

DELIBERATION NO 323 OF THE *CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA* (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)

CREATION OF AN AD-HOC SECTION FOR MONITORING THE 2011 CENSUSES

Whereas the Censuses of Population and Housing are the major surveys carried out every ten years by Statistics Portugal, and whereas the importance and size of the human, technical and financial resources allocated to it require that these operations are consensual among the main users of the *Sistema Estatístico Nacional* (National Statistical System), in particular those represented at the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Council);

Whereas the final results of these censuses are based, by definition, on exhaustive data collection and treatment, and are naturally a fundamental reference for the examination of and projections on population and housing, and are also an essential basis for research on the socio-economic situation of the country, particularly at regional and local level, and for research supporting the different policies to be implemented by the governments;

Whereas the implementation of these censuses falls within the framework of specific legislation, designed to establish up-to-date legal regulations as regards the involvement of the whole central, regional and local administrative structure, as well as of the population in general;

Whereas a draft regulation is under examination at European Union level, far more demanding than in the past in terms of variables to be observed, results to be made available and relevant quality indicators to be complied with;

The **Council**, having regard to the relevance of the Censuses of Population and Housing to be carried out in 2011 (2011 Censuses) and the interest in monitoring these, **decides**, pursuant to Article 11 (1) of Law No 6/89 of 15 April and to Articles 1 to 3 of the Rules of Procedure:

1. To create the *Secção Eventual para Acompanhamento dos CENSOS 2011* (Ad-hoc Section for Monitoring the 2011 Censuses) (Portuguese acronym: SEAC-2011).

2. That the composition of the SEAC-2011 shall include the following entities on a **permanent** basis:
 - a) Represented at the Council:
 - Statistics Portugal
 - Ministry of Justice
 - Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity
 - Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development
 - Prime Minister's Office (representation of the High Commissioner for Immigration and Ethnic Minorities)
 - Confederation of Portuguese Industry
 - Workers' General Union
 - General Confederation of Portuguese Workers
 - National Association of Portuguese Municipalities
 - Portuguese Consumer Protection Association
 - Regional Government of Açores
 - Regional Government of Madeira
 - Council of Portuguese University Rectors

 - b) In its capacity as invited entity, the National Association of Communes (Portuguese acronym: ANAFRE).

3. That the **non-permanent** participation in the activities of the Ad-hoc Section for Monitoring the 2011 Censuses shall include sectoral entities/experts, whether or not these are represented at the Council, whose involvement in future works is deemed pertinent by the Section.
 - 3.1 The agendas of the meetings shall be made known to the members of the entities not mentioned in 2.a), who may participate in the meetings of the Ad-hoc Section, but must communicate that intent to the Council Secretariat in advance.

4. The appointment of the members of the National Association of Communes, as well as of other entities to be consulted within the scope of paragraph 3 shall be required in line with the Rules of Procedure of the Council, and the invitation shall be formalised by the Vice-Chairperson of the Council.
5. The Ad-hoc Section for Monitoring the 2011 Censuses shall be granted the following **powers**:
 - a) To prepare an action plan permitting to monitor works associated with the implementation of the 2011 Censuses;
 - b) To appraise, pursuant to Article 24 of Law No 6/89 of 15 April, the draft legislation that will govern the implementation of the 2011 Censuses;
 - c) To issue an opinion on the Overall Programme and the Dissemination Plan of the 2011 Censuses;
 - d) To monitor works associated with preparing, implementing, collecting and evaluating the 2011 Censuses;
 - e) To appraise the final assessment report on the 2011 Censuses, prepared by Statistics Portugal within 12 months as of the release of the final results, which shall include the quality evaluation of both operations.
6. At the final stage of activity, the Chairperson of this Section shall prepare a report on the activities of the Section and respective findings.
7. The mandate of the Ad-hoc Section for Monitoring the 2011 Censuses will be terminated after approval of the report mentioned in the foregoing paragraph.

Lisbon, 15 December 2006

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

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