

Light Peer Review of the Implementation of the European Statistics Code of Practise in Turkey

Final report

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Preface

The light peer review (LPR) of the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) was undertaken in the framework of the Eurostat funded project ‘Global assessments of statistical systems of candidate and potential candidate countries as well as ENP countries’. The company ICON-INSTITUT Public Sector GmbH, under contract with Eurostat, was responsible for organising all activities and tasks relating to the LPR.

Light peer reviews are based on the structure and procedures of the ESS (European Statistical System) peer reviews and are designed for candidate and advanced potential candidate countries. The objectives of these reviews are, in particular, to assess compliance of the reviewed National Statistical Institute (NSI) with Principles 1-6 and 15 of the European Statistics Code of Practice, to evaluate the coordination role of the NSI within the statistical system, to highlight transferable practices suitable to foster compliance with the Code of Practice and to recommend improvement actions needed in view of fully complying with the Code.

The review process was initiated by Eurostat at the request of TurkStat made in January 2010. The review was conducted by the two experts Mr. Günter Kopsch (former Director in DESTATIS, Germany) who was the leading expert and Mr. Richard Laux (Director in the UK Statistics Authority). The review mission took place from 24 May to 27 May 2011 (*see Annex 1*). Besides the two experts, Ms. Claudia Junker and Mr. Piotr Ronkowski (both from Eurostat) participated in this mission. Written material was made available by TurkStat in advance and during the assessment mission (*including Annex 2*). The review mission was also prepared through replies to the self-assessment questionnaire sent out in advance to TurkStat.

The peer review team very much appreciated the well-prepared meetings and the openness of the communication both with the staff of TurkStat and with representatives from partner and stakeholder organisations. It is hoped that the review will be of benefit to the further development of TurkStat.

Executive Summary

- (1) The main goal of this Light Peer Review (LPR) was to evaluate the compliance of the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) with selected principles of the European Statistics Code of Practice, to support the further improvement of TurkStat.
- (2) The peer review team found good evidence of TurkStat's progress with regard to the institutional aspects of the Code and the accessibility of its statistical information. The team felt that TurkStat's leadership and staff at all levels were enthusiastic and committed to their activities and the development of TurkStat. All stakeholders interviewed noted that significant improvements have been achieved in TurkStat's work and its standing in Turkey during the last few years.
- (3) The Statistics Law of Turkey specifies the importance of quality considerations in TurkStat's work, and the peer review team noted that TurkStat staff were committed to quality. However, the team felt that considerations of quality were rather narrow and piecemeal, and that substantial further work was required – in the context of implementing a Total Quality Management system – to ensure that 'quality' is the focus of all of TurkStat's activities.
- (4) TurkStat's engagement with users and its approach to the dissemination of its statistical information are areas that the peer review team felt would benefit from systematic review, with the intention of providing a genuine (statistical) information service to the many interested stakeholders in Turkey and beyond. Closer engagement with a range of users to understand better their uses of TurkStat's statistics will help to orient quality management, to explain the main messages in statistical releases, and to explain the strengths and limitations of the statistics in relation to their likely uses. The peer review team had useful meetings with a selection of users, and feels that an investment in helping users to articulate their needs would pay dividends for the development of TurkStat as a service provider.
- (5) The Statistics Law of Turkey specifies the legal basis for the production and dissemination of official statistics and also for the organization of the system of official statistics of Turkey. From the discussions with the management and stakeholders of TurkStat the peers felt that TurkStat produces and disseminates official statistics in ways that respect the principles of professional independence, impartiality and objectivity, and statistical confidentiality. However, an amendment of the Statistics Law appears to be necessary to ensure better representation of the private sector and civic society in the Statistical Council.
- (6) The Statistics Law of Turkey provides TurkStat with a clear and broad legal mandate to collect and access the data needed for the execution of the Statistical Programme. Response rates in statistical surveys are relatively high, although there are increasing problems in business statistics. To reduce the response burden of businesses TurkStat has introduced the means for electronic data collection via the internet for some business surveys. In addition to the legal provisions enabling access to administrative data sources for statistical purposes, TurkStat has signed several protocols with public institutions that are owners of such data. Whilst a wide variety of administrative data is already used by TurkStat, the need to further increase the use of administrative data for statistical purposes is very clearly recognized by TurkStat and is a clear objective of the office.
- (7) The peers felt that TurkStat can largely perform its current tasks with the available financial, staff and IT resources, and that these are probably sufficient for the additional

development activities which would lead to compliance with European requirements. Nevertheless, significant efforts by TurkStat are needed to produce and transmit to Eurostat the full range of statistical data required by European Regulations. Significant efforts are also needed to improve data quality and to implement a quality management system, and to intensify and broaden user consultation. More staff and financial resources would help to accelerate the processes. There seems also to be scope for an increase in the efficiency of TurkStat, in the context of the implementation of Total Quality Management.

(8) TurkStat produces the large majority of Turkey's official statistics, and the Statistics Law establishes some important features of the wider co-ordination role – in relation to the Statistical Council, the Official Statistics Programme, a statistical release calendar, and the provision of support in relation to methods and quality.

(9) TurkStat's management expressed its clear intention to take further steps towards compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice. The peer review team discussed the improvement actions planned (listed in Chapter 5) with the top management and senior staff members of TurkStat. These actions are fully supported by the team as a whole.

1 FINDINGS PER PRINCIPLE

1.1 Principle 1: Professional Independence

The professional independence of statistical authorities from other policy, regulatory or administrative departments and bodies, as well as from private sector operators, ensures the credibility of European Statistics.

Overall assessment

By virtue of Article 16 of the Statistics Law of Turkey (Law No. 5429, approved 10.11.2005, published in the Official Gazette at 18.11.2005, No. 25997), the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) is ‘organized under the Prime Ministry and the Prime Minister may delegate its authorities regarding the management of the Institute to a State Minister in case he sees necessary’ (which delegation is done, in practice). The Law explicitly stipulates (in Article 17) the scientific and technical autonomy of TurkStat ‘in regard to data sources, selection of statistical methods and procedures; form, content and time of dissemination; and observance of statistical confidentiality’. In addition a by-law on ethics for the public service stipulates that public officials should act in accordance with equity and integrity. The President of the Institute reports to the Prime Minister. The Statistics Law also gives a strong role to TurkStat in the planning process of the 5-year Statistical Programme and its yearly revisions.

The legal status of a statistical office with regard to professional independence is a prerequisite for being able to fully comply with the Independence Principle of the Code of Practice. It is not, however, a guarantee. The professional independence of the producers of official statistics also has to be accepted in practice, in particular by the Government. From the discussions of the peer review team with the management and other staff of TurkStat as well as with members of the Statistical Council and with representatives of various user groups the peers gained the impression that TurkStat acts independently in practice and that there is no political interference.

1.1.1 Indicator 1.1: The independence of the statistical authority from political and other external interference in producing and disseminating official statistics is specified in law.

Article 1 of the Statistics Law of Turkey describes the purpose of the Law as ‘... to determine basic principles and standards concerning the production and organisation of official statistics; and to regulate the formation, duties, and authorities of the Turkish Statistical Institute which is to compile and assess data and information, produce, publish and disseminate statistics on the area that country needs, and to ensure coordination among ...’. According to Article 4 of the Law ‘... statistics produced within the scope of the Official Statistics Programme shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with the principles of reliability, consistency, impartiality, statistical confidentiality, timeliness and transparency’. Article 17 of the Law specifies the professional independence of TurkStat from external interference in producing and disseminating official statistics.

1.1.2 Indicator 1.2: The head of the statistical authority has sufficiently high hierarchical standing to ensure senior level access to policy authorities and administrative public bodies. He/ She should be of the highest professional calibre.

The hierarchical level of TurkStat's President is comparable to the highest ranking public servants. He has a sufficiently high standing to enable access to policy authorities and administrative public bodies. It helps that he is directly accountable to the Prime Ministry.

The Statistics Law provides the President of the Institute with a fixed term mandate (with the possibility of a renewal for a second term) and protects him against inappropriate dismissal during his term of office. This further strengthens the institutional safeguards of the professional independence of TurkStat. The President is appointed by a decision of the Council of Ministers on the basis of a recommendation of the State Minister responsible for TurkStat. The required qualification is clearly stated in the Statistics Law. However, TurkStat has been led for about three years by an acting President - who is, at the same time, one of the Vice-Presidents. That means that the present head of TurkStat is not protected against a sudden and inappropriate dismissal. It is strongly recommended by the peers that the post be filled again very soon, not least because of the preparation of the next multiannual programme (which started some time ago) and other upcoming issues that need strategic decisions to be taken by the President.

1.1.3 Indicator 1.3: The head of the statistical authority and, where appropriate, the heads of its statistical bodies have responsibility for ensuring that European Statistics are produced and disseminated in an independent manner.

According to Article 22 of the Statistics Law, the President of TurkStat is the highest level of authority in the Institute. He is 'mandated and authorised to deliver and oversee the Presidency services in line with the relevant legislative provisions (which include, as mentioned above, the professional independence of TurkStat), Official Statistics Programme ...' The President is also the chair of the Statistical Council.

Those interviewed during the peer review confirmed that the legal rules with regard to the professional independence of TurkStat are fully applied in practice.

1.1.4 Indicator 1.4: The head of the statistical authority and, where appropriate, the heads of its statistical bodies have the sole responsibility for deciding on statistical methods, standards and procedures, and on the content and timing of statistical releases.

Article 17 of the Statistics Law of Turkey explicitly stipulates the independence of TurkStat, which is headed by the President, with regard to data sources, selection of statistical methods and procedures, and form, content and time of dissemination. According to Article 18 of the Law it is one of the duties and authorities of TurkStat 'to determine the statistical methods, definitions, classifications and standards to be used in the production of official statistics in line with national and international norms' and 'to analyse and publish statistics in the field of economy, social issues, demography, culture, environment, science and technology, and in the other required areas'.

Those interviewed during the peer review imparted a positive picture of TurkStat's independent data compilation and dissemination activities.

1.1.5 Indicator 1.5: The statistical work programmes are published and periodic reports describe progress made.

The process of planning the Official Statistics Programme is regulated in Article 3 of the Statistics Law of Turkey. The Programme is drafted by TurkStat for a term of five years in line with the comments of the Statistical Council, is submitted to the Council of Ministers for adoption, and is then published in the Official Gazette. Amendments during the term of the Programme are possible. The other producers of official statistics are involved in the planning process in permanent working groups which are established in various areas of statistics. It appears, however, that there is room for increased involvement of the private sector of the economy and of the society in general in the planning process. The peer review team recommends therefore the development of a more formalised and integrated means of improving consultation with all user groups - in particular the private sector of the economy, the scientific community, and the society at large - in the preparation of the 5-year Programme and its yearly revisions (see improvement action under Principle 11). Together with a new Statistical Programme TurkStat is currently developing its new Strategic Plan, for 2012 – 2016. The top management of TurkStat prepares annual monitoring reports on the implementation of the Programme including the statistics produced by other public institutions. These reports are submitted to the Statistical Council and are published.

The present composition of the Statistical Council does not reflect the composition of TurkStat's stakeholders. The private sector of the economy and society in general are clearly underrepresented. The peer review team recommends initiating a change of the Council's composition. Pending the necessary change to the Law representatives of users from the private economy and society could be invited as guests.

1.1.6 Indicator 1.6: Statistical releases are clearly distinguished and issued separately from political/policy statements.

Statistical releases published by TurkStat include very little commentary, strictly limited to a pure description of the statistical figures. The releases that the peer reviewers looked at did not contain any political comments, and this was confirmed in discussions with users, in particular with the media. Press conferences are normally not used to release new data.

Press releases are drafted in cooperation between subject matter and dissemination departments, following defined internal procedures. It would be useful to include in the dissemination strategy the procedures relating to the release of statistical information.

1.1.7 Indicator 1.7: The statistical authority, when appropriate, comments publicly on statistical issues, including criticisms and misuses of official statistics.

The peer review team was informed that TurkStat intervenes publicly in cases of the misuse or misinterpretation of TurkStat's statistics in the media. The Press Law of Turkey stipulates the complainant's right to require a correction of incorrect information in the media. It appears that an internal policy and a well established procedure on how to react exist; a written description of the policy and the procedure is, however, not yet available.

The peer review team recommends therefore the formulation and publication of an appropriate document on the website.

1.2 Principle 2: Mandate for Data Collection

Statistical authorities must have a clear legal mandate to collect information for European statistical purposes. Administrations, enterprises and households, and the public at large may be compelled by law to allow access to or deliver data for European statistical purposes at the request of statistical authorities.

Overall assessment

The Statistics Law of Turkey, in particular Articles 7 to 10, provides TurkStat with a clear and broad legal mandate to collect the data needed for the execution of the Statistical Programme, which includes data for European statistical purposes. TurkStat is entitled to collect data directly from statistical units and it is allowed to access administrative records for statistical purposes. The obligation to reply to all surveys or censuses is stipulated by the Statistics Law. The possibility to fine legal and natural persons in the case of non response is practiced only sometimes, because TurkStat prefers to have good relations with respondents and to convince businesses and private households of the importance of statistics. Regarding the use of administrative data TurkStat has signed, in addition to the legal provisions, several protocols with public institutions that are owners of such data.

1.2.1 Indicator 2.1: The mandate to collect information for the production and dissemination of official statistics is specified in law.

