

DELIBERATION NO 278 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)

**UTILISATION OF THE ISCED-97 WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM FOR THE PURPOSE
OF REPLYING TO INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONNAIRES**

Whereas the harmonised utilisation of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED-1997) has not been possible in Portugal for the purpose of reporting information to international organisations;

Whereas these difficulties in harmonising procedures are apparent in the classification of:

- a) "Master degrees", in terms of registrations and graduates within the Education System (Law No 46/86 of 14 October);
- b) "First stage of tertiary education", within the scope of the 2001 Censuses";

Whereas, also, the technical deliberation to be taken will directly affect the international comparison of information on "education and training", namely that obtained from 2001 Censuses, Employment Surveys, Annual School Censuses, etc;

Whereas, in turn, in the *Linhas Gerais da Actividade Estatística Nacional 2003-2007* (General Guidelines of National Statistical Activity 2003-2007) (Deliberation No 247 of the Statistical Council), the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Council) considered it imperative to:

"...strengthen the coordination of the *Sistema Estatístico Nacional* (National Statistical System) at the level of both management practices and procedures and technical-scientific tools for standardisation and quality management ...", and stressed that:

"the strengthening of collaboration between Statistics Portugal and the other entities is essential and should be based on cooperation and shared responsibility principles, promoting the efficiency and reputation of the National Statistical System."

Whereas, finally, the technical examination carried out by the *Grupo de Trabalho sobre Estatísticas da Formação Profissional e Educação* (Working group on vocational training and education statistics), which led to the approval of its 1st Recommendation addressed to this Standing Section;

The *Secção Permanente de Planeamento, Coordenação e Difusão* (Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination) decides, at its meeting of 14 September 2004 and within the scope of its powers, that the entities integrating the National Statistical System, in the education area and for the purpose of disseminating statistical information at the national level and in response to international organisations, shall adopt the International Standard Classification of Education/1997 (ISCED-97), based on the following equivalences:

a) **EDUCATION SYSTEM** (Law No 46/86 of 14 October)

Education System (Portuguese classification in Law No 46/86 of 14 October)	ISCED-97 Code	Description
<i>Educação Pré-escolar</i>	0	Pre-primary education
<i>Ensino Básico 1º Ciclo</i>	1	Primary education (or first stage of basic education)
<i>Ensino Básico 2º Ciclo</i>	1	Primary education (or first stage of primary education)
<i>Ensino Básico 3º Ciclo</i>	2	Lower secondary education (or second stage of basic education)
<i>Ensino Secundário</i>	3	Upper secondary education
<i>Ensino Pós-Secundário</i>	4	Post-secondary non-tertiary education
<i>Ensino Superior – Bacharelato</i>	5B	First stage of tertiary education
<i>Ensino Superior – Licenciatura</i>	5A	First stage of tertiary education
<i>Ensino Superior – Mestrado</i>	6B	Second stage of tertiary education
<i>Ensino Superior – Doutoramento</i>	6A	Second stage of tertiary education

b) **CLASSIFICATION OF CURSOS MÉDIOS (FIRST STAGE OF TERTIARY EDUCATION) WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE 2001 CENSUSES:**

- the individuals that have successfully completed the first stage of tertiary education shall be classified in level 5B of the ISCED-97;
- the individuals that have participated in the first stage of tertiary education but have not completed it, shall be classified in level 3C of ISCED-97.

The Standing Section also recommends:

- that the Ministries of Education and Science, Innovation and Higher Education take appropriate action in order for a Portuguese version of ISCED-97 to be prepared. The document shall be sent to the Secretariat of the Council by December 2005, with a view to its approval by the Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination, after prior technical examination by the competent intermediate structure of the Council;
- that Statistics Portugal and the other entities involved undertake efforts at the international level with the competent fora, so that future reviews of the Classification may take into account the specific nature of the national situation, as regards the sub-division of level 6 of the ISCED.

Lisbon, 23 September 2004

The Chairman of the Section, *João Cadete de Matos*

The Assistant Secretary of the Statistical Council, *Maria da Graça Fernandes Caeiro Bento*