

**DELIBERATION NO 16 OF THE STANDING SECTION OF STATISTICAL COORDINATION
ON THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE FOR THE ANALYSIS OF CONCEPTS FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES IN
THE THEMATIC AREA “ECONOMY AND FINANCE”**

Whereas, pursuant to Article 13(c) of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May, the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council) (hereinafter referred to as the Council) is entrusted with the power “to approve technical statistical coordination instruments of mandatory use in the production of official statistics, and promote the respective understanding, publication and use, with the possibility of proposing that the Government extends this imperative use to general government”.

Whereas the powers of the *Secção Permanente de Coordenação Estatística* (Standing Section of Statistical Coordination), in the context of the approval of concepts for statistical purposes to be adopted by the National Statistical System (NSS).

Whereas the Council has approved in the General Guidelines of National Statistical Activity for 2008-2012 the “*reformulation of the concepts system by organising it into conceptual systems*” as one of the measures to be pursued to align the statistical metadata system with the best international practices.

Whereas the concepts for statistical purposes are relevant technical instruments due to the coordinating role they play at NSS level, whose scope shall be fostered and harmonised, aiming at the clarification, reliability and usability of statistical data, for both entities with responsibilities in data production and data users.

Whereas the procedures envisaged in Deliberation No 4 of the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination as regards the approval of concepts for statistical purposes, complemented with the projection included in the Business Plan of the Council for 2010 of “...*setting up Task Forces to analyse concepts for statistical purposes in priority areas ...*”.

The Standing Section of Statistical Coordination, at its meeting on 5 May 2010, within the scope of its powers, as laid down in paragraph 2(h), Annex B, of Deliberation No 2/2008 of the Council, **decided:**

- 1. To create a Task Force for the analysis of concepts for statistical purposes in the thematic area “Economy and Finance”.**
- 2. The Task Force shall have the following composition:**
 - Statistics Portugal, **which shall chair** the Task Force (with representatives of the Methodology and Information Systems Department, the National Accounts Department and the Economic Statistics Department)
 - Banco de Portugal

- Office for Strategic Studies (Ministry of Economy, Innovation and Development)
 - Office for Planning, Strategy, Evaluation and International Relations (Ministry of Finance and Public Administration)
 - Council of Portuguese University Rectors
 - Representatives of the scientific community (to be indicated by agreement between the Council members appointed as persons of recognised scientific merit and independence, Professor João Ferreira do Amaral and Professor Alberto de Castro)
3. The Task Force shall have as single item in its **mandate**:
- To analyse concepts for statistical purposes in the thematic area "Economy and Finance", following a previously validated methodology based on the definition of a conceptual system. The elaboration of this system shall precede the analysis of the definitions of the concepts under review, allowing for greater consistency not only in the definitions obtained but also in the concept terms.
4. Representatives of the entities referred to in 2 above shall be appointed through the respective Council members when there is representation in the Council or by a manager of the entity to which they belong, in the remaining cases.
5. Other entities and persons of standing may also be invited to cooperate in the analysis of specific aspects of the Task Force mandate, the formal invitation being issued by the Vice-Chairperson of the Council.
6. Up to 31 January 2011 a document shall be submitted – prepared pursuant to the said mandate – for appraisal by the *Secção Permanente de Estatísticas Económicas* (Standing Section of Economic Statistics) and subsequent approval by the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination.
7. Pursuant to Deliberation No 4 of the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination, the Task Force shall be terminated following approval of the document referred to in 6.

Lisbon, 5 May 2010

Chairman of the Section, João Cadete de Matos

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