DELIBERATION No. 54 OF THE STATISTICAL COUNCIL

WITH REGARD TO THE 2020 WORK PROGRAM FOR THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

Having in consideration the competencies of the Statistical Council (hereinafter referred to as the Council) within the scope and strategic guidance of the National Statistical System (NSS).

Considering the General Guidelines of the Official Statistical Activity (GGOSA) 2018-2022, approved by the Council, which define the main objectives and challenges posed to the NSS for that period, as well as the actions considered as priorities by the Council as a result from the reflection, analysis and other work developed within the scope of the Council's activity.

Considering specifically that it is the Council's responsibility to "evaluate the statistical activity plan and budget of the statistical authorities (...)".

Considering that the activity of the Council in 2020 will continue to aim at providing the society as a whole with quality official statistical information as well as keeping track of the new developments and challenges facing the Statistical Authorities (SAs) both at national level, particularly by the use of new information sources and data integration, at European and international level, and also monitoring innovations in the reporting of official statistics.

Whereas the Statistical Work Programs of the SAs for 2020 reflect the guidelines contained in the GGOSA 2018-2022, in particular with regard to the high priority given to actions that:

I.   Set a number of objectives aimed at continuing to ensure quality, timely and relevant statistical production, methodological and technological innovation and modernisation of the statistical process, improvement of accessibility and use of official statistics, continuous improvement of communication channels and active promotion of statistical literacy.

II. Will continue to give priority, to the extent of available resources and in particular the adequacy of human resources, to meeting the growing demand for statistical information, at national, European and international level, as an indispensable tool for timely and accurate analysis of the economic, financial, social and environmental situation, for informed decision making by economic agents and for a sustained assessment of the various policies.

III. Will also continue to pay special attention to strengthening institutional and inter-institutional cooperation, including in the conduct of specific projects relevant to the National and European Statistical Systems. Emphasis will be put on strengthening the use of administrative and other sources for statistical purposes, including through the use of Big Data solutions, minimising the

costs of statistical production and the burden on respondents and maximising the return of official statistics to society.

Considering that the Work Program of Statistics Portugal and the entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal (EDC) for 2020 is part of the European Statistical Programme until 2020 and that almost all the planned statistical activities stand for obligations assumed by the Portuguese State in the context of the European Union.

Considering that the Work Program of Banco de Portugal seeks to meet the strategic objectives defined by the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).

Considering that the Work Programs of Statistics Portugal and of the EDC, the Regional Statistical Office of the Açores and the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira, for 2020, comply with the quality benchmark established in the Code of Practice for European Statistics and that the Statistical Activity Plan of Banco de Portugal complies with the principles enshrined in the "ESCB Public Commitment in the field of European Statistics".

Considering "Principle 3 - Adequacy of resources" of the European Statistics Code of Practice which states that "the resources made available to the statistical authorities are sufficient to meet the requirements of European statistics".

In accordance with Article 3(2) and Article 13(g) of Law 22/2008 of 13 May and Article 10(3) (c) of the Rules of Procedure of the Statistical Council, **at the Plenary Meeting of 21 February 2020**, the **Statistical Council**, after a favourable opinion from the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination, **has decided**:

1. To **approve** the Synthesis of Statistical Activity for the 2020 National Statistical System, annexed to this deliberation;
2. To **approve** the Council's Work Program for 2020;
3. **Issue a favourable opinion** on the Work Programs of the Statistical Authorities for 2020;
4. To **approve** the dissemination of these documents through an information note to the Media.
5. **Recommend to the relevant authorities** that the Statistical Authorities be provided with the necessary human and financial resources in good time to implement their Work Program for 2020.

Lisboa, 21 February 2020

The Vice-Chairman of the Statistical Council, *Francisco Lima*

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

2020 WORK PROGRAM | NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

SYNTHESIS

The National Statistical System (NSS) Work Program 2020 consists of this synthesis, in which the main objectives and activities to be achieved in 2020 are highlighted, and the Activity Plans of the Statistical Council (Council) and the Statistical Authorities (SAs)[1], which provide more detailed information in their respective spheres of competence.