Article 7 of the Statistics Law of Turkey stipulates that ‘in censuses and surveys ..., the Presidency (*of TurkStat*) is authorized to request directly the data and information which are deemed necessary for the production of official statistics, in all mediums and from all statistical units, in the form, period and standards specified by the Presidency’. The Presidency is moreover ‘authorized to investigate and control the accuracy of information or data, request additional information ...’ The rights of the statistical units are laid down in Article 15 of the Statistics Law, in particular the right to ask for information concerning the purpose and coverage of the census or survey and the measures taken to ensure the confidentiality of the data. The scope and content of the statistical censuses and surveys are determined in the Statistical Programme.

To reduce the response burden of businesses TurkStat has implemented electronic data collection via the internet for some business surveys. Investigations are planned on the possibility of gathering data for large businesses directly from their accounting systems. In household surveys and in price statistics computer assisted interview techniques are used.

1.2.2 Indicator 2.2: The statistical authority is allowed by national legislation to use administrative records for statistical purposes.

TurkStat has the legal right to access administrative data. According to Article 9 of the Statistics Law “the institutions and organizations are obliged to submit or open to use of the Presidency the records and other data files they compile process and store regarding their working areas”. Article 10 says moreover: “Institutions and organizations are obliged to establish, update and open to the statistical use of the Presidency their national register systems regarding their working areas in line with the standards defined by the Presidency”. Despite these strong legal provisions TurkStat states in its self-assessment that ministries and other institutions are not in all cases allowed to provide data. The reason is that in at least one case there is a contradiction between the law on which the collection of these administrative data is based, and the Statistics Law. The most important example seems to be that some data owned by the Revenue Administration of the Ministry of Finance, which would be highly relevant to the production of short term business statistics, structural business statistics and national accounts, have not been submitted to TurkStat. The reason is that the tax law explicitly lists the institutions to which the data may be provided, and TurkStat is not mentioned. The need to find a solution is in principle agreed between the institutions; the translation onto action is, however, still lacking. It is recommended that a general review take place of legislative barriers to accessing administrative data, and that steps be taken to change existing laws or to find other solutions, as appropriate.

Although a large variety of administrative data is already used by TurkStat, the need to further increase the use of administrative data for statistical purposes is very clearly recognized by TurkStat and is a clear objective of the office. TurkStat has agreed some protocols with providers of administrative data; further protocols should be agreed. TurkStat should further investigate how it can support Ministries and other public bodies to properly run their administrative data files, and how its influence on the content of administrative data sources can be further strengthened. Moreover TurkStat should be provided with the metadata for the administrative data they use.

1.2.3 Indicator 2.3: On the basis of a legal act, the statistical authority may compel response to statistical surveys.

Article 54 of the Statistics Law of Turkey includes rules that all reporting units can be fined if they fail to submit requested data to TurkStat within the time frame specified, or if they submit incomplete or incorrect information. The instrument is, however, only used sometimes. It appeared that 40 sanctions were imposed in 2010. The reason is that response rates are relatively high, despite the fact that there are increasing problems in business statistics. TurkStat tries instead, in particular with their staff in the regional offices, to intensify its cooperation with businesses, stressing the importance of statistics and so seeking to convince them to respond.

1.3 Principle 3: Adequacy of Resources

The resources available to statistical authorities must be sufficient to meet European Statistics requirements.

Overall assessment

According to the discussions with TurkStat's top management as well as with middle management and junior staff, with members of the Statistical Council, and with various user groups it appears that TurkStat can fulfill its tasks to a large extent with the available financial, staff and IT resources. The present number and qualifications of staff and the budget seem to be sufficient for the current work of TurkStat, and it seems to be adequate to some extent for the fulfillment of the additional development activities which would lead to compliance with European requirements. The IT infrastructure has been modernized during the last years with the help of European development projects.

1.3.1 Indicator 3.1: Staff, financial, and computing resources, adequate both in magnitude and in quality, are available to meet current European Statistics needs.

TurkStat had a substantial increase in its resources over the last ten years, and its resources were not cut during the international financial crisis. It can seek additional resources for new demands, including for new European requirements. Many of the users interviewed mentioned the visible progress that TurkStat has made during the last few years.

Nevertheless, as the 2010 SMIS+ report indicates, significant efforts are still needed from the side of TurkStat to produce and transmit to Eurostat the full range of statistical data required by European Regulations in statistics, and to fully apply European methods in their compilation, in particular in the fields of National Accounts and Agriculture Statistics. Significant efforts are also needed to improve data quality and to implement a quality management system, and to intensify and broaden user consultation. A further increase of the staff and financial resources would help to accelerate the processes. An increase of TurkStat's resources would also be needed for the fulfillment of demands for more data at a sub-national level.

There seems also to be room for an increase in the efficiency of TurkStat by, for example, implementing an improved Human Resources Policy, making more use of information already available in the public sector, and the better coordination of the statistical system.

With regard to staff capacities some positive aspects can be mentioned. In general staff appear to be well educated: nearly 90% of the permanent staff have university degrees and more than 45% of the staff have a good knowledge of the English language.

The salary situation in TurkStat is comparable with other public institutions. The turnover of staff is only a problem for the office in the area of ICT. TurkStat has its own Research and Training Center which offers a broad variety of training measures, partly conducted by university teachers.

1.4 Principle 4: Quality Commitment

All ESS members commit themselves to work and co-operate according to the principles fixed in the Quality Declaration of the European Statistical System (ESS).

Overall assessment

Article 4 of the Statistics Law of Turkey (no. 5429) says that “statistics produced within the scope of the Official Statistics Programme shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with the principles of reliability, consistency, impartiality, statistical confidentiality, timeliness and transparency ... all relevant information and methods used ... shall be made public in order to allow the evaluation of the quality of official statistics”. Article 41 of the Law established a Data Quality Control Board to “evaluate and examine ... statistical work ... in terms of ... scientific quality and compliance with international standards ... and to perform quality control studies if needed”. An associated By-Law on the establishment of the Data Quality Control Board and its working procedure and principles envisages the Board meeting monthly. However, TurkStat’s top management informed the peer review team that the Board has not yet become functional; instead the decision had been taken to build processes of co-ordination and co-operation informally. However, the Board would be implemented during the 2012-16 programming period.

The peer review team suggests that during the 2012-16 programming period there should be a major focus on starting to implement the EFQM, adapted to meet the needs of TurkStat as appropriate. The peer review team further suggests that this investment in EFQM should be a stimulus for TurkStat to develop a suite of:

- related quality policies, procedures and strategies (relating to quality management (including quality assurance, and quality guidelines), quality reporting, etc); and
- associated supporting policies, procedures and strategies relating to, for example: user engagement and stakeholder relations; staff satisfaction, human resources; confidentiality, and dissemination.

TurkStat should then develop and implement relevant action plans.

1.4.1 Indicator 4.1: Product quality is regularly monitored according to the ESS quality components.

Regular product quality reporting was initiated in 2000, and now covers the majority of statistical outputs. Some outputs have not been reported upon, such as the calculation of sampling variability for some business survey estimates: it might be helpful for TurkStat specialists to discuss unresolved methodological questions, for example about calculating estimates of sampling variability, with Eurostat. The peer review team was informed that top management’s consideration of the reports led to improvements, such as identifying

thresholds for suppressing small cells in tables to avoid disclosivity. Top management expressed that users did not use existing quality information, although users seemed aware of existing quality information and the methodological explanations accompanying statistical releases and detailed data tables. TurkStat top management is committed to improving statistical literacy; the peer review team suggests that a ‘user conference’ about statistical quality (in the context of EFQM) be a priority, and that the conference be used to develop a ‘quality action plan’, to be introduced into the Strategic Plan at the earliest opportunity.

The peer review was told that some methodological changes had resulted in discontinuities in key economic statistics time series, and that TurkStat has not produced sufficiently long consistent back series to meet users’ needs for econometric modeling. The peer review team suggests that TurkStat discuss the issue of ‘revisions’ with users at the proposed conference, and then develop and implement an appropriate revisions strategy.

Where TurkStat has calculated sampling variability but has not developed standard quality reports, the peer review team was told that the information is anyway published.

1.4.2 Indicator 4.2 Processes are in place to monitor the quality of the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics.

TurkStat’s management informed the peer review team that internal audit, self-assessment and quality reporting processes are used to monitor the quality of all stages of the statistical production process.

1.4.3 Indicator 4.3 Processes are in place to deal with quality considerations, including trade-offs within quality, and to guide planning for existing and emerging surveys.

TurkStat’s management told the peer review team that it does not have formal processes in place in relation to, for example, trade-offs within quality; instead informal, non-standard processes exist. The peer review team was also told that planning arrangements for new surveys are not formalized. The peer review team suggests that information about trade-offs within quality, and planning arrangements for new surveys, be published, whilst TurkStat develops suitable formal processes; this could usefully include an explanation as to why flash estimates (of GDP) are not produced, to stimulate informed debate with users.

1.4.4 Indicator 4.4 Quality guidelines are documented and staff is well trained. These guidelines are spelled out in writing and made known to the public.

TurkStat’s management informed the peer review team that their quality considerations are embedded in the goals and objectives within the Second Strategic Plan (2012-2016). TurkStat’s Training and Research Centre (TRC) offers modules in, for example, household surveys and business surveys, and each of these includes some consideration

of quality issues, though the TRC does not offer training courses about statistical quality more generally. Junior staff told the peer review team that some of them – ‘experts’ – had access to training about TQM, but that training about statistical quality was not available. The peer review team suggests that a module about ‘statistical quality’ be developed by TRC, and offered to all staff involved in statistical production.

1.4.5 Indicator 4.5 There is a regular and thorough review of the key statistical outputs using external experts where appropriate.

TurkStat’s top management told the peer review team that only a minority of outputs had been the subject of detailed reviews involving external experts (for example, key statistical domains - such as the National Accounts, and Consumer Price Index - have been the subject of a Review of Standards and Codes (ROSC)), but that each of these had resulted in an action plan; the peer review team was also informed that a majority of outputs had been the subject of other reviews. Action plans are typically not published. A recent Public Financial Management and Control Law had stimulated the need to better integrate strategic planning, business planning, and financial management. The peer review team suggests that TurkStat establish internal auditing and internal control systems.

It also appeared that academics at the universities in Ankara were keen to work with TurkStat to assist with complex survey methodological issues. Hence, it could be useful for TurkStat methodologists to meet academicians from universities to explore the scope for external methodological input.

1.5 Principle 5: Statistical Confidentiality

The privacy of data providers (households, enterprises, administrations and other respondents), the confidentiality of the information they provide and its use only for statistical purposes must be absolutely guaranteed.

Overall assessment

Statistical confidentiality is strictly observed by TurkStat, and is enshrined in the Statistics Law and associated legislation. Rules and procedures about confidentiality are publicized; confidentiality protection seemed to be well understood by users, staff, and other producers of official statistics. Statutory penalties exist, though there have been no reported cases of breach of confidentiality and so the penalties have not been applied in practice.

1.5.1 Indicator 5.1 Statistical confidentiality is guaranteed by law.

Article 13 of the Statistics Law establishes a confidentiality framework covering the protection of confidential data, disclosivity, transfer of confidential data, and the use of confidential data. The Law specifies that data used to compile foreign trade statistics are subject to passive confidentiality - that is, the data are not considered confidential unless the data subject (the statistical unit) explicitly asks for them to be treated as confidential. Other relevant legislation includes the By-Law on Data Confidentiality in Official Statistics and Principles and Procedures Regarding Confidential Data Security, and the Turkish Criminal Code (article 258).

1.5.2 Indicator 5.2 Statistical authority staff signs legal confidentiality commitments on appointment.

TurkStat staff sign a declaration when appointed.

1.5.3 Indicator 5.3 Substantial penalties are prescribed for any wilful breaches of statistical confidentiality.

Staff breaching the provisions of Article 13 of the Statistics Law are liable to fines imposed under Article 258 of the Turkish Criminal Code No. 5237. TurkStat's top management mentioned that such an occurrence had not happened.

1.5.4 Indicator 5.4 Instructions and guidelines are provided on the protection of statistical confidentiality in the production and dissemination processes. These guidelines are spelled out in writing and made known to the public.

Guidelines for the protection of statistical confidentiality, relating to TurkStat's staff and those of other data producers, are published on TurkStat's website. When TurkStat contacts survey respondents, it spells out its protection of confidentiality clearly.

1.5.5 Indicator 5.5 Physical and technological provisions are in place to protect the security and integrity of statistical databases.

TurkStat uses a variety of means to protect confidentiality - including the legal framework, a dedicated 'network security' team, technical provisions, and office security systems. These means appear to have contributed to a culture in which security is taken seriously by all staff. It seems that their IT systems – for checking tables for possible disclosivity, and for statistical data transfers – require modernization. The peer review team supports TurkStat's suggestions of developing generic software for applying data confidentiality rules, and establishing an automated process management system across the office in order to improve data security.

1.5.6 Indicator 5.6 Strict protocols apply to external users accessing statistical micro-data for research purposes.

TurkStat grants access to both household and business survey micro-data in line with the provisions of Article 14 (“use of individual data”) of the Statistics Law. This requires information that may lead to the direct or indirect identification of individuals to be obscured. Business survey micro-data is made available to a number of organizations for scientific purposes. Applications for access to micro-data are made in writing. Successful applicants access the data in TurkStat Headquarters; they are strictly supervised, work on stand-alone computers, and their outputs are checked by TurkStat experts before they are allowed to take copies away. The peer review team suggests that TurkStat publishes on its website the conditions governing access to business survey micro-data, and the associated procedures, and bring this information to the attention of potential users of the service.

