



CONGRESO DE LA NACIÓN
ARGENTINA

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

ARGENTINE

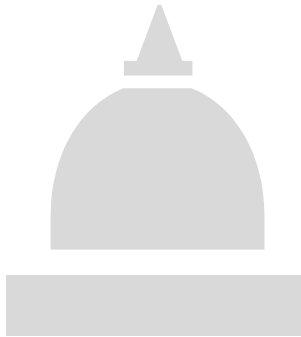
CONGRESSIONAL

BUDGET OFFICE



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INTRODUCTION

The complex of decision-making in our current democracies compels rulers and representatives to have accurate knowledge and information on the issues that affect the reality of a country. These variables define, at the same time, the responsibility of representatives: the more information and knowledge, the greater the responsibility in decision-making, and, therefore, in the exercise of public office.

In this regard, transparency, and quality information in the management of economic and fiscal policy of our country is key to think about the efficiency of the proposals and public policies that are introduced, debated, and approved by the National Congress.

In this context, the work of the Argentine Congressional Budget Office (OPC) is essential, since it aims at providing information that enriches and gives quality to the parliamentary debate. Through the analysis of different proposed legislation with budgetary impact, OPC contributes to better decision making by legislators, understanding that fair distribution and efficient use of public resources is essential to guarantee the rights of all Argentines.

As Director of the Argentine Congressional Budget Office, I invite you to learn about the legal framework that governs and guides our actions and that is part of our commitment to fulfill our task to contribute in a comprehensive and cross-cutting manner to the different political parties to a quality public debate and solid democracy.

MARCOS MAKON
OPC General Director

LAW 27,343

Creation

O.G. 12/21/2016

The Senate and Chamber of Deputies of the Argentine Republic, dully assembled, hereby pass the following Law:

CREATION OF THE ARGENTINE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SECTION 1 — The Argentine Congressional Budget Office (*Oficina de Presupuesto del Congreso de la Nación Argentina*) (OPC for the purposes of this Act) is hereby created as a decentralized body of the Argentine National Congress.

SECTION 2 — The OPC has the following functions, responsibilities, and powers:

1. Analyze the estimates of revenue, spending, physical goals, and public debt included in the annual budget bill.
2. Support the Budget and Finance Committees and the Joint Committee of Public Accounts Auditing in the fulfillment of their purposes.
3. At the request of the Budget and Finance Committees, produce estimates of the budgetary impact of the bills referred to said Committees.
4. At the request of the Budget and Finance Committees, undertake studies, analyses and assessments of the impact achieved by government policies and programs in terms of their budget allocation.

5. At the request of the Budget and Finance Committees, analyze the current taxes as well as the impact and effectiveness of the bills that propose the amendment and/or creation of taxes and duties.

6. Carry out studies on the topics related to fiscal federalism.

7. Carry out studies on the intertemporal sustainability of public debt, including the analysis of the recorded debt, the unrecorded debt, and contingent liabilities.

8. Promote gender mainstreaming in the allocations of budgetary resources. For this purpose, Gender Sensitive Budget (GSB) tools shall be used to analyze proposals to determine the budget allocated to the elimination of gender inequalities. Promote budgetary evaluation taking into consideration the Sustainable Development Objectives of the United Nations (UN).

9. Monitor the compliance with the provisions of Section 37 of Law 24,256.

SECTION 3 — To enable the OPC to perform its duties, the National Executive Branch should:

1. Provide the OPC access to the Integrated Financial Information System (SIDIF) of the Secretariat of Treasury, and the Public Debt Management and Administration System (SIGADE) of the Secretariat of Finance of the Ministry of Treasury and Public Finance, to monitor budget execution and public debt, ensuring compliance with the provisions of Law 17,622 on statistical confidentiality and Section 101 of Law 11,683 on fiscal confidentiality. To that end, the Ministry of Treasury and Public Finance shall coordinate OPC

access to the SIDIF and SIGADE, making the Office responsible for the proper safekeeping of the internal information of the National Executive Branch.

2. Respond in a timely manner to the reports required by the OPC and channeled through the Office of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers regarding the implementation and the physical financial performance of government programs.