These Plans present the objectives and actions that will be developed by those entities, in the national and European context respectively:

– In the exercise of the powers established in Article 13 of Law 22/2008, of May 13, and in accordance with the guidelines issued under Article 3.2 of the same Law through the Resolutions and Recommendations of the Council.

– From the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity (GGOSA) for the period 2018-2022.

– From the European Statistical Programme until 2020.

– In the statistical activity programmes approved by the European System of Central Banks (ESCB).

– And also in compliance with the quality benchmark set out in the European Statistics Code of Practice and the European System of Central Banks' Public Commitment in the field of European Statistics.

The Council, within the scope of its competences, will continue to aim at the availability of quality and timely official statistical information to society as a whole and will monitor new developments and challenges faced by the SAs both at national level, using inter alia new sources of information and data integration, and at European and international level, and will monitor innovations in the reporting of official statistics.

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[1] These include Statistics Portugal (INE), the Portuguese Central Bank (Banco de Portugal - BdP), the Regional Statistical Office of the Açores (SREA), and the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM). Also SREA and DREM, when strictly producing regional statistics, and the entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal (pursuant to Law no. 22/2008 of 13 May): Directorate-General of Natural Resources, Marine Resources and Safety Services of the Ministry of Sea (MM), Directorate-General for Energy and Geology of the Ministry of economy (MEc), Directorate-General of Education and Science Statistics of the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education (MEd and MCTES), Directorate-General for Justice Policy of the Ministry of Justice (MJ) and Department for Strategic Planning of the Ministry of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security (MTSSS).

Pursuant to article 22 of the NSS, when producing national official statistics, the participation of SREA and DREM, as entities with powers delegated by Statistics Portugal, must be effective.

At the same time, it will promote internal and broad public reflection actions with the aim of identifying the appropriate implementation of measures that will enable the GGOSA 2018-2022 to be implemented and, in particular, to raise society's awareness in collaboration with the SAs.

The State Evaluation Report on the NSS 2017-2019, to be submitted for approval by the Council in 2020, will make it possible to come up with a mid-term assessment of the guidelines adopted in 2017.

The SAs, in their Work Programs for 2020, establish a set of objectives aimed at continuing to ensure quality, timely and relevant statistical production, methodological and technological innovation and modernisation of the statistical process, improvement of accessibility and use of official statistics, continuous improvement of communication channels and active promotion of statistical literacy.

Priority will continue to be given, to the extent of available resources and in particular the adequacy of human resources, to meeting the growing demand for statistical information, at national, European and international level, as an indispensable tool for timely and accurate analysis of the economic, financial, social and environmental situation, for informed decision making by economic agents and for a sustained assessment of the various policies.

The SAs will also continue to pay special attention to strengthening institutional and inter-institutional cooperation, notably in conducting specific projects relevant to the National and European Statistical Systems, including strengthening the use of administrative and other sources for statistical purposes, including the use of Big Data solutions, thus minimising the costs of statistical production and the burden on respondents, notably citizens and businesses.

A. Main goals and activities of the Statistical Council for 2020

Goal

The activity to be developed by the Council in 2020 should continue to focus on the promotion of internal and broad public reflection actions and follow-up actions to identify and adequately implement measures to enable the implementation of the GGOSA 2018-2022, in particular in the context of using administrative and other sources of information for statistical purposes, and in raising society's awareness of collaboration with the Statistical Authorities.

Some actions and priority areas should be highlighted:

Global in scope

- Approval of the Evaluation Report on the condition of the NSS 2017-2019 corresponding to the respective mandate of the members of the Board.
- Presentation / reflection on the 30 years of the Council's existence.
- Monitoring of compliance with the fundamental principles of the NSS contained in the Law.

- Evaluation of the Degree of Implementation of the second year of the GGOSA 2018-2022.
- Reflection on the operating model of the Council.
- Holding of reflection sessions on initiatives to be developed by the Council, within the scope of its competences, aiming at the identification and appropriate implementation of measures to enable the implementation of the GGOSA 2018-2022.
- Promotion of reflection and awareness actions of Public Administration entities and private entities, with a view to using administrative data for statistical purposes.

