

**DELIBERATION NO 27 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)**

**OPERATING STRUCTURE OF THE STATISTICAL COUNCIL –**

**2012 STANDING AND AD-HOC SECTIONS**

Following the publication of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May – Law governing the National Statistical System (NSS Law), the operating structure of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) was approved through Deliberation No 2 in September 2008.

Whereas the new composition of the Council for the 2012-2015 period, tailor-made to the structure of the 19<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Government, which is divided into Ministries, and with new representatives of independent persons and a consequent need to adjust the composition of Sections.

Whereas the importance of clarifying, rendering flexible, updating and implementing the Council's working procedures and methods.

Whereas the recommendation in Deliberation No 22 of the Council approving the Situation Assessment Report of the National Statistical System for 2008-2011 to prepare a draft revision of the NSS Law.

Hence, pursuant to Article 15 (1) of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May 2008 and to Articles 5, 6 and 7 of the Council's Rules of Procedure, **the Council, at its plenary session on 4 July 2012, decided:**

1. To adjust the composition and mandates of the following Sections:

- I. Standing Section of Statistical Confidentiality (*Secção Permanente do Segredo Estatístico* in Portuguese) – [Annex A](#)
- II. Standing Section of Statistical Coordination (*Secção Permanente de Coordenação Estatística* in Portuguese) – [Annex B](#)
- III. Standing Section of Economic Statistics (*Secção Permanente de Estatísticas Económicas* in Portuguese) – [Annex C](#)
- IV. Standing Section of Social Statistics (*Secção Permanente de Estatísticas Sociais* in Portuguese) – [Annex D](#)
- V. Standing Section of Territorial Statistics (*Secção Permanente de Estatísticas de Base Territorial* in Portuguese) – [Annex E](#)
- VI. Ad-hoc Section for Monitoring the 2011 Censuses (*Secção Eventual para Acompanhamento dos Censos 2011* in Portuguese) – [Annex F](#)

## Conselho Superior de Estatística

2. To create the Ad-hoc Section for the Revision of the Law governing the National Statistical System (*Secção Eventual para Revisão da Lei do Sistema Estatístico Nacional* in Portuguese), which shall prepare a preliminary draft law to revise the NSS Law, pursuant to Deliberation No 22 of the Council, to be approved by the plenary session and submitted to the Government – Annex G
3. Annexes A to G referred to in the foregoing paragraphs containing the Sections' composition and powers form an integral part of this Deliberation.
4. Working Groups operating on this date shall continue to function.

Lisbon, 4 July 2012

The Vice-Chairman of the Statistical Council, *Alda de Caetano Carvalho*

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

## **ANNEX A**

### **STANDING SECTION OF STATISTICAL CONFIDENTIALITY**

1. The composition of the Standing Section of Statistical Confidentiality includes permanent members from:

- Portuguese Data Protection Authority
- Statistics Portugal
- Banco de Portugal
- Entities with delegated powers, except in the case of the powers set forth in paragraph 2 (b) and (c), in which case participation will only occur when falling within its scope of action
- Regional Statistical Office of Azores and Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira, except in the case of the powers set forth in paragraph 2 (b) and (c), in which case participation will only occur when falling within its scope of action
- Ministry of Economy and Employment
- CIP – Confederation of Portuguese Industry
- Portuguese Consumer Protection Association
- Anabela Veloso (appointed by the Council of Portuguese University Rectors)

1.1. The following persons may also participate in Section meetings:

- Other Council members related to specific confidential requests
- Experts in subjects related to statistical confidentiality.

2. The Section is responsible for:

- a) Ensuring respect for statistical confidentiality and implementing the provisions of the NSS Law as regards the above principle;
- b) Analysing and deciding on requests for access to confidential statistical data;
- c) Auditing and otherwise inspecting entities that request access to confidential statistical data;
- d) Cooperating with the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination in the preparation of the document *Linhas Gerais da Atividade Estatística Oficial* (General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity);
- e) Issuing an opinion on a draft Regulation on statistical confidentiality to be adopted by statistical authorities;
- f) Issuing guidelines within its field of competence;
- g) Monitoring, through national institutional participants, subjects related to statistical confidentiality and personal data protection, namely as a result of the activities of Committees operating within the European Union and other international organisations.

