

CHAPTER 2 ORGANIZATION OF THE STATE STATISTICS

Article 6. Body Implementing the State Statistics

The state statistics shall be implemented by the body implementing state statistics – National Statistical Service and its territorial and functional units.

The body implementing the state statistics is a body implementing functions aimed at the public interest, that is independent from state and local self-government bodies of the Republic of Armenia in its activities.

Competence of the body implementing state statistics is established by the law.

Article 7. National Statistical Service

The National Statistical Service (hereinafter referred to as Service) implements the state statistical work and co-ordinates its on the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

Article 8. Territorial and Functional Units of the Service

The territorial units of the Service are created in accordance with the regional division of the Republic of Armenia.

To implement the separate functions according to the decision of the State Council on Statistics the functional units can be structured, separate functional authorities submitted to the territorial units of the Service.

The heads of territorial and functional units are nominated and relieved by the President of Service, but staff – by the heads of units.

Article 9. President of Service

The Service is headed by the President, who is appointed for a term of 6 years and relieved by the President of the Republic.

The President of the Service can be appointed the citizen of the Republic of Armenia having high economic education and work experience in the domain of statistics.

The President of the Service can't hold another state post or implement the other paid work besides scientific, pedagogical and creative.

The President of the Service participates at the meetings of the Government with the right of consultative vote and can express its opinion concerning the issues being under discussion.

The President of the Service:

- a) organizes the implementation of the state statistical work program,
- b) represents the Service in internal and external relations,
- c) implements another authorities established by the law.

The powers of President of the Service can be ahead of time stopped, in case of:

- a) his (her) resignation,
- b) stopped his (her) citizenship of the Republic of Armenia,
- c) recognition his (her) incapable or limited capable by the court decision or conviction on sentence entered into validity,
- d) his (her) death.

The deputies of the President are appointed by the State Council on Statistics on proposal of the President of the Service.

Article 10. State Council on Statistics

The supreme body of governance of the Service and its units is State Council on Statistics (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”). The President of the Service holds at the same time the post of the Chairman of the Council.

Council implements the working out of the policy in the domain of state statistics, designing, regulation, organization of the long-term activities, monitor on the implementation of the Program of State Statistical Work, as well as coordination of the administrative statistics in the Republic of Armenia stipulated by the Program of State Statistical Work.

Council:

- a) confirms the draft of tree-year program of state statistical work,
- b) confirms the annual program of state statistical work in a month after the adoption of the State Budget of the Republic of Armenia,
- c) confirms the regulations and structure of the Service, its territorial and functional units,
- d) monitors the implementation of the program of state statistical work and confirms the report on implementation of annual program,
- e) adopts the legal acts in the domain of statistics in cases stipulated by the Law,
- f) confirms its internal rules of procedure,
- g) implements other powers stipulated by the Law.

The Council shall be composed of 7 members, which are appointed for a term of 6 years and relieved by the President of the Republic.

The members of the Council can be appointed the citizens of the Republic of Armenia having high education, for reasons of practical and scientific and educational experience in the following domains:

- demography, sociology and public activity,
- International Statistical Cooperation,
- financial and banking,
- nature protection,
- management of entrepreneurial activity,
- information technologies.

In case of opening of the vacant place of the Council member the new appointment is given for the inpassed term of the period of office of the relieved member.

The powers of the Council member can be ahead of time stopped, in case of:

- a) his (her) resignation,
- b) stopped his (her) citizenship of the Republic of Armenia,
- c) recognition his (her) incapable or limited capable by the Court decision or conviction on sentence entered into validity,
- d) his (her) inadequate absence during the year on more than half meetings of the Council,
- e) his (her) death.

The meetings of the Council are called by the Chairman of the Council non-rarely than once a month. Special meeting of the Council may be called on demand of no less than four of its members. The meeting of the Council are recorded.

Council has the right to decide, if at the meeting no less than 5 of its members are present. The decision of the Council is considered as adopted, if more than half of Council members have voted for it.

Article 11. State Statistical Work Program

The State Statistical Work Program (hereinafter referred to as Program) is the basis for implementation state statistics on the territory of the Republic of Armenia.

Program includes statistical information necessary for the observation of the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation in country, taking into account the availability of resources, the burdens on respondents and the cost-effectiveness.

The directions of activity and actions envisaged by the Program should take into account the comparability of country indicators with the international statistical standards, provide with possible stable periodicity of trends from the viewpoint of their revealing during the long term and provide with the proportion of resources foreseen for state statistics on annual basis.

The program is developed based on the study of the demand of statistical information users.

For the determination of directions of the state statistical activity the three-year program is developed, while for the definition of actions providing with realization of these directions – annual program.

The three-year program is adopted by the national Assembly on presentation of the Government.

The three-year program includes the main directions of the state statistical activity in economic, demographic, social and environmental fields of the country. Report on implementation of the three-year program is submitted to the National Assembly before the 1 May of the next year.

The annual program is adopted by the Council on presentation of the President of the Service and published.

The annual program includes:

- a) list of statistical work, terms of their implementation, the coverage, as well as types of observation,
- b) periodicity of the presentation of statistical indicators,
- c) list of surveys that should be implemented by the Service, published statistical handbooks, bulletins and other publications and their periodicity,
- d) list of organizations, state bodies and local self-government and other administrative registers and list of summary statistical information (data), presented by them,
- e) list of statistical information users, composition of information, provided free of charge and order of its presentation.