By sectors

- Appreciation of the Report of the Working Group on Indicators of Social Inequalities;
- Monitoring the preparation of the 2021 Census, in line with the Action Programme of the 2021 Census conducted by Statistics Portugal.
- Monitoring the preparation, by Statistics Portugal, of a solution that will enable the characterization of the conditions, origins and trajectories of the Portuguese population.
- Monitoring of the work on the identification of relevant dimensions for the definition of competitiveness and productivity indicators of the Portuguese economy.
- Monitoring the development and modernisation of social statistics.
- Monitoring of sectorial statistical information systems and subsystems in the areas of Social Security, Labour Market, International Migration, Health, Income and Living Conditions and Education and Training.
- Monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 agenda.

Follow–up actions

- Presentation by the SAs of significant innovations, in particular methodological innovations, introduced in the statistical production.
- Presentations by users of statistical information of studies and innovative applications of official statistics.
- Continuation of the promotion of actions to increase institutional cooperation between the SAs and between the entities of the Public Administration and the SAs.
- Follow-up of developments resulting from the Council recommendation on the establishment of a Business Register for use within the NSS.
- Monitoring of the implementation of the recommendations of the Council for the improvement of the Classification of Economic Activities Information System (SICAE) by the management entities of the System – Statistics Portugal, Tax and Customs Authority and the Institute of Registries and Notaries.
- Discussion on the use of administrative data for the production of quality statistics on occupational diseases, temporary work and "recibos verdes" and the monitoring of Labour Market statistics on accidents at work, the results of the Single Report and the process of reformulation and expansion of the Information System of the State Organization - SIOE and the developments for the implementation of modules of the "Relatório Único" of the public sector.

- Monitoring the implementation of the context/result indicator system for Portugal 2020 and the degree of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 11th Deliberation of the Permanent Section on Territorial-based Statistics.
- Annual monitoring of the degree of implementation of the recommendations of the (former) Working Group (WG) on Health Statistics, through joint information to be provided by Statistics Portugal and the Ministry of Health.

B. Main objectives of the Statistical Authorities for 2020

Statistics Portugal and Entities with powers delegated

In 2020, **Statistics Portugal** will pursue its Mission to produce, in an independent and impartial manner, quality official statistical information relevant to society, promoting the coordination, analysis, innovation and dissemination of the national statistical activity, ensuring the integrated storage of data, in accordance with the principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice, taking into account the needs of users, both in new areas of interest and in more appropriate forms of accessibility.

Among the activities that will be carried out by Statistics Portugal in 2020, the following developments in statistical production should be highlighted

- Continuation of the collection and processing of data from the 2019 Agricultural Census, which takes place every ten years, the results of which will be disseminated in 2021.
- Conducting the 2021 Pilot Census Survey and developing the Quality Control and Evaluation Programme for the 2021 Census.
- Preparation of the 2019 Resident Population Base.
- Dissemination of the results of the triennial exercise of Projections of Resident Population 2018-2080.
- Beginning of the feasibility study of the survey on the conditions, origins and trajectories of the resident population.
- Dissemination of the results of the 2019 Fertility Survey.
- Parallel data collection from the Employment Survey in 2020 as part of the transition to the new data series starting in 2021.
- Carrying out the 2020 ad hoc module of the Employment Survey on "Accidents at work and work-related health problems" and preparing the 2021 regular module on "Migrants and their descendants in the labour market".
- Preparation of the Household Expenditure Survey 2021, adopting for the first time the web-based data collection.
- Preparation of the 2020 Household Financial Situation Survey, in partnership with Banco de Portugal.
- Dissemination of the results of the ad hoc module of the Survey of Living Conditions and Income that integrates, for the first time, the themes of wealth, consumption and work.

