

**DELIBERATION NO 2 OF THE STANDING SECTION OF TERRITORIAL BASE STATISTICS**  
**CREATION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TERRITORIAL MOBILITY STATISTICS**

Whereas:

1. One of the most important characteristics of territory is its accessibility, i.e. the easy access of citizens among themselves to goods and different activities, which is considered as a relevant factor of quality of life and efficiency of the economy. Accessibility is not only influenced by distance but also by the movement of people and goods.
2. From this viewpoint, although mobility is not an end in itself, it assumes a key role in the characterisation of territory and its asymmetries, and thus knowing the conditions under which it takes place is indispensable: infrastructures and means of transport and communication, network density and quality;
3. Accessibility shall also be assessed threefold, i.e. at the level of competitiveness, cohesion and environmental sustainability, namely:
  - 3.1. Competitiveness understood as a characteristic of enterprises (costs / transport times and reliability of transport systems) and territories – regions and cities (connectivity to the main external transport nodes and internal connectivity);
  - 3.2. Cohesion understood as territorial cohesion (inter-territory and intra-territory) – corresponding to accessibility to tertiary equipment;
  - 3.3. Environmental sustainability from the viewpoint of the environmental impact of means of transport used (influenced by the efficiency of vehicles and types of propelling energy), and network quality and logistical efficiency (for impacting on the fluidity of transport and on congestion, as well as on the attractiveness of collective transport vis-à-vis individual transport);
4. The recommendations of the Restricted Session of the Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics, included in the July 2007 Report, have explained the needs regarding accessibility and mobility (recommendation ii);
5. The *Plano de Acções Para a Organização e Funcionamento da SPEBT* (Action Plan for the organisation and functioning of the Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics) (Deliberation No 1 of the Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics, 22 April 2009), sets out as Axis 1 – *To identify and prioritise the needs for statistical data of territorial focus*. It states namely that recommendations should be put forward of initiatives that enhance the use of administrative data and the utilisation of other existing information; and

6. Geographic Information Technologies are a key instrument for creating pertinent derived statistical data in the area of accessibility and, against this background, access to quality georeferenced information plays a prominent role.

Within the scope of the powers laid down in Annex E of Deliberation No 2 | 2008 of the Statistical Council, the **Standing Section of Territorial Base Statistics**, at its meeting of 18 November 2009, **decides to approve the setting-up of a Working Group on Territorial Mobility Statistics**, under the following terms:

#### **I – MANDATE:**

1. Inventorying of information needs on each field mentioned in whereas 3, namely the degree of territorial accessibility of citizens to services of general interest (education, health, justice, etc.), the degree of accessibility of territories to access nodes to external and domestic markets and congestion indicators and indicators of supply of (availability) and demand for (use) transport according to energy types and source used;
2. Analysing the statistical system's responses to the needs shown (identification of areas of total non-coverage, partial coverage, and quantitative and qualitative coverage);
3. Assessing possibilities of response to detected needs; and,
4. Negotiating the creation of new information products liable to be incorporated in the statistical system.

#### **II – COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONING:**

##### **1. Permanent core:**

- Statistics Portugal
- Office for Strategic Planning and International Relations (Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communication)
- Department of Foresight and Planning and International Affairs (Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development)
- Directorate-General of Spatial Planning and Urban Development (Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Regional Development)
- Financial Institute for Regional Development (Ministry of Economy, Innovation and Development)

##### **Other entities:**

In addition to those comprising the permanent core, other entities may be invited to participate in the Group's works at specific stages, namely regulatory bodies, operator representatives, reference entities holding specific information or university research centres.

2. To carry on its activities and fulfil its mandate the Working Group shall establish with other Working Groups, within the scope of the Statistical Council, links and initiatives as deemed necessary, fostered through the Council Secretariat.
3. The representatives of entities comprising the Working Group shall be appointed via a full member of the Statistical Council, whenever the entity is represented, or by direct indication of each entity's responsible bodies in the remaining cases.
4. In order to analyse selected aspects of its mandate, the Working Group may also invite entities or experts on relevant issues, this invitation being made by the Vice-Chairperson of the Council, under proposal of the Chairperson of the Working Group.
5. Where warranted by the subjects and in order to render works more operational, Sub-Groups may be set up, pursuant to the Council's Rules of Procedure.

### **III – WORK PLANNING**

Up to six months after its setting-up, the Working Group shall present a progress report that includes paragraphs 1. and 2. of the mandate and a deadline for completion of the final report to be submitted to the Section, without prejudice to presenting an annual report on the activities developed.

Lisbon, 5 January 2010

Chairman of the Section, Manuela Proença

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