Household micro-data is anonymised by removing direct identifiers, and by making the data available only at a geographical level that protects confidentiality – for example, the quarterly LFS files are only available at the national level, whilst the annualized file contains regional identifiers. Such ‘public use’ files are available to buy, and as part of this arrangement purchasers sign a commitment relating to the appropriate use of the micro-data. The peer review team suggests that TurkStat experts liaise with Eurostat to ensure that they are aware of international best practice in the provision of household survey micro-data.

1.6 Principle 6: Impartiality and Objectivity

Statistical authorities must produce and disseminate European Statistics respecting scientific independence in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably.

Overall assessment

Observations made during the LPR provided reasonable assurance that TurkStat respects scientific independence in producing and disseminating official statistics and that it carries out its tasks in an objective manner. Neither the impartiality nor the objectivity of the Institute were questioned at any stage of the LPR but were rather confirmed by all groups of users interviewed. The practices in ensuring equality of access to newly released data as well as the publication of an advance release calendar for all official statistics of Turkey are to be underlined as exemplary. Equal access is explicitly laid down in Article 12 of the Statistics Law of Turkey; the release calendar in the Statistical Programme.

1.6.1 Indicator 6.1: Statistics are compiled on an objective basis determined by statistical considerations.

The Statistics Law of Turkey stipulates that TurkStat's staff can act independently, free from any instructions from outside, in the implementation of the Statistical Programme. Though TurkStat mentions in its self-assessment that some media institutions criticized the results of labour force statistics, price statistics and National Accounts, all stakeholders interviewed during the LPR, including representatives of the media, felt confident that TurkStat compiles statistics on an objective basis determined by statistical considerations.

1.6.2 Indicator 6.2: Choices of sources and statistical techniques are informed by statistical considerations.

TurkStat is in close and regular contact with international organizations about its methodological work. The peer review team was told that the use of internationally accepted standards and methodological recommendations is part of the culture of the Institute. Those stakeholders interviewed confirmed their trust in the professionalism of TurkStat's staff. Indicator 6.3: Errors discovered in published statistics are corrected at the earliest possible date and publicised. If errors are identified in a published statistics they are corrected and users informed immediately by a press release. The internal document describing the procedures to be followed in case of errors should be published on TurkStat's website. Staff are made aware that they will be fined if they cause such errors, which is in the view of the peers not conducive to creating a culture in the office where errors can be and are admitted.

1.6.3 Indicator 6.3: Errors discovered in published statistics are corrected at the earliest possible date and publicised.

If errors are identified in a published statistics they are corrected and users informed immediately by a press release. The internal document describing the procedures to be followed in case of errors should be published on TurkStat's website. Staff are made aware that they will be fined if they cause such errors, which is in the view of the peers not conducive to creating a culture in the office where errors can be and are admitted.

1.6.4 Indicator 6.4: Information on the methods and procedures used by the statistical authority are publicly available.

Article 4 of the Statistics Law of Turkey stipulates: "All relevant information and methods used in producing official statistics shall be made public in order to allow the evaluation of the quality of official statistics and their compliance with the principles". TurkStat states in its self-assessment and explained during the LPR that almost all of the data on its website are accompanied by standardized metadata. Metadata are updated whenever necessary. Moreover, TurkStat intends to develop a further harmonized metadata system for all business processes in close contact with Eurostat's SDMX group.

1.6.5 Indicator 6.5: Statistical release dates and times are pre-announced.

At the beginning of each year TurkStat publishes an advance release calendar for all official statistics - not only for the statistics produced by TurkStat. The publication of the national data release calendar is stipulated by the Official Statistics Programme and is in addition mentioned in the Statistics Law of Turkey. Any change of a pre-announced publication date in the release calendar seems to be published in advance as early as possible for reasons of transparency. Users confirmed that the release of TurkStat's statistics have had to be postponed only very rarely. It is recommended that the Dissemination Strategy be reviewed to explain clearly the circumstances in which a pre-announced publication date can be changed and how the new date will be published.

1.6.6 Indicator 6.6: All users have equal access to statistical releases at the same time and any privileged pre-release access to any outside user is limited, controlled and publicised. In the event that leaks occur, pre-release arrangements should be revised so as to ensure impartiality.

The principle that all users have equal access to statistical releases at the same time is laid down in Article 12 of the Statistics Law of Turkey and applied in practice by TurkStat. This approach seems to be generally accepted with users. The peer review team was told that there have not been any occurrences of information divulged prior to its official release (leaks) in recent years.

1.6.7 Indicator 6.7: Statistical releases and statements made in Press Conferences are objective and non-partisan.

TurkStat's press releases are strictly objective and non-partisan. The little commentary that they include is strictly limited to a pure description of the figures. New statistical data are not normally presented in press conferences. Internal procedures are in place on how to prepare and approve press releases; these should be included in the Dissemination Strategy or in a separate document on TurkStat's website.

1.7 Principle 15: Accessibility and Clarity

European Statistics should be presented in a clear and understandable form, disseminated in a suitable and convenient manner, available and accessible on an impartial basis with supporting metadata and guidance.

Overall assessment

TurkStat presents its statistics clearly and accessibly, although its statistical releases could be made more informative. All of its statistical releases are published on its website, and in English and are accompanied (via links) to supporting metadata. However, the website itself requires further development to enhance its accessibility and functionality.

1.7.1 Indicator 15.1: Statistics are presented in a form that facilitates proper interpretation and meaningful comparisons.

Statistical releases typically include headline text, some commentary, and summary tables; more detailed tables are available separately. Users seemed satisfied with the statistical releases. The peer review team felt that the statistical releases could be made more informative, and by doing so they would increase user interest and strengthen trust in TurkStat. For example, the LFS release could include international and regional comparisons, and longer time series. The peer review team suggests that TurkStat review its Dissemination Strategy to reflect the importance of providing more useful information – including comparisons, graphs and maps, and improved commentary – in statistical releases; and publish a plan setting out when this aspect of the strategy will be implemented. Junior staff told us that they typically do not write press releases, but that style guides and templates were available, along with support from their managers.

Whilst the statistical information published by other producers than TurkStat are mainly part of the Official Statistics Programme, some of them also publish other statistical information – that is to say, non-official statistics. This may confuse users about issues such as standards. The peer review team therefore suggests that TurkStat consider the use of a labeling system to clearly indicate those statistical releases that are part of the Official Statistics Programme.

1.7.2 Indicator 15.2: Dissemination services use modern information and communication technology and, if appropriate, traditional hard copy.

All of TurkStat's statistical releases, tables and databases are made available via the internet, free of charge. Only tailor-made requests are charged for. The website is available in both Turkish and English, and is relatively easy to navigate. However, TurkStat told the peer review team that it intended to improve aspects of the functionality associated with using databases, and search functions, by using a semantic approach. The peer review team suggests that TurkStat improve the functionality and accessibility of its website, in liaison with users and potential users. TurkStat should also take the opportunity of this website upgrade to include all official statistics at the time of publication – as already happens in some cases – in order to provide users with a 'one stop shop'.

1.7.3 Indicator 15.3: Custom-designed analyses are provided when feasible and are made public.

TurkStat provides custom-designed analyses, though the peer review team was told that these are never made public.

1.7.4 Indicator 15.4: Access to micro-data can be allowed for research purposes. This access is subject to strict protocols.

Access to micro-data see Principle 5, Indicator 5.6.

1.7.5 Indicator 15.5: Metadata are documented according to standardised metadata systems.

Most statistical releases are accompanied by metadata, available on the website. Current metadata systems are static; TurkStat is working with Eurostat's SDMX group to harmonize its metadata further, and that it is developing standardized systems as part of rolling out common business processes.

1.7.6 Indicator 15.6: Users are kept informed on the methodology of statistical processes and the quality of statistical outputs with respect to the ESS quality criteria.

Users are kept informed about methodology and quality via metadata available on TurkStat's website; changes are described at the time that the changed statistics are released. Some users felt that the available metadata was lacking some key information that was important to them. The peer review team suggests that TurkStat review the scope of its metadata to ensure that it covers international comparability, quality indicators, and details of methodology, as appropriate. TurkStat should also review its metadata systems to ensure that changes to statistical methods, including an indication of the effects of the changes, can be announced in advance of the new statistics. The peer review team further suggests that TurkStat take the opportunity of the proposed 'user conference', as a means of building links with users, and understanding their perspective on 'quality'.

The peer review team was informed of the problems arising from compiling statistics about an economy in which about 40% of employment is in the informal sector. TurkStat should therefore review the relevant metadata to ensure that these aspects are clarified, bringing out the implications for the quality of key estimates, and plans to improve statistical measurement.

2 Co-ordination role of the National Statistical Institute

The statutory responsibility for meeting the Turkish Official Statistical Programme rests with TurkStat, which is itself responsible for about 85% of all official statistics in Turkey – including most of those required by the EU. Nearly all household surveys are conducted by TurkStat; only some small business surveys are conducted by other institutions such as the Central Bank and Ministry of Finance. The Statistics Law also requires TurkStat to play a leading role in methods and quality across the statistical system.

The (statutory) Statistical Council also facilitates co-ordination. Technically part of TurkStat, it is chaired by the President of TurkStat, and comprises senior officials from a number of government departments and agencies, the Governor of the Central Bank of Turkey, and private sector and academic representatives. The Council advises on the Statistical Programme, and on areas of official statistics where future work may be required; it meets at least once a year, whilst standing sub-groups take specific issues forward. The peer review team got the impression that the Council's discussions are dominated by the needs of government users; this was reinforced by non-government users who felt that they lacked the opportunity to influence the Statistical Programme. Nevertheless, it seems clear that the Council's activity has helped to greatly improve the coherence and integration of the statistical system.

Complementing Council discussions, the peer review team was told that bilateral discussions between producers and TurkStat take place.

Most of the remaining 15% of Turkish official statistics are produced by the following organizations: the Turkish Central Bank, Undersecretary of Treasury and the ministries responsible for finance, agriculture, education, health, energy, the interior, industry, labour and social security, justice, transportation, culture & tourism and the environment, and also some other public and private institutions. Many producers see advantages in having their statistics produced as part of the Official Statistics Programme, because it lends their statistics credibility and profile.

TurkStat operates within a framework of agreements ranging in formality with the organizations listed above. For example, a protocol between TurkStat, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs sets out the principles and procedures for the co-operation required to develop a pilot Farm Accountancy Data Network in nine provinces of Turkey.

As well as its responsibility for developing and implementing the Statistics Program, TurkStat's role in co-coordinating the producers of official statistics covers the following activities:

- Training – The Training and Research Centre offers training to staff working for other producers of official statistics.

- Forward publication timetable – TurkStat publishes an advance release calendar for all official statistics.
- Methods and quality – TurkStat offers its expertise to other producers - for example in relation to international standards (education), registers (farm and businesses), and classifications (health), but does not monitor the methods used or quality of other producers' statistics. See Principle 4, references to the Data Quality Control Board.
- International co-ordination – TurkStat co-ordinates the supply of statistical information to Eurostat. In recent years TurkStat has provided technical assistance to the following countries: Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, the occupied Palestinian territory, the Turkish Cypriot community, Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99, Jordan, Moldova, Tajikistan and Azerbaijan. Main topics covered include: agriculture and fisheries statistics, business statistics, population censuses, and environmental statistics and classifications as well as IT, and publication standards.

3 Good practices to be highlighted

The Statistics Law not only regulates the production and dissemination of official statistics by TurkStat, it also regulates the production and dissemination of all official statistics by all producers of official statistics. It therefore also includes rules on the coordination of the statistical system.

The Statistics Law stipulates that official statistical data shall be available to all users in an equal way and at the same time. Exceptions are not permitted.

TurkStat publishes a national release calendar for all official statistics, not only those produced by TurkStat.