- Dissemination of the results of the 2019 Survey on Show Venues, biennial.
- Dissemination of the results of the 2019 National Health Survey, carried out in conjunction with the National Institute of Health Dr. Ricardo Jorge (INSA).
- Preparation of the 2021 Public and Private Security Survey, aimed at preparing a nationally representative statistical operation on the issue of gender-based violence.
- Regular provision of Income Statistics at local level 2018, on an annual basis.
- Dissemination of the results of Land Use and Occupancy Statistics for 2018.
- Maintenance and updating of the system of indicators to support the monitoring of the context and outcome of "Portugal 2020" on the Statistics Portugal website.
- Preliminary work on the compilation and analysis of basic information for the next edition of the Food Balance (2016-2020).
- Disclosure of a new edition of the Symmetric Input-Output Matrix for 2017.
- Dissemination of results of the Satellite Account of the Sea for 2016-2018, and dissemination of the results of the regular Satellite Accounts, namely in the areas of Tourism, Health, Environment and Agriculture.
- Disclosure of long series for the Portuguese economy, compatible with the new 2016 base of the Portuguese National Accounts, in collaboration with Banco de Portugal.
- Further extension of the coverage of the Services Output Price Index (IPPS) to new services.
- Carrying out the Survey on the Identification of Qualification Needs in Companies 2020.
- A new edition of the 2019 Management Practices Survey was carried out.
- Preparation of a new edition of the Energy Consumption Survey in the Domestic Sector, in articulation with DGEG and ADENE.
- Broadening the production of monthly air traffic results.
- Development of International Tourism Statistics aiming at the regular production of an annual estimate of international tourism, for the total of visitors and borders.
- Dissemination of indicators for the 2018 National Scientific and Technological Potential Surveys.
- Dissemination of the results of the 2020 Survey on the Use of Information and Communication Technologies in Enterprises.
- Implementation in 2020 of the *iDataCode* measure defined in the SIMPLEX+2019 Programme.

Among the activities to be carried out by the Entities with Delegation of Powers, the following should be highlighted

- Dissemination of the results of the 2018 Earnings Structure Survey. [GEP/MTSSS]
- Carrying out the second pilot survey of the Special Needs of Education in Higher Education Establishments - characterization of the educational situation of the student. [DGEEC/Med|MCTES]
- Carrying out the 2018 Doctorate Survey. [DGEEC/MEd|MCTES]
- Reinforcement of the analysis of administrative sources of data in the area of Justice and dissemination of Justice Statistics for new areas of interest to society. [DGPJ/MJ]
- Increasing the efficiency of the statistical production process of the fisheries and aquaculture sector through methodological, scientific and technological development. [DGRM/MM]

- Continuation of initiatives to improve the quality of Energy and Geological Resources statistics and reduce the time taken to make information available. [DGEG/MAAC]

With regard to the external cooperation

- Preparation of the Presidency of the Council of the Working Party on Statistics, by Statistics Portugal, under the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in the 1st half of 2021.
- Active participation in European structures, in particular those of the European Statistical System (ESS), including its Committee, and intensified partnerships with Member States and Eurostat in line with the objectives set out in Vision 2020 for the ESS.
- Active participation in the work of Eurostat structures: *ESSnets* and *Task Forces* in various domains.
- Participation in the European Statistical Forum, which brings together the European Statistical System and the European System of Central Banks.
- Monitoring the development of Agenda 2030 and participating in the monitoring process of the Sustainable Development Goals.
- Participation in international fora on statistics representing Portugal, namely the United Nations Statistical Commission, the Conference of European Statisticians of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Statistical Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).
- Cooperation to develop the statistical systems of other countries, in particular Portuguese-speaking countries, both bilaterally and within the framework of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP).

Banco de Portugal

The Work Program of Banco de Portugal for 2020 aims to meet national and European obligations and the strategic objectives of Banco de Portugal in the field of the statistical function, pursuing three central objectives:

1. To produce quality statistics, based on an efficient use of the various sources of information and on compliance with the most demanding international standards.
2. To ensure the existence of a quality control process for the databases managed by the Banco de Portugal Statistics Department that is homogeneous, effective and efficient through the exploration and implementation of new methodologies and IT solutions.
3. Promote statistical communication that meets the needs of the different users and fulfils the reporting and dissemination responsibilities assumed by the various national and international entities.