Article 12. State Statistical Observations

State statistical observations (hereinafter referred to as observations) imply collection of information (data) on phenomenon and processes, taking place in the economy and society, on the basis of primary reporting documentation derived from the statistical information providers or direct inquiry based on the before designed program, methods and forms.

The methods (including the methodology of calculation of indicators), sampling and order of execution of observations (including the order of collection-presentation of information) implemented on the basis of the program are established by the Council.

The observations by forms are implemented through entire, sample surveys, as well as use of collected data (including received from administrative registers).

The observations according to the coverage can be state, branchial, (departmental) and territorial, as well as by separate sectors of the coverage.

Body implementing the state statistics can involve other legal persons, state establishments, as well as citizens in their work while conducting observations on the contract basis.

The provider of statistical information for the conduction of observations foreseen by the Program are obliged to provide necessary data free of charge according to the order established by the Council.

Article 13. Statistical and Information (Administrative) Register

Body implementing the state statistics carries out the statistical internal registers of statistical information providers, which will ensure the accounting of accumulated on it information and unique identification of indicators.

The system of accounting and unique identification operates for the whole period of operation of the given register.

Service creates and maintains business (entrepreneurial) register.

The creation and maintenance of the business-register are implemented on the basis of the state register of legal units. The Business-register is liable to regular update data base of registered in the Republic of Armenia legal units on

their real place of location, main and not main types of activity, number of employees and additional other indicators established by the Council.

State bodies and local self-government, including the Central Bank (hereinafter referred to as bodies implementing administrative statistics), implements branchial (departmental) and local (municipal) accounting (statistics) through the maintenance of administrative registers.

Administrative registers shall include at least the following components:

- a) the necessary indicators included into Program and presented to the Service by the statistical information providers,
- b) the maintenance of the passports of communities, that includes the system of accumulated on a regular basis and kept indicators on population number, sex-age and social composition, cultural, educational and sport complexes (constructions) situated in the community, health, housing communal economy, production infrastructure, budget of the community and other necessary information.

The completeness of the information (data) collected through state statistical and administrative observations composes the unique system of the state statistical information of the Republic of Armenia.

The methodology and forms of documentation of the administrative information collection foreseen by the Program are established by the Council.

Article 14. Presentation, Use, Publication and Keeping of the State Statistical Information

For the implementation of work foreseen by the Program the state statistical information (data) is collected (presented) through the form of the statistical documents established by the Council.

The statistical information is collected through the following type of statistical documents:

- a) state statistical reports,
- b) survey questionnaire,
- c) other type of documents and information concerning the observations adopted by the Council.

Population Censuses are carried out according to the order established by the Law and other legislative acts.

Forms of documents include the volume of statistical data, addresses and terms of presentation, frame of statistical information providers and other data.

In cases foreseen by the Program the information is presented to the Service in summarized form.

The statistical information (data) should be reliable. The accounting and norms established by laws regulating financial reports and other legislative acts serve the basis for filling in the statistical documents (calculation statistical indicators). In cases foreseen by the laws and other legislative acts the providers

of statistical information implement special calculations and corrections, present statistical data (information) according to the established requirements.

Statistical data are considered confidential (hereinafter referred to as statistical confidentiality) if through them it is possible by direct or indirect form to reveal (unify, identify) the provider of statistical information, to obtain individual (personal) information. The data taken from publicly available sources shall not be considered confidential.

The data considered confidential without the agreement of their provider should not be published or by other form disseminated. The agreement should be expressed in written form. In case of legal units the agreement should be done by their executive body or other body having appropriate authorization according to the regulations. Agreement can contain the restrictions concerning the use of data. The provision on non-publication or non-dissemination by other form of the information doesn't operate in case, when it is the information reflecting natural or other monopoly activity. Non-publication (non-dissemination) of this information will essentially influence on keeping of principles of the statistical information completeness. In such cases the decision on publication (dissemination) is adopted by the Council.

The direct identification of the provider of statistical information is by means of name, address, identification code of classification.

Indirect identification is by means than above-mentioned data.

For scientific research work the data consist of statistical confidentiality in exceptional cases may be used or published by the form and part, that don't allow the direct identification of individual (personal) data, according to the Council decision.

The reporting or providing of collected information to staff-member of the body, implementing statistics, and to persons, rendering to this body services, is not considered as publication or data distribution, if:

- a) they are necessary for statistical purposes,
- b) these persons abstain from publication of information, containing the statistical confidentiality, trusted them or known related to the work, as well as from their use or publication in own interests or in third persons interests.

The body implementing statistics according to the order established by the Council takes measures for the appropriate protection of information consisting of statistical confidentiality.

The Council determines the forms of publication of the statistical information according to the order established by the Law and other legal acts.

The publications foreseen by the Program are placed in Internet network and open library of the Service.

For the information presented to the users, not included in the list of free users of the statistical information, foreseen by the Program, and information presented to other users out of the information volume presented free of charge by the Program, Service levies the payment, the order of which calculation, pay and use is established by the Government.

Statistical information is considered official if it is published by:

- a) Service or its territorial and functional unit,
- b) other state bodies on the basis of information presented by the body implementing the state statistics.

Besides the body implementing state statistics the bodies implementing administrative statistics can publish departmental and community information mentioned its source.

Order and terms of keeping the state statistical information are determined by the laws.