SECTION 4 — Parliamentary committees shall refer to the OPC the relevant budgetary or economic information necessary for the performance of its functions.

SECTION 5 — The OPC structure shall be organized by directorates, in terms of the functions it is required to perform:

1 Budget Analysis: it shall provide reports to the Budget and Finance Committees and the Joint Committee of Public Accounts Auditing. At the request of those Committees, it shall also undertake an analysis of the bills that have a budgetary impact on public sector expenditures.

2 Fiscal and Tax Analysis: at the request of the Budget and Finance Committees it shall produce estimates of the impact of the bills that modify or create taxes and duties or affect the resources of the national government.

3 Studies, Analyses and Evaluation: at the request of the Budget and Finance Committees it shall undertake studies, analyses, and assessments of the impact of government policies and programs in terms of their budget allocation.

4 Sustainability and Public Debt Analysis: it shall undertake analyses and monitoring through different public debt indicators.

SECTION 6 — The OPC shall be headed by a General Director, who shall be equivalent in rank to the Parliamentary Secretary, and four (4) Directors, who shall be equivalent in rank to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary. Each of the Directors shall be in charge of one of the directorates referred to in Section 5.

The selection of the General Director and Directors shall be determined by competitive examination. All qualified candidates shall be allowed to participate in the selection process.

The candidates shall be evaluated by an Evaluation Committee composed by nine (9) members: the Chairman and the First and Second Vice-Chairmen of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Senate, one (1) university professor specialized in university programs related to the positions to be filled, appointed by the National Interuniversity Council, one (1) representative elected by the Argentine Federation of Professional Councils of Economic Sciences and one (1) representative from the Argentine Association of Public Budgeting and Financial Administration.

SECTION 7 — Both the General Director and the Directors shall hold office for the term of five (5) years with the possibility of being reelected. They may be removed for unsatisfactory performance before the end of their term of office by a simple majority vote of the members of both chambers, at the request of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee of the OPC, established by Section 8 hereof.

The General Director must have at least ten (10) years of professional and/or academic experience in budgetary and/or economic matters, within the scope of the public or private sector, and at the civil society or university level, and hold a graduate or post graduate degree in economic sciences, public finance, administration and public policies or other related disciplines. Directors must have at least

eight (8) years of professional and/or academic experience in disciplines related to their respective directorates and hold graduate or post graduate degrees in such disciplines.

SECTION 8 — The OPC shall have a Parliamentary Oversight Committee composed by the Chairman and the First and Second Vice-Chairmen of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Chamber of Deputies and the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Senate. The Committee Chair shall alternate every two (2) years between the Chairmen of the Budget and Finance Committees of both Chambers. Decisions shall be taken by simple majority and, in the event of a tie; the Chairman of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee shall have a double vote. shall have the following functions:

1. Approve the internal regulations of the office and their possible amendments.
2. Approve the preliminary draft budget of the OPC for submission to the Chairmen of both Chambers.
3. Delegate to the General Director the necessary powers for better compliance of its purposes.
4. Approve the annual work plan of the OPC.
5. Accept inheritances, legacies and donations, and grants assigned by public or private, and national or foreign bodies.
6. Require the different bodies of the national government, the temporary commission of suitable staff it may deem necessary for the operation of the OPC.

7. Approve the annual report of the OPC.
8. Ask both Chambers of Congress to remove the General Director and/or directors of the OPC.
9. Create an ad honorem Advisory Council of experts with recognized experience on the OPC matter to obtain recommendations on its better operation.

SECTION 9 — The General Director of the OPC shall have the following duties and powers:

1. Exercise the administration of the Argentine Congressional Budget Office.
2. Develop the annual operating plan.
3. Design the internal operating regulations of the OPC.
4. Elaborate the preliminary draft budget of the OPC.
5. Elaborate the annual report of the OPC.
6. Manage cooperation agreements.
7. Promote the procurement of public or private, foreign, or domestic resources and funds for the fulfillment of the purposes of the OPC.
8. Define the communication strategy of the OPC.
9. Deal with the allocation of human resources of the OPC for the fulfillment of its purposes.
10. Deal with the relations with committees.

11. Establish work methodologies.
12. Carry out public competitive examinations for the selection of the Team of Analysts provided in Section 10 of this Act.

