CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA

DELIBERATION NO 240 OF THE *CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA* (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)

APPROVAL FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF FUNCTIONING, DISABILITY AND HEALTH (ICF)

The "Linhas Gerais da Actividade Estatística Nacional 1998-2002" (General Guidelines of National Statistical Activity 1998-2002) highlighted the following:

"*Reliability, consistency, opportunity and integration, and the ensuing comparability of official statistics are based on pertinent statistical methods and rules, mandatory for all statistics producers within the scope of the Sistema Estatístico Nacional (National Statistical System).*";

Also within this scope, first priority initiatives were deemed to be those that allow for:

"The development of national statistical nomenclatures and classifications mandatory within the scope of the National Statistical System, interlinked with the most up-to-date international versions, in particular the European Union's and the UN's";

Whereas the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) was the object of international approval by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in May 2001;

Having also regard to the 54th World Health Assembly (Resolution WHA54.21), which urged Member States to use the ICF in research, surveillance and reporting activities;

Pursuant to Article 10 (10) (b) of Law No 6/89 of 15 April, and in line with the powers laid down in paragraph 2 of Annex D to Deliberation No 140 of the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Council), the *Secção Permanente de Planeamento, Coordenação e Difusão* (Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination) decided:

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1. To approve the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health **to be used within the scope of the National Statistical System** by progressive stages as of 1 January 2003**. Until their publication, the detailed ICF, as well as the relevant definitions and other related aspects, shall be available at the Ministry of Health (Directorate General of Health) in hard copy, and at the Infoline of Statistics Portugal in electronic format;**

2. **To recommend that surveying entities using this table develop, prior to any statistical operation, a joint work of specific interpretation of the relevant aspects, so that data entry operators may adopt harmonised technical guidance;**

3. **To recommend that the expert working group of the Council monitor developments surrounding the future implementation of the Classification.**

Lisbon, 13 November 2002

The Chairman of the Section, *Orlando Caliço*
The Executive Secretary of the Statistical Council, *Maria Margarida Lobo da Conceição Madaleno*