## **ANNEX B**

### **STANDING SECTION OF STATISTICAL COORDINATION**

1. The composition of the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination includes permanent members from:

- Statistics Portugal
- Banco de Portugal
- Ministry of Economy and Employment
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications
- Ministry of Agriculture, Sea, Environment and Spatial Planning
- Ministry of Health
- Prime Minister's Office
- Regional Statistical Office of Azores
- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira
- Central trade union organisations (one representative to be appointed by agreement between the organisations represented in the Council)
- Employers' confederations (one representative to be appointed by agreement between the confederations represented in the Council)
- Entities with delegated powers

1.1. For the exercise of the powers set forth in paragraph 2 (I) of this Deliberation, the composition of the Section is extended to:

- Portuguese Personal Data Protection Authority
- Entities whose business areas the document under analysis refers to, provided they are represented in the Council.

2. This Section is responsible for:

- a) Preparing the document *Linhas Gerais da Atividade Estatística Oficial* (General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity), defining the relevant priorities and monitoring them on an annual basis, to be submitted at a plenary session of the Council;
- b) Preparing the "Situation Assessment Report of the NSS", to be submitted at a plenary session of the Council before expiry of the term of office of its members;
- c) Assessing the Statistical Activity Plan and Budget of statistical authorities and the respective implementation report, to be submitted at a plenary session of the Council;
- d) Monitoring the preparation of the Statistical Council's Business Plan and the respective implementation report, to be approved by the Council's plenary session;
- e) Defining, in the context of the Statistical Activity Plan, official statistical operations of national scope and those solely in the interest of the Autonomous Regions, as well as official statistics associated with the provision of a public service, upon proposal of statistical authorities;
- f) Monitoring the implementation of the Business Plans referred to in paragraphs (c) and (d);

- g) Ensuring respect for the NSS key principles, with the exception of statistical confidentiality;
- h) Approving the technical tools for statistical coordination required to be applied in the production of official statistics, with the possibility of proposing to the Government extending its imperative use to general government;
- i) Issuing recommendations that contribute to foster maximum use of administrative data for statistical purposes, namely through the use of technical tools for statistical coordination;
- j) Approving and regulating prior registration rules for the statistical questionnaires of statistical authorities and for other data collection devices that may be used for statistical purposes;
- k) Examining proposals for the delegation of powers of Statistics Portugal to other entities for the production and dissemination of official statistics, to be submitted at a plenary session of the Council;
- l) Analysing and issuing an opinion on draft decree-laws setting up statistical services or incorporating any rules that focus on the structure and operating procedures of the NSS, pursuant to Article 14 of the National Statistical System's Law;
- m) Monitoring, through national institutional participants, the activities of Committees or Working Groups operating within the European Union and the relevant international bodies regarding its scope of action;
- n) Monitoring issues related to international statistical cooperation and NSS human resources training.
- o) To assess Reports and supervise Working Group Monitoring Plans in place within the Section.

## ANNEX C

### STANDING SECTION OF ECONOMIC STATISTICS

1. The composition of the Standing Section of Economic Statistics includes permanent members from:

- Statistics Portugal
- Banco de Portugal
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Agriculture, Sea, Environment and Spatial Planning
- Ministry of Economy and Employment
- Regional Statistical Office of Azores
- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira
- Entities with delegated powers in statistical areas falling within the scope of action of the Section
- Confederation of Portuguese Industry
- Confederation of Trade and Services of Portugal
- Portuguese Confederation of Tourism
- Confederation of Portuguese Farmers
- General Confederation of Portuguese Workers
- Workers' General Union
- Pedro Telhado Pereira (appointed by the Council of Portuguese University Rectors)
- José Cadima Ribeiro
- Personality of recognized scientific merit and independence