4 List of Improvement Actions by Principle of the Code

4.1.1 Improvement Actions Principle 1: Professional Independence

Improvement actions	Timetable
Prepare and publish a document describing TurkStat's policy of intervening publicly on statistical issues in cases of the public misuse or misinterpretation of official statistics.	2011
Initiate a change of the composition of the Statistics Council to better reflect the composition of the stakeholders of TurkStat.	TurkStat will propose changes to the existing Law within 3 years

4.1.2 Improvement Actions Principle 2: Mandate for Data Collection

Improvement actions	Timetable
Sign agreements with further providers of administrative data, clarifying the mandate and committing to improving the quality of administrative records.	2011 - 2013
Review existing legislative barriers to accessing administrative data and take steps to change existing laws, as appropriate.	2011 - 2013

4.1.3 Improvement Actions Principle 3: Adequacy of Resources

Improvement actions	Timetable
Implement IPA 2011 ICT Project "Upgrading Information and Communication Technologies Services of TurkStat".	2013 – 2014
Develop and start to implement a TurkStat Human Resources Policy.	2012

4.1.4 Improvement Actions Principle 4: Quality Commitment

Improvement actions	Timetable
Develop a TQM concept on the basis of the EFQM model adapted to the needs of TurkStat.	2012
Develop a suite of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - related quality policies, procedures and strategies (relating to quality management including quality assurance, and quality guidelines, quality reporting, etc.); and - associated supporting policies, procedures and strategies relating to, for example: user engagement and stakeholder relations; staff satisfaction and human resources; confidentiality, and dissemination. 	2012-2014
Organize a ‘user conference’ about statistical quality and use it to develop a quality action plan	2012
Discuss the issue of ‘revisions’ with users at the proposed conference, and then develop and implement an appropriate revisions strategy	2012
Prepare a standardized quality report template for TurkStat.	2012
Publish TurkStat’s quality reports for main subjects.	2012-2016
Develop and publish formal processes regarding trade-offs within quality and planning arrangements for new surveys	2012
Develop a training module about ‘statistical quality’	2013
Establish internal auditing and internal control systems	2014
Discuss with academics at the Universities in Ankara the scope for methodological input	2012
Make Data Quality Control Board functioning	2016

4.1.5 Improvement Actions Principle 5: Statistical Confidentiality

Improvement actions	Timetable
Develop generic software to enable data confidentiality rules to be applied consistently	2014
Establish an automated process management system across the office in order to improve data security	2014
Publish on the website the conditions governing access to business survey micro-data, and the associated procedures	2011
Liaise with Eurostat to ensure that TurkStat's experts are aware of international best practices in the provision of household survey micro-data.	2011

4.1.6 Improvement Actions Principle 6: Impartiality and Objectivity

Improvement actions	Timetable
Publish the (internal) document setting out how TurkStat proceeds if errors in published data are discovered.	2011

4.1.7 Improvement Actions Principle 7: Sound Methodology

Improvement actions	Timetable
Publish a strategy setting out how TurkStat will improve methodologies used by other producers of official statistics.	2014

4.1.8 Improvement Actions Principle 8: Appropriate Statistical Procedures

Improvement actions	Timetable
Adapt the Generic Statistical Business Process Model in TurkStat .	2014

4.1.9 Improvement Actions Principle 11: Relevance

Improvement actions	Timetable
Publish and implement a strategy to enhance consultation with all users in the preparation of the 5- year Programme and its yearly revisions.	2012
Publish a document setting out how users' needs will be prioritised in the 5- year Programme.	2012

4.1.10 Improvement Actions Principle 12: Accuracy and Reliability

Improvement actions	Timetable
Calculate sampling errors and non-sampling errors for TurkStat's key statistical indicators, in line with ESS Quality Standards.	2011 - 2015

4.1.11 Improvement Actions Principle 13: Timeliness and Punctuality

Improvement actions	Timetable
Investigate the feasibility of improving the timeliness of key economic statistics, in discussion with users and data providers .	2013

4.1.12 Improvement Actions Principle 15: Accessibility and Clarity

Improvement actions	Timetable
Review the Dissemination Strategy to reflect the importance of providing more useful information – including comparisons, graphs and maps, and improved commentary – in statistical releases; publish a plan setting out when this aspect of the strategy will be implemented.	2011 - 2012
Develop a new and more user friendly web-site in liaison with users and potential users of the web-site.	2013
Include all official statistics in TurkStat's web-site at the time of publication in order to provide users with a 'one stop shop'.	2012 – 2016
Consider the use of a 'labelling system' to clearly indicate those statistical releases that are part of the Official Statistics Programme.	2016
Review the scope of TurkStat's metadata to ensure that it covers international comparability, quality indicators, and details of methods, as appropriate.	2012 – 2013
Review the metadata systems to ensure that changes to statistical methods, including an indication of the effects of the changes, can be announced in advance of the new data.	2012 – 2013
Review the relevant metadata to ensure that the problems arising from compiling statistics in an economy with a very large non-observed economy are clarified, bringing out the implications for the quality of key estimates, and plans to improve statistical measurement.	2014 – 2015

5 Annexes

- 5.1 Agenda of the LPR
- 5.2 Official Statistics Act

**Global assessments of statistical systems of candidate and potential candidate countries
as well as ENP countries**

**Draft Agenda
Light Peer Review of the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat)**

Date and place of the LPR

Date	24 May 2011 – 27 May 2011
Place	TurkStat premises (Room No:125)

Assessment Team

ICON	Mr. Günter Kopsch	
	Mr. Richard Laux	
Eurostat	Ms. Claudia Junker	
	Mr. Piotr Ronkowski	
TurkStat	Top Management	
	Mr. A. Ömer Toprak	Acting President
	Mr. Mehmet Aktaş	Vice President
	Mr. Musa Yılmaz	Vice President
	Ms. Meltem Akyıldız	Head of National Accounts & Economic Indicators Department
	Mr. Sebahattin Sarı	Head of Agriculture & Environment Statistics Department
	Mr. Bünyamin Emirosman	Head of Industry & Business Statistics Department
	Mr. Murat Tunçel	Head of Information and Communication Technologies Department

Mr. Enver Taşı	Head of Social Statistics Department
Ms. Hasibe Dedeş	Head of Methodology Department
Ms. Melike Yıldırım	Head of Publication & Data Dissemination Department
Ms. Nilgün Dorsan	Head of Strategy Development Department
Ms. Şennur Onur	Head of Foreign Relations Department
Mr. Rasık Altı	Head of Human Resources Department
Mr. Erdoğan Akan	Head of Supporting Services Department
Mr. Ali Sarıca	Media&Public Relations Adviser
Mr. Türker Kaya	Legal Adviser
Ms. Buket Akgün	Head of Training and Research Center

Day 1: 24 May 2011		
09:30 – 10:00	Welcome and introductory meeting with top management	Assessment team TurkStat top management
10:00 – 11:00	Review of principles 1, 2 and 3 including coordination of the statistical system	Assessment team TurkStat top management
<i>11:00 – 11.15</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11:15 – 13.00	Cont.: Review of principles 1, 2 and 3 incl. coordination of the statistical system	Assessment team TurkStat top management
<i>13:00 – 14:00</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:00 – 15:30	Review of principles 4 and 5	Assessment team TurkStat top management
<i>15:30 – 15:45</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
15:45 – 17:00	Review of principles 6 and 15	Assessment team TurkStat top management

Day 2: 25 May 2011		
09:30 – 10:45	Meeting with members of the Statistical Council	Assessment team Undersecretary of Ministry of Finance Undersecretary of Ministry of Interior Undersecretary of Ministry of Labour and Social Security The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey Turkish Statistics Association
<i>10:45 – 11:00</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11:00 – 12:30	Meeting with other producers of official statistics	Assessment team Central Bank of Republic of Turkey Ministry of Finance Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs Ministry of National Education Ministry of Health Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources Ministry of Interior Ministry of Environment and Forestry Undersecretariat of Treasury
<i>12:30 – 13:30</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>	

13:30 – 15:00	Meeting with users –	Assessment team Central Bank of Republic of Turkey Ministry of Industry and Trade Undersecretariat of Foreign Trade Undersecretariat of State Planning Organization Information and Communication Technologies Authority
<i>15:00 – 15:15</i>	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
15:15 – 16:15	Meeting with users- business associations. Chamber of commerce, trade unions	Assessment team The Union of Chambers and Commodity Exchanges of Turkey Ankara Chamber of Industry Confederation of Turkish Tradesmen and Craftsmen Assessment team TurkStat junior staff
16:15 – 17:00	Meeting with junior staff	
17:15-18:30	Additional meetings between Eurostat and TurkStat Progress in aligning with the acquis in statistics in the view of the Progress Report for Turkey to be adopted by the Commission in November 2011. Current issues of cooperation (IPA programmes - both national and multi-beneficiary)	

Day 3: 26 May 2011		
09:30 – 10:30	Meeting with users – scientific community	Assessment team The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey Hacettepe University Institute of Population Studies Middle East Technical University Department of Statistics Population Association
10:30-10:45	Coffee Break	
10:45 – 11:45	Meeting with users – international organisations	World Bank World Health Organization International Labour Organization International Organization for Migration
11:45-12:00	Coffee Break	
12:00 – 13: 00	Meeting with users – media	Hürriyet Newspaper Dünya Newspaper Anadolu Agency Reuters Bloomberg HT Bloomberg News NTV
<i>13:00 – 14:00</i>	<i>Lunch Break</i>	
14:00 – 16:30	Meeting with senior staff: Detailed review and discussion of list of improvement actions in all principles of the Code	Assessment team TurkStat senior staff
16:45-18:00	Additional meetings between Eurostat and Turkstat; State-of-play of the preparations for the population census, on the methodology and other related issues.	
Day 4: 27 May 2011		
09:00 –	Meeting with top management: Conclusions and recommendations	Assessment team

11:00	(including improvement actions)	TurkStat top management
11:30 – 12:30	Debriefing with EC Delegation	Assessment team EC Delegation
	<i>End of Mission</i>	

STATISTICS LAW OF TURKEY

No. of the Law : 5429
Date of Approval : 10/11/2005
Published Official Gazette : Date: 18/11/2005 No.: 25997

PART ONE General Provisions

Purpose

Article 1- The purpose of this law is to determine basic principles and standards concerning the production and organisation of official statistics; and to regulate the formation, duties, and authorities of the Turkish Statistical Institute which is to compile and assess data and information, produce, publish and disseminate statistics on the areas that country needs, and to ensure coordination among institutions and organizations that are involved in the statistics process prescribed in the Official Statistics Programme.

Definitions

Article 2- In the implementation of this law, the terms used herein shall refer to the following;

- a) Institute: Turkish Statistical Institute (TURKSTAT),
- b) Council: The Statistical Council,
- c) Presidency: The Presidency of the Turkish Statistical Institute,
- d) President: President of the Turkish Statistical Institute,

e) Institutions and organisations: The Prime Ministry and Ministries, and their relevant and related organisations; local governments and their relevant and related organisations, as well as the unions and companies thereof; and other institutions and organisations and professional organisations that have the status of a public institution which have legal entities and which have been established under names such as institute, enterprise, establishment, union, revolving fund, fund etc. including the Central Bank of Turkey; İstanbul Stock Exchange Market and Universities,

f) Programme: The Official Statistics Programme,

g) Official statistics: The information obtained as a result of processing data compiled by the Turkish Statistical Institute or by institutions and organisations in charge of producing data on subjects included in the Programme in order to reveal characteristics of any given population,

h) Statistical unit: Real or legal persons and institutions and organisations on which censuses or sampling studies are conducted and about whom data will be collected,

i) Population: The entire statistical unit or sub-units that are subject to census or sampling,

j) Census: Compiling data from all relevant statistical units to reveal the characteristics of a given population,

k) Sampling: The process of selecting the specific number of units among all relevant statistical units in the population to represent it,

l) National register system: The Database system where communication with the records of the other institutions and organisations is provided at the national level by means of a specified single number by the standardisation of the

information which are kept to carry out administrative works of the institutions and organisations,

m) Field study: The process including the interviews with the statistical unit in order to compile all kinds of data related to the statistical studies, the transfer of obtained information into the questionnaire form and the studies carried out until these forms are submitted to the Presidency,

n) Data: Quantitative and/or qualitative statistical information obtained through surveys or administrative registers,

o) Individual data: The data which is defined together with the characteristics of the statistical units on which information are gathered,

p) Direct identification: Revelation of the identity of any statistical unit with its name, address or officially assigned and commonly known identity number,

r) Indirect identification: Revelation of the identity of any statistical unit by using other characteristics those are not included in direct identification,

s) Confidential data: Individual data or data arranged in a table format which enable identification of the statistical unit directly or indirectly together with its characteristics and therefore enable the revelation of individual information,

t) Use for statistical purposes: Use of data collected from statistical units exclusively for the purpose of making statistical tables and statistical analysis,

u) Dissemination: Submission of statistical information to users regardless of any form and instruments used.

PART TWO

Official Statistics Programme, Compilation of Information and Confidentiality

CHAPTER ONE

Official Statistics Programme, Principles, Application Principles and Application Authorities

Official Statistics Programme

Article 3- The Official Statistics Programme establishes the framework for official statistics that shall be produced on subjects required at national and international level. Censuses and surveys are carried out within the framework of this Programme.

Taking into account the existing resources, the burden on the respondents and the cost-benefit analysis, the Programme covers statistics needed to determine and monitor the situations of the country in the fields of economy, social issues, demography, culture, environment, science, technology and any other required areas.

The Programme is drafted by the Presidency for a term of five years in line with the advisory comments of the Council and submitted to the Council of Ministers. The Programme shall be put into effect upon the publication of the decision of the Council of Ministers in the Official Gazette. When needed, amendments to the Programme, proposed by the Presidency after soliciting the opinion of the related organisations, are made with the decision of the Council of Ministers, and

published in the Official Gazette. The Presidency is in charge of implementing the Programme.

In relation to the implementation of the Programme, the Presidency shall prepare annual monitoring reports to be submitted to the Council on the implementation of the Program and shall inform the public with appropriate means.

Principles

Article 4- In order to improve the quality of official statistics, statistics produced within the scope of Official Statistics Programme shall be prepared and implemented in accordance with the principles of reliability, consistency, impartiality, statistical confidentiality, timeliness and transparency.

The basic principles are as follows; ensuring the accuracy of official statistics, presenting the data to all users on the same time and on impartial base, respecting the principles of confidentiality and protecting the rights of the public to access the information.

All relevant information and methods used in producing official statistics shall be made public in order to allow the evaluation of the quality of official statistics and their compliance with the principles.

All institutions and organisations as well as their staff in charge of implementing the Programme are obliged to act in accordance with the provisions of this law or any further regulations that may be issued on the basis of it.

Implementation principles

Article 5- The Programme clearly states the objectives, coverage, methods, frequency, work plan and dissemination principles, and identifies the institutions and organisations responsible for implementation and coordination of the relevant work of all official statistics.

These institutions and organisations are obliged to perform and fulfil duties and responsibilities assigned by the Programme within specified time. These duties and responsibilities start when the programme comes into force.

