

**UPDATE OF THE GLOBAL ASSESSMENT OF THE ESTONIAN
STATISTICAL SYSTEM**

APRIL 2002

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The legal basis of the Official Statistics in Estonia is the Official Statistics Act (RT *I 1997, 51, 822) which came into force in July 1997 and was amended in June 2000 (RT I 2000, 47, 289). The Act defines the contents of official statistics, the conduct of official statistical surveys, the scope of the statistical bodies, the role of the Statistical Office in preparation of the list of official surveys and implementation of the statistical methods used in conducting surveys, the duties of agencies conducting official surveys and the respondents and their obligations and liabilities. It also includes regulations on the data protection, the transmission and dissemination of data.
2. The statistical legislation is well in line with the EU Statistics Act. In 2000 the amendments contributed to the strengthening of the role of the SOE in co-ordination of the statistical system. The Statistical Office has now the right to communicate directly with all government agencies in matters concerning the conduct of statistical surveys. There is also a clear obligation in the Statistics Act to use data from secondary (i.e. administrative) sources in conducting official statistical surveys, whenever it is possible. However, the interpretation of the Act and technical reasons are still hindering the fulfilment of this obligation.
3. The main providers of the official statistics are the Statistical Office of Estonia (SOE) and the Bank of Estonia. SOE is responsible for most part of the official statistics. The Bank of Estonia compiles the Balance of Payment. Additionally it is in charge of monetary and financial institutions' statistics. Other central authorities can also provide official statistics, but their role is quite small, although important in some areas. The Ministry of Finance is partly responsible for the Government Finance Statistics, the Ministry of Agriculture is in charge of certain areas of agricultural statistics and other ministries/public institutions are responsible for areas of respective statistics.
4. SOE is responsible for the preparation of the annual list of official statistical surveys. In planning official statistical surveys, the proposals and amendments of ministries, state agencies, county governments, research establishments and other institutions as well as international requirements are taken into consideration. The list of annual official statistical surveys is approved by the Government and the questionnaires used in surveys by the Minister of Finance. The list of the surveys for the year 2001 included 160 surveys.
5. The mission of the Statistical Office is to provide the society with the objective and relevant official statistics on the economy, population, social field, condition of the environment and the changes in these fields.
6. The internal organisation of SOE is characterised by a great number of small units. There are currently about 40 subject-matter units which form together eight divisions (macro-economic statistics, population and social statistics, enterprise statistics, environment statistics, price statistics, development of statistics, marketing and dissemination, methodology of statistics) and three departments (informatics, finance and administration as well as the interviewers set). Every unit is in charge of one statistical domain. In enterprise statistics division a special methodological unit has been established for development of methodological solutions of the whole division.
7. The big change in the organisational structure since 1999 has been the downsizing of regional organisation. Although the downsizing started already some years ago, the final closing took place in 2000. Currently two subject-matter sections are located outside Tallinn in Viljandi.
8. SOE is directed by the Director General who has been nominated by the Minister of Finance on permanent terms. He is assisted by two Deputy Director Generals. One is in charge of planning, international affairs and EU-integration in particular. The other one assists the Director General in

other cross-cutting matters like IT, etc. The management team of SOE includes 17 persons (all heads of divisions, departments and supporting units).

9. The operating expenses of SOE were 8,3 MEUR in 2000. In 2001 the figure was about 6.9 MEUR. The corresponding budget was 2,3 MEUR in 1998. The increase has been remarkable due to two censuses conducted in 2000 and 2001. The overall budget for 2002 will be 3,5 MEUR, which being much less than for 2001, is, however, considerably higher than the figure for 1998. The share of personnel costs was nearly 70 per cent in 2001, administration costs were 18 per cent, information technology costs were 4,4 per cent and about 10 per cent for works and services purchased by the state.
10. The number of the staff of SOE is 364 (end of 2001). The amount has increased with 50 persons since 1998. The educational structure is quite high: 277 staff members have higher education of the university level. The age structure of the whole organisation is relatively good. About 20 per cent are in the age group of 21-30 years, about 40 per cent belong to the age group of 31-50 years and the rest are over 50 years. The share of the female staff is high, ranging to 80 per cent of the whole staff. The turnover of the staff has been quite high during the past five years (7-8 per cent), although declining lately.
11. The printed publications are still a very important dissemination channel for the Statistical Office, although the electronic dissemination has increased. Their printruns per capita are remarkable and comparable with the best results of the EU countries. For example, the *Statistical Yearbook of Estonia* has been disseminated ca 14 copies per 10,000 inhabitants.
12. SOE has been putting a lot of emphasis on improvement of dissemination of statistical products. As a result the user satisfaction is fairly high. SOE has currently the following dissemination policy:
 - Simultaneous release of statistical information via printed and electronic media to any user;
 - Pre-announcing of the release dates;
 - Focus on key clients (news media, governmental institutions, enterprises, foreign embassies);
 - Special products for target users;
 - Higher price for steady market, lower price to sensitive market (prices of publications);
 - Attention to corporate image of the products and the office;
 - Measurement of performance (news clippings, sales, etc.);
 - Development of the Internet services (more information, new services) and other electronic products.
13. On the basis of all the material, the impression in the update of the Global Assessment is that the Estonian statistical system has made impressive progress during the last few years. The new statistical methods and regulations have been implemented, the systems have been revised and the dissemination of statistics has been improved considerably. The Estonian statistical system has been able to keep on schedule in the adoption of the statistical *Acquis Communautaire* during the last two years. Closer compliance with different concepts and methods has been reached. SOE is also very well aware of the steps which still have to be taken.
14. The following results – as examples - in statistical development are especially successful:
 - * Complete implementation of statistical classifications (NACE, COFOG, COICOP, CN, ISCO-COM)
 - * Successful conduct of two big Censuses (Population and Housing Census and Agricultural Census)
 - * Controlled implementation of ESA 95, although there are still tasks to be finalised
 - * Harmonisation and integration of the Business Statistics System by introducing e.g. new

structured and revised questionnaires

* Establishing of new large surveys, like the continuous Labour Force Survey

* Extension of the enterprise survey's coverage to new domains like trade, services, transport etc.

* Upgrading of existing surveys, e.g. Household Budget Survey

- 15.** The big effort will be the INTRASTAT system which has to be implemented and should be in place in the time of the potential accession to the EU. The EDP (Excessive Debt Procedure) has to be put in line with the standing situation of the EU member states clarifying the roles of the SOE and the Ministry of Finance. The problems of update of different (business, population) registers need also continuous attention. Environment statistics system still waits for clear production program.
- 16.** SOE has adopted the culture of continues improvement, which is a very good basis for any statistical agency facing new and demanding challenges all the time. In that respect the following issues should receive more attention in the future:
 - Removing the obstacles from maximal exploitation of administrative registers in statistics production.
 - Strengthening co-operation and initialisation with other administration in eGovernment approach.
 - Increasing co-operation and communication with business data providers. It is important for improvement of quality of data and keeping the response burden reasonable.
 - Assuring the funding for future developments in statistics.
 - Putting more emphasis on competence building of the staff by enforcing staff mobility, improving analytical skills and networking with external researchers.
 - Investigating possibilities to improve cost-recovery of marketing and dissemination of statistical products.

Preface

The Global Assessment of the Estonian statistical system was conducted by Ms Hilikka VIHAVAINEN (Statistics Finland) and Mr Alain TRANAP (INSEE) under a contract with the Programme Secretariat in 1999. This is the update report of the Global Assessment.

The target of the update is to see what kind of changes have taken place since 1999 in

- the administrative capacity of the country in the field of statistics
- the legal compliance level with the *acquis communautaire* in statistics
- the technical aspect of the statistical system in the country.

The Estonian Statistical System has been under different assessments/evaluations during the last years. The update naturally repeats many issues which have been tackled by many other assessors. It doesn't, however, cover all the details of the statistical system but mostly only specific topics.

For the update of the Global Assessment of the Estonian statistical system the following material was delivered in advance:

- administrative capacity: country tables extract from compliance database for country
- legal basis: the latest Eurostat programming report for country
- statistical activities: annual work programme (2002) and yearly progress report (2001)

During the mission (11-12 February 2002) to Estonia a lot of other material on the statistical activities, the business survey development, on different policies of the statistical office etc. were given for the purposes of the update.

The update report has been prepared on the basis of the above documentation and on the basis of the very helpful discussions held during the mission to Tallinn. I am grateful for the excellent organisation of the mission and for the warm welcome and assistance in answering to the questions raised during the meetings.

Hilkka Vihavainen

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1. Legal framework

1.1. Statistics Act

The Official Statistics Act of Estonia passed on June 11, 1997 is mainly in compliance with Council Regulation No 322/97/EC of 17 February 1997 of Community Statistics. The Act follows principles of Commission Decision 97/281 of 21 April 1997 stressing the importance of impartiality, reliability, relevance, cost-effectiveness, confidentiality and transparency. In order to reach full compliance with the EU legislation and to improve the co-ordination of official statistics the Statistical Office of Estonia (SOE) proposed following changes to the Act in 1999:

- the Government should approve the classifications to be used in official statistical surveys
- the Statistical Office should be responsible for co-ordinating the structure of data, definitions and classifications to be used in the Agencies
- statistical data could not be used to prevent a criminal offence, to apprehend a person or to ascertain proof in criminal proceedings
- authorisation is given to the official statistical agencies to communicate directly with all government agencies on matters related to the conduct of statistical surveys.

The proposals were approved and the revised Act came into force from 1st of June 2000.

Now the Act defines

- the contents of official statistics. Official statistics are “aggregated and generalised information obtained from official statistical surveys“ and “reflect the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation of Estonia and changes occurring therein“. [§ 2]
- the conduct of official statistical surveys. Every year the Government of Estonia approves a list of official surveys.
- the scope of the statistical bodies. SOE is the main agency in the field of official statistics. The Bank of Estonia has also an important role in providing official statistics. Other ministries and authorities can be statistical bodies as well.
- the role of the Statistical Office in preparation of the list of official surveys and implementation of the statistical methods used in conducting surveys. The co-ordination role of SOE was strengthened in the latest amendment of the Act.
- the duties of agencies conducting official surveys. The act requires that the agencies exploit the “data collected in state and other databases, and data resulting from or collected in the course of the activities of state and local government agencies and other legal persons shall primarily be used. Authorised processors of databases are required to co-ordinate the structure and definitions of the data and classifications used in databases with the Statistical Office“ [§ 5 (1)]. They also should inform the respondents about the purposes of the use and intentions to set up a data collection in advance.
- the respondents and their obligations and liabilities.
- the data protection, transmission and dissemination of data. The protection of the individual data is the obligation of the agencies responsible for data collection. There is also a possibility for

scientific research to release the data which permit identification of respondents and for other purposes on the basis of the written consent of the respondent.

1.2. Other acts affecting statistics production

The other laws important for the production of statistics and implemented in the recent years are:

- The Population and Housing Census Act (passed on 13 May 1998, amended on 15 December 1999).
- The Population Register Act (passed on May 31, 2000).
- The Agricultural Census Act (passed on April 12, 2000).
- The Wages Act (passed on January 26, 1994, last amended on May 16, 2001). The Structure of Earnings Survey requires that wages data should be obtained at an individual level. Up to May 2001 the wages data could be obtained from enterprises by groups of 5 persons only. In May 2001 the Wages Act was amended and the wages data can be obtained at an individual level from enterprises.
- Public Service Act 1995 and the Personal Data Protection Act 1996.

