



ANNOUNCEMENT

Pursuant to the Greek Statistical Law 3832/2010, as in force, the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT), conducted during the period from 21/7/2014 to 25/7/2014, the main stage of the certification process of the statistics of the Ministry of Finance. In this framework, the Certification Team of ELSTAT, which carried out the aforementioned task, concluded that certain basic steps must be taken by the Ministry for the continuation of the certification process of its statistics. The Ministry of Finance was informed on the above steps by ELSTAT's letter with ref. No. GP-574/11.6.2015 and it confirmed, by a letter of the Minister sent on July 1, 2015, its intention to implement the aforementioned steps. It was agreed between the Ministry and ELSTAT the implementation of the steps to be completed within the next six months, i.e. until December 31, 2015.

Given that, until the above deadline, there was no information by the Ministry on the implementation of the basic steps, ELSTAT sent, as provided for in the statement of principles and procedures for the certification of ELSS statistics, a new letter to the Ministry, on January 11, 2016, informing the Ministry on the stages will follow, in accordance with the above statement, if the Ministry does not send to ELSTAT, within 10 working days, a written confirmation, accompanied by the relevant documentation, that it has completed the implementation of all the basic steps.

Instead of the above written confirmation, on January 14, 2016, the Ministry forwarded to ELSTAT, via e-mail, an information letter concerning the works it carried out in the framework of the implementation of the basic steps, accompanied by five (5) files, as documentation. Furthermore, on January 29, 2016, the Ministry informed ELSTAT on the appointment of its statistical head.

On the basis of the above information provided by the Ministry and after having examined the documentation material, it follows that the Ministry still has not implemented the following basic steps:

- Development of internal guidelines for ensuring the quality of the produced statistics. Development and implementation of a system for monitoring the quality of the statistical processes and the statistical output.
- Provision of equal and simultaneous access of all users, without any exception, to the Ministry's statistics. Limitation, control and publication of any privileged pre-release access of users to statistics.
- Documentation of the use of statistics and systematic recording of users' needs.

Moreover, as regards the works carried out by the Ministry in the framework of the implementation of the other basic steps, the following are pending:

- Publication of a quality policy. Compilation of quality reports in accordance with the general structure and content laid down in the statement of principles and procedures for the certification of ELSS statistics, and publication thereof.
- Compilation and publication of methodological notes for all the statistical processes of the Ministry of which statistics are produced.

In order for ELSTAT to continue and complete the certification of the statistics of the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry should complete the implementation of the pending basic steps and other pending issues, providing ELSTAT with the relevant documentation.

In accordance with the stages of the certification process, ELSTAT proceeds to the publication on its website of the initial letter sent to the Ministry and of the Certification Report that it has compiled on the basis of the conclusions drawn from the conduct of the basic stage of the above process.