Minutes of the 2nd User Conference

On Thursday 29 December 2011, the Hellenic Statistical Authority held on its premises in Piraeus, the 2nd Annual User Conference, in accordance with its Annual Statistical Work Programme.

Thirty-five (35) representatives of the public and private sector participated in the Conference, together with representatives from educational and research institutes.

The President of ELSTAT, Mr Andreas Georgiou, welcomed the participants and referred to the purpose of the Conference: presentation of ELSTAT's work during the period since the 1st User Conference and recording the comments and user needs related to the statistical output and services provided by ELSTAT. Subsequently, he gave a detailed description of the printed material distributed to the participants, informing them on the European Conference on "Quality and Methodology of Statistics", organised by ELSTAT in May 2012, in Athens and invited them to participate in the Conference.

The Head of the Division of Organisation, Methodology and International Relations, Mr Ioannis Moschakis gave a short presentation of the most important actions since October 2010, when the 1st User Conference was held.

ELSTAT's actions were classified in three thematic areas:

- Filling the gaps and improving the quality of statistical information — Production of new statistics

- Dissemination of statistical information — Access to statistical information

- Cooperation of ELSTAT with users and producers of statistics

Following the presentation of the actions, the President of ELSTAT asked the participants to express their comments. A general comment from the representatives of the agencies was their excellent cooperation with ELSTAT officials. Other comments and requests made by users are presented below by participating agency and representative.

It should be noted that the comments of the representatives do not represent, in all cases, the positions of their agencies.

- **University of Patra**

   (Mr Stavros Hatzimarinakis)

> He requested the filling of the gaps observed in the regional data, in terms of industry divisions and especially tourism.

> He underlined the need to produce and disseminate statistics at the level of the Region and at lower geographical level, if possible. Particular reference was made to tourism statistics, for example statistics on rooms for rent, but also to statistics on transport and retail trade.

> He highlighted the need to produce data on "tourist consumption", i.e. the destination of money spent by tourists (Greek and foreign) in Greece and the association of the above costs with the consumption of local products.

- **Bank of Greece**

  (Mr Vasilios Manesiotis)

> He requested the compilation of relevant time series using a single methodology for the years 1975-2010.

  (Mrs Dafni Nikolitsa)

> She highlighted the lack of data on salaries for the years from 2008 onwards and of seasonally adjusted data on Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

> She requested to speed up the work for the conduct of the Time Use Survey.

> She suggested that ELSTAT should cooperate with the users of statistical data during the stages of planning of the statistical surveys and the compilation of the relevant questionnaires.

- **Technological Educational Institute (TEI) of Athens**

  (Mr Archimedes Tryfonidis)

> More information has been requested on patients, by disease code, at the level of the Municipality.

- **General Secretariat for Gender Equality**

  (Mrs Maria Zervou)

> She underlined the lack of data on abortions carried out in public and private hospitals, as well as data on medical and nursing staff by gender.

- **Klimaka NGO - Suicide Intervention hotline 1018**

  (Mrs Eleni Bekiari)

> She highlighted the lack of data on suicides in Greece and on the profile of people who commit suicide or attempt to suicide. She asked the production of data on suicide attempts in the socially excluded population groups for the last

two years (2010 and 2011), as well as the compilation of income and employment indicators for the people who commit suicide at the level of the Region (NUTS 2) and the Prefecture (NUTS 3).

- **National Technical University of Athens**

  (Ms Marinos Kavouras)

> He highlighted the lack of the spatial dimension in the produced data (geospatial data) and the need to introduce "Geospatial Literacy" in primary and secondary schools.

> He highlighted the need for data to be "completed" by the agencies producing them so that there are no heterogeneity in the data.

> He requested the compilation of electronic maps and atlases, which are important tools for the spatial analysis of the data.

- **Centre for the Development of Education Policy of the Greek General Confederation of Labour (GSEE)**

  (Mr Nikolaos Paizis)

> He requested ELSTAT to exploit the memoranda of understanding so that the ELSS agencies collect and check the data using a single methodology.

> He requested the availability of the Government Budget (provisional and revised) and Budget Outturn (payments) in digital format by expenditure code. The need to provide information on the international financing of individual policies (co-financed programmes) was also highlighted.

> He stressed the importance of data concerning expenditure on health, social welfare and education, particularly at regional level. The above data were requested to be included in ELSTAT databases.

> He asked from ELSTAT to continue its efforts to bring the local community together, producing statistics at local level.

> He highlighted the need to develop in the near future a "navigation" mechanism on ELSTAT's website.

- **C.M.T. Prooptiki**

  (Mr Antonios Naoum)

> One of the priorities of the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity is the calculation of the ECHIM indicators (European Community Health Indicators and Monitoring) developed in the framework of the applied European Union Public

Health Programme. In this context, ELSTAT has been asked to assist in the production of the above indicators.

- **Ministry of Rural Development and Food**

  (Mr Stylianos Kokkidis)

> He asked from ELSTAT to speed up the the process for the production of results of the surveys in the primary sector and the simplification of questionnaires for the above surveys, with the simplification of variables.

  (Mr Stylianos Alexiadis)

> He highlighted the growing demand for data on the agricultural sector and the need to produce agricultural statistics at lower geographical level and in relation to variables such as level of education, gender, products produced (more detailed), etc.

- **Centre for Renewable Sources and Energy Saving**

  (Mr Ioannis Vougiouklakis)

> He requested the extension of the cooperation between ELSTAT and the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change for the regular collection of quantitative and qualitative new data, in accordance with the Community Regulation on Energy Statistics.
> He requested from ELSTAT to monitor the National Energy Goals and to alleviate the difficulties of approaching the respondents in the Road Freight Transport Survey, in order to collect more data on this area.

- **Social Security Institute (IKA)/Directorate for Actuarial Studies and Statistics**

  (Mrs Anastasia Politi)

> She informed about the availability of the Disability Certification Centre to cooperate with ELSTAT and provide ELSTAT with primary data.

- **Centre for Disease Control and Prevention — KEELPNO**

  (Ms Maria Vareli)

> She stressed the need to develop statistical literacy and statistical culture in Greece, starting with family and school.