

DELIBERATION No. 8 OF THE STANDING SECTION OF ECONOMIC STATISTICS

**SETTING-UP OF A WORKING GROUP ON COMPETITIVENESS AND PRODUCTIVITY INDICATORS OF
THE PORTUGUESE ECONOMY**

Whereas the General Guidelines of the Official Statistical Activity for the 2018-2022 period pursue as goals to: *"Broaden the production of economic, financial, social and environmental statistics to the new emerging realities such as the digital economy, e-commerce and other relevant ones such as those regarding globalization and competitiveness"* and *"Strengthen the interinstitutional cooperation within the scope of the NSS and also with public and private entities namely in the areas of data sharing in order to achieve efficiency gains"*;

Considering that the Action Plan of the Standing Section of Economic Statistics for the period 2017-2018 assumes as relevant a reflection on what can be improved and deepened with regard to existing statistical information and methodological aspects in the area of competitiveness and productivity indicators, identifying the areas with the need for statistical information to allow a thorough knowledge of the Portuguese economy in order to create instruments that facilitate decision-making regarding the ongoing changes that societies are facing;

Considering the need to establish a frame of reference for the identification of the different approaches to the subject related to the indicators of competitiveness and productivity of the Portuguese economy;

Whereas the definition of that frame of reference should consider:

- The already existing and/or under development indicators within the scope of the ongoing work of both the Ministries of Economy and Finances, regarding this matter;
- The Works carried out in other forums namely reflections and recommendations from the Global Forum on productivity organized by the OECD, other works carried out by the other Member States and the CompNet research network;
- The identification of the additional statistical information needs having in consideration the available resources to the National Statistical System (NSS);
- The systematization and stabilization of information regarding concepts and methodologies, identifying the priority information needs as well as the areas of interest that should be deepened;
- The consistency within the scope of the dissemination of indicators on competitiveness and productivity.

The meeting of the **Standing Section of Economic Statistics** that took place on the 14 September 2018, pursuant to the tasks envisaged in Annex C of the 27th Deliberation of the Statistical Council **has taken**

the decision to approve the constitution of a Working Group on Competitiveness and Productivity Indicators of the Portuguese Economy, under the following terms:

I. MANDATE

- a) To reflect on and thus identify the relevant dimensions for the definition of comprehensive indicators of competitiveness and productivity of the Portuguese economy, considering their macroeconomic and microeconomic nature, with the aim of contributing to informed public debate, as well as to decision making at the various levels of intervention;
- b) To identify a set of reference indicators associated with each one of the identified dimensions;
- c) Discuss methodologically and conceptually the concepts for systematization of information and discuss how to disseminate information;
- d) To present the definition of each one of the indicators, identifying the sources of information, the degree of coverage and the most relevant metadata elements;
- e) To present proposals in case eventual needs of additional information coverage arise including sources and access viability.

II. COMPOSITION

1. PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES:

- Statistics Portugal (INE, IP)
- Banco de Portugal (the Portuguese Central Bank)
- Ministry of Economy
- Ministry of Finance
- Portuguese Tourism Confederation
- Portuguese Trade and Services Confederation
- General Confederation of Portuguese Workers (CGTP)
- Francesco Franco, PhD
- Other representatives from the Academy

2. NON-PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES

It is intended that the working group should benefit from effective participation, broaden to third parties whenever more specific matters are to be discussed. Under this context, when analyzing specific matters related to its mandate, the working group might invite entities or experts on pressing issues formally invited by the Vice-Chairperson of the Statistical Council, under the proposal of the respective Chairperson.

III. FUNCTIONING

1. In order to carry out its activity and fulfill its mandate, the Working Group shall establish with other Working Groups within the scope of the Statistical Council the articulations and initiatives that are deemed necessary. This articulation shall be promoted through the Statistical Council secretariat.
2. Whenever matters so justify and in order to make the work more operational, sub-groups may be set up, under the terms of the Internal Regulations of the Statistical Council.
3. The representatives of the entities that make up the Working Group shall be appointed by a full member of the Statistical Council whenever the entity is represented or, in the remaining cases, by direct indication of each entity's responsible bodies.
4. Each entity shall nominate a permanent representative and, additionally, one or two substitutes.

IV. WORK SCHEDULING AND PLANNING

- a. The Working Group shall present to the Standing Section, within a three month period from the start of its operation, a brief report regarding item a) for decision;
- b. It shall then define the schedule for the implementation of the remaining points of its mandate, which shall subsequently be submitted to the Section for approval;
- c. The Chairman of the Standing Section shall present a brief statement about the progress of the ongoing works.

Lisbon, 19 October 2018

Vice-Chairman of the Section, *Francesco Franco*

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