SECTION 10 — The Argentine Congressional Budget Office shall have a Team of Professional Analysts specialized in the respective themes established in Section 5. The analysts shall be members of the permanent staff of the National Congress. The professional team shall consist of no more than twenty (20) members. To be eligible for admission to the Team of Professional Analysts, candidates must meet the following requirements:

1. To be a native-born or naturalized Argentine citizen.
2. To be selected through a public competitive examination.
3. To hold a graduate degree of at least four (4) -year university program and in connection with the same disciplines required to be appointed General Director established in Section 7.
4. Work experience in the relevant area for a period of not less than three (3) years after graduation.

SECTION 11 — Both Chambers shall provide the administrative and support staff required for the operation of the OPC.

SECTION 12 — The OPC staff shall be appointed by joint resolution of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, based on the conclusions of public competitive examinations provided in this Act.

SECTION 13 — For administrative and operative purposes, the OPC shall maintain relations with both Chambers through their Budget and Finance Committees. The national public administration annual estimates of expenditures and resources shall provide the budgetary allocations required for the operation of the OPC. It shall be allowed to receive donations, credits, and international support for better performance of its activity.

SECTION 14 — All reports shall be publicly accessible and published on the official websites of both Chambers.

SECTION 15 — The OPC shall be allowed to carry out cooperation agreements with government bodies, academic and research centers, and civil society organizations, both national and foreign, for better fulfillment of its mandate.

SECTION 16 — The Provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires are invited to sign cooperation agreements with the OPC to facilitate access to the necessary information so that such Office can comply with the functions established in this Act.

SECTION 17 — The Argentine Congressional Budget Office shall become operational ninety (90) days after the publication of this Act in the Official Gazette.

SECTION 18 — To be communicated to the National Executive Branch.

PASSED AT THE HOUSE OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS, IN BUENOS AIRES, ON THIS THIRTIETH DAY OF THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER OF THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND SIXTEEN.

— REGISTERED UNDER No. 27343

MARTA G. MICHETTI. — EMILIO MONZÓ. — Eugenio Inchausti.
— Juan P. Tunessi.

Order 1277/2016
Buenos Aires, 12/20/2016

In exercise of powers conferred by Section 78 of the NATIONAL CONSTITUTION, Public Law N. 27,343 (IF-2016-04714061-APN-SSP#MH) passed by the HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE NATION at its meeting on November 30, 2016 to be enacted, published by the National Bureau of Official Registry with a copy for the HONORABLE CONGRESS OF THE NATION and communicated to the MINISTRY OF TREASURY AND PUBLIC FINANCE.

To be fulfilled and filed — MACRI. — Marcos Peña. — Alfonso de Prat Gay.

INTERNAL OPERATING REGULATIONS

Approved by Resolution 1-2018 of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee.

CHAPTER I

ARGENTINE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

ARTICLE 1 — The OPC is a decentralized Office of the Argentine National Congress which interacts with both the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies through the Budget and Finance Committees. It is headed by one (1) General Director who shall be equivalent in rank to the Parliamentary Secretary, and four (4) Directors who shall be equivalent in rank to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary, in accordance with Law 27,343.

Both the General Director and the Directors shall hold office for a term of five (5) years and may be reelected, under the terms of the applicable Law.

ARTICLE 2 — Principles. All actions or procedures shall be governed by the principles of gender equity, equality, public access, transparency, celerity, and technical and political impartiality.

CHAPTER II

PURPOSE, MISSION AND FUNCTIONS

ARTICLE 3 — The primary and essential mission of the Argentine Congressional Budget Office is to provide technical support to the Argentine National Congress in the areas provided for in Law 27,343, with the ultimate purpose of providing objective, technical and high-quality tools for legislative analysis and production.

