

**DELIBERATION NO 234 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)**

**APPROVAL, FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES, OF THE LEGAL CIVIL AND LABOUR ACTIONS TABLE, AND OF THE PROGRESS REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON JUSTICE STATISTICS – sub-paragraph c) of the mandate**

Whereas the growing importance that statistics have gained as an essential element for the analysis of reality;

Whereas, in many cases, it depends on an efficient coding basis, intended to obtain results that accurately mirror the reality underlying the figures; this implies an ongoing readjustment of the tables and descriptive data used for that purpose;

Having regard to the need to update the table used by the Legislative Policy and Planning Office of the Ministry of Justice, with a view to coding the civil and criminal proceedings, a *Grupo de Trabalho sobre Estatísticas da Justiça* (Working group on justice statistics) was created and started its activities on 30 March 2001. Among its tasks is the above-mentioned review;

Whereas, however, the above table had not yet been approved by the *Secção Permanente de Planeamento, Coordenação e Difusão* (Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination), which is decisive for considering whether its use shall be mandatory within the scope of the *Sistema Estatístico Nacional* (National Statistical System), and its implementation recommended to the general government bodies in general, which have, either directly or indirectly, participated in the statistical coding process in the field of justice;

Whereas the pursuit of the National Statistical System's coordination principle laid down in Articles 8 and 10 of its Basic Law;

1. **The Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination**, at its meeting of 4 June 2002, within the scope of its powers, as laid down in Annex D, paragraph 2 e) of Deliberation No 140 of the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Council), **decides**:

- a) **to approve**, with a view to its implementation by statistics producers within the National Statistical System, the Legal Civil and Labour Actions Table (in Annex I to the group's report), in annex to this Deliberation and forming an integral part thereof; without prejudice to the earliest possible definition of the codes corresponding to the new wording by Statistics Portugal and by the Legislative Policy and Planning Office;

This fact shall be made known to this Section, for the purpose of its full publication in the Official journal.

- b) **to recommend that general government entities** within justice statistics, use the aforementioned table in order to make maximum use of administrative data for statistical purposes;
- c) **to recommend that the Secretariat of the Council**, having regard to the table hereby approved and considering the 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution of the Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination regarding the monitoring of the approved concepts for statistical purposes, create a Task Force between Statistics Portugal and the Legislative Policy and Planning Office, with a view to proposing new concepts deemed to be pertinent, or changes to previously approved concepts, listed in the statistical concepts database of Statistics Portugal, intended to be approved by the Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination, and subsequently disseminated and used within the National Statistical System.

2. As a corollary of point 1, the Section also decided to approve the progress report of the working group presented with the table, recognising its importance, and to promote its dissemination to all members of the *Secção Permanente de Estatísticas Demográficas, Sociais, das Famílias e do Ambiente* (Standing Section of Demographic, Social, Household and Environment Statistics).

Lisbon, 4 June 2002

The Chairman of the Section, *Orlando Calíço*

The Executive Secretary of the Statistical Council, *Maria Margarida Lobo da Conceição Madaleno*