Implementation authorities

Article 6- Official statistics are produced, disseminated and published by the Presidency of the Turkish Statistical Institute and institutions and organisations specified in the Programme. The Programme shall clearly define the duties and authorities of the institutions and organisations regarding the compilation, evaluation and publication of data relating to official statistics in the context of their work areas. These institutions and organisations are obliged to submit any compiled data to the Presidency on time, upon request. The principle of confidentiality is duly observed in the maintenance and protection of data and information submitted to the Institute by determining the confidentiality principles in other legislative arrangements. The Presidency is authorised to publish and disseminate the official statistics compiled by institutions and organisations.

The work carried out by institutions and organisations in statistical areas which are not covered by the Programme and the results of censuses or surveys conducted by real persons

and legal entities under special law shall not be considered official statistics.

In case the real persons or legal entities under special law who conduct surveys containing statistical outcomes and make their results public through the media, they are obliged to inform the public about the coverage, sampling method, sampling volume, data compilation method and implementation time together with the survey results.

CHAPTER TWO

Compilation, Dissemination and Confidentiality of Information

Requesting information, investigating the accuracy of information, controlling and storing

Article 7- In censuses and surveys that are related with the working areas of the Institute, the Presidency is authorised to request directly the data and information which are deemed necessary for the production of official statistics, in all mediums and from all statistical units, in the form, period and standards specified by the Presidency.

The Presidency is authorised to investigate and control the accuracy of information or data, request additional information, and depending upon the results, to determine the genuine information and data.

All activities of the Presidency including the compilation and publication of data and information may be carried out and

archived in electronic environments and electronic signatures may be used.

Documents related to the information stored in electronic environments are preserved until they become definite and open to use, and destroyed by the end of this period.

Obligation to respond and boundaries⁽¹⁾

Article 8- (Cancellation by the decision of the Constitutional Court dated 20/03/2008 and numbered E.:2006/167, K.:2008/86; Rearrangement: 25/11/2008-5813/1 item)

Statistical units, in the framework of the fundamental rights and tasks identified in the Constitution, are obliged to submit to the Presidency all the required information or data, which will be used for producing the official statistics on economy, social, demography, culture, environment, science, technology and other required fields, completely, accurately and free of charge in the form, period and standards specified by the Presidency.

Access to administrative data

Article 9- In order to be used for the production of official statistics, the institutions and organisations are obliged to submit or open to use of the Presidency the records and other data files they compile, process and store regarding their working areas, and all kinds of maps and data obtained by remote sensing within the specified period and free of charge.

(1) The heading of this item was previously "Obligation to respond" and changed as written in the text by the Law dated 25/11/2008 and numbered 5813 item 1.

National register systems

Article 10- Institutions and organisations are obliged to establish, update and open to the statistical use of the Presidency their national register systems regarding their working areas in line with the standards defined by the Presidency.

Approval of the Presidency is required in any legislative arrangement pertaining to this field.

Classifications

Article 11- Institutions and organisations are obliged to use the statistical definitions and classifications introduced by the Presidency; in cases where they use the classifications determined according to their needs, they are obliged to take measures to ensure the transition of these classifications into those determined by the Presidency.

Access to statistical results

Article 12- The Presidency and institutions and organisations taken part in the Programme shall take the measures to ensure the easy and equal access to the official statistics by all users by obeying the standards and release calendar specified in the Programme.

The statistical information compiled by the Institute cannot be given to any person or authority before this information is made open to public.

Confidential data

Article 13- Confidential data can be accessed only by the ones involved in the production of official statistics, to the extent that they need for performing their duties properly.

If the number of the statistical unit in any cell of the data table formed by aggregating the individual data is less than three or one or two of the statistical units are dominant even if the number of units is three or more, the data in the concerned cell is considered confidential.

The confidential data compiled, processed and preserved for the production of official statistics cannot be delivered to any administrative, judiciary or military authority or person, can not be used for purposes other than statistics or as an instrument of proof. Civil servants and other staff in charge of compiling and processing these data are obliged to comply with this rule. This obligation continues after the related personnel leave their duties and posts.

The rulers of the institutions and organisations producing official statistics shall take all measures to prevent any illicit access, use or revelation of the confidential data.

Data or information obtained from sources that are open to all people shall not be deemed confidential.

Data confidentiality ceases when a statistical unit gives written approval for the revelation of confidential data concerning itself.

Confidential data can be published only as combined with other data so as not to allow any direct or indirect identification.

(Additional item: 25/11/2008-5813/2 item) For the data considered confidential due to the indirect identification in foreign trade statistics, these confidentiality rules are implemented when a statistical unit applies with a written application requiring consideration of its data as confidential.

Principles and procedures relating to data confidentiality and security shall be regulated through statutes to be issued in line with national and international principles and by soliciting the opinion of relevant institutions and organisations.

Use of individual data

Article 14- Individual data may be given with the written permission of the Presidency after obscuring those parts which may lead to direct or indirect identification and on the condition that such data is used in scientific studies without any reference to distinct statistical units. People who are entitled to use individual data cannot give these data to third parties.

Rights of the statistical units

Article 15- The statistical units which are requested to provide data or information for the production of official statistics have the right to ask for information, as envisaged by the Law no. 4982 on Right to Information, concerning the purpose and coverage of the census or survey, measures taken to ensure the confidentiality of statistical data and other rights, and to ask for compensation for all material and spiritual damages in case their confidential data is revealed without permission.

In case of the Presidency or other institutions and organisations are found faulty in the lawsuits brought against the revelation of confidential data, the personnel or other staff who is faulty, is held liable for the payment of compensation according to general rules.

PART THREE

Turkish Statistical Institute

CHAPTER ONE

Foundation, Duties and Organisational Structure

Turkish Statistical Institute

Article 16- The Turkish Statistical Institute is established to implement this law and to perform tasks assigned by it. The Institute is referred to shortly as "TURKSTAT".

The Institute is organized under the Prime Ministry and the Prime Minister may delegate its authorities regarding the management of the Institute to a State Minister in case he sees necessary.

Scientific and technical autonomy

Article 17- In the implementation of the Programme, any outer instruction can not be given to the staff of the institute and other implementing units in any case in regard to data sources, selection of statistical methods and procedures; form,

content and time of dissemination; and observance of statistical confidentiality.

Duties and authorities of the Turkish Statistical Institute

Article 18- Duties and authorities of the Institute are as follows:

- a) to prepare the Official Statistics Programme,
- b) to organise the statistical activities specified in the Programme and ensure their realisation,
- c) to determine the statistical methods, definitions, classifications and standards to be used in the production of official statistics in line with national and international norms,
- d) to compile, evaluate, analyse and publish statistics in the field of economy, social issues, demography, culture, environment, science and technology, and in the other required areas,
- e) to provide scientific and technical explanations to the results of official statistics,
- f) to follow up the developments in scientific research techniques, and methods and information technologies in the field of statistics and to take relevant measures for the adoption of these developments,
- g) to determine the areas where statistical data is needed as well as data compilation methods in cooperation with the related institutions and organisations, by taking into account the national and international priorities,
- h) to follow the performance of tasks assigned by the Programme to the institutions and organisations in relation to

official statistics, to examine statistics produced by these institutions and organisations in terms of their conformity to international standards, to perform quality control and to provide technical support and ensure coordination in these issues,

i) to develop medium and long-term strategies and policies of the Institute within the framework of development plans, programmes, relevant legislation and principles adopted; to take measures to continually improve the organisational structure, service quality standards, and managerial services and processes in line with the strategic plans and annual objectives and targets of the Institute,

j) to prepare Annual Monitoring Reports regarding the implementation of the Programme,

k) to coordinate the establishment of a national and international information network and information flow system to ensure the storing of statistical information, its submission to users and development of systems pertaining to these areas,

l) to identify the standards for the establishment of the national register systems, implement these standards, and to ensure their observance through inter-agency coordination,

m) to follow, evaluate and publish, when needed, the indicators relating to other countries or country groups in order to make international comparisons,

n) to draft, develop and implement research and technical assistance projects in cooperation with the national and international organisations and institutions for the production of data in the required areas and for the enhancement of existing technical capacity,

o) to cooperate with other countries and international organisations, and to organise international meetings in the field of statistics,

p) to perform other duties assigned by the Law.

The Presidency may establish national and international training and research centres regarding its working areas in cooperation with universities and other training institutions where the duties of the higher education institutions are reserved.

Organisation

Article 19- The Turkish Statistical Institute consists of the Statistical Council and the Presidency of the Turkish Statistical Institute.

CHAPTER TWO

Statistical Council

Statistical Council

Article 20- The Statistical Council shall be established to advise on the preparation and implementation of the Programme and on the development and functions of the official statistics; to determine and assess the areas in which official statistics are needed and to provide opinions and suggestions for future works to be carried out.

The Council is composed of: Undersecretaries of Ministries; Undersecretary of the State Planning Organisation; Undersecretary of Treasury; Undersecretary of Foreign Trade; Undersecretary of Customs; Undersecretary of Maritime Affairs; President of the State Personnel Office; Governor of the Central Bank of Turkey; an academician to be designated by the Board of Higher Education from among those engaged in works related to the duties of the Institute; Head of Executive Board of the Union of Chambers and Stock Exchanges; Chairman of the non-governmental organization engaged in the field of statistics and having the highest number of academic staff in its membership and Chairman of the non-governmental organization having the highest number of real persons or legal entities that are engaged in surveys and researches with statistical outcomes. These full members of the Council shall authorise their representatives to attend the Council meetings in case they can not.

The President and Vice-Presidents of the Turkish Statistical Institute are natural members of the Council. The Council meets at least once a year.

In case the agenda of the Council requires so, representatives from other institutions and organisations, non-governmental organisations as well as the authorities from the Presidency may be invited to Council meetings without having right to vote.

The President of the Institute is also the chair of the Council. The secretarial services of the Council are carried out by the Presidency.

All expenses for the activities of the Council are covered with the appropriations to be made available in the Institute's budget.

Working procedures and rules of the Council are laid down in the regulation to be issued by the Council of Ministers.

CHAPTER THREE

Presidency

Organization of the Presidency

Article 21- The Presidency of the Turkish Statistical Institute consists of headquarters and regional offices. The central organisation of the Presidency comprises of main service units, advisory units and supporting units. The central organisation of the Presidency is shown in Annex (I). Within the departments and regional offices of the Presidency, provisional or permanent groups or teams may be set up depending on the nature of works to be carried out. Reserving for their original staff positions, the President may appoint responsible persons to these positions.

President

Article 22- As the highest level of authority at the Institute, the President is mandated and authorised to deliver and oversee the Presidency services in line with the relevant legislative provisions, official statistics programme, overall objectives and policies and strategic plan of the Institute,

relevant performance indicators and service quality standards. The President reports to the Prime Minister.

Terms and procedures relating to the appointment of President

Article 23- In addition to general requirements specified in the Civil Servants' Law no. 657 the followings are also required to be appointed as the President of the Institute:

a) to graduate from the higher education institutions which provide at least four years education in statistics, mathematics and sociology or departments of economics, management, administrative and economic sciences, political sciences, engineering and law or from higher education institutions abroad whose academic equivalency to the aforementioned is approved by the Higher Education Board,

b) to serve for at least two years in a position such as the Head of Department, equivalent or higher in the Presidency or in other public organisations and institutes in the duties similar to the working area of the Institute, or to serve as an academic staff in universities for at least five years.

The President is appointed by the decision of the Council of Ministers for a term of five years. After the completion of this term, the President may be re-appointed to the same position only for another term. Before the expiry of the official term, the President cannot be removed from his post. The removal of the President before the expiration of official duty term is possible only in case of adversary health condition testified by an official report or upon the loss of any qualification required for this post.

Vice-Presidents

Article 24- Three Vice-Presidents may be appointed to assist the President in the Institute. It is required that at least one of these Vice-Presidents should have the title of expert of the Turkish Statistical Institute. Vice-Presidents report to the President.

Other than general qualifications cited in the Civil Servants' Law no. 657, persons to be appointed as Vice-Presidents should also be graduates of higher education institutions specified in Article 23 of the same law and should have attained at least grade (C) in the Foreign Language Proficiency Examination for State Employees in one of the languages of English, French and German.

