

DELIBERATION NO 54 OF THE STANDING SECTION OF STATISTICAL COORDINATION

CREATION OF A WORKING GROUP FOR PREPARATION OF THE GENERAL GUIDELINES OF

OFFICIAL STATISTICAL ACTIVITY 2018-2022 and relevant priorities

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TIMETABLE FOR PREPARING THE DOCUMENT

Whereas, pursuant to Article 13 (a) of Law No 22/2008 of 13 May 2008, the *Conselho Superior de Estatística* (Statistical Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council) shall "define and approve the general guidelines of official statistical activity and relevant priorities".

Whereas the horizon of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-2017 is completed at the end of the current year and it is thus necessary to set out and approve the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for the 2018-2022 period.

Whereas the Situation Assessment Report of the National Statistical System (NSS) for 2012-2015, approved in April 2016 through Council Deliberation No 41, contains a series of initiatives that shall be developed and monitored as a matter of priority within the NSS and thus guide the elaboration of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity for the next five years.

Whereas also the degree of implementation of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-2017 and other Council deliberations.

Whereas coordination and interaction within the NSS shall rely on principles of cooperation and shared accountability that reinforce its repute and efficiency, to be applied within the scope of the Council, namely in the preparation of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity, which is a key strategic document for the NSS.

Pursuant to its powers under Annex B (2) (a) of Council Deliberation No 27 and Article 25 of Council Deliberation No 37, at its meeting on 27 March 2017 **the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination** (*Secção Permanente de Coordenação Estatística* in Portuguese), **decided the following:**

1. To create a Working Group (WG) to prepare a preliminary draft project of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2018-2022.

1.1. Mandate

- (a) To submit a preliminary draft project of the 'General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity and relevant priorities for the 2018-2022 period' to the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination by 30 June 2017. It shall include assessment of the degree of implementation of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2013-2017 (for the 2013-2016 period and also, as possible, for 2017);

- (b) To participate in said Standing Section's activities on the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2018-2022.

1.2. Duration of the mandate

The WG shall enter into immediate operation and shall be terminated with the approval of the document in a Council plenary session.

1.3. Composition

- a) The WG shall be composed of representatives (one representative and one alternate) of the following entities:
- Statistics Portugal as Chair, liaising with entities with delegated powers
 - Banco de Portugal
 - Regional Statistical Office of the Azores
 - Regional Directorate of Statistics of Madeira
 - Portuguese Commerce and Services Confederation
 - General Workers' Union
- b) The Council Secretariat shall be part of this WG's composition for those fields of the General Guidelines related to the Council's activity;
- c) In addition to the entities mentioned in subparagraph (a), other entities integrating the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination may participate in the Group's activities at specific stages, on a non-permanent basis;
- d) The representatives of the entities referred to in subparagraphs (a) and (c) shall be appointed through a representative of the Council;
- e) To analyse specific aspects of its mandate, the Working Group may also invite certain entities or experts on relevant issues, the formal invitation being issued by the Vice-Chairperson of the Statistical Council, upon a proposal of the respective Chairperson.

1.4. Monitoring of activities

The Working Group shall present regular status updates to the Section on the development of its activities.

2. To approve the next timetable for preparing the 'General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity and relevant priorities for the 2018-2022 period':

- (a) Preparation by the Working Group of a draft preliminary project of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2018-2022 – by 30 June 2017;

Conselho Superior de Estatística

- (b) Appraisal of the 1st version of the draft preliminary project by the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination at a dedicated meeting, or with recourse to the mechanism of the written procedure envisaged in the Council's Rules of Procedure – July 2017;
- (c) Sending of additional contributions of all Council members and the Chairpersons of the Council Sections to the Council Secretariat for consideration in the project of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2018-2022 – between August and 15 September 2017;
- (d) Preparation of the project of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2018-2022 by the Working Group, taking into consideration the contributions received – September and/or October 2017;
- (e) Issue of an opinion on the project of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2018-2022 by the Standing Section of Statistical Coordination – October and/or November 2017;
- (f) Approval of the General Guidelines of Official Statistical Activity 2018-2022 by the Council's plenary session – December 2017.

Lisbon, 27 March 2017

Chairman of the Section, *João Cadete de Matos*

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