The Governmental Regulation concerning the Protection of the Data Collected and Processed by Statistical Office of Estonia was passed on 29th of January 2001.

In September 2000 the new regulation No 303 was adopted concerning “Classifications to be used in conducting official statistical surveys“. This regulation is the legal base for the implementation and use of classifications in Estonia.

On 3rd April 2001 the Nomenclature of Estonian Territorial Units for Statistics was adopted by the Government of the Republic.

Main findings:

1. The legal basis of the statistical system is well in line with the EU Statistics Act. In 2000 the amendments contributed to the strengthening of the role of the SOE in co-ordination of the statistical system. The Statistical Office has now the right to communicate directly with all government agencies in matters concerning the conduct of statistical surveys. The classifications used in the matters regarding the conduct of official statistical surveys should be approved by the Government and the authorised processors of databases are required to co-ordinate the structure and definitions of the data and classifications used in databases with the Statistical Office. The approval of the official statistical questionnaires is still done by the Minister of Finance or the President of the Bank of Estonia respectively.
2. There is a clear obligation in the Statistics Act to use data from secondary (i.e. administrative) sources in conducting official statistical surveys, whenever it is possible. However, the interpretation of the Act and technical reasons are still strongly hindering the fulfilment of this obligation. At the moment there are two working groups which try to solve the problems linked to these issues. One working group is jointly with the Estonian National Tax Board, the other one is together with the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Social Affairs.

2. National Statistical System

2.1. Providers of official statistics

As it was stated in the previous chapter the main providers of the official statistics are the Statistical Office of Estonia (SOE) and the Bank of Estonia. SOE is responsible for most part of official statistics. The Bank of Estonia compiles the Balance of Payment. Additionally it is in charge of monetary and financial institutions' statistics.

Other central authorities can also provide official statistics, but their role is quite small, although important in some areas. The Ministry of Finance is partly responsible for the Government Finance Statistics, the Ministry of Agriculture is in charge of certain areas of agricultural statistics and other ministries/public institutions are responsible for areas of respective statistics. The consumer and industry sentiment surveys (which are not part of *Acquis Communautaire* but which are important information for European economic policy) are conducted by the semi-public organisation, namely the Estonian Institute of Economic Research.. The Institute has an important role in provision of short term analysis of the economic situation of Estonia.

2.2. Annual statistical programming

SOE is responsible for preparation the annual list of official statistical surveys. In planning official statistical surveys, the proposals and amendments of ministries, state agencies, county governments, research establishments and other institutions as well as international requirements are taken into consideration. The list of annual official statistical surveys is approved by the Government and the questionnaires used in surveys by the Minister of Finance. The expenses of conducting the surveys have to be prescribed in the state budget. The list of the surveys for the year 2001 included 160 surveys. The 2002 Survey List (including 163 surveys) and questionnaires were approved in November 2001. After the annual Survey List was approved by the Government, all the survey questionnaires were published in web-site of SOE.

SOE has prepared annual work programmes for the years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 in accordance with the accession strategy of Estonia. The annual programmes have set priorities for development of statistics as the target to achieve full compliance of the statistical *Acquis Communautaire*.

For the first time, in 2000 the SOE working group drafted the plan of strategic development of the Statistical Office up to 2005. The plan 2001-2005 was approved and the implementation of the plan started. The plan includes the analysis of the current operational environment, defines the mission and vision of SOE and sets the following strategic goals:

- To provide the society with an opportunity to get an overview of the situation and trends in the country on the basis of official statistics
- To use efficient and scientifically grounded methods in producing official statistics

- To enhance the managing and co-ordinating role of the Statistical Office in advancing Estonian official statistics
- To bring the production of official statistics into compliance with *acquis communautaire* and to consider other international agreements
- To minimise the burden on respondents
- To use the potentialities of modern information technology
- To create efficient organisational structure
- To develop the internal qualities of the Statistical Office
- To use resources more efficiently

The plan consists of a series of various measures which need to be executed in order to achieve the strategic goals. Some of the measures have already been taken into force, the others are under consideration and will be introduced in the later period. Currently the management of SOE considers to take further steps for improvement of internal efficiency by restructuring the organisation into more functional units.

In the Statistical System of Estonia there is no standing Statistical Council which could have an advisory role in setting up of priorities for statistical production. The discussion of the importance of such a council has been going, but no definite decision of setting up a council has been done. SOE has tradition both to have permanent and ad hoc working groups on different statistical areas with main user groups. There are standing working groups on CPI, National Accounts etc. With providers of data no permanent working group exists.

2.3. Co-operation with scientific community

SOE has good relationships with Tallinn Technical University and Tartu University. The universities support SOE by offering scientific advise. With Tartu University there is permanent co-operation on the methodological issues. Some staff members are preparing their diplomas or PhD's by analysing the statistics produced by SOE.

As an example in 2000, the Statistical Office in co-operation with the International and Social Survey Institute of the Tallinn Pedagogical University completed the analytical collection in Estonian "*Täiskasvanud koolipingis*" (adults training) based on the results of the adults' survey. In the same year SOE with the Estonian Institute of Economy of the Tallinn Technical University compiled the social accounts matrix for 1997.

2.4. Dissemination policy and co-operation with users of statistics

Main lines of the SOE dissemination policy are:

- Simultaneous release of statistical information via printed and electronic media to any user;
- Pre-announcing of the release dates;
- Focus on key clients (news media, governmental institutions, enterprises, foreign embassies);
- Special products for target users;
- Higher price for steady market, lower price to sensitive market (prices of publications);

- Attention to corporate image of the products and the office;
- Measurement of performance (news clippings, sales, etc.);
- Development of the Internet services (more information, new services) and other electronic products.

In conformity with these lines SOE has been working during the last years. The annual publication calendar and catalogue are made public well in advance of the next year. The publication calendar is updated every week in the web.

There is a centralised system of publishing of statistical information in SOE. Precise guidelines for making statistical publications have been worked out and implemented. In the centralised Marketing and Dissemination Division the publications are edited, i.e. they are checked whether the style-guide has been followed, the language is corrected, more sophisticated graphs are redesigned, design of the cover is made, etc. Most of the publications are bilingual — in Estonian and English. In 2001, the Marketing and Dissemination Division initiated the project of creation of an electronic tool for compilation of statistical publications (macros and templates).

Since April 1998, the web-site of the Statistical Office has been providing statistical information to the customers. In 2001, the web-site was redesigned and reconstructed in order to provide better services and products to the customers. The web site is bilingual: both in Estonian and English with the exception of statistical questionnaires and classifications. New services like the e-shop of statistical publications, on-line-orders for services and new products like the public statistical database are provided.

Although the electronic dissemination has increased, the printed publications are still a very important dissemination channel for the Statistical Office. Their print runs per capita are remarkable and comparable with the best results of the EU countries. For example, the *Statistical Yearbook of Estonia* has been disseminated ca 14 copies per 10,000 inhabitants.

To attract the public the *Statistical Yearbook of Estonia* was published with the hard cover and in two colours inside in 2000 and 2001. It was sold not only at the Statistical Office, but also in larger bookshops. There were also analytical publications such as “Social Trends“, “Living Conditions“, etc. and pocket-sized reference books such as “Estonia in Figures 2001“, “Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania in Figures 2001“, “*Noored Eestis*. 2001. Young People in Estonia 2001“, “*Naised ja mehed Eestis*. 2001. Women and Men in Estonia 2001“, etc. with interesting content and coloured covers, which sold well. The printed publications with very few exceptions are also available on diskettes.

The Fundamentals of Estonian Information Policy were approved by the Parliament in May 1998. It states that the users of the public information produced by the public sector should reimburse only direct costs of multiplying of the information. The prices of products (books, journals, diskettes, CD-ROMs) of the Statistical Office comprise the printing cost and costs of other types of material (diskettes). The costs are covered in average, i.e. not for each publication.

The Statistical Office follows the pricing policies where

- basic products (press releases, information telephone, web site, including dissemination database, etc.) are free of charge;
- standardised products (publications, foreign trade information, etc) should cover the direct costs and sold for the cost price;
- tailor-made products should cover all additional costs and sold for the price agreed with the client and fixed in the agreement.

The Marketing and Dissemination Division serves the users of the first two product categories while the users of the third product category are mainly served by the subject matter divisions. Mainly direct marketing has been used. The main tool has been the catalogue of statistical publications. For the marketing of the CD-ROM *Statistical Yearbook of Estonia* sale the per telephone was used successfully.

Press conferences are organised every now and then depending on the importance of the topic. SOE has also introduced user seminars, for example, the seminar for the users of the public statistical database. Presentations of new publications are usually organised for media.

In 2001, the Marketing and Dissemination Division implemented two service standards: the information telephone service standard and the statistical library service standard. The aim of those standards is to guarantee better services to the customers. Six new service standards will be introduced during 2002.

SOE is following different indicators of dissemination. Among other indicators the number of titles and publications as well as total print runs are available. In 2001, SOE published 65 titles (by the catalogue of statistical publications). The revenues from publications are about one million EEK (about 64 100 EUR) annually, the printing costs are less than two million EEK.

Number of titles and publications and their total print runs, in 1995-2001

Year	Titles*	Publications**	Total printrun
1995	46	99	34 620
1996	46	117	33 470
1997	52	118	33 140
1998	59	120	38 920
1999	59	117	49 770
2000	58	127	49 770
2001	65	130	57 613

*The number of titles in the annual catalogue of statistical publications.

**The total number of the publications appearing once a year and all numbers of periodicals.

Three public image surveys and one CD-ROM user survey have been conducted. The first public image survey was conducted in 1996. In 2001, the latest one was conducted among the enterprises on the reputation of the Statistical Office. The ratings were rather positive what comes to the reliability of SOE in providing statistical information.

In 1995-96 the clients database was developed. According to SOE it doesn't meet any more the needs of customer relationships and marketing. The project of the common client database of the Statistical Office has been started in the first quarter of 2002 initiated by the Marketing and Dissemination Division. The target will be to register all contacts of the clients (respondents and customers) with all units of the Statistical Office and to create better contacts to the clients.

There were all in all 2121 clients in the clients database on 31.12.2001, of which the share of enterprises (including foundations, professional unions, non-profit associations, etc.) was about 50%.

The process of building-up the statistical information system (SIS see later) is going on in the Statistical Office. After implementation of the common macrodatabase and the metadatabase linked to

it the public statistical database will be created from the common macrodatabase. The number of printed publications will gradually decrease as the electronic publication becomes wider.

The web site of the Statistical Office will be further developed: more information will be included, the intelligent search system will be established, electronic statistical questionnaires will be made available for on-line use. A project of electronic questionnaires has been started by the Marketing and Dissemination Division in co-operation with IT and subject matter specialists.

Main findings:

1. The planning system has been partly revised during the last years. The major changes came from the amendment of the Statistics Act which made it possible for SOE negotiate directly with other authorities what comes to the annual list of official statistical surveys. The elaboration of the strategic plan, which goes beyond the potential EU membership, is also an important benchmark.
2. Although SOE has a lot of contact with different stakeholder groups in the Estonian society, it might be worthwhile considering to have more regular and standing relations with providers of data by setting up a permanent liaison group or groups.
3. SOE has a clear and advanced dissemination policy. It has also systematically worked along the set lines. SOE gets a lot of feedback from customers and improves its performance on the basis of that.
4. The coverage of the users in public sector is quite good. User groups like private enterprises, researchers, etc. are not so well reached. These users may not yet have found the figures of the SOE. The public statistical database available on the web site since April 2001 will change the situation. User training and increase of the statistical literacy may be needed. First steps were taken in 2001 to train users of the public statistical database.
5. The main users are quite satisfied with the performance of SOE. Very professional users complain mostly about the prices of tailor-made products/data files or about the availability of data on new topics like information society. The electronic dissemination seems to be very attractive to professional users.

