RESOLUTION
ON THE EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 2018

Assembly of Albania,

- Recognizing the mission of INSTAT for the production of impartial, transparent, and updated statistics, which assist users in their assessment of development and transformation processes in the economic and social fields within the country;
- Taking into consideration that INSTAT is the main producer of official statistics in the country and responsible for the coordination and functioning of the National Statistical System;
- Appreciating that official statistics are disseminated respecting the statistical principles established by law, protecting statistical confidentiality, and ensuring equal access for all users;
- Encouraging the strengthening of cooperation between INSTAT and producers and users of official statistics both domestically and internationally, to meet their needs with quality and updated information and to be comparable with other countries in the region and Europe;

Evaluates the activity of the Institute of Statistics during the year 2018 in terms of:

- Improving the legal framework under which INSTAT operates, its positioning at a higher hierarchical level, strengthening professional independence and the mandate for access to administrative data, and expanding autonomy in the use of its own resources.
- Preparing the strategy for the upcoming Population and Housing Census, the final draft of the Census questionnaire, as well as preparing the draft law on the Population and Housing Census.
- Commitment to establishing the Statistical Training Center in cooperation with ASPA, for training public institutions in statistical knowledge and drafting plans to enhance the professional capacities of statisticians.
- Strengthening cooperation with line ministries and other public institutions, academia, and the media, as well as publishing for the first time its scientific journal “Research.”
- Testing new methods of data collection and increasing the use of administrative data.
- Implementing new statistical activities to better respond to the growing demands of users, as well as improving the quality of statistical products.
- Progress made in various statistical fields with a focus on aligning the National Statistical System with the Code of Practice of European Statistics.

The Assembly requests that the Institute of Statistics, for the year 2019, focus its work on the following directions:

1. To complete the pilot phase of the Population and Housing Census and take all preparatory measures to ensure its successful conduct next year, as the main and most complex statistical activity carried out at the national level. A detailed plan for conducting the Census shall be attached to the annual plan 2020 approved by the Assembly.

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2. To update the legal framework and make precise determinations, in accordance with the current legal framework, in every material published by INSTAT on the online site where decisions and laws repealed are cited, such as: INSTAT's Internal Regulations, Organizational Structure, INSTAT Development Strategy 2017–2030, National Program of Official Statistics 2017-2021, etc.
3. To take measures so that, following the constitution of members' mandates, the Statistical Council fulfills its role and duties diligently, in accordance with the requirements of the new law no. 17/2018, "On Official Statistics," and provides concrete contributions to the full realization of INSTAT's mission and objectives.
4. To publish decisions and materials approved by the Statistical Council and the INSTAT Supervisory Board, to ensure transparency and information, while respecting legal limitations concerning the protection of confidential data.
5. To prepare the Development Strategy of the National Statistical System, aiming to fulfill Eurostat obligations to strengthen the National Statistical System and implement European statistical principles. The strategy should be accompanied by a concrete action plan for its fulfillment.
6. To evaluate statistics produced by ministries and other statistical agencies and, considering the opinion of the Statistical Council, to create a broader list of official statistics, increasing the amount of data transmitted to Eurostat as a means to raise the level of compliance with European standards. The five-year program should be adapted to cover this broader list of official statistics.
7. To strengthen the coordinating role and communication by creating a committee of official statistics producers, which ensures the implementation of guidelines and standards for the development, production, and dissemination of statistics throughout the National Statistical System.
8. To propose legislative amendments if it is deemed that statistical confidentiality is compromised by existing legislation and other subordinate acts in force, such as the Law "On Archives" and the Law "On the Right to Information," to establish a balance between preserving statistical confidentiality and the right to information.
9. To continue aligning Albanian legislation on official statistics with the principles of the Code of Practice for European Statistics and the fundamental principles of statistics produced by the United Nations.
10. To continuously improve the institution's image and increase public trust in official statistics. To create a system of permanent user groups for periodic consultations, aiming to increasingly meet user expectations while respecting statistical principles and international standards.
11. To strengthen cooperation with academia for developing new statistical methods and enhancing professional statistical capacities, and with the media to raise awareness on the use of official statistics and educate the audience for better use and interpretation of statistical information.
12. To present the same indicators, both in the performance indicator table presented in each annual work plan of the institution, and in the performance indicator table presented in each annual report, to allow comparison based on the same criteria.
13. To develop the professional statistical capacities of employees and measure performance and efficiency indicators in carrying out assigned tasks and responsibilities, as well as

contribute to expanding statistical knowledge among statisticians in other statistical agencies.

14. To intensify relations with counterpart institutions in EU member states and the United Nations, in order to stay updated on methodologies and best statistical practices applied, as well as to benefit from the experiences of the respective institutions.

Approved on 16.5.2019.

CHAIRMAN
Gramoz Ruçi

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