

DELIBERATION NO 325 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)

ON THE WORK PROGRAM OF STATISTICS PORTUGAL AND OF OTHER ENTITIES INTERVENING IN NATIONAL STATISTICAL PRODUCTION – 2007

Whereas the Work Program of Statistics Portugal and of other entities intervening in national statistical production – 2007 reflects the strategic guidelines for the *Sistema Estatístico Nacional* (National Statistical System) defined by the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Council) and reflected in the *Linhas Gerais da Actividade Estatística Nacional para 2003-2007* (General Guidelines of National Statistical Activity for 2003-2007) and into several deliberations and recommendations approved by the Council;

Whereas the Plan also reflects the guidelines for the European Statistical System defined in the annual Community Statistical Programme and referred to in other deliberations taken by European Union bodies, such as the Economic and Monetary Union Action Plan, and in the structural indicators defined by the European Council, as well as concerns related to monitoring the implementation of the Code of Practice of European statistics producers recommended by the European Commission;

Whereas the document reflects significant concerns related to the cooperation among Statistics Portugal, the entities with delegated powers and other entities intervening in national statistical production;

Pursuant to Article 10 (c) of Law No 6/89 of 15 April, the Council, at its plenary session of 15 December 2006:

- a) **Welcomes prior cooperation efforts between Statistics Portugal and the other above-mentioned entities, strongly recommended at the plenary sessions of the Council in previous years, and also the fact that the document, in a number of areas and at different intervention levels, reflects recommendations made by the Sections and Working Groups of the Council.**
- b) **Issues its opinion as to the document in question being in line with the objectives enshrined in the Work Program of the Council for 2007, focusing on some objectives of the activities to be developed:**

- Monitoring the recasting process of the legal system governing the National Statistical System;
 - Approval of the “Linhas Gerais da Actividade Estatística Nacional e respectivas prioridades para 2008/2012” (General Guidelines of National Statistical Activity and relevant priorities for 2008-2012);
 - Implementing measures designed to reinforce access to administrative data for statistical purposes, with stress on the creation of the system of “Informação Empresarial Simplificada” (Simplified Business Information) in 2007;
 - Further action intended to promote the creation of a Single Statistical Units File within the scope of the National Statistical System and approval of other technical tools for statistical coordination;
 - Development of a Territorial Base Indicator System;
 - Update of nomenclatures and concepts underlying national statistical activity;
 - Pursuit and development of new initiatives in the field of statistical quality, namely by resorting to statistical audit solutions;
 - Monitoring the preparatory works of two particularly relevant statistical operations, namely the 15th Population Census and the 5th Housing Census (2011 Censuses) and the 2009 General Agricultural Census.
- c) Underlines the high relevance of implementing the objective of launching the new Statistics Portugal’s website, which is instrumental to improving the dissemination of official statistics and to meeting the respective users’ needs.
- d) Welcomes the organisation of the Biennial Session of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) in Portugal next year, hosted by Statistics Portugal with the support of a number of entities, and considers that this initiative may contribute decisively to confirm the reputation of Portuguese statistics and of the National Statistical System worldwide.
- e) Encourages active participation by national statistical authorities, within the scope of their responsibilities and powers, during the Portuguese Presidency of the European Union in 2007, with a view to contributing to the pursuit of the objectives defined at European level in this area.
- f) Decides to issue a favourable opinion on the Work Program of Statistics Portugal and of other entities intervening in national statistical production for 2007, and recommends that the Government formally approves this Plan.

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*