CHAPTER FOUR

Main Service Units

Main Service Units

Article 25- Main service units of the Presidency are as follows:

- a) National Accounts and Economic Indicators Department
- b) Agriculture and Environment Statistics Department
- c) Industry and Business Statistics Department
- d) Social Statistics Department
- e) Methodology Department
- f) Foreign Relations Department
- g) Publication and Data Dissemination Department
- h) Information and Communication Technologies Department

**National Accounts and Economic Indicators
Department**

Article 26- The duties of the National Accounts and Economic Indicators Department are as follows:

- a) to carry out national product accounts and analyses,
- b) to conduct calculations relating to inter-industrial transactions and prepare national input-output tables,
- c) to conduct satellite accounts and other calculations envisaged by the system of national accounts,
- d) to compile data needed to follow price movements at consumer and producer level and to calculate consumer and producer price indices and indicators of purchasing power parity,
- e) to compile and evaluate information relating to external trade statistics,
- f) to follow the standards and methodological developments in the field of activity and carry out national and international projects,
- g) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Agriculture and Environment Statistics Department

Article 27- The duties of the Agriculture and Environment Statistics Department are as follows:

- a) to compile and evaluate statistical information relating to the agriculture sector,
- b) to carry out statistical researches on land use, agricultural production, agricultural structures and sub-sectors

in agriculture, to evaluate the results and calculate the related indicators,

c) to conduct studies on agricultural balance and economic accounts of agricultural sector, and to calculate the related indicators,

d) to conduct surveys and researches in the field of environment including water, air, land, wastewater, solid wastes, pollution and polluting emissions, biodiversity, expenditures on environmental protection, water, air, land, noise and visual pollution, and to evaluate data collected by the related institutions and organisations on the basis of measurements and observations,

e) to compile the data needed for natural resources accounting,

f) to follow the standards and methodological developments in the field of activity and carry out national and international projects,

g) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Industry and Business Statistics Department

Article 28- The duties of the Industry and Business Statistics Department are as follows:

a) to compile and evaluate statistical information needed in the fields of mining and quarrying, manufacturing industry, electricity, gas, water, energy, construction and other similar fields,

b) to compile and evaluate statistical information on transportation, communication, storage, activities of financial intermediaries, business and personal services, activities of

non-profit organisations, wholesale and retail trade, hotels, restaurants and other similar subjects,

c) to follow the standards and methodological developments in the field of activity and carry out national and international projects,

d) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Social Statistics Department

Article 29- The duties of the Social Statistics Department are as follows:

a) to compile and evaluate statistical information and develop indicators on population, housing, education, culture, tourism, health, sports, justice, media, politics and other issues of social nature,

b) to compile and evaluate statistical information needed in the field of demography,

c) to compile and evaluate statistical information needed in the fields of social security, social protection and protection of consumers,

d) to conduct surveys on labour market, income distribution, consumption expenditures and living conditions and evaluate the results of the surveys,

e) to follow the standards and methodological developments in the field of activity and carry out national and international projects,

f) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Methodology Department

Article 30- The duties of the Methodology Department are as follows:

- a) to conduct methodological studies and analyses relating to all censuses and surveys carried out by the Institute,
- b) to provide support to the related units in implementation by carrying out studies on data quality and data analysis methods,
- c) to follow and adopt the developments regarding the sampling methods within the framework of official statistics,
- d) to carry out the studies on the basic definitions, concepts and classifications in the context of official statistics, and to ensure coordination in this area both within and outside the Institute,
- e) to set standards for the national registry systems for statistical purposes, and to ensure necessary cooperation and coordination for the adoption of these standards at national level,
- f) to ensure the management of address registers together with the numerical maps,
- g) to follow the standards and methodological developments in the field of activity and carry out national and international projects,
- h) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Foreign Relations Department

Article 31- The duties of the Foreign Relations Department are as follows:

a) to coordinate the relations and cooperation of the Presidency with the international organisations and national statistical offices in the field of statistics,

b) to coordinate the studies on compliance with the international statistical standards,

c) to prepare and ensure the implementation of the statistical cooperation projects, technical assistance programmes and protocols designed for the countries or country groups,

d) to manage statistical projects financed by the international organisations in line with the framework agreements,

e) to coordinate the compliance studies with the European Union (EU) legislation and the EU projects in the context of the working area of the Institute,

f) to follow meetings, trainings and scholarship programmes in the field of statistics organised by the international organizations and national statistical offices of other countries, to coordinate and make necessary arrangements for participation in these activities,

g) to organise international meetings, training programmes and consultancy services,

h) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Publication and Data Dissemination Department

Article 32- The duties of the Publication and Data Dissemination Department are as follows:

a) to respond to the requests of statistical publications, data/information of the national or international institutions, organisations and persons,

b) to carry out procedures relating to subscription to publications and data/information,

c) to conduct surveys on user satisfaction and make analyses on supply and demand for the statistical data/information,

d) to publish and disseminate data/information and indicators approved by the Presidency,

e) to deliver library services,

f) to keep the archive of the publications of the Institute in printed and electronic environments,

g) to follow the standards and methodological developments in the field of activity and carry out national and international projects,

h) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Information and Communication Technologies Department

Article 33- The duties of the Information and Communication Technologies Department are as follows:

a) to develop and follow the implementation of the informatics strategy of the Presidency, and to coordinate and

manage the work relating to hardware and software infrastructure of the Institute,

b) to carry out the system analysis and design studies and services in the context of informatics in censuses, surveys and automation projects in coordination with the related units,

c) to take relevant measures for the use of electronic signatures and for ensuring the electronic safety and confidentiality of data and information,

d) to carry out the studies to prepare the informational architecture of the Institute, and to establish, update and archive the databases,

e) to design, develop and manage practices to ensure the electronic communication and exchange of information of the Presidency at national and international level,

f) to ensure technical coordination needed for inter institutional data exchange,

g) to follow the standards and methodological developments in the field of activity and carry out national and international projects,

h) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

CHAPTER FIVE

Advisory Units

Advisory Units

Article 34- Advisory units of the Presidency are as follows:

a) Strategy Development Department

- b) Legal Advisers
- c) Media and Public Relations Adviser

In addition, at most 10 statistical advisors may be appointed to assist the Presidency in issues of special importance and priority which fall into the working area of the Institute, and to take part in the work conducted by advisory boards, special expertise commissions, research and analysis groups, data quality control board, and publication and dissemination board.

In appointments to the post of statistical advisor, persons concerned should satisfy general qualifications cited in the Civil Servants Law no. 657, have graduated from any of the higher education institutions specified in Article 23 of the aforementioned law and should have attained at least grade (C) in the Foreign Language Proficiency Examination for State Employees in one of the languages of English, French and German or to have served in the position of head of department or higher in the Presidency for at least two years.

Strategy Development Department

Article 35- The duties of the Strategy Development Department are as follows:

- a) to develop medium and long-term strategies and policies of the Institute within the framework of development plans, programmes, relevant legislations and principles adopted.
- b) to prepare the Programme and Annual Monitoring Reports in cooperation with the related and responsible institutions and organisations,

c) to set the principles and procedures of work necessary for the Institute to fulfil its duties in the context of the Programme, and to coordinate the development of the main service policy and plans of the Institute in line with these principles and procedures,

d) to develop performance and quality criteria in issues within the working area of the Presidency,

e) to prepare the budget of the Institute in line with the strategic plan and annual targets, to monitor and evaluate the compliance of the activities of the Institute with the plan and targets,

f) to compile, analyse and interpret the information and data relating to the management of the Presidency, development of the services and performance, and to prepare annual work plans,

g) to make necessary preparations to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the internal supervision function of the top management,

h) to carry out regulatory impact analyses regarding the new arrangements and units to be newly established within the Institute,

i) to examine the external factors that may affect the services of the Institute, to carry out capacity researches within the Institute, to analyse the quality of services and the satisfaction level, and to conduct general researches,

j) to carry out the secretarial works of the Council,

k) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Legal Advisers

Article 36- The duties of the **Legal Advisers** are as follows:

- a) to give opinion on drafts of legislations, regulations and other legal matters forwarded by the President, the units of the Presidency and Ministries,
- b) to take legal measures in time so as to protect the interests of the Presidency and avoid any legal disputes, and to assist in acting agreements and contracts in line with these principles,
- c) to supply necessary information in judiciary and administrative cases under the provisions of the law no. 4353 dated 8 January 1943, to represent the Presidency as a party in administrative lawsuits or to follow and coordinate other lawsuits which has been contracted out by the Presidency through procurement of services.
- d) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

Media and Public Relations Adviser

Article 37- The duties of the Media and Public Relations Adviser are as follows:

- a) to plan and execute the activities in the field of media and public relations,
- b) to take relevant measures to ensure that requests of information made according to the Law no. 4982 on Right to Information are responded effectively, rapidly and accurately,
- c) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

CHAPTER SIX

Supporting Units

Supporting units

Article 38- The supporting units of the Presidency are as follows:

- a) Human Resources Department
- b) Supporting Services Department

Human Resources Department

Article 39- The duties of the Human Resources Department are as follows:

- a) to carry out work and make suggestions relating to the human resources policies and plans of the Presidency,
- b) to carry out work relating to the appointment, transfer, appraisal records, promotion, remuneration and retirement of the Presidency personnel,
- c) to design, implement and evaluate the on-the-job training programme of the Presidency,
- d) to develop and implement training programmes for the institutions and organisations covered by the Programme,
- e) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

The training programmes and services, conditions of attending, duration, certification and other details are determined by a regulation.

Supporting Services Department

Article 40- The duties of the Supporting Services Department are as follows:

a) to deliver administrative and financial services relating to the specific needs of the Presidency including all kinds of construction, procurement, rental, repair and maintenance, archiving, healthcare and other similar services,

b) to keep the records of moveable and immoveable properties of the Institute,

c) to plan and deliver civil defence and mobilisation services of the Presidency,

d) to deliver services relating to the internal and external security of the service buildings of the Institute within the framework of the law no. 5188, dated 10 June 2004 on Private Security Services,

e) to perform similar duties assigned by the President.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Boards, Commissions and Groups

Data Quality Control Board

Article 41- The Data Quality Control Board shall be established at the Presidency to examine and evaluate the statistical work carried out by the headquarters and regional offices, works carried out for the production of statistics included in the Programme including whole process starting from the registers up to publication of data in terms of their

scientific quality and compliance with the international standards, and also to perform quality control studies if needed.

The board shall be composed of Head of Methodology Department, at least two heads of departments from main service units and at least one statistical advisor under the chair of one of the Vice-Presidents to be appointed by the President. The Presidency may establish permanent or temporary working groups to assist the work of the Board. Staff from other public institutions and organisations may also be nominated to these working groups. In such cases, regular pays, promotional procedures and social benefits of such staff shall be taken on by their own institutions. The secretarial work of the Board shall be under the responsibility of the Methodology Department.

The establishment and working procedures and rules of the Board are determined by a regulation.

Publication and Dissemination Board

Article 42- The Publication and Dissemination Board is established within the Institute to set principles, standards and policies relating to the publication and dissemination of statistics produced under the Programme, and to control the appropriateness of these publications. The board shall be composed of Head of Publication and Data Dissemination Department, at least two heads of departments from main service units and at least one statistical advisor under the chair of one of the Vice-Presidents to be appointed by the President. The secretarial work of the board shall be undertaken by the Publication and Data Dissemination Department.

Advisory boards, special expertise commissions and research-analysis groups

Article 43- Advisory boards may be set up to solicit the views, experience and expertise of real and legal persons in censuses, surveys and projects when needed, and to ensure the adoption of the latest scientific techniques and methods.

Furthermore, permanent or temporary special expertise commissions and research-analysis groups may be set up, when needed, within the service units of the Institute.

Those persons who will be nominated from other public organisations and institutions or recruited from non-governmental organisations to join advisory boards, special expertise commissions and research-analysis groups are paid allowance for every meeting day they attend, provided that such payment is made no more than twice in a month. The amount of allowance to be paid for the staff of public institutions is calculated by multiplying the coefficient applied to civil servant salaries with the indicator figure of one thousand (1 000), and for those who are not under public service a meeting allowance calculated in the same manner but with an indicator figure of two thousand (2 000).

No allowance is applicable to the personnel of the Presidency who are attending the advisory boards, special expertise commissions and research-analysis groups.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Regional Offices

Regional Organisation

Article 44- The regional offices of the Presidency are shown in the Annex II. The regional offices shall be in charge of compiling, evaluating, quality checking, analysing and transferring to the headquarters the data relating to the geographical area of which they are responsible from in the censuses and surveys at national level given to the Institute by this law, and of establishing the infrastructure of the regional statistics and producing them. Regional Directors are responsible directly to the President for the implementation of all statistical works at regional level and for the provision of coordination with the local units.

CHAPTER NINE

Personnel Regime

Personnel regime and overtime work

Article 45- At the Presidency; contracted personnel may be employed regardless of the provisions related to the employment of contracted personnel as stipulated in 657 Law of Civil Servants and other laws, for the following positions: President, Vice-president, 1st Legal Adviser, Head of Department, Statistical Adviser, Legal Adviser, Regional Director, Turkish Statistical Institute Expert, Turkish Statistical

Institute Assistant Expert, Statistician, Mathematician, Engineer, and Programmer provided that he/she has graduated from a 4-year higher education institution.

(Rearrangement of the cancelled second paragraph by the decision of the Constitutional Court dated 12/19/2005 and numbered E.:2005/143, K.:2005/99 17/5/2006-5503/2 item) The contracted personnel working actively in the Presidency shall be paid monthly gross contract wage in the amount which is determined by the President in between the minimum and maximum wages included by the titles in the annexed tabulation No. III. Contracted personnel working in the Presidency shall benefit from the wage increases which are provided to their counterparts employed on a contractual basis at the Headquarters of the Prime Ministry, according to the same procedures and principles. Those personnel shall be interrelated with the Pension Fund for Civil Servants of the Republic of Turkey. The mentioned personnel shall be paid a bonus, which is proportional to their working days (including the sickness and annual leaves) in the amount of monthly contract wage in the months of January, April, July and October. The ones who perform more successful studies compared to their counterparts, may be given an inciting payment with the approval of the Prime Minister upon the proposal of the President in agreement with the Minister, to the extent of the monthly contract wage in the months of June and December. The contractual terms and procedures regarding the persons to be employed by this way and their remuneration are determined by the Council of Ministers.

Foreign experts may be employed on a contractual basis for the services requiring special expertise. The contractual

terms and procedures regarding the foreign experts to be employed by this way and their remuneration are determined by the Council of Ministers.

The civil servants working in the headquarters and regional offices of the Presidency (including those employed on a contractual basis while holding their original staff positions) are entitled to the same overtime pay as foreseen for civil servants by Article 31 of the law no. 3056 dated 10 October 1984.