2. As regards economic statistics areas (national accounts, regional accounts, satellite accounts, agriculture, fisheries, industry, trade and services, international trade, tourism, transport, communication, environment, energy, enterprises, monetary, financial, exchange rate and balance of payments statistics), this Standing Section is responsible for:

- (a) Cooperating with the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination in the preparation of the document *Linhas Gerais da Atividade Estatística Oficial* (General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity);
- (b) To monitor the production of official statistics and analyse their supporting methodologies, assessing their responsiveness to user needs;
- (c) Proposing activities that contribute to foster maximum use of administrative data for statistical purposes;
- (d) Issuing recommendations regarding the preparation of economic statistics, namely National and Regional Accounts, e.g. the improvement of statistical sources;
- (e) To monitor recommendations governing data reporting within general government;
- (f) Issuing recommendations on Satellite Accounts;

- (g) Monitoring, through national institutional participants, the activities of Committees or Working Groups operating within the European Union and the relevant international bodies regarding its scope of action;
- (h) To assess Reports and supervise Working Group Monitoring Plans in place within the Section.

## **ANNEX D**

### **STANDING SECTION OF SOCIAL STATISTICS**

1. The composition of the Standing Section of Social Statistics includes permanent members from:

- Statistics Portugal
- Banco de Portugal
- Portuguese Data Protection Authority
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Economy and Employment
- Ministry of Finance
- Regional Statistical Office of Azores
- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira
- Entities with delegated powers in statistical areas falling within the scope of action of the Section
- General Confederation of Portuguese Workers
- Workers' General Union
- Employers' confederations (one representative to be appointed by agreement between the confederations represented in the Council)
- Portuguese Consumer Protection Association
- Anália Maria Torres
- Gustavo Alberto Cardoso
- Maria João Valente Rosa

2. As regards social statistics areas (education and training, population, science and technology, information society, justice, health, culture, disability and rehabilitation, labour market, employment and wages, other social and household statistics), this Section is responsible for:

- (a) Cooperating with the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination in the preparation of the document *Linhas Gerais da Atividade Estatística Oficial* (General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity);
- (b) Monitoring the production of social statistics, namely by assessing its adequacy to user needs;
- (c) Proposing activities that contribute to foster maximum use of administrative data for statistical purposes;
- (d) Issuing recommendations on the preparation of social statistics;
- (e) Monitoring, through national institutional participants, the activities of Committees or Working Groups operating within the European Union and the relevant international bodies regarding its scope of action;
- (f) To assess Reports and supervise Working Group Monitoring Plans in place within the Section.



## **ANNEX E**

### **STANDING SECTION OF TERRITORIAL BASE STATISTICS**

1. The composition of the Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics includes permanent members from:

a) Represented at the Council:

- Statistics Portugal
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Agriculture, Sea, Environment and Spatial Planning
- Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communications
- National association of Portuguese municipalities
- Ministry of Economy and Employment
- Entities with delegated powers
- Regional Statistical Office of Azores
- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira
- A representative of central trade union organisations (to be appointed by agreement between the organisations represented in the Council)
- A representative of employers' confederations (to be appointed by agreement between the confederations represented in the Council)
- José Cadima Ribeiro

1.1 The following entities also participate on a permanent basis:

- NSRF Observatory
- Regional coordination and development committees
- Directorate-General of Spatial Planning and Urban Development
- Financial Institute for Regional Development
- Directorate-General of Local Government
- National Association of Communes

2. This Section is responsible for:

- (a) Cooperating with the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination in the preparation of the document *Linhas Gerais da Atividade Estatística Oficial* (General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity);
- (b) Monitoring the production of territorial base statistics, namely by assessing its adequacy to user needs;
- (c) Monitoring, in strict cooperation with the appropriate Sections, the production of territorial base statistics through the analysis of statistical projects with relevant implications for statistical data at regional and local level;
- (d) Developing activities that foster maximum use of administrative data for statistical purposes, in cooperation with the appropriate Sections;

- (e) Fostering the employment of existing statistical operations targeted at a maximum use of their potentialities for the enhancement of territorial base statistics;
- (f) Monitoring, through national institutional participants, the activities of Committees or Working Groups operating within the European Union and the relevant international bodies regarding its scope of action;
- (g) To assess Reports and supervise Working Group Monitoring Plans in place within the Section.