3. National Statistical institute

3.1. Mission

The mission of the Statistical Office is to provide the society with the objective and relevant official statistics on the economy, population, social field, condition of the environment and the changes in these fields.

3.2. Internal organisation of the National Statistics Office

The internal organisation has remained quite the same during the last years. The organisation is characterised by a great number of small units. There are currently about 40 subject- matter units which form together eight divisions (macro-economic statistics division, population and social statistics division, enterprise statistics division, environment statistics division, price statistics division, development of statistics division, marketing and dissemination division, methodology of statistics division) and three departments (informatics department, the department of finance and administration and the interviewers set department). Every unit is in charge of one statistical domain. In enterprise statistics division a special methodological unit has been established for development of methodological solutions of the whole division.

The big change since 1999 has been the downsizing of regional organisation. Although the downsizing started already some years ago, the final closing took place in 2000. Currently there are two sections outside Tallinn in Viljandi in charge of labour force statistics and regional statistics. Additionally there are 10 supervisors working in the regions assisting and supervising data collection in 15 counties. The interviewers set was established in 1994. Currently the amount of interviewers is 100. They work on hourly basis.

At the top of the organisation there is the Director General. He has been nominated by the Minister of Finance on permanent terms. He is assisted by two Deputy Director Generals. One is in charge of planning, international affairs and EU-integration in particular. The other one assists the Director General in other cross-cutting matters like IT, etc. The management team of SOE includes 17 persons (all heads of divisions, departments and supporting units). The group meets weekly. The meetings are rather informal, although the minutes of decisions are compiled and distributed via the local network.

3.3. Internal monitoring of quality and performance

In January 2001 the Estonian Government adopted a regulation on introduction of performance management as part of its efforts to move to a more results-based system in public administration. Although the institutions are still at the beginning of implementation of performance management system, SOE has introduced some elements based on such a management system. Strong client/customer orientation in developing statistical products was introduced already some years ago. There has been clear prioritisation of certain projects and their outputs (Population Census,

Agricultural Census, improvement of publications, harmonisation of questionnaires etc.). Service standards have been set up. SOE has hired an internal auditor to audit internal processes and financial accountability.

3.4. Finance and budgeting

The operating expenses of SOE were 8,3 MEUR in 2000. In 2001 the figure was about 6.9 MEUR. The corresponding budget was 2,3 MEUR in 1998. The increase has been remarkable due to two censuses conducted in 2000 and 2001. The overall budget for 2002 will be 3,5 MEUR which is considerably higher than the figure for 1998. The share of personnel costs was nearly 70 per cent in 2001, administration costs were 18 per cent, information technology costs were 4,4 per cent and about 10 per cent for works and services purchased by the state.

The dependence on external funding has decreased strongly during the last years. The basic state budget is available and enough to cover regular surveys and statistical production. The financial problems are linked to development of new systems like INTRASTAT, which will require reasonable amount of resources to set up.

The budget of the Statistical Office

Millions EEK	2001	2002
Total budget	107, 231	55, 006
of which: personal	72,017	36,996
Administration expenses	19, 370	12, 678
ordered works and services	11, 590	3, 782

3.5. External accountability

No new developments.

3.6. Staffing, staff recruitment and training

The number of the staff of SOE is 364 (end of 2001). The amount has increased with 50 persons since 1998. Out of the staff there are 334 civil servants. The educational structure is quite high: 277 staff members have higher education of the university level. The age structure of the whole organisation is relatively good. About 20 per cent are in the age group of 21-30 years, about 40 per cent belong to the age group of 31-50 years and the rest are over 50 years. The share of the female staff is high, ranging to 80 per cent of the whole staff.

The turnover of the staff has been quite high during the past five years (7-8 per cent), although declining lately. Young and highly educated staff members have left the office due to better wages and

other benefits. Lack of internal mobility and career prospects may also have had some impact on the staff turnover. The situation has been the worst with IT-staff. SOE has been able to offer somewhat better salaries recently, which has had already certain impact on the turnover.

Year	Number of staff (at the end of the year)
1996	292
1997	293
1998	313
1999	325
2000	336
2001	364

The Estonian government approved the Public Administration Reform Programme in April 2001. The reform programme is devoted to overall development of administration ((i) administrative reform of local governments and regional institutions, (ii) division of labour and co-operation between institutions, (iii) reform of the budgetary process and financial management, and development of internal control, (iv) development of a citizen-orientated public administration, and (v) civil service reform). The programme recognises that efforts are still needed to develop the recruitment and promotion systems, the salary system, and training and appraisal systems. It is expected that this will have impact on the competitiveness of the public sector.

SOE has given high priority for the training of its staff during the last years, although there has not been any specific training policy or programme. The training has been giving mostly in the following forms:

- 1) Courses, seminars and conferences in Estonia on legislation, management issues, languages and IT training, internal auditing, accountancy, etc. The number of the staff attending this kind of training was 136 in 2001.
- 2) Participation in TES and other foreign training courses. Last year 9 persons participated. The number has decreased during a couple of last years. In 1996-1999 there were about 20 Estonian participants annually in TES courses.
- 3) Long term traineeship in Eurostat. Every year 3-5 staff members work as trainees in Eurostat for 5,5 months.

3.7. Information technology

In 2000-2001 SOE succeeded in keeping IT resources at the level needed for statistics production. The two big projects were Population Census and Agricultural Census data processing. For the year 2002 the budget for acquisition of IT equipment and services seems to be also sufficient.

The implementation of IT budget of SOE is co-ordinated with other institutions in the administrative field of the Ministry of Finance. These include the Customs Board, the Tax Board, the Statistical Office and the Competition Board. There is a special Information Technology Committee within the Ministry of Finance for co-ordination.

A few years ago SOE began with development of common databases of a user-oriented Statistical Information System (SIS). There was an obvious need for such databases. Electronic data dissemination without common databases became very difficult and labour consuming. Statistical surveys needed to be documented and stored.

The development was focused on two directions – a metadata system and a macrodatabase. The new system is based on the client-server technology. The tool used is Oracle SQL-server. The metadata system software has been developed. The metadata system consists of three parts - definitions, classifications and descriptions of surveys.

The software for statistical macrodatabase has been created. Testing of the software is going on. Classifications and definitions databases are used when describing data for macrodatabase. The macrodatabase will contain very detailed macrodata, also confidential data. It will cover all produced statistics. It will be the only source for all published statistics. The macrodatabase is meant for internal use exclusively. Public part of macrodatabase will be the basis for dissemination database only on the Internet.

The dissemination database in the Internet was implemented in April 2001. According to the licence agreement between SOE and Statistics Sweden PX-WEB from AXIS family software is used for dissemination of statistics on the Internet. Today the tables for dissemination database are created from Excel tables prepared by subject matter specialists. When the macrodatabase will be ready, the tables for dissemination database will be created from there.

According to the policy of SOE the respondents will be given an opportunity to submit statistical primary data in electronic way. Electronic collection of primary data has the following benefits:

- Completing filling in questionnaires is easier and more convenient;
- Submission of reports improves;
- Quality of submitted data improves;
- Data checking workload decreases and the need for contacting respondents for adjustment decreases;
- Data entry workload in SOE decreases;
- Satisfaction of providers with statistics and reputation of SOE improves.

An electronic questionnaire, based on MS Excel worksheet, has been taken into use in two statistical domains (comprehensive annual enterprise report, and wages and salaries) in 2001. The form (actually an .xls file) has to be downloaded from the web page of SOE, data to be filled in with MS Excel, to be encrypted with standalone file encryption program using a password requested from SOE by phone, and transmitted back to SOE by e-mail. Main disadvantages of such solution are sophistication of data encryption and dissemination of passwords.

There are some problems with in-house software development. So far, co-operation and exchange of knowledge between programmers at SOE has been insufficient, while at the same time much work has been done. Many tasks, for example an integrated archive of electronic primary input data or documentation of developed programmes need to be performed. The whole software development at SOE is quite split between sections.

To enforce the progress of IT and manage software development the post of the IT adviser was established in October 2001. The basic duties of the IT adviser are elaboration of IT strategy plan,

assurance of fulfilment of strategic objectives in IT development projects and improvement of quality of IT development.

The major issues which will be tackled during 2002 are the following:

* IT security policy, used earlier in Population and Agriculture Census information systems, will be adjusted and implemented at the corporate level. The main stress will be put on the documentation of procedures and responsibilities.

* Development of common databases will continue.

* Electronic collection of primary data. Internet web server based electronic collection of primary data system will be created in 2002. Besides the Excel-based electronic questionnaire, the most important advantage of the Internet server based solution are data provider's full overview of different statistical data submitted to the Statistical Office, authentication of the data provider and transfer of the collected data to the databases of sections concerned.

* Development of INTRASTAT. Basic work on developing the IT- system will start with the compilation of a detailed specification of data collection and processing chain in the 1st quarter of 2003. The first version of IT system will be made functional in Q3/2003 and the second version in Q2/2004.

* The strategy plan of IT will be prepared, rules of documentation of a tailor-made software established.

Main findings:

1. The increase of basic funding of SOE and also adequate funds for Census operations have secured quite sustainable development as regards basic infrastructure of SOE. There is still need for development funds like it is in the case of INTRASTAT. The future EU requirements put pressure on funding.
2. The organisation is composed of small units and in that respect it seems quite scattered. The structure might also include some risks what comes to the vulnerability of expertise in certain areas. The target to centralise and build up competence centres can be justified from that angle.
3. The staff situation has improved during the past two years. The turnover is still a problem. Public sector reforms hopefully will have positive impact on that. SOE has been putting a lot of resources to training of the staff. It is always good investment for the future.
4. Although there have been some delays in implementation of SIS, SOE has clear targets in IT development. The execution of two big censuses made it possible for SOE to adopt new technologies and acquire modern equipment.

4. Statistical domains

4.1. Statistical infrastructure

Theme 11: Classifications

From the 1 January 2001 the State Classification Center became part of the Statistical Office. From that SOE is responsible for classifications and co-ordinates using of classifications in Estonia. A classifications section was created in the Statistical Office.

All of the most important international classifications or their national versions are already in use in Estonia. For example NACE Rev.1, CPA, PRODCOM, COFOG, COICOP, ISCED, ISCO, CN etc. In addition to these classifications there are also some local classifications of which the most frequently used one is the Classification of National Administrative Units and Settlements of the Estonian Republic (in Estonian EHAK), established in 1990 and is to be used in all state registers and organisations for registration of territorial locations.

The most important work in 2002 will be the updating of both classifications, NACE Rev.1 and CPA 1996, into national versions. The new versions of classifications NACE Rev.1.1 and CPA 2002 will be translated during this year. After that the new national versions of those classifications will be worked out. The implementation will take place from 1st of January 2003. Publishing of the Estonian versions of the most important international and local classifications in the Internet will be completed. They will be available on the web site of SOE.