For this purpose, 28 statistical operations are planned and scheduled in the Work Program of Banco de Portugal for 2020, covering the different statistical domains, with daily, monthly, quarterly and annual periodicity, associated with 480 dissemination events:

1. Consolidation and growth of the new BPstat, the statistical portal of Banco de Portugal, namely in the dissemination of new statistical contents and new operating features in BPstat.
2. Strict compliance with new normative requirements, in particular the new reporting of statistics on pension funds and portfolio reporting of financial groups.
3. Implementation of new quality control methodologies in the databases managed by the Banco de Portugal, based on new IT solutions and techniques.
4. Continued work on the development of the data warehouse of Banco de Portugal (BPW) and the components associated with the reference information database and the information catalogue. In the field of integrated management of reference information, emphasis is placed on collaboration with the ECB in the management of the RIAD (Register of Institutions and Affiliates Data) reference database.
5. Continuation of national and international representation activities with great relevance, both in terms of cooperation and training actions, working group presidencies and active participation in the various forums.
6. Promotion of statistical literacy, in particular through specific dissemination actions for each of the different user groups/types.

Regional Statistical Office of the Açores

The planning of the Regional Statistical Office of the Açores (SREA) for 2020 is based on the following strategic objectives, enshrined in the respective QUAR:

1. To optimise the operation of statistical activity in the Autonomous Region of the Açores (RAA).
2. To increase statistical literacy.
3. Continue the modernisation and efficiency of the statistical production process.
4. Intensify the use of administrative data for statistical purposes.
5. To satisfy, with quality and opportunity, the statistical information needs of the Society at large.

Of the SREA Work Program for 2020, special mention should be made to the following:

In general terms

- Holding of the XII Jornadas Ibero-Atlânticas de Estatística Regional.
- Continuation of statistical literacy actions for teachers and students of schools within the region.

With regard to the Statistical Production

- Continuation of studies on new regional projects: Satellite Account of the Sea of the Region (CSM-Açores 2015); Tourist performance of the Açores Islands - evolution in the last 20 years"; "Visibility indicator of the RAA, based on Big Data".
- In collaboration with Statistics Portugal, coordination in the 2019 Agricultural Census Region.
- Calculation of the GDP estimates by island for 2017; Estimation of Regional GDP Aggregates, from the perspective of demand for the years 2010 to 2017; Reformulation and updating of the methodology and series of the quarterly GDP project; Estimation of the 2019 Regional Public Administration Non-Financial Accounts and Public Debt; Coincident Indicator of Private Consumption for the Açores; Estimation of Foreign Trade; Continuation of the calculation of the five-year composite indicator of Intra-regional Development (ICDIR-Açores) from 2010 to 2020.

In terms of the External Cooperation

- Continuation of the establishment of statistical cooperation agreements with regional and national authorities, in particular in the framework of the implementation of the new regional projects.
- Continued cooperation with ISTAC and DREM within the ECOMAC project, a project financed by the Programa de Cooperação Madeira | Açores | Canárias MAC 2014-2020.

In terms of dissemination

- Introduction of the new dynamic search functionality in the Internet portal.
- Continued digitization of old paper publications for inclusion on the SREA portal.
- Implementation of a new information management system.
- Beginning of the monthly dissemination of the "Private Consumption Indicator for the Açores".

Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira

The planning of the Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira (DREM) for 2020 is based on the following strategic objectives:

1. To strengthen the quality of official statistics.
2. To satisfy, with quality and opportunity, the statistical information needs of the Society at large.
3. Contribute to the optimization of the National Statistical System.

The strategic objectives will be translated into **operational objectives**, of which the following stand out:

1. Consolidate the supply of official statistical information.
2. Ensure the quality of census operations in the field of agriculture, population and housing.
3. Promote statistical literacy within the school community and society at large.
4. Make official statistical information available in due time.
5. Intensify the use of technologically evolved and respondent friendly collection modes;

6. Strengthen the ownership and use of administrative data for statistical purposes.
7. To value human resources in matters of remuneration and training.
8. Ensure a high degree of customer satisfaction by providing quality statistical information.
9. Develop new dissemination functionalities to make it easier for users to understand the statistics disseminated.

