

**DELIBERATION NO 309 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)**

**RESTRICTED SESSION OF THE STANDING SECTION OF TERRITORIAL BASE STATISTICS FOR THE CREATION OF  
A TERRITORIAL BASE INDICATOR SYSTEM TO MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE REGIONAL IMPACT OF PUBLIC  
POLICIES**

Whereas the *Linhas Gerais da Actividade Estatística Nacional e respectivas prioridades* (General Guidelines of National Statistical Activity and the relevant priorities) approved by the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Council) for the 2003-2007 period, which recognised as first priority within "statistical production", in the field of "Territory and Environment", the pursuit of initiatives designed to:

*"Develop territorial base information systems";*

Whereas the powers of the *Secção Permanente de Estatísticas de Base Territorial* (Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics), namely those established in paragraph II (b) of Annex F to Deliberation No 286 of the Council:

*"To define new requirements of territorial base statistics, namely as regards pertinent information in socio-economic and demographic terms, as well as the respective territorial breakdown (regional and local), with a view to supporting the monitoring of territorial base policies;*

Whereas the Standing Section defined in the respective Work Program, as one of its main purposes, "to identify and prioritise statistical information requirements focusing on the territory"; and whereas this Section "(...) shall be the basis for building the statistical tools necessary to formulate and monitor territorial policies, such as, for instance, the definition of indicator systems for territorial scales and/or specific difficulties";

Whereas, also, the abovementioned Work Program envisages the possibility of the Section organising restricted sessions "to examine issues whose nature and scope only refer to some of the entities represented therein (...)", without prejudice to the agendas and to these conclusions being made known to the other representatives;

Whereas, on the other hand, the Resolution of the Council of Ministers No 25/2006 of 16 February (Official journal 50/2006, I-B, of 10 March) which establishes the *Quadro de Referência Estratégico Nacional* (Portuguese acronym: QREN) (National Strategic Reference Framework) as an instrument having as its main purpose:

*"...to classify the Portuguese people, valuing their knowledge, science, technology and innovation ...", and "... to promote high and sustained levels of economic and socio-cultural development and territorial qualification against the background of the valuation of equal opportunities, and also an increase in the efficiency and quality of public institutions, by overcoming the sizeable and structural constraints, and the creation of appropriate conditions for growth and employment";*

Whereas the operational structure of the QREN includes, at the national level, the creation of three special-interest Operational Programmes targeted at priorities related to "*Competition factors*", "*Human potential*" and "*Territorial valuation*" and, at a regional level, the creation of Operational Programmes, which on the mainland correspond to the territory of each NUTS 2, structured to ensure the pursuit of the abovementioned special-interest priorities at regional level (*idem*);

Whereas, also, the objectives and operational structure of the QREN are in line with the strategic guidelines underlying the European Cohesion policy and whereas, in this context, the performance of Portuguese regions must contribute to strengthen economic, social and territorial cohesion, at regional, national and European level;

Whereas, on the other hand:

- The *Comissões de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional* (Regional Development Coordination Commissions), whose Chairpersons are responsible for the management body of each Regional Operational Programme on the mainland, within the scope of the QREN 2007-2013, and for monitoring the territorial incidence in the respective NUTS 2 of all the other policies/programmes, evince a growing need for statistical information, wherefore it is to be expected that a common matrix be adopted by the different Regional Development Coordination Commissions, within the scope of their tasks;
- The management of the Operational Programmes in the Autonomous Regions of Açores and Madeira is ensured by an entity that, albeit accountable to the respective Regional Government, reports to the political and technical organs of the overall QREN governance, wherefore it is also to be expected that statistical information be required with specific territorial breakdown;

- Within the scope of the Regional Operational Programmes , it will be necessary to evaluate achievements and their impact on the outlined strategic priorities;

The Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics, at its meeting of 5 April 2006, within the scope of the powers laid down in Annex F of Deliberation No 286 of the Council, **decides to approve a restricted session for the creation of a territorial base indicator system to monitor and evaluate the regional impact of public policies**, under the following terms:

**A. MANDATE:**

1. To devise and propose a statistical indicator system, in a reasonable and selective context, to be made available by the *Sistema Estatístico Nacional* (National Statistical System), intended to meet the need for monitoring and evaluating the regional impact of public policies, without neglecting the national sectoral guidelines in this field, in particular:
  - a) To evaluate the performance and to measure the contribution of territories to the implementation of national strategic priorities;
  - b) To meet the needs of the Regional Development Coordination Commissions, namely within the scope of the QREN 2007-2013.
2. To set out the means by which statistical information is made available, enabling its wide dissemination and permanent update.

**B. COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONING:**

1. Entities represented in the Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics:
  - a) Permanent representation:
    - Council of Portuguese University Rectors (which will chair the Section)
    - Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development
    - Statistics Portugal
    - Directorate-General of Regional Development
    - Directorate General of Spatial Planning and Urban Development
    - Regional Government of Açores

- Regional Government of Madeira
- Regional Development Coordination Commission of the Norte region
- Regional Development Coordination Commission of the Centro region
- Regional Development Coordination Commissions of Lisboa e Vale do Tejo region
- Regional Development Coordination Commission of the Alentejo region
- Regional Development Coordination Commission the Algarve region

b) Non-permanent representation:

Sectoral entities whose involvement in the definition of indicators of the respective area of responsibility is deemed relevant.

2. Entities to be invited, depending on the subjects under examination, in particular from the following structures:
  - Working group of the QREN
  - Working group of the Lisbon strategy
3. The appointment of the representatives of the entities/structures mentioned in paragraph 2, as well as of other experts whose participation is deemed relevant, shall be required under the Rules of Procedure of the Council.
4. According to applicable regulations, the agendas of restricted sessions and the respective documents shall only be made known to the other members of the Council simultaneously with the summons. If they so decide, the members who do not integrate the composition of restricted sessions may participate in these meetings, but must nonetheless communicate that intent to the Council Secretariat at least five days in advance.
5. The Chairperson shall submit to the Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics, up to June 2007, a final report in line with the above mandate, without prejudice to the preparation of a progress report by 31 December 2006.



Irrespective of the mentioned deadlines, the restricted session may also submit recommendations to the *Secção Permanente de Planeamento, Coordenação e Difusão* (Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination) within the scope of the Work Program of Statistics Portugal and of other entities intervening in national statistical production for 2007.

Lisbon, 21 April 2006

The Chairman of the Section, *José Cadima Ribeiro*

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