The new, 1998 year version of COFOG (Classification of the Functions of Government) will be published. This version will be introduced in 2002.

Theme 24: Registers

In 1994 the group of statistical profile was organised in the Statistical Office of Estonia. The goal of the group is to produce the database – **Business Register** for statistical purposes. In the creation of the database the EU legislation, especially Council Regulation No 2186/93 of 22 July 1993 on Community co-ordination in drawing up business registers for statistical purposes was used.

The information in the database of Statistical Profile is based on the legal registers and includes:

- enterprises and sole proprietors from the Commercial Register;
- non-profit institutions and foundations from the Non-profit institutions and Foundations Register;
- Central Government and Local Government Institutions and their subordinate establishment units from the State Register of Central Government and Local Government Institutions;
- sole proprietors, which are not registered in Commercial Register but are registered in register of taxpayers in Tax Board. About those sole proprietors only available data for the Statistical Office are personal identification number, name and contact address. Unfortunately the other important data (i.e. branch of activity etc.) are not available at current moment and the receiving of those is in the phase of negotiations.

At present time the database of the Statistical Profile includes complete information only for the sole proprietors who are registered in Commercial Register. According to the Commercial Law all sole proprietors whose annual turnover exceeds 250000 EEK are obligated to register in the

Commercial Register. Sole proprietors whose annual turnover is less than 250000 EEK can be registered on their own request or if stipulated in any other law.

The database of Statistical Profile is used for the creation of the sampling frame of business statistics. This frame is called the Statistical Profile (SP). It is compiled in December every year and used for the production of structural business statistics of the same year and short-term statistics of the next year in different branches.

During the year the database of the Statistical Profile is updated with the help of a special statistical register survey for new units and the data from the legal registers. All other data sources, such as statistical surveys, information from Customs Board, Tax Board, annual bookkeeping accounts, newspapers, etc. are also used in updating.

From year 2001 Statistical Office of Estonia has implemented a new questionnaire for updating the database of Statistical Profile – a new unified structural business statistics questionnaire “EKOMAR“. This new questionnaire includes the special sub-questionnaire about contact data, stratification data and demographic events of enterprises. It also contains sub-questionnaire about Local Kind of Activity Units.

Currently the statistical unit in database of SP is Legal Unit as institutional unit (enterprises, non-profit institutions, foundations, state and local government institutions) and a Local Kind of Activity Unit. To compile the Local Units and Kind of Activity Units Statistical Office uses the data of Local Kind of Activity Units the EKOMAR questionnaire is used.

In 2001 the Statistical Office of Estonia conducted a special quality survey for the database of Statistical Profile. 3000 enterprises were surveyed by face-to-face interviewing. The special questionnaire included questions about contact data, activities and size class of enterprises. The quality survey is in the phase of data processing. The final report of the survey is planned to be ready for March 2002.

The sub-project of SIS is the renewal of the information technology of the database of Statistical Profile. With the help of this project the Statistical Office plans to renew the structure of the database of Statistical Profile and to implement the new software – ORACLE. At present time FoxPro is used. The target was to implement the new register at the end of year 2001, but unfortunately this failed, because the subcontractor of the project did not finish the work on deadline. At present time the testing of the system is ongoing.

For the end of 2002, Statistical Office plans to have the new database of Statistical Profile, which is fully in compliance with Council Regulation No 2186/93 of 22 July 1993 on Community co-ordination in drawing up business registers for statistical purposes.

4.2. Demographic and social statistics

Theme 31: Population

Estonia carried out the first population and housing census in re-independent Estonia in 2000 implementing as much as possible the United Nations “Recommendations for the Population and Housing Censuses“ and the statistical principles of the European Union.

A High-level governmental census commission was set up on February 28, 1995. The Census Law was passed on 13 May 1998. Other special legislative acts were prepared and introduced in 1999 and in January 2000.

SOE set as a target to carry out a questionnaire-based traditional census. The questionnaire of Census was worked out according to the Recommendations for the 2000 Censuses of Population and Housing in the ECE Region of United Nations Statistical Commission and Economic Commission for Europe.

The Population Census started on 31 March and lasted till 9 April. During the Census 5,400 enumerators interviewed people all over Estonia. The enumerator visited on average 285 persons. The Census was conducted by 161 census area managers, 1,100 supervisors and 5,400 enumerators. To check the quality of the Census, a post-enumeration sample survey was organised on 14-19 April, which covered 1% of the population.

The data processing started in the middle of May 2000, the scanning and verification process was completed in 4,5 months instead of the planned 7-8 months and the full data processing was finished in first half of 2001.

The Census first final results were published in September 2001. They showed that Estonia's population was around 67 300 lower than according to the prevailing statistics based on the results of 1989 Census. The differences are substantially unequal between regions due to migration. There is a discrepancy between the population figure and population distribution based on Population Census and Population Registration Database data. The annual data-series for the next years cannot be calculated directly on the basis of the Population Registration Database. For the estimation of annual data sets based on either source in future the comparison of these databases and reasonable adjustment is needed. This is not currently possible, partly due to the legislative reasons. More exactly there is a different understanding and interpretation of the existing legislation by some Governmental institutions despite the fact that pursuant to the Official Statistics Act the Statistical Office shall in conducting official statistical surveys primarily use data collected in state and other databases, and data resulting from or collected in the course of the activities of state and local government agencies and other legal persons. The Statistical Office has taken the initiative and started negotiations with parties concerned.

The Census database will be updated from vital statistics and thus provide for a good basis for the longer period. SOE still plans to solve the legal problems linked to the registers with some practical arrangements between the authorities involved. The creation of an interface linking of all state registers which is planned by the Ministry of Transport and Communications should help to solve this problem. The survey of quality of Population Register based on Labour Force survey will be conducted by the Statistical Office in 2002.

One of the tasks of 2002 is to start with the recalculations and adjustments of population figures between the Censuses in 1989-2000 on a level of the whole country and local municipalities. Additionally the publication of the Census results will continue. The core tabulation plan includes 176 tables. It is planned to produce all Census output tables, as well as publications and dissemination of Census results both on paper and through electronic media.

Migration statistics

Migration statistics is based on administrative data sources. On 31 May 2000 the Population Registration Act was passed and it introduced new rules and forms for the registration of the place of residence since 1 January 2001. Introduction of the new rules and forms for the registration of the place of residence was the first stage of the implementation of the Population Registration Act. Registration procedure is now much simplified and the only limit is the owner's agreement for the registration

person's place of residence at his/her dwelling. However, the registration of the place of residence remains still voluntary as the obligation to register is not legalised. The Estonian Population Register was established at the beginning of 2002 as the second stage of the implementation of the Act. Basic sources for the Estonian Population Register were the Population Registration Database, the Register on the citizens entitled to vote and the Register on foreigners entitled to vote.

At present migration is evidently underestimated. There are many reasons why people do not want to register their changes of the place of residence. Despite of the implemented Population Registration Act and efforts made for raising the coverage of migration events in Estonian Population Register, migration still remains underestimated and therefore data on migration flows are not published starting from 2000. The decision on the publication of migration data based on the Population Register will be taken after the survey of quality of the Population Register has been completed. Data on the immigration flows on non-nationals has been planned to derive from the residence permits register maintained by the Citizenship and Migration Board.

Population data by citizenship and country of birth will be derived from 2000 Population Census database and disseminated before the end of 2002. Still, annual data dissemination will not be available before the reliable data could be derived from the register.

For getting data on active migrant stocks (foreign workers and active population by citizenship) two data sources are investigated – Labour Force Survey (LFS) and the database of residence and work permits at the Citizenship and Migration Board. Currently Eurostat is being supplied by data from LFS which do not allow giving detailed statistics to be in compliance with Eurostat requirements.

Starting from 1998 the Citizenship and Migration Board have supplied annual data on the acquisition and the loss of citizenship and on the asylum decisions and applications by citizenship and type. The main discrepancy in the data on migration flows concerns the low coverage of the migration events by the registration system. The Population Registration Act does not eliminate the problem totally, but it gives much flexibility and reduces restrictions in the registration process, in the result of which better coverage of migration events is expected in the future.

The most important activities in 2002 will be the improvement of data sources and processing of data on annual and regional basis. It concerns the reliability of statistical data on internal and international migration and the regional population distribution. Arrangements will also be made to define and improve statistical database on the total population based on different data sources: registration, census and surveys. Methodology and the data collection system for the annual data by citizenship will be developed within the frame of the statistical database of total population for the end of 2003. Data on active population by citizenship and foreign employees are derived from Estonian Labour Force Survey.

By the end of 2002 in close co-operation with Estonian Citizenship and Migration Board the principles of collecting primary data and producing statistics on international migration and foreign workers based on residence and work permits will be drafted.

Theme 32: Labour market

Labour Force Survey

In Estonia the Labour Force Survey (ELFS) was for the first time carried out according to the methodology of the International Labour Office (ILO) in the 1st quarter of 1995 (ELFS 95). In 1997–1999, the labour force survey was conducted in the 2nd quarter of each year. The changes in the methodology of the ELFS 2000 were made to improve the frequency requirement of the survey according to the Article 1 of the Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98. Since 2000 the Estonian Labour Force Survey is a continuous survey providing quarterly and annual results. Multi-annual programme of ad hoc modules (Council Regulation No 1626/2000) is implemented in Estonia since 2001.

The target population of the Labour Force Survey consists of the working-age residents of Estonia (aged 15-74 as of 1 January of the year) regardless of whether living in private or collective households. All population categories and geographic areas are included. The survey is carried out in a sample of persons, information is collected for all individuals of the household according to Article 2, Council Regulation No 577/98.

The annual sample size of the survey is now 8800 households (2200 per quarter). This enables to get quarterly results for regions of Estonia (NUTS3) and annual results for counties (NUTS4). The requirement in the Article 3, Council Regulation No 577/98 for the relative standard error for a group of unemployed people at NUTS2 level is filled.

Since 2000 the rotation scheme for household participation has been applied. Households are rotated according to a 2-2-2 rotation plan. Households are surveyed during two consecutive quarters. After a two-quarter interval they are again surveyed twice in the corresponding quarters of the following year. According to this rotation scheme $\frac{1}{4}$ of the sample is renewed in every quarter.

The reference weeks are spread uniformly throughout the whole year since the year 2000. The interview normally takes place during the week immediately following the reference week. If it is not possible, the interview takes place during the period of five weeks after the reference week.

Information on unemployment is also available from the Labour Market Board, based on self-registration as unemployed job-seekers. The unemployment figure from this source is clearly lower than the ELFS estimate. The main reason of the difference is the lack of special incentive for unemployed job-seekers to register, the poor availability of working places and the low level of unemployment benefits. The Labour Market Board publishes as indicators of registered unemployment the percentage of the registered unemployment from the population between 16 years and pension age and the percentage of the persons receiving unemployment benefit from the population between 16 and pension age. The corresponding figures are 5.3 per cent and 3.1 per cent in 2000. The official unemployment figure coming from the ELFS was 13.7 per cent at the same period.

SOE participated Phare Pilot Project on 'Labour Force Surveys and Labour Cost Indices' for Central and Eastern European Countries ended in 2001. As a result of the pilot project necessary revision in the methodology of the Estonian Labour Force Survey concerning age of respondents will be implemented in 2002. Before 2002 persons aged 15–74 on 1 January of the survey year were interviewed, since 2002 persons aged 15–74 on last day of the reference week will be interviewed. This revision actually affects only persons who got 15 years old between 1 January and reference week. The results will be published quarterly two months after the end of the reference quarter. Data are transmitted to Eurostat quarterly three months after the end of the reference quarter. Estonian Labour Force Survey corresponds now fully with the Council Regulation No 577/98.

