

**Workshop**  
**on assessment and certification of official statistics**  
**ELSTAT, Pireus 21-22 February 2012**  
**Meeting room ground floor**

**Agenda**

**Tuesday 21 February**

**10.00-10.10 Opening of the workshop**

*Andreas V. Georgiou, President ELSTAT*

Welcome to speakers and participants. Purpose of the workshop. Appointment of workshop chair

**10.10-10.20 Organization of the workshop**

Outline by the workshop chair

**10.20-11.00 Session 1: Requirements for certification in law and regulations on statistics**

*Andreas V. Georgiou, President, ELSTAT*

The basis of the Greek statistics act: The European legislation and the ESS Code of Practice. The provisions in the statistics act concerning quality of official statistics. Provisions on quality and quality reports in the Regulation on the Statistical Obligations of ELSS Agencies. Provisions concerning certification in the statistics act and in the draft Regulation on the Operation and Administration of ELSTAT.

*Qs and As. Discussion*

**11.00-12.00 Session 2: The quality assurance framework for European statistics, possible uses for assessment and monitoring of statistical practices**

*Zsuzsanna Kovács, Quality Adviser, Eurostat*

The Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) identifies possible activities, methods and tools that provide evidence for the implementation of the Indicators of the Code of Practice and is a guiding tool to assist the implementation of the Code by statistical authorities. The presentation will focus on the overview of the major European quality initiatives, the revised Code of Practice and the new Quality Assurance Framework of the ESS and will give an introduction to Eurostat's quality assessment exercise.

*Qs and As. Discussion*

**12.00-13.00 Session 3: Questions that define a certification scheme**

*Richard Alldritt, Director General, Monitoring and Assessment, UK Statistics Authority.*

This session will explore a number of high level questions that seem to be of central importance - and will include brief 'answers' relating to the UK approach, as well as the identification of issues that seem to be relevant in the Greek situation.

*Qs and As. Discussion*

**13.00-14.00 Lunch break**

**14.00-15.00 Session 4: Experience of and lessons learnt from assessment**

*Richard Laux, Monitoring and Assessment, UK Statistics Authority*

This session will consider assessment from four different perspectives: the team which carries out the assessment; the Authority's non-executive Directors; producers of statistics; and users and other opinion formers.

*Qs and As. Discussion*

**15.00-16.00 Session 5: General discussion on issues at end of day 1**

**Wednesday 22 February 2012**

**10.30-11.30 Session 6: Possibilities for the organization of the certification process**

*Andreas V. Georgiou, President ELSTAT.*

Thoughts on the main aspects of the organization of the certification. Handbook or guidance on the certification process. Certification office or unit. Documentation. Pool of experts. Teams of experts. Public plans for certification. Contacts with institutions, cooperation and continuous communication. Requirements for information from institutions; quality reports, available statistics, available reports. The certification process: Approach and contacts, examination and assessment, drafting reports, advance communication to institution about findings, discussion with institution, request that the institution submits a proposal on remedial actions and timetable for actions, drafting of final reports and scrutiny, publication of final report on ELSTAT website and the website of the relevant institution.

**11.30-12.30 Session 7: Issues of approach to and organization of the certification process – the way forward**

*UK Statistics Authority*

**12.30-13.30 Lunch break**

**13.30-14.30 Session 8: General discussion at the end of the workshop**

*Documentation:*

See link <http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/PAGE-workshop>