of activity of Council of Audit Activity, range of employees and their wages are presented by the Head of the Budget Office and is confirmed by the Speaker of Parliament with the coordination of Budgetary-Finance committee. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 261¹

1. With the purpose to regulate the issues related with state symbols the Heraldic State Council is formed at the Parliament. (07.12.2007 #5583)
2. The authority and structure of the Heraldic State Council, as well as main functions of the Council is determined by the Organic law of Georgia on "State Emblem of Georgia" and by the relevant statute that is approved by the resolution of Parliament. (07.12.2007 #5583)
3. The number of staff of the Heraldic State Council and the remuneration rates of employees with the submission of the Head of the Council and after the agreement with the Committee of Finances and Budget is approved by the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament. (07.12.2007#5583)

Article 262

No longer in use. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 262¹

1. It is mandatory to ensure the life and health of Parliamentary staff. (25.07.2006 #3512)
2. The decision on the insurance of the life and health of other public employees of Parliament and co existing bodies in Parliament is made by the Speaker of Parliament, with the initiative of the Treasury Council. (25.07.2006 #3512)

PART XII

RESPONSIBILITY FOR VIOLATION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

CHAPTER XLV

Responsibility of the Member and the Official of Parliament for the Violation of the Rules of Procedure

Article 263

The following penalties can be imposed on Members of Parliament for a violation of the Rules of Procedure of Parliament:

- a. Revocation of the right to speak at the plenary sitting;
- b. Warning;
- c. Warning with recording in the protocol;
- d. Expulsion from the Sitting Hall;
- e. Penalty.

Article 264

1. The Chairman of the plenary sitting of Parliament can deprive an MP of the right to speak if she/he:
 - a. Makes a speech without the permission of the Chairman of sitting;
 - b. Makes a speech and does not discuss the subject under consideration;
 - c. Was given permission to speak on procedural or personal matters but refers to other matters;
 - d. Exceeds the time determined by the Rules of Procedure or the time s/he was additionally granted by the majority vote of the MPs present at the sitting.
2. A warning is applied against an MP who:
 - a. Continues speaking after s/he has lost the right to speak in the cases envisaged by sections "a", "b", "c" and "d" of paragraph 1 of this article;
 - b. Delivers a speech without using a microphone;
 - c. Acts in a manner that prevents the sitting from being held in accordance with the rules envisaged by the Rules of Procedure.

3. A warning is recorded in the protocol if an MP:
 - a. Continues speaking after having been warned in the cases set forth in sections “a”, “b” and “c” of paragraph 2 of this article;
 - b. Breaks the manner established for voting on private matters;
 - c. Has been warned once at the same plenary sitting and needs to be warned again.
4. An MP is expelled from the Sitting Hall if s/he:
 - a. Still continues causing a disturbance after a warning has already been recorded during the same sitting;
 - b. Shows up in the Sitting Hall with firearms or cold steel;
 - c. Uses force and encourages other MPs to do so.
5. An MP ordered to leave the Sitting Hall must do so. Otherwise the Chairman of the sitting suspends the sitting, after which the Mandator (Usher) requires that MP to leave the Sitting Hall.
6. An MP required to leave the Sitting Hall has to pay from his salary and other benefits connected to the execution of his/her authority deducted for the day of his expulsion.
7. If the examination of the voting and registration results reveals that an MP was not in the Sitting Hall and somebody took participation in the voting or registration on his/her behalf, a penalty in the amount of one-month salary will be imposed on this MP. This fact is written down in the protocol of the sitting and sent to the financial department of Parliamentary Staff for extracting the salary of a respective month.
8. In case of a repeated pass of the voting card by an MP, a penalty in amount of three-month salary is imposed on him/her according to the rule set forth in paragraph 7 of this article, and at every other pass – in amount of six-month salary.
- 8.¹ If MP, who has the duty to present the draft law on the Plenary Session (Presenter or Co-presenter), at the time of the presentation of the draft law is absent on the plenary session for unjustifiable reasons, he/she shall be imposed a penalty in amount of 20% of his/her salary. On the case of not presenting, the draft law by the MP the record is made on the basis of the statement of Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament, which is transferred by the Usher within 24 hours to the Department of Financial support for the subtraction of a salary. (30.03.2007 #4577)
9. If an MP misses the committee sitting three times during a calendar month without a good reason, a penalty in amount of 50% of his/her salary will be imposed on him/her. The fact of the absence of an MP from the committee sitting is written down in the protocol of the sitting, recorded by the committee Chairman and sent to the financial department of Parliamentary Staff in order to exclude the salary of a relevant month.
- 9¹ If an MP within one month doesn't attend with unjustifiable reason more than one plenary sitting he/she will be subtracted 10% of his/her salary for each missed sitting and the fact is recorded and announced by the Speaker of Parliament on the last plenary sitting of the calendar month. Until the 10th of the next month Usher makes the record of all the MPs who missed the sessions with no reason and transfers that to the department of Financial Support of Parliament for the subtraction of the salary. (25.11.2005 #2150)
10. If the committee Chairman does not hold a committee sitting twice on end during a calendar month, a penalty amounting to two-month salary will be imposed on him/her. The Bureau of Parliament discusses the reason of non-holding the committee sitting and is authorized to raise the issue of removing the committee Chairman from the position at the plenary sitting according to the established rule.
- 10¹ According to the rules in sections 7, 8, 9 and 9¹ the subtraction to the salaries of MPs must be no more than 50%. (25.03.2005. #1199)

