

Draft Regulation
on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT

CHAPTER 1

COOPERATION OF ELSTAT WITH THE OTHER ELSS AGENCIES

Article 1

**Issues concerning the cooperation of ELSTAT with the other
ELSS agencies and the coordination of their activities**

1. ELSTAT cooperates with the ELSS agencies and coordinates their activities as regards the development, production and dissemination of the country's official statistics.
2. In the context of the above cooperation and coordination, ELSTAT may conduct consultations, briefings and meetings, compile written memoranda of cooperation or other agreements with the other ELSS agencies and issue instructions to them.
3. All the issues concerning data collection and supply, granting of access to data, treatment of statistical data, transmission mode, time limits for delivery of data or release of statistics and any other issue concerning the activities of ELSS agencies as regards the development, production and dissemination of statistics can be arranged and specialized by agency in the memoranda of understanding and the other agreements of ELSTAT.
4. The instructions of ELSTAT to the ELSS agencies are either general, which are issued for all the agencies, or specific, which are addressed to a single agency or a group of agencies.

Article 2

**Obligations of ELSS agencies to comply with the instructions of
ELSTAT**

1. ELSS agencies are obliged to honour all commitments set out in memoranda of understanding or other agreements with ELSTAT. The agencies are also obliged to follow the general and specific instructions issued by ELSTAT concerning the provision of data for statistical purposes and the development, production and dissemination of statistics irrespective of whether these are general instructions issued for all ELSS agencies or specific instructions issued to a single agency or a group of agencies. The agencies are also obliged to honour all commitments set out in agreements and memoranda of understanding concerning collection or supply of data, granting of access to data, treatment of statistical data, transmission and time limits for delivery of data or release of statistics.

2. ELSS agencies are obliged to introduce the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and the European Statistics Code of Practice to their employees who work with statistics and ensure that they continue to be aware of their obligations and those of their agencies laid down in these instruments. Employees of ELSS agencies who work with statistical data shall observe rules of confidentiality according to the Law 3832/2010 and the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the ELSS agencies. To comply with these rules and for the proper performance of their obligations regarding the handling of statistical data, the employees are bound by a pledge, with the care of the agencies, whose template is provided to the agencies by ELSTAT.

Article 3

Procedures concerning the receipt, monitoring and return of data which are transmitted to ELSTAT by the ELSS agencies

1. ELSS agencies are obliged to supply ELSTAT with such data as they have or can obtain and are necessary for the generation of official statistics. The delivery of the data shall be governed by the rules laid down in memoranda of understanding or other written agreements between ELSTAT and the agencies or in the relevant instructions of ELSTAT. More specifically, these rules specify the type of data, level of detail, periodicity and mode of transmission, as well as time limits for the data transmission, according to both the requirements for the transmission of European statistics as stipulated in the relevant European Regulations and Directives and the requirements for national statistics as stipulated by ELSTAT.

2. ELSTAT monitors all data which ELSS agencies supply. ELSTAT and the relevant agencies shall cooperate as far as possible in order to ensure the quality, coverage and regular transmission of the data. ELSTAT shall undertake all applicable validation and checking of the transmitted data with regard to conformity with prescribed methodology, classifications and standards as well as overall quality and consistency of the data. The ELSS agencies are obliged to furnish ELSTAT with metadata and explanations as requested. ELSTAT shall keep standardized records of the transmission of the data and the quality checks.

3. The cooperation between ELSTAT and the ELSS agencies concerning specifications, delivery, monitoring, and quality checking of data shall follow transparent rules, procedures and practices. All amendments made by ELSTAT to transmitted data shall be fully documented and explained to the transmitting agency.

Article 4

Conditions for the certification of statistics as “officials”

1. Official statistics must meet the requirements governed by the statistical principles of professional independence, impartiality, objectivity, reliability, statistical confidentiality and cost-effectiveness as defined in Article 2 of the Regulation (EC) 223/2009.
2. Official statistics must also follow uniform standards and classifications as well as harmonised definitions and methods as prescribed in the European Statistics Code of Practice and applied in the European Statistical System.
3. The agencies collecting data for and generating official statistics must apply the evaluation criteria of quality, such as relevance, accuracy, timeliness, punctuality, accessibility, clarity, comparability and coherence as defined in Article 12 of the Regulation (EC) 223/2009.
4. Official statistics must meet the requirements for quality as set out in Article 6 of the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the ELSS agencies.

Article 5

Procedure for the certification of statistics as “official”

1. ELSTAT shall base its evaluation for the certification of statistics as “officials” on the annual reports of the ELSS agencies, according to Article 6, paragraph 1 of the Regulation on Statistical Obligations of the ELSS agencies, on their quality reports, according to Article 7, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the aforementioned Regulation, and on its own observations of the quality, consistency and punctuality of the statistics produced. In the evaluation of the statistics, special attention shall be paid to the frequency of past errors and corrections, and the size and frequency of past revisions.
2. ELSTAT shall cooperate with the other ELSS agencies on all matters concerning the certification process. It shall invite the agencies involved to introductory meetings as well as maintaining contacts throughout the certification process, seeking explanations and clarifications, and offering guidance and assistance.
3. External experts may be invited by ELSTAT to participate in the certification or act as consultants in the work.
4. The certification process shall be concluded by a Certification Report compiled by the ELSTAT certification team. The President of ELSTAT is responsible for the Report. The draft Report shall be presented to and discussed with the agency concerned before the

decision of ELSTAT's President for certification. The final draft Report, on the basis of which the President decides on the certification of statistics as "officials" shall be posted on the ELSTAT website and presented in the Board of ELSTAT.

5. The Council of the ELSS shall be informed about the progress of the certification of official statistics and the certification reports.