Labour cost survey

In 1998 a pilot survey on labour cost for 1997 was carried out. In 1999-2000 the labour cost survey for 2000 was prepared. In 2002 the Labour Cost Survey data for 2000 will be finalised and their transmission 2000 to Eurostat will take place in June. The draft quality report on the 2000 Labour Cost Survey will be ready in June and the final report by the end of 2002.

Structure of earnings survey

At present the Statistical Office has not yet implemented the Structure of Earnings Survey, only the Wages and Salaries by Occupations Survey, carried out once a year about one month in 1992-2001. SOE presents the wages data by major groups of occupations based on ISCO – 88: average gross wages (salaries) of male and female per hour, where hours of work include overtime and holiday working hours. In this survey SOE has measured only direct wages, remuneration to employees for time not worked is excluded. Wages Act Amendment Act was adopted in May 2001 and now the Statistical Office has the right to collect data from enterprises at the individual level which will create prerequisite to conducting the Structure of Earnings Survey according to the Council Regulation No 530/ 1999/EC. During 2001 SOE participated in the Eurostat pilot project on Labour Costs and Earnings Statistics.

It will be necessary to carry out a pilot survey for which Statistical Office needs serious training on preparation of the questionnaire. The main survey is planned to take place in 2006.

Theme 33: Education

Education Statistics

Data on regular education is collected by several annual questionnaires on institutional basis from all licensed education providers giving longer than half-year courses. Data on pre-primary and higher education is collected and processed by SOE, data on general and vocational education by the Ministry of Education (ME). Co-operation between two bodies is continuous and sustainable. The register of educational programmes in the ME contains “keys“ between ISCED (both — 1978 and 1997) and the national education classification, this allows us to provide basic educational data for UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat questionnaires guaranteeing its international comparability.

Still there are some gaps in data — age distribution of graduates and new entrants is missing, so is data on non-pedagogical staff of educational institutions; as to the financial data we are able to provide only the public expenditure figures.

The ME has established the register of students and the register of pupils is under the way. Now the work is taking place to compare the register-based output with institutional data with the aim to exploit in 2004 only registers for compiling the enrolment and graduating figures. The size of questionnaires will then drastically drop.

Vocational training statistics

In 1998 the Adult Training Survey was carried out in co-operation with the Institute of International and Social Studies. The sample size was 4400 persons. The survey contained a number of questions about education, occupation and living conditions of person together with the questions about participation in training and needs for training.

The possibility to join the second common survey CVTS2 (Continuing Vocational Training Survey) in 2000 was the best way to get comparable information of vocational training in Estonia. The survey was carried out according to the international recommendations and based on the common Questionnaire, Survey Guidelines and Methodology during 2000. The response rate of 72 per cent was achieved. The analysis of CVTS2 results still continues.

Theme 36: Distribution of incomes and living conditions

Household Budget Survey

SOE has carried out the Household Budget Survey regularly since July 1995. In 1999 the survey was redesigned with assistance of the World Bank and since 2000 the revised survey has been implemented. The methodology of the Household Budget Survey corresponds with the Eurostat recommendations. Currently the HBS is continuous.

The results of the HBS are published mainly on the NUTS2 level (total Estonia), some indicators are available also on NUTS3 (regions of Estonia) and NUTS4 (counties of Estonia). Since 2000 the rotation scheme has been applied. Households are questioned once in a month. After a year interval half of them are questioned again. According to this rotation scheme 1/2 of the sample is renewed every year. The results are published quarterly two months after the end of the reference quarter.

The sample size for the whole year is about 10163 households and the response rate of the survey is on the household level 83 % and on the diary level 63%. The underreporting in expenditure of certain products is the problem.

Time Use Survey

SOE has participated in an internationally harmonised Time Use Survey.

The Estonian Time Use Survey fieldwork lasted from 1 April 1999 to 1 April 2000. The main results were published in 2001: "Time Use Survey. Methodological Overview" and Time Use 1999-2000.

Development of a system of satellite accounting for the unpaid work by the households is under way. It will exploit the data from the Time Use Survey.

General Living Conditions Statistics

Since 1999 population and social statistics have been moving towards a more unified system – a process that will involve the establishment of an integrated system of statistical surveys. The integrated system will include the following surveys: the Household Budget Survey, the Labour Force Survey, the Time Use Survey, the Survey Adult Education and the Social Survey (similar for ECHP and EU-SILC). The system will be developed as a set of modules based on Labour Force Survey and the Social Survey to which other surveys will be '*linked*' by similar questions, definitions and classifications.

SOE has started to prepare the tools for ESS (Estonian Social Survey – one part of it covers EU-SILC variables). A pilot survey in 2002 is planned. The main survey will be conducted in 2003.

Theme 37: Social protection

SOE receives data from 11 institutions. Statistics on unemployment and social benefits and services are based on information delivered by the respective institutions. On the substance, the system includes the same components as the ESSPROS but social protection expenditure is classified by type, not by functions. In 2002 SOE will continue reclassification of the components of the Estonian system according to ESSPROS. Special attention will be paid to benefits in kind and expenditure on health.

4.3. Macro-economic statistics

Theme 40: Annual Economic Accounts

The Estonian economy is still partly an economy in transition which is characterised by its wide opening to international trade :

- a large part of goods imports and exports come from international fashioning
- high foreign investment flows (the highest proportion on GDP in Phare countries).

No doubt the Estonian national accounts compilation system meets in general the requirements of the respective *Acquis*. In terms of valuation, concepts & definitions the system is close to compliance. A lot of development has taken place during the past two years. Still, there are flows and stocks whose recording needs improvements.

While the firms and companies are scrutinised by a network of statistical surveys, the activities of small firms and of sole entrepreneurs are only indirectly measured through households surveys. SOE is going to apply the method using labour force data to compile the figures of household sector. The pilot study on the use of employment and productivity data in the calculation of the households' sector was carried out in 2001

The valuation of certain transactions is a problem. Most of the transactions of General Government (GG) are still on cash basis. In the course of the Eurostat project on GG deficit and debt the accrual recording have been studied (e.g. time adjustments). Experience has shown that there are no major differences between the cash and accrual values of GG transactions. As for the government accounts, employers' social contributions are transferred to accruals.

SOE publishes general government accounts in the framework of national accounts which in general is in conformity with ESA95. By now SOE has published only non-financial accounts, including the capital account. GG reporting data are calculated but not published by following sub-sectors: central government, social security funds (incl. state and municipal health-care institutions), local government. The main problems come from the accounting system. The budgetary reports are based on a national classification of receipts and outlays confirmed by the Ministry of Finance. For estimating NA figures the budgetary data are checked to meet the ESA95 requirements and transferred from the public accounts data into national accounts terms. The reported expenditure data are too aggregated as well in state budget as in local budgets which complicates calculations. Annual reports of local governments incl. balance sheets were last time compiled in 1997, since that time only the current reports are available, but these reports do not contain data by kind of activity. Also the operating costs data both of the foundations (established by state) and of public legal persons are too aggregated. For this reason SOE has tried to get more detailed data and background information from the MoF.

The aim is to compile the general government accounts for 2000 including financial accounts of general government and publish them in the annual publication "National Accounts of Estonia 2000". One of the main targets is to improve accrual accounting principles.

The output of the owner-occupied dwellings is still not based on actual rents as it is required by ESA 95. Some problems incur also concerning the components of consumption of fixed capital (e.g. not properly estimated capital stock, under-coverage of assets, calculations does not follow the recommended PIM-method).

There are some minor shortcomings concerning the treatment of income in kind (e.g. loans with lower interest rate to employees, use of uniforms for own purposes (in the army) etc.) although they have negligible effect on GDP level. Taxes on production and imports and subsidies do not meet all the requirements of *Acquis*.

A statistical discrepancy between the approaches of GDP exists and results from confronting the expense approach and the production approach used as reference. Even if there could be other

solutions, some suspicion in SOE about the data accuracy on households expenses (and incomes) and foreign trade in services drove to put an adjustment in the expense side. The final solution could be brought in with the complete implementation of ESA 95.

The preliminary accounts with the fourth quarter accounts are published 90 days after the that quarter. The final version is available a year later with seemingly only light revisions.

In 2002 the emphasis will be put on the improvement of the coverage of production activities. To measure properly the underreporting of output, the ways to tackle this issue will be studied. For household activities, there is need to implement a proper method using employment and productivity data. During 2002 this kind of method is planned to elaborate for implementation. In order to estimate the output, IC (intermediate consumption) and VA (value added) of household sector, the labour cost index will be introduced which will be used for calculations through extrapolating the relevant benchmark data.

Supply and use tables

The first supply and use tables are in place for 1997 but not yet integrated with the rest of the accounts and with the regular compilation practices of NA. First provisions have been made to compile the symmetric input-output tables. The supply-use and the input-output tables can represent only an historical picture without having any operational benefits as they are supposed to be, for the future compilation of the national accounts. SOE intends to decrease the timeliness so that the S&U data becomes usable in current work. Even if SOE would not decrease the timeliness of S&U, the structures and ratios from S&U could still be usable in everyday compilation process.

Following plans have been approved:

- The strategy is consequently to compile yearly S&U tables and I&O table every 5 year. A reorganising plan of the National Accounts division set up an unit of structural accounts (S-U and I-O tables).
- The next operation is the intermediate consumption compilation detailed by CPA product and the supply-use table elaboration. All this is based on 1997 costs survey results, whose rate of response as relatively low (47 %).
- From 2000 on, detailed data input will be obtained from integral surveys every three years for most industries (such as mining, manufacturing industries, electricity, gas and water supply, transport and communication, real estate, renting, business and other service activities) and every five years for wholesale and retail trade, hotels and restaurants.

Balance sheet accounts (incl. capital stocks)

Currently the balance sheet is not included to the national accounts (NA). Capital Stock (CS) is estimated for the non-financial and financial corporations and for the general government institutions since 1993, but these estimates not have been published yet. National account includes consumption of fixed capital (CFC) estimates. Inventories are estimated according to the requirements using IMF methodology.

The most problematic institutional sector is household sector for which very few data sources are available. Therefore more research work on possible information is planned.

Theme 41: Quarterly economic accounts

Based on the full range of monthly and quarterly data on households, enterprises, general government and external trade, the quarterly national accounts are produced roughly on the same way as the annual.

SOE has made recently some nice improvements in the calculation and the publication of Quarterly economic accounts and is amongst some few Phare countries, producing time-series with seasonal adjustment, which is greatly beneficial to users and economists. Data are provided to Eurostat within 90 days.

The flash estimate methodology was elaborated with the significant input from university scientists and experts. It is based on the use of monthly VAT statistics and gives seemingly good results. It is published after 65 days after the reference period.

	2000 Q2	2000 Q3	2000 Q4	2001 Q1	2001 Q2	2001 Q3
Flash estimates of GDP	7,5	6,9	5,9	5,1	5,2	4,9
GDP quarterly accounts	7,8	7,3	6,0	5,8	5,0	5,0

Some data are still missing. For example, it concerns data on actual individual consumption at constant prices.

Concerning the seasonal adjustment procedure, no corrections are made to take account of the number of working days.

