



**HELLENIC
STATISTICAL
AUTHORITY**



**High Level Event
“The European Statistics Code of Practice and the Enhancement of Credibility
of Official Statistics”**

Athens, 27 June 2011

I. General Lectures

9:30-9:45

Opening

9:45-10:30

**1. Ethical principles in Official statistics
(Mr. W. Radermacher, Eurostat Director General)**

Different statistical organisations have developed principles to ensure ethical and professional behaviour and provide relevant guidance to staff to increase public confidence in official statistics. This session provides an overview of the different initiatives taken at both international and national levels and of the challenges faced in aiming to maintain trust in official statistics.

10:30-11:15

**2. The EU approach: The European Statistics Code of Practice
(Mr. H.V. Sæbø, Director of Planning and Finance, Statistics Norway)**

The European Statistics Code of Practice defines the key principles that both governance and statistical authorities in Member States are committed to uphold to ensure public trust in European statistics. This session focuses on the way Norway is implementing the Code of Practice. In addition the session outlines the work conducted by the Task Force: Sponsorship on Quality on the revision of the Code, which focuses on reinforcing aspects of professional independence, the coverage of administrative data and clarifications of Principle 4 (Quality Commitment) and its indicators.

11:15--11:45

Coffee Break

11:45-12:30

**3. The role of national statistical authorities: The French experience
(Mr. P. Champsaur, chairman of the French Official Statistics
Authority)**

National statistical authorities are independent bodies aiming to promote and safeguard the production and dissemination of official statistics. This session will present how the French national statistical authority exercises its role and its interactions with different stakeholders.

12:30-14:15

Lunch Break

II. Monitoring and good practices in the implementation of the Code of Practice

- 14:15-14:45 [4. Aligning national legislation with the requirements of the Code: the case of Greece](#)
([Mr. A. Georgiou, President of the Hellenic Statistical Authority](#),
[Mr. H. Snorrason, High Level Expert for the joint Eurostat/Greece statistical action plan](#))

In some cases compliance with some of the institutional principles of the Code requires national legislation to be updated. This mainly concerns the principles relating to professional independence, mandate for data collection and statistical confidentiality. The session focuses on recent experiences in Member States, the issues encountered in updating national legislation and recommendations for those countries that will need to follow this process.

- 14:45-15:15 **5. Monitoring and assessing the implementation of the Code of Practice: modalities and open issues**
(**Mr. J. Åkerholm, ESGAB chairman**)

Eurostat and ESGAB publish yearly reports on the implementation of the Code, mainly based on progress with the improvement actions that were identified in the peer reviews. This session gives the opportunity to discuss the existing monitoring exercises, in particular the yearly ESGAB reports, as well as other aspects of the monitoring such as the definition of benchmarks concerning the degree of implementation of the principles of the Code.

- 15:15-15:45 **Coffee Break**

- 15:45-16:00 [6. Presentation of Mr. Pantelis Economou, Alternate Minister of Finance of Greece](#)

III. Round table (Chairman Mr. J. P. Cotis, Director General INSEE, France
Participants : Mr. J. Åkerholm, Mr. A. Georgiou and Mr. W. Radermacher)

- 16:00-17:00 [Introduction by Mr, Jean-Philippe Cotis](#)
[Round Table : "Enhancing the credibility of official statistics"](#)

This round table provides its participants the opportunity to make a final assessment and statement of the factors that can promote or undermine trust in official statistics. It also aims at summing up the inputs from the sessions of the high level event and drawing its main conclusions.