## **ANNEX F**

### **AD-HOC SECTION FOR MONITORING THE 2011 CENSUSES**

The Ad-Hoc Section for Monitoring the 2011 Censuses was originally created in 2006 (Deliberation No 323 of the Council). In 2008, following approval of Law No 22/2008 and the consequent restructuring of Council Sections, the powers and composition of this Section were adjusted (Deliberation No 2 of the Council, Annex F).

The Ad-Hoc Section for Monitoring the 2011 Censuses has met on a regular basis to prepare and develop its activities and completed part of the sub-paragraphs of the mandate conferred on it. The powers now approved concern only the monitoring of aspects still under way in terms of implementation and completion of the 2011 Censuses.

1. The composition of the Ad-Hoc Section for monitoring the 2011 Censuses includes permanent members from:

a) Represented at the Council

- Statistics Portugal
- Ministry of Agriculture, Sea, Environment and Spatial Planning
- CIP – Confederation of Portuguese Industry
- Workers' General Union
- General Confederation of Portuguese Workers
- National association of Portuguese municipalities
- Portuguese Consumer Protection Association
- Regional Statistical Office of Azores
- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira

b) In their capacity as invited entities:

- National Association of Communes

1.1. The agendas of this Section's meetings will be made known to the Council members not mentioned in 1-a), who may participate in the meetings, after having communicated that intent to the Council Secretariat in advance.

2. This Section is responsible for:

- (a) Monitoring activities associated with collecting and evaluating the 2011 Censuses;
- (b) Appraising the final assessment report on the 2011 Censuses prepared by Statistics Portugal within 12 months as of the release of the final results, which should include the quality evaluation of both operations.

3. After completion of the 2011 Censuses, the Chairperson of this Section will prepare a report on the activities carried out by the Section and the respective final findings.

4. The mandate will be terminated after approval of the report mentioned in the foregoing paragraph.

**ANNEX G**

**AD-HOC SECTION FOR THE REVISION OF THE LAW GOVERNING THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM**

1. The Ad-hoc Section for the Revision of the Law governing the National Statistical System shall be composed of:
  - a) A core group with the following representatives:
    - Statistics Portugal, in liaison with entities with delegated powers
    - Banco de Portugal
    - Portuguese Data Protection Authority
    - General Confederation of Portuguese Workers
  - b) For matters related to the Autonomous Regions:
    - Regional Statistical Office of the Azores
    - Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira
  - c) For specific matters following a decision by the Section:
    - Other related members
  - d) Entities or persons invited by the Section to collaborate in the preparation of draft legislation.
2. The Section shall have the following mandate:
  - a) To put forward a programme and timeline for the preparatory work for the revision of the NSS Law by 28 September 2012, to be approved by Council members through a written procedure;
  - b) To submit to the plenary session at its meeting in July 2013 a preliminary draft law to revise the Law governing the National Statistical System envisaging, inter alia (i) a new chairmanship model for the Council and (ii) enhanced management independence and autonomy for Statistics Portugal (in addition to technical Independence as already provided for), and the corresponding accountability, increasingly enabling these structures to fulfil their tasks and observe the principles enshrined in the EC Regulation on European statistics, the Law governing the National Statistical System and the European Statistics Code of Practice.
3. The Section shall start operating following approval of this Deliberation, and shall be terminated following Parliament's approval of the law.
4. The Chairperson of the Ad-hoc Section is elected at the first meeting of the representatives forming the core group.
5. The Section shall submit to the Council members, via the Council Secretariat, monthly status updates on work progress.