11. On monthly basis, a committee compiles a list of the MPs who miss the committee sittings, with indication of the number and dates of the sittings missed by each of them. The list of the MPs who miss the committee sittings is handed over to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules, which examines the validity of the data and ensures its publication in *Parlamentis Utskebani* (Parliament's Newsletter) and putting on Parliament's web page. The list is also published in printed media. (25.11.2005 #2150)
12. After each session, the (Mandators) Ushers office of the Parliament compiles a list of MPs who miss the plenary sessions of the Parliament, with indication of factions and the number and dates of the sittings missed by each of them for unjustifiable reasons. The list of members who miss the Plenary Session for unjustifiable reasons is handed to the Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules that ensures its publication in *Parlamentis Utskebani* (Parliament's Newsletter) and putting on Parliament's web page. The list is also published in printed media. (25.11.2005 #2150)

Article 265

1. An MP, who was subject to the sanctions outlined in paragraphs 3-4, 7-10 of Article 264 of these Rules of Procedure, has a right to submit a well-reasoned protest in writing before the next plenary sitting of the Parliament starts. The protest is accepted for consideration if the majority of those present vote for it. The majority of all MPs is required for the protest to be satisfied.
2. After imposing any form of sanction on an MP, the next speakers have no right to discuss the issue of requiring an order.

Article 266

A motion to record a warning in the protocol against a Chairman of the sitting for consistent and grievous violation of the Rules of Procedure may be put to a vote. A faction not united in the Majority or the Minority, The Majority, the Minority, a group of ten MPs can raise the issue. The decision is adopted by a decree.

Article 267

It is not permitted to alter a draft law or decree adopted by Parliament, other legislative act, protocol and other documents of Parliament after the final voting. Such behavior results in provided responsibility.

CHAPTER XLVI

Responsibility of Other Public Officials for the Violation of the Rules of Procedure

Article 268

1. Responsibility for the violation of regulations according to the law and present regulations is laid on the Members of Government, officials appointed, elected, or confirmed by Parliament, as well as on the officials who shall participate in Parliamentary activities.
2. Responsibility is laid upon an official in case of the following violation, when an official:
 - a. Does not come to the consideration of an issue despite receiving an official invitation;
 - b. Violates procedures set for the answering a question put to him/her by an MP;
 - c. Does not attend a Parliamentary hearing;
 - d. Provides the Parliament with false or wrong information;
 - e. Does not implement Parliament's decrees and recommendations;
 - f. Prevents an MP from carrying out his/her rights and duties as granted by law.
3. The Committee on Procedural Issues and Rules appeals to the Bureau of Parliament to react to every such case individually.

Article 269

1. Parliament reacts in the following ways in case of a violation of the Rules of Procedure:
 - a. It adopts a decree or resolution to appropriately punish the official in question as envisaged by the constitution of Georgia.
 - b. It presents a motion to the heads of the state agencies on the responsibility of the officials working under their supervision.
2. The guest of the plenary sitting of Parliament is obliged to observe order. S/he is prohibited to act in a way that prevents Parliament or an MP from carrying out state functions. During voting, the guest must abstain himself/herself from expressing his/her personal attitude towards the voting results. The Chairman of the Sitting has the right to ask a disruptive guest to leave the hall

CHAPTER XLVII

Ensuring Parliament's Security

Article 270

1. Security of Parliament and the MPs in accordance with legislation is provided by the special service of state security.
2. The relevant committee of Parliament together with the special service of state security designs a regime of security in Parliament building and in its vicinity. The Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament approves the regime.
3. By the assignment of the Chairman (Speaker) of Parliament, the relevant committee studies and discusses the activity of the special service of state security with regards to ensuring security in and around Parliament.
4. It is forbidden, for MPs as well, to carry firearms in Parliament building. Exceptions to this rule are envisaged by Georgian legislation and the rules ensuring security of Parliament building and its surrounding.

PART XIII

TRANSITIONAL AND CONCLUSIVE PROVISIONS

CHAPTER XLVIII

Transitional and Conclusive Provisions

Article 271

Parliament's decree On the Rules of Procedure of Parliament of Georgia and the Rules of Procedure of Parliament of Georgia adopted in accordance with it dated October 17, 1997 shall become invalid.

Article 271¹

According to these Rules of Procedure, the section "d. a." of the 3rd paragraph of Article 147 will be implemented if:

1. If the draft law is the part of "the plan of harmonization of Georgian Legislation with EU legislation." (25.11.2005 # 2150)
2. If the draft law regulates even one of the spheres determined by the article 43 of the Agreement to the Partnership and Cooperation between Georgia and EU. (25.11.2005 # 2150)

Article 271²

Those MPs who have applied to the Chairman (Speaker) of the Parliament for the payment of apartment fees from July 1, 2007 till September 1, 2007 will get the payment of the apartment rent from the day of presenting the relevant announcement. (26.10.2007 #5421)

Article 272

1. These Rules of Procedure, except paragraph 1 of Article 122, shall come into effect from April 5, 2004.
2. Paragraph 1 of Article 122 of this Rules of Procedure shall come into effect from July 1, 2004.
3. Subparagraph "e" of Paragraph 2 of Article 149 shall come into effect from January 1, 2010. (25.11.2005 # 2150)

Chairman of Parliament of Georgia

Nino Burjanadze

**Tbilisi,
February 17, 2004**