ARTICLE 4 — Pursuant to Section 2 of Law 27,343, the OPC has the following functions, responsibilities, and powers:

1. Analyze the estimates of revenue, spending, physical goals, and public debt included in the annual budget bill.
2. Support the Budget and Finance Committees and the Joint Committee of Public Accounts Auditing in the fulfillment of their purposes.
3. At the request of the Budget and Finance Committees, produce estimates of the budgetary impact of the bills referred to said Committees.
4. At the request of the Budget and Finance Committees, undertake studies, analyses and assessments of the impact achieved by government policies and programs in terms of their budget allocation.
5. At the request of the Budget and Finance Committees, analyze the current taxes as well as the impact and effectiveness of the bills that propose the amendment and/or creation of taxes and duties.
6. Carry out studies on the topics related to fiscal federalism.
7. Carry out studies on the intertemporal sustainability of public debt, including the analysis of the recorded debt, the unrecorded debt, and contingent liabilities.
8. Promote gender mainstreaming in the allocations of budgetary resources. For this purpose, Gender Sensitive Budget (GSB) tools shall be used to analyze proposals to determine the budget allocated to the elimination of gender inequalities.

9. Promote budgetary evaluation taking into consideration the Sustainable Development Objectives of the United Nations (UN).
10. Monitor the compliance with the provisions of Section 37 of Law 24,256.

ARTICLE 5 — Technical structure. Pursuant to Section 5 of Law 27,343 the OPC structure shall be organized by directorates, in terms of the functions it is required to perform:

1. Budget Analysis: it shall provide reports to the Budget and Finance Committees and the Joint Committee of Public Accounts Auditing. At the request of those Committees, it shall also undertake an analysis of the bills that have a budgetary impact on public sector expenditures.
2. Fiscal and Tax Analysis: at the request of the Budget and Finance Committees it shall produce estimates of the impact of the bills that modify or create taxes and duties or affect the resources of the national government.
3. Studies, Analyses and Evaluation: at the request of the Budget and Finance Committees it shall undertake studies, analyses, and assessments of the impact of government policies and programs in terms of their budget allocation.
4. Sustainability and Public Debt Analysis: it shall undertake analyses and monitoring through different public debt indicators.

ARTICLE 6 — Authorities. Pursuant to Section 9 of Law 27,343, the General Director of the OPC shall have the following duties and powers:

1. Exercise the administration of the Argentine Congressional Budget Office.
2. Develop the annual operating plan.
3. Design the internal operating regulations of the OPC.
4. Elaborate the preliminary draft budget of the OPC.
5. Elaborate the annual report of the OPC.
6. Manage cooperation agreements.
7. Promote the procurement of public or private, foreign, or domestic resources and funds for the fulfillment of the purposes of the OPC.
8. Define the communication strategy of the OPC.
9. Deal with the allocation of human resources of the OPC for the fulfillment of its purposes.
10. Deal with the relations with committees.
11. Establish work methodologies.
12. Carry out public competitive examinations for the selection of the Team of Analysts provided in Section 10 of Law 27,343.

The General Director shall also have the following duties:

- a) Exercise as representative of the OPC in institutional activities.

- b) Exercise the legal representation of the OPC both in court and before agencies and authorities of the national government, provincial governments, or municipalities, and if necessary, to grant mandates for judicial or administrative matters.
- c) Carry out the administrative procedures or submissions before the concerned authorities for the purpose of managing the allocated budget.
- d) Exercise the powers delegated by the Parliamentary Oversight Committee, within the framework of the provisions of Section 8.3 of Law 27,343 and periodically report on the use of those powers.
- e) Channel the recommendations proposed by the ad-honorem advisory council provided for in Section 8.9 of Law 27,343, as well as comments or opinions that the OPC may request from the advisory council on the matters under its responsibility.
- f) Authorize expenditures and submit the rendering of accounts.

ARTICLE 7 — Operational Continuity. Should the term of office of the General Director terminate for any of the reasons set forth in Section 7 of Law 27,343, and until the competitive examination for the appointment of his replacement is held, the Parliamentary Oversight Committee shall appoint one of the Directors to perform his or her duties. The competitive examination shall be held within six months after the vacancy of the General Director.

Temporary absences of the General Director shall be authorized by the Chairman of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee and shall be replaced by a Director to be determined by the General Director.

CHAPTER III

OPC STAFF

ARTICLE 8 — Operational Coordination. Pursuant to Joint Resolution RC-01/2018 of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies and for the purpose of providing support to the General Director and under his direct authority, there shall be two permanent coordinating departments in its organic and functional structure, one of Institutional and Parliamentary Relations and the other of Administrative and Technical coordination.

