

## **Decree on the Sami Parliament**

(1727/1995)

In accordance with the submission of the Minister of Justice, the following is enacted by virtue of Sections 16 and 43 of the Act on the Sami Parliament (974/95) given on July 17, 1995, as well as Sections 21 and 29 of the Act on the Use of the Sami Language before the Authorities (516/91) given on March 8, 1991, and Section 16 of the Act on the Sami Parliament as amended in Act (1725/95) given on December 22, 1995, and Section 21 of the Act on the Use of the Sami Language before the Authorities (516/91) given on March 8, 1991, as amended in Act (1726/95) given on December 22, 1995:

### **Section 1**

#### **The Sami Homeland**

The Sami Homeland and its boundaries are in accordance with what is marked on the map appended to this Decree.

### **Section 2**

#### **Offices of the Sami Parliament**

The Sami Parliament shall have a general management office and a Sami Language Office. The Sami Parliament may have such other offices as are required.

### **Section 3**

#### **Sami Language Office**

The function of the Sami language office is to:

1. provide the translations for the authorities and agencies referred to in the Act on the Use of the Sami Language before the Authorities (516/91);
2. assist the authorities and agencies in acquiring interpreters proficient in the Sami language and in the other tasks referred to in the Act on the Use of the Sami Language before the Authorities; and
3. monitor the implementation of the objectives prescribed in the Act on the Use of the Sami Language before the Authorities, and make such initiatives as are required for the furtherance of the use of the Sami language.

In its translation work, the office shall take into consideration the recommendations and instructions of the Joint-Nordic Sami Language Board, as well as the general principles of good language.

#### Section 4

##### Staff

The Sami Parliament may have positions for an administrative manager, legal secretary, translator and office secretary, as well as other persons employed under civil service and employment contracts.

The duties of the administrative manager are to direct, supervise and develop the activities of the offices.

#### Section 5

##### Staff qualification requirements

The qualification requirement

1. for the administrative manager is that he has a higher academic degree suitable for the position, as well as a familiarity with Sami affairs and managerial tasks;
2. for the legal secretary is that he has a Master of Laws degree and experience of legal

matters pertaining to the Sami people;

3. for the translator that he has a university degree or other training suitable to the position, as well as the right to work as an official translator from Finnish into Sami and vice versa as intended in the Act on Official Translators (1148/88); and

4. for other employees such training as is required for the position or task in question.

It is further required that the staff be proficient in the Sami language unless the Sami Parliament shall otherwise decide in respect to some position or task.

#### Section 6

##### Signing of documents

The signing of documents of the Sami Parliament is determined in the standing orders of the Sami Parliament.

#### Section 7

##### Entry into force

This Decree shall enter into force on January 1, 1996.

By this Decree the Decree on the Sami Language Office (1202/91) given on September 13, 1991 is hereby repealed.

The measures necessary for the implementation of this Decree may be taken prior to its entry into force.

On the first occasion, the positions of the Sami Parliament may be filled without their being declared open for application.