Appointment as the Turkish Statistical Institute Assistant Expert and Expert

Article 46- To be appointed as the "Turkish Statistical Institute Assistant Expert" the followings are required in addition to overall qualifications specified in Article 48 of the Civil Servants Law no. 657:

- a) to graduate from the higher education institutions which provide at least four years education in statistics, mathematics, physics, sociology, psychology or departments of economics, management, administrative and economic sciences, political sciences, engineering, communication and law or from higher education institutions abroad whose academic equivalency to the aforementioned is approved by the Higher Education Board,
- b) to have performed satisfactorily in proficiency tests taken in relevant branches and foreign language,
- c) to be under age 35 in January of the year when the exam is taken.

Those who are entitled to the status of assistant expert according to the first clause must have been working for at

least three years, have a good service record and have their thesis accepted in order to be entitled to take the proficiency test for the expert status. The people who are successful in this test, are assigned as the "Turkish Statistical Institute Expert" provided that they have attained at least grade (C) in the Foreign Language Proficiency Examination for State Employees in one of the languages of English, French and German.

The ones whose theses have been rejected or who have failed in proficiency tests or failed to document their proficiency in foreign language are appointed to positions commensurate with their present level. Reserving for military service and period in unpaid leave, the status of assistant expert can be hold at most for five years.

The selection procedures, preparation of thesis and proficiency tests regarding the assistant experts, procedures relating to their training in the country and training abroad in line with the provisions of Articles 78 and 79 in the Law no. 657, and other issues are determined by a regulation.

CHAPTER TEN

Appointments and Remuneration

Appointment of personnel from other public organisations and institutions

Article 47- Civil servants and other governmental personnel employed by other governmental organisations and institutions may be temporarily appointed at the Presidency to take over duties in the context of the Official Statistics

Programme, provided that the consent of their institutions is obtained, and the monthly salaries, additional indicators, appropriations, any kinds of wage raises and compensations and other financial and social rights and benefits are paid by their own institutions.

Census committees and appointment

Article 48- Central Census Committees shall be established under the President or another person appointed by the President to carry out and coordinate work relating to the preparation, implementation and evaluation of censuses. If needed, representatives from universities, relevant ministries and other governmental organisations and institutions are invited to participate in these committees.

Censuses are carried out by the Census Committees chaired by the highest government authority in local areas and the Census Bureaus attached to these committees in line with the principles and procedures identified by the Presidency. The highest government authority shall be responsible for the activities of the local committees and bureaus and for providing necessary instruments, vehicles and personnel for these committees and bureaus. The highest government authority in any given locality may assign personnel from the provincial branches of governmental organisations and institutions to take part in censuses.

Remuneration

Article 49- Persons, either from the Presidency or from other organisations, who have been assigned temporary duties in censuses, surveys, data quality control, and supervision or in

other similar works under the present law shall be paid a daily allowance which is one and a half times over what is specified as daily allowance in the Law on Allowances no. 6245.

The principles and procedures relating to the remuneration of temporary personnel to be employed on a contractual basis according to the paragraph (c) of Article 4 in the Law no. 657, allowances to be paid to those from other organisations for the necessary expenditures, and payments to be made on the basis of questionnaires completed are laid down by the decision of the Council of Ministers.

Payment for overtime work to be made to the temporarily employed persons on a contractual basis according to paragraph (c) of Article 4 in the Law no. 657 as foreseen in Article 45, in the context of the paragraph of this law will be equivalent to what is assessed for government employees entitled to salaries over levels 11 to 15.

Travel and boarding expenses of persons temporarily employed under the present law and per diems of others holding permanent duties shall be covered in line with the provisions of the Law on Allowances no. 6245.

The people who are appointed to fieldwork in censuses, surveys, investigation, data quality control, supervision, etc. are entitled to benefit free from local public transportation means and to use accommodation and social facilities of governmental organisations and institutions in same terms as the original employees of these organisations and institutions do.

PART FOUR

Responsibilities, Authorities and Penal Clauses

CHAPTER ONE

Responsibilities and Authorities

Responsibilities of managers

Article 50- Managers at each level of the Presidency are responsible to their superiors in performing their duties in line with the corresponding legislation, strategic plans and programmes, performance criteria and service quality standards.

International Cooperation

Article 51- Within the framework of the general provisions, the Presidency may establish contacts and enter into cooperation with the similar organisations in other countries and relevant units in the international or supranational organisations to ensure the production of statistics through best possible methods, exchange of data and publications, training, joint project development and implementation.

Delegation of Authority

Article 52- Managers at any level of the Presidency may delegate some of their authorities to lower levels given that such delegation is made in written form and the limits of authority delegated are explicitly stated.

CHAPTER TWO

Penal Clauses

Penalties

Article 53- Civil servants violating bans and limitations specified in Article 13 of the present Law shall be punished according to Article 258 of the Turkish Penal Code no. 5237.

Judiciary fines are imposed on real persons and organs and representatives of private law legal entities who fail to fulfil obligations specified in Article 6, paragraph 3 and Article 14 of this law.

Administrative fines

Article 54- An administrative fine of five hundred New Turkish Liras is imposed on those who abstain from performing their duties in censuses without any valid excuse. Managers and senior level officers of public organisations and institutions who fail, without any acceptable excuse, to send their personnel to trainings and meetings for which they are requested to attend or to issue permission for their participation to the performance of assigned duties are subject to an administrative fine of five hundred New Turkish Liras per each person that they did not give permission to go for such training or meeting, and this situation is reported to their respective organisations. Furthermore, those persons taking part in training courses to be assigned duties afterwards can be asked to refund the training costs in case they abstain from performing any duty, without reasonable excuse, that is related to training given earlier.

Those who fail to submit the information requested by the Presidency or other institutions and organisations in specified form and time or submit incomplete or incorrect information, are first given a warning to submit information requested or cover gaps or correct mistakes within a period of one week. In case no information is submitted or no correction/supplement is made in spite of this warning, real persons or organs and representatives of private law legal entities concerned are imposed administrative fines of:

a) Five hundred New Turkish Liras in case non-compliance takes place during surveys conducted with households or individuals,

b) (Cancellation by the decision of the Constitutional Court dated 20/03/2008 and numbered E.:2006/167, K.:2008/86; Rearrangement: 25/11/2008-5813/3 item)

One thousand five hundred New Turkish Liras in case non-compliance takes place during surveys conducted with the statistical units other than households or individuals,

c) Two thousand New Turkish Liras in case non-compliance takes place during censuses.

Imposition of administrative fines or other punitive measures do not remove of the statistical units' obligation to provide information.

Notifications made in line with any of the procedures set forth in the Law of Notifications No. 7201 or the minutes arranged in accordance with the procedures determined by the Presidency, indicating that the statistical unit in question has been visited for the purpose of requesting the information or indicating that the information or the relevant documents are

given to the officials of the statistical unit by the personnel assigned to the survey or research shall serve as instruments of proof that the information has been requested from the statistical units.

The provisions of the present Article are also applicable in surveys contracted out to third parties.

Decisions to impose administrative fines are taken by committee chair in case local committees are established for any census; by the highest management body of institutions and organisations in case censuses are assigned to these institutions and organisations as duly specified in the Programme and, in other cases, by the highest ranking official in the headquarters or regional office of the Presidency.

PART FIVE

Miscellaneous

Revolving Fund Management

Article 55- A Revolving Fund Management has been established within the Institute to sell publications, information and documents produced by the Institute to domestic or foreign persons, organisations and institutions, and to perform services relating to data processing, typesetting, printing, technical consultancy, training, project development and research.

A capital of five hundred thousand New Turkish Liras is reserved from the general budget for the revolving fund management. This original capital may be increased up to five

times upon the decision of the Council of Ministers. The increased capital is met by the revenues of the fund.

The revolving fund consists of budget allowances, in kind assistance given by the Treasury, profit from revolving fund activities, grants and other contributions. Net profit is added to capital stock until paid-up capital becomes equal to the original capital allocated. At the end of each year, any unused revenue is kept for the procurement of goods and services in coming years as found appropriate by the executive board within the framework of relevant legislative provisions. Donations and other contributions are added to the existing capital stock without being subject to the limits specified in the present Article.

The revolving fund is used to cover the expenses associated with its management; costs of rental, procurement, tools and equipments, research, training and publicity activities and per diems payable to personnel to be employed in various services as foreseen in Article 49. The revolving fund may also be used to pay for services that the Institute procures from others and to meet the needs of units engaged in services relating to the revolving fund management. The revolving fund cannot be used for any purpose other than those mentioned in this article.

Given that it assigns priority to services directly related to the Institute and performs these services fully as required, the Revolving Fund Management is authorised to respond to the orders of other public institutions and organisations, real persons or legal entities whether domestic or foreign, to make orders to be met by these persons and organisations, to take initiative in all kinds of technical issues and to conduct joint work with others if needed.

Details relating to the fields of activity of the Revolving Fund Management, its working principles and procedures, expenditures, execution, accounting procedures and procurement and offer of goods and services are laid down by a regulation to be issued by taking the opinion of the Ministry of Finance.

Appointment

Article 56- (Rearrangement of the cancelled first paragraph by the decision of the Constitutional Court dated 12/19/2005 and numbered E.:2005/143, K.:2005/99 17/5/2006-5503/2 item)

At the Presidency, appointments of the Vice Presidents, First Legal Adviser, Heads of Departments and Regional Directors shall be made by a decree signed by the President of the Turkish Republic, Prime Minister and the related Ministry upon the proposal of the President, appointments of other personnel shall be made by the President .

In the appointment of Head of Departments and Regional Directors in the Presidency, a diploma from one of the higher education institutions mentioned in Article 23 of the present law is also required in addition to general qualifications specified in the Civil Servant Law no. 657.

Furthermore, attainment of at least grade (C) in the Foreign Language Proficiency Examination for State Employees in one of the languages of English, French and German is required for posts of Head of Department in main services unit, Regional Director and Head of Strategy Development Department.

The principles and procedures regarding the promotions and appointment of the personnel by the means of rotation, in the headquarters and regional offices of the Institute are determined by regulations.

Provisions amended

Article 57- The followings are added to the original text of the Law no. 657:

a) The phrase "Turkish Statistical Institute Assistant Experts" is added to come after the phrase "Foreign Trade Assistant Experts" in indent 11 of paragraph (A) of "Common Provisions" in Article 36 and the phrase "to Turkish Statistical Institute Experts" is added to come after the phrase "to Foreign Trade Experts" in the same place,

b) The phrase "to Turkish Statistical Institute, Media and Public Relations Adviser" is added to come after the phrase "to Prime Ministry Press Adviser" in the first paragraph of Article 59,

c) The phrase "Turkish Statistical Institute Experts" is added to come after the phrase "Foreign Trade Experts" which appears in paragraph (h) of "A-Special Service Reimbursement" of "II-Reimbursements" of Article 152 headed "Pay Increases and Reimbursements",

d) The phrase "SIS President" that appears in paragraph (d) under the heading "I- General Administrative Services" in Additional Indicators List I" is deleted and transferred to paragraph (c) as "President of the Turkish Statistical Institute"; the phrase "Vice-President of the State Institute of Statistics" that appears in "2-Judiciary Organs, Associated and Attached Units and Higher Education Institutions" in tabulation II is

deleted and transferred to paragraph (e) of the Additional Indicators List I as "Vice-Presidents of the Turkish Statistical Institute"; the phrase "Turkish Statistical Institute" is added to paragraph (g) of "I-General Administrative Services" in Additional Indicators List; the phrase "Head of Department of the Turkish Statistical Institute" is added to follow the phrase "Head of Department in the Undersecretary of Treasury and Undersecretary of Foreign Trade (General and Auxiliary Service Unit)" in "2-Judiciary Organs, Associated and Attached Units and Higher Education Institutions" in tabulation II ; the phrase "Regional Director of the Turkish Statistical Institute" is added to come after the phrase "Free Zone Director" in the same place; the phrase "Director in the Turkish Statistical Institute" and the phrase "Statistics Adviser" is added to come after phrases "Provincial Director" and "Legal Adviser", respectively, in "2-Judiciary Organs, Associated and Attached Units and Higher Education Institutions" in tabulation II,

The phrase "President of the State Institute of Statistics" that appears in tabulated annex 2 of the Law no. 2451 dated 23 April 1981 on the Procedures of Posting in Ministries and Their Attached Units, is deleted and the phrase "President of the Turkish Statistical Institute" is added to the tabulated annex 1 of the same law.

The phrase "Presidency of the State Institute of Statistics" that appears in tabulated annex 1 of the Law no. 5018 dated 10 December 2003 on Public Finance and Fiscal Control is replaced by the phrase "Presidency of the Turkish Statistical Institute."

Provisions abolished and nullified

Article 58- The legislation which is repealed upon the enactment of the present law is as follows: The Law no. 53 dated 13 June 1962 on the Establishment, Duties and Authorities of the State Institute of Statistics; Decree Law no. 219 dated 8 June 1984 on the Establishment, Duties and Authorities of the State Institute of Statistics ; Decree Law no. 357 dated 27 November 1989 on Amendments to be made on the Decree Law no. 219 on the Establishment, Duties and Authorities of the State Institute of Statistics; Decree Law no. 403 dated 5 February 1990 on Amendment to Article 2 Paragraph (d) of the Decree Law no. 219 on the Establishment, Duties and Authorities of the State Institute of Statistics; and Article 12 of the Decree Law no. 367 dated 14 April 1989 on the Establishment of Units within Ministries and Attached Organisations in Relation to the European Community and Amendments to the Annexed Tabulations of the Decree Law no. 190.

The phrase "Presidency of the State Institute of Statistics" which appears in provisional Article 1 of the Decree Law no 547 dated 23 February 1995 is deleted from the text.