Theme 42: Financial accounts

SOE has not published financial accounts yet but plans to do it in the near future (May – June 2002) together with non-financial accounts in the annual publication “National Accounts of Estonia 2000“. So far financial accounts for 1996, 1997 and 1999 have been compiled. The 1999 data were transmitted to Eurostat by the end of December 2001. The financial accounts for 1999 comply with main ESA95 requirements, they are balanced and coherent as well to capital account results and the balance of payments.

There are mainly two kinds of problems connected with the compiling of financial accounts. Methodological problems come from insufficient knowledge. The other group of problems concerns data sources. In some cases the determination of institutional sectors and sub-sectors does not meet international standards and differs by institutions (Statistical Office, Bank of Estonia, Ministry of Finance). The current situation has made impossible to meet all criteria. So the financial auxiliaries are added to sub-sector of other financial intermediaries and NPISH (non-profit institutions serving households) are added to household sector. Coming from the financial accounts compiling requirements it is necessary to complement or to change the amount and content of collected data. The most essential data problems concern unquoted shares and their revaluation. The figures of the Estonian Central Depository for Securities do not correspond completely to ESA95 sectorization principles either but still allow straightforward classification of investors and securities issuers. Also the balance sheets' data of governmental institutions and insurance sector are too aggregated. For getting better data it is necessary to change the reporting forms.

In co-operation with the Bank of Estonia and Ministry of Finance SOE plans to improve data sources, classifications etc. Because financial accounts have direct link to the Government Deficit and Debt statistics (EDP) SOE intends to improve statistics and reduce discrepancies in that field.

The aim is to compile the financial accounts for 2000 and publish it in the annual publication “National Accounts of Estonia 2000“. One of the main targets is to have improved data sources and close co-operation with other institutions for compiling financial accounts. During 2002 systematic compilation process of financial accounts will be built up.

Theme: 43 Monitoring own resources

The transition from GDP to GNI (Gross National Income) meets the requirements of *Acquis*. It is calculated by adding to GDP the compensation of employees (R 10) and the property and entrepreneurial income (R 40) received from the rest of the world less the corresponding flows paid to the rest of the world.

The VAT base and the VAT own resources (OR) issue were for first time presented by Eurostat to the representatives of candidate countries in the end of 2001. DG budget will launch a simulation exercise of compilation of the VAT base statement in spring this year. The first results are supposed to be available in autumn 2002.

Since the MoF is responsible of reporting on VAT OR, MoF will guide the whole process of elaboration of the OR in Estonia. During 2002, the task force on OR will fix the division of work between SOE and MoF in terms of the VAT OR. The provisional agreement has been made that SOE will calculate the weighted average rate of VAT and MoF will do the rest (calculation of harmonised receipts of VAT and calculation of compensations to the intermediate VAT base).

Theme 55: Prices

Harmonised consumer price index

Since 1 January 1997 Statistical Office of Estonia has been forwarding monthly data on HICP to Eurostat. Interpretation and application of the regulation however raises some problems. The more problematical areas are adding of foreign visitors' expenditures in Estonia, rents, package holidays and social protection. For solving the problems co-operation continues with the Estonian Tourist Agency, housing organisations and other experts.

Purchasing Power Parities for GDP

Estonia took part in the European Comparison Programme in 1993 and 1996. From 1999 the "rolling benchmark approach" is applied also in Estonia and price collections of 2001 were done. At present there is going on working out and preparing the item list for ECP'02-I.

The producer price index of industrial output

Until December 2001 Statistical Office of Estonia calculated total output price index. Calculation separately output price index for domestic market and output price index for export market will be introduced from January 2002. Volumes of output for domestic and export market according to PRODCOM were available for 2000. Since January 2002 the average prices of December 2001 are used as base prices and the volumes of industrial output by products are used as weights. From 2002 the weights are changed annually and chained index is used. Additional enterprises and items will be added.

Construction price index

Since 1998 the construction price index is introduced on base 1997=100. The repair index is calculated from the same time. Since 2002 the construction price index will be introduced on base 2000=100. In 2002 the construction price index 2000 = 100 will be finalised.

Export price index

The price data are collected directly from major exporters. The index is a Laspeyres type index. According to the relevant Council Regulation the Statistical Office of Estonia must calculate export price index at least at 2-digit level of NACE Rev.1. For this calculation SOE needs value of export according NACE Rev.1. During 2002 The calculations are done using value of export according to NACE Rev.1 and additional enterprises and items will be added.

Import price index

Since 1998 the Statistical Office of Estonia publishes import price index on the basis of December 1997=100. The import price index expresses development in the c.i.f. prices of goods. The weight structure of the import price index is based on the value of import of the previous year according to the adjusted customs statistics. The base prices for calculating the index are the prices of December of the previous year.

Statistical Office of Estonia must calculate import price index at least at 2-digit level of NACE Rev.1. The calculations are done using value of import according to NACE Rev.1 in 2002. Additional enterprises and items will be added.

4.4. Business statistics

Structural Business Statistics

Since 2001 the new annual questionnaire EKOMAR (in English it means A Comprehensive Annual Enterprise Report) was introduced. The data of the year 2000 were collected according to this questionnaire. The questionnaire was worked out by the working group of statisticians from different statistical domains of SOE. EKOMAR is a common annual questionnaire, which joins the previous different annual questionnaires: one for financial data, the other for investments and the third for branch statistics data.

In fact EKOMAR is a questionnaire system consists of 31 different questionnaires (different coloured) adapted to the enterprises taking in account the economic activity and size class of enterprise by the number of employees.

EKOMAR consists of sub-questionnaires, so called modules. The modules similar for all enterprises are general data, questionnaire about fixed assets (changes in year and breakdown of tangible assets), balance sheet total, export – import and questionnaire about local KAUs. Five modules — labour force, income statement, breakdown of turnover, breakdown of expenses on materials, products and services, investments — are different for economic activities and also different for smaller and bigger enterprises. There are some specific modules for certain kind of activity as breakdown of expenses of energy products for only manufacturing and construction or sales space and number of fixed market stands for retail trade enterprises etc. The more detailed surveys are planned to be carried out multi-

annually in different years with purpose to reduce the response burden of enterprises. For the first year (2000) there were all detailed surveys.

The modules of the questionnaire are:

	<i>Module</i>		Similar/different	Number of modules/sub-modules
1.	A.	General data, contact data	SIMILAR for all enterprises and branches of activities	1
2.	B.	Labour force	DIFFERENT: industry, construction, other	3
3.	C.	Expenses, revenues and profit (income statement)	DIFFERENT: industry, construction, other	3
4.	D.	Breakdown of turnover	DIFFERENT	12
5.	E.	Breakdown of expenses on materials, products and services	DIFFERENT	16
6.	F.	Breakdown of expenses of energy products	SIMILAR industry and construction only	1
7.	G.	Investments	DIFFERENT: transport, other small, other big enterprises	3
8.	H.	Fixed assets	SIMILAR	1
9.	I.	Assets, liabilities, equity (balance sheet)	SIMILAR	1
10.	J.	Export-import	SIMILAR	1
11.	K.	Establishment or local KAU	SIMILAR	1
Industry specific modules				
12.	L.	Sales space and number of fixed market stands and/or stalls	SIMILAR	1
13.	M.	Turnover by customer type (% , NACE 51)	SIMILAR	1
14.	N.	Purchases by type of supplier (% , NACE 52)	SIMILAR	1
15.	O.	Construction activities in Estonia by construction enterprises' own staff (by construction type, NACE F)	SIMILAR	1
16.	P.	Construction activities in Estonia by construction enterprises' own staff (by Estonian counties, NACE F)	SIMILAR	1
17.	R.	Breakdown of turnover from services by clients	SIMILAR	1

The EKOMAR is also available through INTERNET for looking at. The electronic questionnaire in EXCEL 97 format has been worked out. The electronic questionnaire includes the logical controls, which help to point out the possible mistakes by the enterprises themselves. For filling in the questionnaire the enterprises have to download the electronic form from the web-site of Statistical Office to their computer and fill it in there. Enterprises can send it back by mail, by fax or electronically — by e-mail. Via e-mail 470 questionnaires (it is 4,9 per cent of respondents) were returned. The deadline for submitting the questionnaires by enterprises was 1st of July 2001. In time only 31per cent of questionnaires were returned. After the sending of follow-up letters and the regular connection with enterprises, SOE received 84,2 per cent of the questionnaires.

Public enterprises and private enterprises with more than 19 employees are surveyed totally. For smaller enterprises sample survey is used. Approximately 12 000 (11,953) enterprises are included in the survey which corresponds 37 per cent of the sample in population. The sampling frame for 2000 was 32 300 (32,393) active enterprises. Due to the small size of the country too detailed NACE groupings is a problem. At the current year the sample was made at 3-digit level. It was decided to go to 4-digit level during the data processing by post-stratification of data.

The survey EKOMAR covers the biggest part of enterprises of the structural business statistics. The summary data of sole proprietors by their declarations are received from Tax Board. In year 1999 there were approximately 20 thousand active sole proprietors in Estonia. But the share of sole proprietors in the gross revenue of entrepreneurship was only 0,7%. It is a big problem that the Tax Board does not enter (to the computers) the kind of activity of sole proprietors. As it has been stated earlier, the negotiations with Tax Board are taking place and there is the possibility that in future the code will be added.

In 2002 the following developments are planned:

1. Implementation of the SBS Quality Regulation.
2. Carrying out multi-yearly survey about purchases of energy products for 2001.
3. Implementation of annual KAU statistics.
4. The use of administrative data for production of annual enterprise statistics.
5. Implementation of variables 18 11 0 (turnover from the principal activity at the NACE Rev. 1 4-digit level) and 11 21 0 (number of local units).

Industrial production statistics (incl. PRODCOM)

In year 1999 a special working group was organised that started work on the basis of PRODCOM list 1998, adding PRODCOM Energy. In 1999 the provisional PRODCOM list was published and the discussions arose about the problems on adaptation of classification to the internal needs in co-operation with producers' organisations of industrial production.

In April 2000 SOE started to work out questionnaires based on the PRODCOM list for enterprises. The questionnaires were prepared together with main industrial enterprises and industrial branch unions. The data for year 2000 were collected in 2001 by a questionnaire based on the PRODCOM List. The PRODCOM list in Estonian and also questionnaires for respondents and other users are available on the web site of the Statistical Office of Estonia.

In 2002 SOE tries to improve the timeliness and quality of data.

Short term business statistics

From the beginning of year 2001 the short-term statistics data are collected with new questionnaires. These questionnaires are worked out according to the requirements of the Council Regulation No 1165/98 on Short Term Statistics.

The draft questionnaires have been sent together with EKOMAR (structural business statistics) questionnaires to enterprises and users for comments.

In EKOMAR there are 31 different questionnaires. In short-term statistics, there are 10 quarterly questionnaires by branches:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. Industry | NACE C-E |
| 2. Construction | NACE F |
| 3. Sales | NACE 50 Sales, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles, |
| retail sale of automotive fuel | |
| 4. Wholesale trade | NACE 51 |
| 5. Retail Trade | NACE 52 |
| 6. Accommodation | NACE 551+552 |
| 7. Catering | NACE 553+554+555 |
| 8. Tourism | NACE 633 |
| 9. Transport | NACE 60-62 |
| 10. Services | NACE 63-93 |

Statistical unit is an enterprise as a legal unit (NACE rev.1 section C-E, F, G, H, I, K, M, N, O). The population of enterprises is the statistical profile based on the data from the legal Commercial Register in Ministry of Justice. Enterprises

with 20 and more persons employed are completely surveyed (in industry enterprises with 50 and more persons employed are completely surveyed). Small enterprises (0-19) (in industry 0-49), stratified by activity and size of enterprise, are sampled. The results of the sample survey are calculated to the whole population. When possible, the non-response is replaced with the data of a previous period. If there is no information, then the data are replaced with the average of the stratum.