The officers in charge of both departments shall have a rank equivalent to that of Director (A1), in accordance with the scale provided for in Law No. 24,600.

ARTICLE 9 — To perform the functions of permanent Coordinators provided for in the preceding article, it is a requirement to have a university degree in the areas of economic sciences, law, or related disciplines and to belong to the permanent staff of the Senate or the Chamber of Deputies. Both positions shall be of exclusive dedication, full-time and incompatible with the exercise of a profession or gainful activity, except for teaching.

The request for secondment and allocation of functions of the Coordinators shall be made by decision of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee, in accordance with the provisions of Section 8 of Law 27,343 and submitted to the Presidency of the relevant Chamber.

ARTICLE 10 — Coordination of Institutional and Parliamentary Relations Department. Its mission shall be to assist and advise on OPC relations with national and international public and private organizations.

Its functions shall be:

- a) Assist the General Director and the Directors of the OPC in all matters concerning their management of institutional and parliamentary relations.
- b) Participate in the preparation of minutes of the meetings of the General Director and the Directors and report on the fulfillment of the decisions adopted.
- c) Participate in the standardized design of reports and studies produced by the OPC.
- d) Keep and maintain an updated record of the parliamentary status of the matters addressed or that fall within its competence.
- e) Report regularly to the Parliamentary Secretary of both Chambers on the activities of the OPC.
- f) Coordinate relations with the Budget and Finance Committees of both Chambers and the Joint Committee of Public Accounts Auditing.
- g) Maintain coordination relations with the departments responsible for institutional relations at the national and international level of both Chambers.
- h) Coordinate the design and development of proposals or projects that are raised within the scope of the OPC that involve institutional relations with other areas of the National Congress.
- i) Participate in the coordination of relations with other national, provincial, and municipal public agencies, academic institutions, private sector companies, non-governmental organizations, foreign governments, and multilateral organizations.

- j) Support the development of communication strategies that guarantee the adequate dissemination of the initiatives and actions carried out by the OPC.
- k) Coordinate and participate in events and commitments on behalf of the OPC to strengthen and promote the institutional image.
- l) Perform all other functions arising from its mission, those complementary to it, those necessary for its internal administration and those defined by the General Director.
- m) Prepare quarterly reports on the fulfillment of physical operational goals of the OPC with respect to reports produced, studies, seminars, or workshops.

ARTICLE 11 — Administrative and Technical Coordination Department. Its mission shall be to organize, coordinate, provide and supervise the technical and administrative support required by the General Director and Directors of the OPC in the development of its functions and activities.

Its functions shall be:

- a) Assist the General Director and the Directors in their management of technical and administrative matters.
- b) Participate in the preparation of minutes of the meetings of the General Director and the Directors and report on the fulfillment of the decisions adopted.
- c) Supervise the performance of the administrative staff and propose their assignment.
- d) Record and monitor proceedings or files that are initiated or processed within the scope of the OPC.

e) Maintain the operating rules and procedures of the OPC updated.

f) Manage the disbursements for the implementation of the funds allocated to a program and process the payments deriving from its execution.

g) Keep records of the movements of the resources allocated to a program, in accordance with the regulations in force.

h) Produce all the information required with respect to the execution of the resources allocated and administered by program.

i) Prepare the contracts of work or service, and agreements with non-governmental organizations to be carried out with resources allocated to a program and supervise compliance with the regulations applicable to the execution of the contracts.

j) Monitor the payment for suppliers of materials, services and works financed with resources allocated to a program.

k) Develop all other functions required by its mission, those complementary to it, those necessary for its internal administration and those determined by the General Director.

ARTICLE 12 — Team of Professional Analysts. The OPC shall have a Team of Professional Analysts specialized in the topics provided for in Section 5 of Law 27343. The analysts shall be members of the permanent staff of the National Congress. In accordance with Section 10 of Law 27,343, the professional team shall consist of no more than twenty (20) members.