Provisions in other laws which are related to statistical data collection, compilation, processing and dissemination are declared inapplicable in case they run counter to the provisions of the present law. Any amendments and annexations in legislation relating to the official statistics can be effected only through legislation to be enacted as annex to the present law.

Provisional Article 1- On the date this Law becomes effective, movable properties, materials, equipment, inventory

stocks, vehicles, all rights, liabilities and personnel of the headquarters and regional offices of the State Institute of Statistics are deemed to have been transferred to the Turkish Statistical Institute without any further procedure. All real estates used by the State Institute of Statistics or allocated to it by the Treasury are deemed to have been transferred to the Turkish Statistical Institute without any further procedure.

The expenditures of the Turkish Statistical Institute pertaining to 2005 Fiscal Year are covered from appropriations in the 2005 budget of the State Institute of Statistics until necessary arrangements are made in indent (8) of paragraph (a) of Article 15 in the 2005 Budget Law.

Movable and immovable assets, vehicles, equipment, materials, inventory stocks, vehicles, all rights and obligations and personnel belonging to the Revolving Fund Management established on the basis of Annexed Article 1 of the Decree Law no. 219 on the Establishment, Duties and Authorities of the State Institute of Statistics are deemed to have been transferred to the Revolving Fund Management of the Turkish Statistical Institute.

Provisional Article 2- Until relevant reorganisations and arrangements are made in the Presidency in accordance with the provisions of the present law, the existing positions applicable at the effective date of this Law shall prevail.

Until new arrangements and appointments are made under the present law, duties assigned to modified or re-established units of the Presidency are carried out by units that used to perform these duties earlier. The Presidency brings its organisation and staff positions in line with the present law

within a period of six months at most. Changes in staff positions in this context are made according to the provisions of the Decree Law mentioned without observing the last paragraph of Article 9 in the Decree Law no. 190.

Provisional Article 3- Staff positions assigned to the State Institute of Statistics are terminated and deleted from the annexed tabulations of the Decree Law no. 190 on General Staffing and Relevant Procedures; positions specified in the annex list (1) are established and these positions are added to the annexed tabulation (I) of the Decree Law no. 190 under the heading "Turkish Statistical Institute."

Personnel serving in the positions assigned to the State Institute of Statistics under Article 25 of the Law no. 4046 dated 24 November 1994 are transferred to the Presidency of the Turkish Statistical Institute together with their associated positions.

Those employed by the State Institute of Statistics as wage workers in permanent status are transferred to the Turkish Statistical Institute with their present positions.

Provisional Article 4- The staff whose positions and titles remain unchanged after the introduction of new arrangements shall be considered as appointed to their new positions given that they satisfy the qualifications specified in the present law.

The duties of those holding staff positions as Deputy Regional Director in the State Institute of Statistics are terminated upon the official publication of the present law and these personnel are deemed to have been transferred to the staff position of "researcher" as established by the annex list

(1). In case vacated for any reason, staff positions of "Researcher" (regional offices), Chief of Division (headquarters) and "Bureau Chief" are deemed to have been cancelled without any additional procedure.

Personnel whose positions and titles are either altered or cancelled by the present law or who do not meet the qualifications introduced herein are appointed, within a period of six months at most, to staff positions compatible with their staff degrees and levels, and they are appointed to duties where there is need until their formal appointment procedures are completed. Until this new appointment, such personnel are entitled to all benefits including salaries, additional indicators, pay increases, additional payments, compensations, etc. associated with their earlier staff positions.

In case the net sum of monthly salary, additional indicator, all raises and compensations and other financial rights (excluding the overtime payment) of such personnel is less than the net sum of monthly salary, additional indicator, all raises and compensations and other financial rights (excluding the overtime payment) latest received in connection with their former positions, the difference between such amounts shall be paid as a compensation, without any deductions, until such difference is eliminated, as long as they remain in their appointed positions. Those who are employed under contract shall remain as such until the expiration of their contracts.

Provisional Article 5- The staff who were appointed as "SIS Expert" in the General Administrative and Technical Services category and others who were appointed as "SIS Assistant Expert" prior to the taking effect of the present law

are entitled, respectively, to titles of "Turkish Statistical Institute Expert" and "Turkish Statistical Institute Assistant Expert" upon the official publication of the law without any additional procedure. Past service of these staff as "SIS Assistant Expert" are considered as service under the title and staff position of "Turkish Statistical Institute Assistant Expert."

Furthermore, the staff who were appointed as "European Union Expert" in the Presidency and others holding the title of "European Union Assistant Expert" prior to the taking effect of the present law are entitled, respectively, to titles of "Turkish Statistical Institute Expert" and "Turkish Statistical Institute Assistant Expert" upon the official publication of the law without any additional procedure. Past service of these staff as "European Union Assistant Expert" are considered as service under the title and position of "Turkish Statistical Institute Assistant Expert".

Provisional Article 6- Upon coming into effect of the present law, the staff in the position of SIS Vice-President and others of SIS Regional Director are considered as having been appointed, respectively, to the positions of TURKSTAT Vice-President and TURKSTAT Regional Director without any other procedure.

In case staff serving as the Head of Department in the service units of the Institute at the time this law takes effect are appointed again to the same position in the service units of the Turkish Statistical Institute, qualifications stipulated in the present law shall not be considered mandatory.

Provisional Article 7- The duty of the President of the State Institute of Statistics terminates when the present law

comes into force. The President of the Turkish Statistical Institute shall be appointed for a duty term of five years within one month following the taking effect of the present law from among those having relevant qualifications. The President of the State Institute of Statistics continues to work until this appointment is made.

Provisional Article 8- The regulations envisaged by this law are developed and put into effect by the Presidency within at most six months. Until new regulations take effect, the provisions of the existing regulations are applicable given that they do not run counter to provisions laid down herein.

Any references made in other legislation to the State Institute of Statistics are considered as made to the Turkish Statistical Institute, and any references made to the Law no. 53 on the Establishment, Duties and Authorities of the State Institute of Statistics and to the Decree Law no 219 on the Establishment, Duties and Authorities of the State Institute of Statistics are considered as made to the present law, excluding those provisions running counter to the provisions of the present law.

Provisional Article 9- The presidency appoints at most 200 assistant experts to the vacant Turkish Statistical Institute positions added into the Decree Law no. 190 with the present law, in the regional offices of the Institute for the year 2005, without being subject to the limitation (48 000) specified in paragraph (a) of Article 25 of the Budget Law no. 5277. For the selection of personnel to be appointed to these positions, the Presidency conducts a test in which the candidates numbering four times the number of vacant positions are invited. Invitees are those who have received at least 70 points in the Public Employees Group (A) Selection Test and at least 50 points in

foreign language test and they are listed according to their success. The Presidency appoints the successful ones in the regional offices.

Provisional Article 10- The studies of identification of population in the settlements as envisaged by paragraph (3) of Article 12 of the Law no. 5272 on Municipalities dated 7 December 2004, and the time limitation specified in provisional Article 4 are suspended until the establishment of residence based population registry system which is to be introduced jointly by the Presidency and Ministry of Internal Affairs. However, the results of the 2 000 General Population Census are taken into account in case the transactions are made according to the Article 8 of the same law.

Provisional Article 11- (Addition: 25/11/2008-5813/4 item)

The item 8 of the Article 13 of this Law is also implemented for the data and information before the enforcement date of this article.

Enforcement

Article 59- This law comes into effect on the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Execution

Article 60- The provisions of this law are executed by the Council of Ministers.

**TABULATED ANNEX (I) - THE CENTRAL ORGANISATION OF
THE TURKISH STATISTICAL INSTITUTE PRESIDENCY**

President	Vice President	Main Service Units	Advisory Units	Supporting Units
President	Vice President	a) National Accounts and Economic Indicators Department	a) Strategy Development Department	a) Human Resources Department
	Vice President	b) Agriculture and Environment Statistics Department	b) Legal Advisers	b) Supporting Services Department
	Vice President	c) Industry and Business Statistics Department	c) Media and Public Relations Adviser	
		d) Social Statistics Department		
		e) Methodology Department		
		f) Foreign Relations Department		
		g) Publication and Data Dissemination Department		
		h) Information and Communication Technologies Department		

**TABULATED ANNEX (II) - THE REGIONAL
ORGANISATION OF THE TURKISH STATISTICAL
INSTITUTE PRESIDENCY**

Regional Office	Center of Regional Office	Responsible Cities of the Regional Office
İSTANBUL REGIONAL OFFICE	İSTANBUL	İSTANBUL
EDİRNE REGIONAL OFFICE	EDİRNE	EDİRNE TEKİRDAĞ KIRKLARELİ
DENİZLİ REGIONAL OFFICE	DENİZLİ	DENİZLİ AYDIN MUĞLA
İZMİR REGIONAL OFFICE	İZMİR	İZMİR
BURSA REGIONAL OFFICE	BURSA	BURSA ESKİŞEHİR BİLECİK
KOCAELİ REGIONAL OFFICE	KOCAELİ	KOCAELİ SAKARYA DÜZCE BOLU YALOVA
KONYA REGIONAL OFFICE	KONYA	KONYA KARAMAN
ANTALYA REGIONAL OFFICE	ANTALYA	ANTALYA ISPARTA BURDUR
ADANA REGIONAL OFFICE	ADANA	ADANA MERSİN
KAYSERİ REGIONAL OFFICE	KAYSERİ	KAYSERİ SİVAS YOZGAT
ZONGULDAK REGIONAL OFFICE	ZONGULDAK	ZONGULDAK KARABÜK BARTIN

**TABULATED ANNEX (II) - THE REGIONAL
ORGANISATION OF THE TURKISH STATISTICAL
INSTITUTE PRESIDENCY (cont'ed)**

Regional Office	Center of Regional Office	Responsible Cities of the Regional Office
SAMSUN REGIONAL OFFICE	SAMSUN	SAMSUN TOKAT ÇORUM AMASYA
TRABZON REGIONAL OFFICE	TRABZON	TRABZON ORDU GİRESUN RİZE ARTVİN GÜMÜŞHANE
ERZURUM REGIONAL OFFICE	ERZURUM	ERZURUM ERZİNCAN BAYBURT
KARS REGIONAL OFFICE	KARS	KARS AĞRI IĞDIR ARDAHAN
MALATYA REGIONAL OFFICE	MALATYA	MALATYA ELAZIĞ BİNGÖL TUNCELİ
GAZİANTEP REGIONAL OFFICE	GAZİANTEP	GAZİANTEP ADİYAMAN KİLİS
DİYARBAKIR REGIONAL OFFICE	DİYARBAKIR	DİYARBAKIR ŞANLIURFA
BALIKESİR REGIONAL OFFICE	BALIKESİR	BALIKESİR ÇANAKKALE
MANİSA REGIONAL OFFICE	MANİSA	MANİSA AFYON KÜTAHYA UŞAK

**TABULATED ANNEX (II) - THE REGIONAL
ORGANISATION OF THE TURKISH STATISTICAL
INSTITUTE PRESIDENCY (cont'ed)**

Regional Office	Center of Regional Office	Responsible Cities of the Regional Office
ANKARA REGIONAL OFFICE	ANKARA	ANKARA
NEVŞEHİR REGIONAL OFFICE	NEVŞEHİR	NEVŞEHİR AKŞARAY NİĞDE KIRIKKALE KIRŞEHİR
KASTAMONU REGIONAL OFFICE	KASTAMONU	KASTAMONU ÇANKIRI SİNOP
HATAY REGIONAL OFFICE	HATAY	HATAY KAHRAMANMARAŞ OSMANİYE
SİİRT REGIONAL OFFICE	SİİRT	SİİRT MARDİN BATMAN ŞIRNAK
VAN REGIONAL OFFICE	VAN	VAN MUŞ BİTLİS HAKKARİ

**TABULATED ANNEX (III) - (ANNEX: 17/5/2006-5503/1 item) THE
CONTRACTED PERSONNEL MONTHLY WAGE LIMITS (GROSS NEW
TURKISH LIRAS) WORKING IN THE TURKISH STATISTICAL
INSTITUTE PRESIDENCY**

JOB TITLE	Minimum Salary	Maximum Salary
President	2.050	2.260
Vice President	1.650	1.960
First Legal Adviser	1.292	1.837
Heads of Departments, Regional Directors	1.220	1.725
Statistical Adviser, Legal Adviser		
Cadre Degree 1	1.260	1.689
Cadre Degree 2	1.189	1.647
Cadre Degree 3	1.174	1.634
Cadre Degree 4	1.163	1.622
Cadre Degree 5	1.148	1.610
Turkish Statistical Institute Expert		
Cadre Degree 1	1.260	1.689
Cadre Degree 2	1.186	1.647
Cadre Degree 3	1.174	1.634
Cadre Degree 4	1.162	1.622
Cadre Degree 5	1.149	1.610
Cadre Degree 6	1.137	1.597
Cadre Degree 7	1.124	1.585
Turkish Statistical Institute Assistant Expert	942	1.267
Statistician, Mathematician, Engineer, Programmer		
Cadre Degree 1	912	1.092
Cadre Degree 2	815	1.056
Cadre Degree 3	718	1.035
Cadre Degree 4	621	1.015
Cadre Degree 5,6,7,8	524	1.005

**THE LIST SHOWING DATES OF VALIDITY OF
THE LEGISLATION THAT BRINGS ADDITIONS
AND REARRANGEMENTS TO THE LAW NO. 5429**

Law No.	Articles that came into effect on different dates	Date of validity
5503	45, 56, Tabulated Annex III	Valid since 21/5/2006, but 24/5/2006
5813	8, 13, 54, Provisional Article 11	5/12/2008