Quarterly are surveyed enterprises, which principle branch of activity by NACE Rev. 1 is:

- == industry (sections C-E),
- == construction (section F),
- == wholesale and retail trade or repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and personal and household goods (section G),
- == accommodation or catering (section H),
- == transport, storage and communication (section I),
- == real estate, renting and business activities (section K),
- == education (section M),
- == health and social work (section N),
- == other community, social and personal service activities (section O).

New questionnaire joins the previous different quarterly questionnaires, which were separately for financial data, for investments data and for branch statistics data. The number of variables were diminished, specially number of financial variables.

The **monthly INDUSTRIAL survey** on year 2002 covers all enterprises with 50 or more persons employed and the smaller ones if their turnover in 2000 exceeded 15 million EEK in sections C and D according to NACE Rev.1 and all electricity and heat producers in section E. This results in a total population of 889 enterprises, covering together about 85% of industrial output.

Now about **monthly survey of DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE** (section G).

Monthly are surveyed enterprises, which principle branch of activity by NACE Rev.1 is - sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles and retail sale of automotive fuel (Division 50) or retail trade (Division 52).

With monthly questionnaire **net turnover** and **retail sales** are collected.

Seasonal Adjustment has been introduced for most of required variables and branches. At the moment the preliminary results are available and the methodology needs some checking.

Theme 48: Transport statistics

Statistical Office of Estonia (SOE) has taken several steps towards the compliance with EU requirements on transport statistics during years 1999-2001.

Road freight transport

At present SOE conducts **two different surveys on road freight transport**. One is based on Vehicle Register (the **vehicles survey**) and the other is based on Statistical Profile - the database of active enterprises (the **road transport enterprises survey**). There used to be two registers: Vehicle Register and Tractor Register, but they have been united and there is one register now.

As for now, the data of national and international transport are coded by NUTS classification according to the Commission Regulation (EC) No 2691/1999 of 17 December 1999 on rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 1172/98 on statistical returns. The data collection in transport of goods by road is completely in accordance with the regulation.

Rail freight transport

Since 1993 SOE has surveyed all rail transport enterprises. The survey is based on the Statistical Profile – the database of active units. The statistical unit is enterprise as legal unit, which principal activity, by NACE Rev.1, is rail transport. The sample size is 10 and all 10 enterprises are totally surveyed. In Estonia one enterprise operates on the main railway networks open to public traffic. Data are collected monthly, quarterly and annually. Monthly surveyed variables are carriage of goods in tonnes and freight turnover in tonne-kilometres. In addition goods according to the NST/R groups (1968 edition) are collected quarterly and annually.

From the year 2001 the questionnaires were modified according to the Council Directive No 80/1177/EEC of 4 December 1980 on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods by rail, as part of regional statistics and regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on rail transport statistics (COM(2000) 789 final, 12.02.2001).

At the moment the data about carriage of goods, which have to be collected from the main railway networks, are fully in compliance with respective acquis.

Maritime transport

At present time SOE conducts two surveys on maritime transport. The data are collected from ports (the **ports survey**) and from enterprises, which principal activity is sea transport (the **sea transport enterprises survey**).

The data are not fully in compliance with the Council Directive 95/64/EC of 8 December 1995 on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods and passenger by sea. The following data and breakdowns are missing: type of cargo, the port of loading and the port of unloading (according to the port list and coastal areas shown in the directive); number of mobile (ro-ro) units with cargo and without cargo and the size of vessels. The data about the country or the territory of registration of vessels are available, but not according to the nomenclature of the directive.

Since 2001 SOE has been participating in the Pilot Project on maritime transport. The greatest problem of maritime statistics appears to be the lack of information on the port of the loading/unloading of goods, as if the majority of ports have information on the port of departure/ destination of vessel. SOE has asked port authorities to comment on the variables provided in Council Directive 95/64/EC of 8 December 1995 on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods and passenger by sea.

Air transport

Since 2001 SOE has been participating in the Pilot Project of aviation transport. During the project an expert mission has been carried out. With the help of expert, SOE investigated in-depth the situation in aviation statistics, which appeared to be quite satisfying. One workshop on aviation statistics has taken place in the framework of the project in January 2002, where SOE participated as well.

All the necessary variables according to the Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) on statistical returns in respect of carriage of passengers, freight and mail by air (95/C 325/08) are available in airport database (there is only one statistically relevant airport in Estonia – Tallinn Airport), but the data might not be in appropriate format. According to the plans of SOE, starting from the end of April 2002, Tallinn airport will transmit their single data in Excel format to SOE, where the data will be coded in order to submit it to Eurostat.

Passenger transport

Data on passenger transport are collected with the surveys for different means of transport (such as road-, rail-, sea-, air transport). The statistical unit is enterprise as legal unit, which principle activity is determined according to the NACE Rev.1. All variables of passenger transport, required by Council Directive 95/64/EC of 8 December 1995 on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods and passenger by sea and Commission Decision of 13 May 1998 and the Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) on statistical returns in respect of carriage of passengers, freight and mail by air (95/C 325/08), are available.

Road accidents

The data about road accidents are collected and statistics are produced by Traffic Security Department of Estonian National Road Administration. This administration is also responsible for the creation of the database on road accidents. The database was created on the assumption of the Council Decision No 93/704/CE of 30 December 1993 on the creation of a Community database on road accidents. The Statistical Office gets data from there on monthly basis. Main variables are the number of accidents total and by counties, the number of killed and injured persons total and by counties, the number of accidents caused by drunken drivers total and by counties.

Theme 50: Tourism

Accommodation statistics

The statistical unit is the enterprise as a legal unit. The main activity according to NACE Rev.1 is hotels (551) or camping sites and other short-stay accommodation units (552). In addition data are also collected from enterprises with accommodation services as a secondary activity.

Main variables by monthly are number of rooms and number of beds; occupancy rate of rooms and beds; number of tourists by country of residence and number of nights spent by country of residence; number of nights spent by purpose of travel. Annually variables are type of accommodation establishment; services offered at accommodation establishment; number of rooms and beds (floor area, all-the-year-round used, seasonally used). Monthly and annually data according to the EU directive can be submitted on the basis of this statistics. Only the variable “use of bed-place-gross“ is not calculated monthly at the moment. But this is calculated annually.

Tourism Demand Survey

The survey is included in Labour Force Survey and produced by Statistical Office of Estonia. The residents of Estonia between the ages of 15- 74 years are included. It is a quarterly survey and the sample size is about 4,000 persons half annually.

Main variables are purpose of trip, country of destination, number of nights spent, type of transport used (by air, by water, by railway, by bus, by car, other), travels costs by types (accommodation and eating, transportation, shopping, entertainment, other costs).

This survey is according to EU regulation.

Theme 52: Money and Finance

Statistics on public deficit and debt

SOE has participated in the pilot project since 1997. There have been discussions many important topics like delineation of GG sector, comparison of GFS and ESA95 based statistics, privatisation, accruals, treatment of certain type of transactions etc. As a result of discussions the quality of notification has been improved every time. SOE has sent several times the debt and deficit notification to Eurostat. The level of last notifications (the last one in March 2001) was quite good (mainly in compliance with ESA95) compared to the earlier ones, thanks to the help of European experts and improved co-operation between the Ministry of Finance and SOE.

The main constraints are connected with the availability of data available. SOE has not enough data to complete implementation of EDP. Actually most of the information comes from the MoF and the only tool to solve that problem is a closer co-operation. The weakest point is the calculation of local governments' domestic debt.

Using the guidelines SOE is planning to develop ESA95 based deficit and debt statistics. As a result of closer co-operation with the Bank of Estonia in the field of financial accounts there have been already some discussions with the MoF to adjust (improve) local government debt figures on the basis of financial accounts by using counterpart sector information.

The aim is to have comparable general government deficit and debt statistics without big inconsistencies from ESA95. One of the main targets is also to improve the co-operation with the MoF which is the main assumption for the compilation of high level government deficit and debt notification. The other task concerns accordance with financial accounts and capital account results: the discrepancies between these accounts should be reduced to minimum.

Theme 53: Trade in goods

Trade in goods between member states

The full compliance with the EU requirements is not possible before accession to EU. SOE is in the position that if all necessary preconditions for introduction of INTRASTAT are set up starting from the year 2002, it will be possible to start INTRASTAT system from 1st January 2004.

SOE is currently not ready to run INTRASTAT system. There is lack of necessary staff (at the moment only 5 persons are dealing with foreign trade statistics), hardware supply is not sufficient, the FoxPro based software elaborated in SOE is not compatible with INTRASTAT requirements and INTRASTAT methodology fitting with Estonian conditions is not defined.

In spring 2002 the implementation of the INTRASTAT system will be started, a plan of action has been drawn up. The implementation of the INTRASTAT system would be financed from Phare National resources, own resources and the Phare Multi-Country Programme. A substantial amount of financing is foreseen from Phare National funds. The successful implementation of the INTRASTAT system will greatly depend on this funding. In the framework of the pilot projects it is planned in 2002 to lay down a detailed timetable for the overall INTRASTAT preparatory and implementation work.

It is also planned to start creation of the environment for data collection and processing. The first phase of development of software is to develop detailed specification of requirements, design of database and prototype of user interface of the INTRASTAT information system.

Trade in goods with third countries

In 1999-2000 SOE reconciled methodology used with EU regulations as much as possible. In 2002 SOE will pay more attention to the data quality and presentation foreign trade data in the Internet.

4.6. Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics

Up until 2002, agricultural statistical data were collected from the agricultural holdings, which holders are legal persons (agricultural enterprises) or natural persons (farms) by sampling method at present, while bigger holdings are surveyed totally. The frame of sample of agricultural enterprises is a list of enterprises (Statistical Profile), of the farms — the list of farms (Farm Register). The Farm Register contains over 61 000 holdings with agricultural land over 1 ha at present.

Theme 62: Agricultural structures

The first complete statistical data on the structure of agricultural holdings were received by Agricultural Census (Census) which was conducted in Estonia from 15th to 29th of July 2001. The units of enumeration were agricultural holdings and household plots. Three questionnaires were used – agricultural holding questionnaire, forest questionnaire and agricultural household plot questionnaire. Agricultural holding questionnaire was harmonised with EU legal acts, forestry and household plot questionnaires were used for national purposes. The Census was conducted through interviews by enumerators (2306), supervisors of enumerators (480) and heads and deputy heads of the Census districts (85) were involved as well. The post-enumeration sample survey was conducted from 30th of July to 13th of August 2001 to evaluate the quality of collected data. Data processing will continue in 2002 and 2003. Post enumeration sample survey data will be processed in 2002.

The preliminary Census results were published in November 2001. General data, data on land use and number of animals will be published in June 2002. Data on machines, equipment, storage facilities and animal husbandry facilities will be published in December 2002. Data on labour force, incomes, forestry and fishery will be published in 2003.