ARTICLE 13 — General requirements. To be eligible for admission to the Team of Professional Analysts, candidates must meet the following requirements:

1. To be a native-born or naturalized Argentine citizen.
2. To be selected through a public competitive examination.
3. To hold a graduate degree of at least four (4)-year university program and in connection with the relevant area.
4. Work experience in the relevant area for a term of at least three (3) years after graduation.

ARTICLE 14 — Competitive public examination for professional analysts. Within the framework of the requirements set forth in Law 27,343, the General Director shall approve the additional and specific profiles and requirements to be considered for each position of the team of professional analysts in accordance with the provisions of Law 24,600, its regulations and complementary rules or amendments that may be applicable in the future.

ARTICLE 15 — Support staff. The administrative and technical support staff necessary for the operation of the OPC shall be appointed by both Chambers, at the request of the General Director.

ARTICLE 16 — Technical advisors. The OPC may hire technical advisors provided that their services are included in the OPC annual work plan whether they are financed by external resources derived from agreements entered into with foreign governments or multilateral organizations as well as from technical cooperation agreements with non-governmental organizations.

The technical advisors shall be qualified professionals, with expertise and knowledge of the various subjects concerning the development of the OPC as well as the purposes and duties pursued with their hiring. Hiring shall be approved by the General Director and if additional hiring is required beyond those specified in the annual operating plan, such hiring shall be authorized by the Parliamentary Oversight Committee.

The advisors shall be hired under a contract of work and shall sign a "Confidentiality Agreement" with respect to all information to which they may have access on their work. The confidentiality commitment shall remain in full force even after the termination of the contract.

ARTICLE 17 — Staff evaluation. The General Director shall conduct periodic performance evaluations of all analyst and administrative staff of the OPC.

The General Director, prior to the secondment or hiring of a new staff member, shall conduct an evaluation of his or her suitability and knowledge of the various matters concerning the development of the OPC. The staff working in the OPC, whether permanent, temporary or under a contract of work, shall keep strict confidentiality on the matters and information they become aware of in the course of their duties.

The OPC shall create the necessary conditions to ensure the continuous training of its staff members.

CHAPTER IV

MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

ARTICLE 18 — The General Director shall determine the date and time of the meetings of Directors of the OPC for the purpose of fulfilling their duties under the provisions of Law 27,343. The Directors may meet and address matters within their competence throughout the calendar year. During legislative sessions, the General Director, the Directors, and the Coordinators shall meet at least once (1) per month.

The powers and duties of the General Director shall be:

- a) To call and preside over meetings.
- b) Approve the matters to be on the agenda, taking into consideration the proposals of the Directors and Coordinators.
- c) Sign the Minutes of the meetings.
- d) Monitor the fulfillment of the decisions adopted based on the management reports submitted by the Directors and Coordinators.

ARTICLE 19 — The meetings shall be called and presided over by the Director General. In his absence, the General Director may delegate this function to a Director or Coordinator.

Exceptionally, given the agenda to be discussed, staff members or persons from outside the OPC shall be allowed to attend the meetings.

CHAPTER V

REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

ARTICLE 20 — Transparency and disclosure. In accordance with Section 14 of Law 27,343 and following the principles set forth in Article 2 of these regulations, all reports shall be of public access. All reports shall be published on the websites of both Chambers and on the institutional website of the OPC, this being the main channel of communication of the OPC. All internal and external communications shall follow the criteria of clear language, objectivity, and impartiality, as determined herein or as may be determined in the future by the General Director.

ARTICLE 21 — To preserve its necessary independent status, the OPC shall perform its duties in an objective, transparent and impartial manner.

ARTICLE 22 — To fulfill the functions of the OPC, pursuant to Section 3 of Law 27343, the National Executive Branch shall:

- 1 Provide the OPC access to the Integrated Financial Information System (SIDIF) of the Secretariat of Treasury, and the Public Debt Management and Administration System (SIGADE) of the Secretariat of Finance of the Ministry of Treasury and Public Finance, to monitor budget execution and public debt, ensuring compliance with the provisions of Law 17,622 on statistical confidentiality and Section 101 of Law 11,683 on fiscal confidentiality To that end, the Ministry of Treasury and Public Finance shall coordinate the OPC access to the SIDIF and SIGADE, making the Office responsible for the proper safekeeping of the internal information of the National Executive Branch.