As far as the 2020 Work Program of the DREM is concerned, the following activities should be highlighted:

With regard to the statistical production and dissemination

- To expand the supply of official statistical information, which is essential for a sound knowledge of the economic, financial, social and environmental reality of the Region and for appropriate decision-making, at both public and private level.
- Carry out a study on the opinion of residents in Tourism and create barometers in the area of Tourism and the Outermost Regions.
- To actively participate in national projects carried out within the NSS, with emphasis on the Agricultural Census and the Pilot Survey of the 2021 Census.
- Ensure the dissemination of official statistics, produced directly or indirectly under its responsibility, in accordance with the Dissemination Calendar announced on the DREM website.
- Improve the channels of communication and statistical dissemination, meeting the needs of the various user segments, favouring the DREM internet portal, which will remain the primary vehicle for the dissemination of statistical information.
- To enhance the contents of dissemination, by implementing new and dynamic functionalities in order to meet the needs of various segments of users and promote statistical literacy by holding thematic sessions at educational establishments in the Region.

In terms of cooperation

- Maintain and if possible increase regional cooperation with some of the regional government entities holding information that can be converted into statistical data.
- Within the framework of territorial cooperation, DREM will continue to implement together with its counterparts in the Açores and the Canary Islands the ECOMAC project, dedicated to seasonality treatment and calendar effect, with the MEDECOAZUL-MAC project on the blue economy planned to start in 2020. Both projects are developed in the framework of the MAC 2014-2020 Territorial Cooperation Programme.

C. Resources

Under the terms of the NSS Law, the financial burden for the functioning of the Council is supported by Statistics Portugal's Budget.

The Statistical Authorities, for the development of the actions included in the Work Programs, will rely on the financial means included in their annual budgets and on the human and material resources available for this purpose.

Financial resources

The financial resources allocated to the NSS - the running of the Council and the statistical activity of the SAs - are as follows:

- The forecast operating costs of the **Statistical Council** for 2020 are EUR 304,690 (supported by the Statistics Portugal budget).

- As regards **Statistics Portugal**, the implementation of the Work Program will involve a total budgeted cost of EUR 47.732 million (the amount of the initial allocation to Statistics Portugal for 2020 does not include the costs of the ongoing censuses, the 2019 Agricultural Census and the 2021 Census, and the National Data Infrastructure, amounting to EUR 15.070 million; at the time of this Work Program, Statistics Portugal's budget has already been increased by EUR 5.3 million for the above activities, with the remaining amount also to be allocated during 2020).

- **Entities with powers delegated from Statistics Portugal** plan to allocate EUR 4.054 million to statistical activities.

- **The Regional Statistical Office of the Açores** foresees a budget of EUR 1.7 million.

- **The Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira** foresees a budget of EUR 1.4 million.

Human resources

The following human resources will be allocated to the NSS activity in 2020:

- The **Council Secretariat** is made up of **6 persons**, to support the activities of the Council, which involve a total of about 250 participants (Council members, permanent representatives in Sections and other participants in Working Groups).

- The **Statistical Authorities**, in order to carry out the activities planned for 2020, **will rely on the collaboration of 1,214 staff members**, distributed as follows:

  - Statistics Portugal - **910**[2] (in addition to these, 700 service providers are foreseen at the same time (interviewers) to collect information on current activity and 1,300 for RA2019).

  - Entities with delegated powers - **119**

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[2] The total of 910 staff members (senior statisticians, technical assistants and operational assistants), comprises resources involved in the activity of the Council and a further 222 senior staff members on short term contracts for census operations (2019 Agricultural Census and 2021 Census) to be included on the staff map.

- Banco de Portugal - **87**

- Regional Statistical Service of the Açores - **51**

- Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira - **47**[3]

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[3] Data collection related to the national statistical operations will be carried out by 75 interviewers.