REGLAMENT OF THE SOVIET COUNCIL OF MINISTERS

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The manner of work of the Soviet Council of Ministers has always been regulated by rather extensive regulations as was the case before 1917. Under the 1977 Constitution, a law on the Council of Ministers has been adopted which is less detailed on the organization of the Council of Ministers than its forerunners from the 1920s and from earlier years; however, detailed regulations have been laid down in a Reglament on the Council of Ministers, issued by the Council itself. Such a reglament is known for Belorussia, for Latvia, and also for Lithuania. The latter two have been published and may be considered as examples for other regulations on the Council of Ministers, noticeably the USSR Council of Ministers. Therefore, an English version of the text of the Lithuanian reglament is given, provided with remarks in the text, if the Latvian reglament contains rather different provisions, and with annotations to the articles marked with an asterisk.

NOTES

1. See e.g. the Statute on the USSR Council of People's Commissars of 12 November 1923, SU RSFSR 1923 No.197 item 1032; see also SU Ukr. SSR 1924 No.45 item 227.
2. Such statutes were enacted in 1812, 1861, and in 1905, see B.E. Nol'de, Ocherki gosudarstvennogo prava Rossii, S. Peterburg, 1911.
4. M.S. Smirniukov, Sovetskoi gosudarstvennyi apparat upravlenia. Voprosy organizatsii i deiatel'nosti tsentral'nykh organov, Moskva 1982, 189. Mr. Smirniukov is the Director of Affairs of the USSR Council of Ministers. He works in this Directorate for more than 40 years.
REGLAMENT OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE LITHUANIAN SSR*

Chapter I. General Provisions

Article 1.* In accordance with the Constitution of the Lithuanian SSR, the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR – the Government of the republic – is the highest executive and administrative organ of state power of the Lithuanian SSR, competent to decide all questions of state administration, referred to its competence by the Constitution of the Lithuanian SSR and the Law on the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR. The manner of work of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR and its organs are regulated by the Law on the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, by other laws of the Lithuanian SSR, and by this Reglament.

Article 2. The activities of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR shall be based on the collective debate and decision of questions, on publicity, taking into account public opinion, the combination of collegiate consideration and deciding of questions by the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR with the individual responsibility of the members of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR for putting the adopted decisions into practice and for the state of affairs in the parts of the work entrusted to them.

Article 3.* The effective work of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR shall be secured by regularly convening meetings of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR and its Presidium, and of the standing commissions of the Presidium and other working organs of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, by the organizational and practical work of the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR, the First deputy and deputies of the Chairman, the ministers, chairmen of state committees, and heads of departments in deciding questions related to securing guidance in the economy and in other questions of state, economic, and socio-cultural construction.

Article 4. The Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR shall report regularly about its work to the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR.

Chapter II. Planning the Work of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR

Article 5. The work of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR shall be carried out in accordance with long-range, annual, and quarterly plans [Latvia: without "long-range"].

Article 6. In the execution of the decisions of congresses of the CPSU and the Communist Party of Lithuania, a long-range work plan and an action plan [litt. a plan of measures] of the Council of Ministers of the Lithuanian SSR shall be drawn up for the decision of the most important tasks of state, economic, and socio-cultural construction and of questions of state administration with an indication of the year in which the question shall be considered or the action to be taken.

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