2 Respond in a timely manner to the reports requested by the OPC on the execution and physical-financial performance of government programs, which shall be channeled by the Office of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers.

The General Director shall ensure compliance with the provisions of the preceding paragraphs.

ARTICLE 23 — Pursuant to Section 4 of Law 27,343, committees of the National Congress shall submit to the OPC all information of budgetary or economic interest necessary for the fulfillment of its functions; otherwise, the Director General shall request such information through the appropriate channels.

ARTICLE 24 — All requests for report by national legislators shall be made through the Budget and Finance Committees of each Chamber.

ARTICLE 25 — Responsible for communication. Upon a request for analysis or information made by the Budget and Finance Committees of either Chamber, the General Director shall be responsible for the Institutional communication and shall authorize the forwarding of the requested reports as well as any information to be published on the website, which shall comply with the principles set forth in Article 2 and article 20 of these regulations.

ARTICLE 26 — The Directors and Coordinators shall ensure strict compliance with the rules and procedures necessary to keep all the information produced by the OPC within the framework of the principles set forth in Article 2 of these regulations and to prevent unauthorized dissemination of information.

CHAPTER VI

OPC BUDGET

ARTICLE 27 — The OPC shall operate within the scope of the Senate of the Nation (Financial Administrative Service -SAF 312) and all operating expenses shall be charged to program 42 - Support to the National Congress in fiscal matters. In all compatible and applicable matters, the provisions of Law 24,156, as amended, shall be observed, and enforced with respect to the Jurisdiction of the Legislative Branch of the Nation.

ARTICLE 28 — Budget. The Director General shall submit the preliminary draft budget of the OPC to the Plenary of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee for its approval. Once approved, it shall be submitted to the Presidencies of both Chambers and reported to the Administrative Secretariat of the Senate for its inclusion in the budget of that Chamber.

ARTICLE 29 — Budget management. For purposes of the financial execution of the budget, without prejudice to the different applicable instruments, the OPC may have a current account at the *Banco de la Nación Argentina* (BNA). In such account shall be deposited the resources transferred by the General Administrative Directorate of the Senate to cover expenses to be administered by the OPC. The General Director and the Administrative and Technical Coordinator shall be the jointly authorized signatories to manage such account, for which purpose they shall comply with the applicable regulations of the Central Bank of the Argentine Republic (BCRA) and of the BNA, and of any other public institution.

ARTICLE 30 — Budget Execution Information. The General Director shall submit to the Parliamentary Oversight Committee the execution of the Budgetary Appropriations allocated for the operation of the OPC, which shall be subsequently submitted to the Administrative Secretary of the Senate of the Nation for the purposes of appropriate accountability.

ARTICLE 31 — These Regulations are issued pursuant to the provisions of Sections 8 and 9 of Law 27,343.

In case of doubt or divergence with respect to the scope of the provisions herein, the additional applicable statutes and regulations shall be: Law 24,600, its regulations and complementary or amendments that may be applicable in the future, and the Regulations of the Senate or of the Chamber of Deputies as appropriate, depending on the Chamber to which the President of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee in office belongs, who shall interpret and understand in the broadest sense, not restrictive, based on the powers conferred by Law 27,343.

ARTICLE 32 — Professional Analysts. Transitional provision Until all the positions are filled by means of the competitive examinations provided for in Section 10 of Law 27,343, professional analysts may be hired, under the modality of service contract, for the purpose of filling the positions in the OPC directorates, for a term of SIX (6) months. It may be extended for another six (6) months with the knowledge of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee. The number of professional analysts appointed by competition and those provided for in this Article shall not exceed twenty (20) at any time. To be hired, the analysts shall meet the requirements set forth in the second and last paragraph of Article 16 of these regulations and shall be hired by the General Director, with the knowledge of the Parliamentary Oversight Committee. The months of services provided by the analysts shall not be included in the scoring of the competitive examinations set forth in Section 10 of Law 27,343.

ARTICLE 33 — Transitional provisions. These Regulations shall enter into force on the day following their submission to the Entrance Desks of both Chambers of the Congress of the Nation.



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