



ÁLLAMI
SZÁMVEVŐSZÉK

Further information, Public Relations:

Bálint Horváth, Head of Department, Senior Counsellor
State Audit Office of Hungary, Department of Communication and
Public Relations

Phone: +36 1 484 9145 Mobile: +36 20 238 6939

E-mail: sajto@asz.hu Web: www.asz.hu ; www.aszhirportal.hu



SAO AUDIT ON THE CONTROL OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Summary for the press
On the control of energy efficiency of public buildings

In course of an international audit, the State Audit Office of Hungary has assessed the policy framework for increasing energy efficiency of public buildings, the availability of related financial resources, and the monitoring system set up to evaluate the achievement of energy efficiency objectives. The SAO has stated the Ministry of National Development, the Prime Minister's Office, the Hungarian Energy and Public Utility Regulatory Authority and the ÉMI Nkft, which manages the building energy data records, fulfilled the expectations regarding energy efficiency of public buildings in accordance with EU directives and Hungarian legislations.

The focus of the now closed audit of the State Audit Office of Hungary was, besides the establishment of a policy framework for increasing the energy efficiency of public buildings, aimed at ensuring the availability of the necessary financial resources for the implementation of the envisaged plans and the specific strategy, and whether the monitoring system for assessing the achievement of the energy efficiency targets functions.

The importance of the topic of the audit is indicated by the goal of the European Union to achieve 20% energy savings at EU level. Given that the operation of buildings accounts for around 40% of the total energy consumption of the European Union, the achievement of the target can be ensured by reducing the energy consumption of buildings and increasing the share of energy from renewable sources.

The audit of the SAO concluded that in Hungary, in line with EU objectives, the strategic document defined the objectives for the renovation of central government buildings and the means to ensure the achievements of the goals. The strategic documents also included plans to reduce the energy demand to nearly zero of new buildings owned and used by public institutions from 2019. The minimum requirements for the energy efficiency of buildings and the authority and responsibility of the organizations in charge of overseeing the implementation and supervision of measures set out by the strategy documents are defined by the relevant legislations.

In order to increase the energy efficiency of central government buildings, adequate financial resources were available to meet the three percent target for renovation. Accordingly, the three percent yearly renewal rate for the floor area of the central government buildings was ensured for the years between 2015 and 2017.

A monitoring system for achieving the objectives and associated measures included in the strategy papers was established and its operation complied with the legal requirements.

The audit was carried out in the framework of the international parallel audit of eight European Audit Offices, in connection with which the Hungarian summary was sent by the SAO to the Audit Offices concerned. The results of the international audits will be published following the compilation and observation of the reports of the participating Audit Offices.