

**DELIBERATION NO 327 OF THE CONSELHO SUPERIOR DE ESTATÍSTICA (STATISTICAL COUNCIL)**

**APPROVAL OF THE PORTUGUESE CLASSIFICATION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES – REVISION 3 (CAE Rev. 3), OF THE EXPLANATORY NOTES ON CAE REV. 3, OF THE CONCORDANCE TABLES BETWEEN CAE REV 2.1 AND CAE REV. 3, AND OF THE GENERAL STATISTICAL PROGRAMME FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CAE REV. 3**

Whereas the contents of the latest update of the Portuguese Classification of Economic Activities approved by the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Council) in 2002 – Deliberation No 241 of 13 November, and of Decree-Law No 197/2003 of 27 August, whose draft was favourably examined by the Council, which transposed into national legislation the statistical classification of economic activities, CAE Rev. 2.1.

Whereas CAE, in all its versions, impacts on and transposes into the national level the international classifications in this field, namely the United Nations Classifications (ISIC Rev. 3.1) and the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE Rev. 1.1), and whereas the current versions of these classifications shall be replaced as of 1 January 2008 by updated versions, the ISIC Rev. 4 and NACE Rev. 2 respectively.

Whereas, based on the previous assumption, the need to adjust the present National Classification – CAE Rev. 2.1 – to the changes introduced in ISIC and NACE, so as to maintain the harmonisation criteria for the purposes of national and Community statistical comparability.

Whereas work developed within the scope of the *Grupo de Trabalho da Classificação das Actividades Económicas e Nomenclaturas Relacionadas* (Working group of the classification of economic activities and related nomenclatures) of the Council to provide the *Sistema Estatístico Nacional* (National Statistical System) and the country with a new Portuguese Classification of Economic Activities, harmonised with the new NACE (NACE Rev. 2).

Whereas the importance of the approval by the Council of the structure of the new CAE Rev. 3, and also of operational documents, in particular the Explanatory Notes, the Concordance Tables between CAE Rev. 2.1 and CAE Rev. 3 and the General Implementation Programme of the CAE Rev. 3, fundamental for the appropriate understanding and utilisation of that classification and for ensuring the continuity of statistical series.

Whereas the *Secção Permanente de Planeamento, Coordenação e Difusão* (Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination), pursuant to sub-paragraph f) of Annex A to Deliberation No 286 of the Council of 15 February 2005, shall be responsible for examining definitions, nomenclatures and other technical tools for statistical coordination.

The Standing Section of Planning, Coordination and Dissemination, at its meeting of 19 March 2007, under the powers conferred on it by sub-paragraph f) of Annex A to Deliberation No 286 of the Council, decides:

1. To approve the CAE Rev. 3 structure proposed, in annex to this deliberation and forming an integral part thereof.
2. To approve the Explanatory Notes of CAE Rev. 3, without prejudice to the introduction of minor amendments that may be deemed necessary by the *Grupo de Trabalho da CAE e Nomenclaturas Relacionadas* (Working group of CAE and related nomenclatures), up to its publication.
3. To approve the Concordance Tables between CAE Rev. 3 and CAE Rev. 2.1 and between CAE Rev. 2.1 and CAE Rev. 3, without prejudice to the introduction of minor amendments that may be deemed necessary by the Working Group of the CAE and Related Nomenclatures, up to its publication.
4. To approve the draft General Statistical Programme for Implementation of CAE Rev. 3.
5. To recommend the appropriate interlinking among all entities comprising the National Statistical System in particular and all general government entities in general, in such a manner that this Classification may be used if and when directly or indirectly statistical purposes are at stake, thereby maximising the use of data collected from respondents.

Finally, the Section stresses the range and quality of the works developed by the Working Group of CAE Rev. 2 and related Nomenclatures, which evince the commitment and determination of the Group in pursuing the development of statistical nomenclatures and classifications.

The activities of this Council Working Group chaired by Statistics Portugal have been in line with the principles established in the Code of Practice<sup>1</sup>, particularly contributing to strengthen a solid methodology underlying the whole statistical process. This principle is one of the main pillars for building solid and comparable statistics at both national and Community level, wherefore their development and permanent update correspond to a quality improvement in statistical production, which the Council must bring to the fore.

Lisbon, 19 March 2007

The Chairman of the Section, *João Cadete de Matos*

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

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<sup>1</sup> Adopted by the European Statistical Programme Committee in February 2005 and examined by the Statistical Council on 6 July 2005. Deliberation No 293 was approved, laying down in sub-paragraph c) that the tasks of the Council shall be: "To develop the necessary activities for the practical implementation of the Code of Practice at the level of all structures of the National Statistical System, regularly monitored by the Council".