The Agricultural Census 2001 data will be used for updating the Statistical Farm Register, which will be the frame for the Farm Structure Survey 2003. The system for regular updating of Statistical Farm Register has to be improved.

The Statistical Farm Register between Censuses will be updated with the data from Land Register of State Land Board, with the administrative data of IACS, with the data from Statistical Profile and with the data of statistical surveys. For improving the system of updating the good co-operation between Statistical Office, Ministry of Agriculture and other authorities is important.

Theme 63: Agricultural incomes and prices

Economic accounts for agriculture on the basis of Eurostat methodology (EAA 97) are compiled (in co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture). Data are transmitted to Eurostat regularly. Economical data of the agricultural households are estimated and together with adjusted macroeconomic data of the agricultural holdings are used for compilation of GDP (ESA 95).

More efforts will be put to improve the method of calculation of consumption of the fixed capital (in co-operation with Ministry of Agriculture) and to start the compilation of economic accounts for forestry in accordance with Eurostat requirements (EAF-97) (in co-operation with Ministry of Environment).

Theme 64: Agricultural production

The annual data on the use of the arable land and land under permanent crops, production and harvested area by the kind of crop using the characteristics and definitions, harmonised with the EU legislation, are gathered and data are regularly transmitted to Eurostat. The data on the number of animals by the characteristics and definitions, harmonised with the EU legislation, are gathered and transmitted regularly to Eurostat.

The quarterly and annual data about slaughtering by total survey of slaughterhouses and sample survey of agricultural enterprises and holdings, quarterly and annual data on the production of milk by sample survey and of the purchase of the milk, fat and protein contents by total survey of dairies, quarterly and annual data on the production of eggs by sample survey, using the harmonised with the EU legislation characteristics and definitions are gathered and transmitted to Eurostat on the regular basis.

Theme 69: Fishery statistics

For the production of fishery statistics the administrative data – the data sets of Sea Inspection and Ministry of Environment - are used.

The list of all Estonian fishing vessels above 12 meters was prepared in 1999 including majority of data required by Council Regulation N^o 2090/98. However, some measurements have to be carried out to follow the requirements of the regulation.

The Phare project was launched in 1999 to assist the applicant countries in the creation of Fishing Vessel Register including also development of the software for the register.

There are deficiencies of data required by regulation concerning the fishing vessels smaller than 12 meters, as the regulation is not adopted yet.

For the production of catch statistics the administrative data – the data sets of Environmental Inspectorate and Ministry of Environment - are used. The Estonian Environmental Inspectorate is gathering monthly data on the fish catches by fishing regions and species. Information is collected from the vessels fishing in the Baltic Sea and in the Northwest Atlantic area regulated by NAFO.

The common database does not include the catch from coastal fisheries due to deficiency of Estonian legislative basis.

4.7. Multi-domain statistics

Theme 71: Environment statistics

Environment statistics is derived from official statistical surveys which basis is formed by the list of surveys approved by the Government of the Republic. For a number of official statistical surveys the data are used which are collected and processed by other institutions than by SOE

SOE is analysing and adding value by validation to the data, publishing the environmental statistics collected from different institutions and carrying out surveys on areas where data are needed but any systematic data are not available elsewhere - the environmental protection expenditure in enterprises and by public administrations, on use of hazardous to the environment chemicals - selected heavy metal compounds, pesticides and ozone layer depleting substances.

Statistical Office is applying the frameworks of environmental pressure indicators (Eurostat) and sustainability indicators (EUROSTAT/ UN CSD) for the dissemination and publication of environmental information.

Basic data quality (Modules 712-715)- high-quality data are needed to be able to produce relevant environment indicators (Module 716). Data are not yet collected via harmonised methodologies, data gaps do exist, the transparency and dissemination of statistics is not sufficient. The data collection according to the present scheme does not allow the allocation of environmental pressures to NACE categories.

The target of SOE is to have impact on providers of basic data that statistical classifications will be used in their data collection systems, otherwise the link (NACE breakdown) between economical data and environmental pressures (wastewater loads, etc) cannot be established.

Some environmental aspects of agriculture, transport and energy will be produced and made available via sustainability indicators published in 2002 (Eurostat/UN CSD list of sustainability indicators).

Energy/environment and transport/environment indicators which are added to the Structural Indicators since 2003 also concerning candidate countries have to be methodologically studied and data sources overviewed.

Theme 72: Regional statistics

The Statistical Office started work on regional accounts in autumn 1997. Eurostat technical assistance contributed a lot to the development of methodology of regional GDP estimation. In 2000 the second subproject of the Eurostat pilot project "Regional Accounts in Central European Countries" was finalised. In the framework of the subproject SOE concentrated on the improvements of the RGDP estimation methodology since preliminary RGDP figures were based on quite rough approach using solely top-down method with wages and salaries (originated from administrative databases) as regionalisation indicator. According to the improved RGDP compilation methodology bottom-up and pseudo bottom-up methods were introduced to estimate regional GVA in Non-Financial corporations sector by production approach based on SOE surveys data; for the other institutional sectors still top-down method with wages and salaries was applied. But part of data used as top-down regionalisation keys is now based on SOE surveys data and used administrative data was reclassified on the unitary basis with SOE surveys to ensure better comparability of the data sources.

By October 2001 RGDP estimates for the year 1999 were compiled and the RGDP estimates for the years 1996-1998 were recalculated in compliance with the changed regional division and revised national GDP figures.

In December 2001 RGDP figures for the 1996-1999 at the level comparable to NUTS 3 by NACE A3 were second time presented to the Eurostat in the framework of the ESA 95 delivery program (table 1200). This time the employment indicators part of the table 1200 (number of employed and employees at the regional level equivalent to the NUTS 3 according to the domestic concept) was also completed for the all presented years. Also revised 1995-1999 data on Gross Value Added by NACE A 17, Gross Fixed Capital Formation and Households Accounts at the level comparable to NUTS 2 (Estonia as a whole country) were provided in tables 1000 and 1300.

Thus, in the 2001 SOE provided all necessary indicators in order to ensure compliance ESA 95 data delivery programme requirements in the domain of regional accounts.

Methodology used to estimate regional GDP in Estonia is generally in line with the principles stated in corresponding Eurostat methodological documents (the chapter XIII of ESA 1995 “Regional Accounts“, Eurostat statistical document “Regional accounts methods – GVA and GFCF by activity“).

Information on sole proprietors activities is insufficient as there is no special survey covering their economic activities. The regional value added of sole proprietors activities has been imputed. The absence of adequate overview of economic entities local units is caused by the present legislation that does not oblige economic entities to submit any information on their structural units. Development of register systems will contribute to improvement of the quality of regional statistics.

Due to the development of the cooperation between the SOE and the Tax Board it is expected to obtain access to tax declarations data in 2002. It will improve the compilation of regional gross value added for the sole proprietors activities.

In 2002 SOE plans to continue the compilation of RGDP in accordance with the methodology presently used and expects to improve the calculation of regional value added for the sole proprietors activities by using explicit and more detailed data sources of Tax Board.

REGIO database

SOE has regularly submitted data at the NUTS regional level 3 to the REGIO database. Estonian Government confirmed by its Regulation No 303 of April 3, 2001 the new regional breakdown at level NUTS 3. Eurostat has accepted the new regional breakdown.

The creation of the Estonian Regional Development Database was started in 1999. Data is available in HTML-table format. There are nearly 2000 tables on the main fields of statistics both in English and in Estonian. The regional breakdown of some data is at NUTS level 5. SOE plans to submit the time-series corrected by new NUTS regional level 3 breakdown to the REGIO database during the year 2002. The target is also To combine the Estonian Regional Development Database with the dissemination database assisted by PC-AXIS, to cover all fields of statistics.

Theme 73: Science and technology statistics

The government, the higher education and the private non-profit sectors have been covered by annual R&D survey from 1994 using internationally comparable definitions and methodology. The business enterprise sector (BES) is covered since 1998 using the same sample as financial survey of enterprises.

As the enterprises were surveyed only third time in 2001 their understanding of definitions need to be improved. Also, some problems with legislation must be solved, as the wording in Bookkeeping Law addresses to R&D in broader sense incomparable with definitions of R&D statistics. In 2002 the comparison of detailed data on three consequent years (1998, 1999 and 2000) for business enterprise sector will allow to evaluate the quality of data and to make necessary improvements of the questionnaire and the instruction. In addition the CIS3 data will be used to improve the quality of R&D-performing enterprises database.

Main findings in implementation of *Acquis Communautaire* in statistics:

1. The Estonian statistical system has been able to keep on schedule in the adoption of the statistical *Acquis Communautaire* during the last two years. Closer compliance with different concepts and methods has been reached. The speed of implementation of the EU requirements has been fast during the last years. SOE is also very well aware of steps which still have to be taken.

2. The main results are visible:
 - * Complete implementation of statistical classifications (NACE, COFOG, COICOP, CN, ISCO-COM)
 - * Successful conduct of two big Censuses
 - * Controlled implementation of ESA 95 which still has some tasks to be finalised
 - * Harmonisation and integration of the Business Statistics System by introducing e.g. new structured and revised questionnaires
 - * Establishing of new large surveys, like the continuous Labour Force Survey
 - * Extension of the enterprise survey's coverage to new domains like trade, services, transport etc.
 - * Upgrading of existing surveys, e.g. HBS
3. The big effort will be the INTRASTAT system which has to be implemented and which should be in place in the time of the accession to the EU. The EDP (Excessive Debt Procedure) has to be put in line with the standing situation of the EU member states clarifying the roles of the SOE and the Ministry of Finance. The problems of update of different (business, population) registers need also continuous attention. Environment statistics system still waits for clear production program.

5. Conclusions

On the basis of all the material, the impression in the update of the Global Assessment is that the Estonian statistical system has made impressive progress during the last few years. The new statistical methods and regulations have been implemented, the systems have been revised and the dissemination of statistics has been improved considerably. SOE has adopted the culture of continuous improvement, which is a very good base for any statistical agency facing new and demanding challenges all the time. Meeting prevailing or future European requirements cannot be more problematic to the Statistical Office of Estonia than it is to a standard National Statistical Institute of the EU Member States.

The following conclusions can be made in addition to the main findings (at the end of the each Chapter) on the state of the Estonian statistical system:

1. Legal base of the statistical system should be now in good shape. Further efforts are needed to improve the implementation of the Statistics Act. Although there are no legal obstacles for SOE to have access to administrative data even at the individual level, there are still technical and probably cultural obstacles which hinder maximal exploitation of administrative sources in statistics production.
2. The Estonian Government is developing consciously eGovernment approach. It might be good to take initiatives and closer co-operation with other administration for those developments. SOE could be in place when new models and solutions are found and developed.
3. Although it is even a target in Strategic Plan to have a Statistical Council representing of different providers and users of statistics, there can be arguments which are against that kind of quite a formal and heavy arrangement. If a council is not set up as an overall advisory board, there is need for a more standing and permanent liaison group with providers of data, especially with enterprises which are strongly burdened by different data collections. Good and intensive co-operation with them is an important pre-condition for improved quality of data.
4. The financial basis of SOE is relatively good. It is important that SOE has regular state funding. Some concern should be paid for funding of development projects like INTRASTAT and other emerging requirements to come.

5. The speed of the implementation of new surveys and major revisions have been fast. In some statistical areas the analysis has been minor. In future it is important to put more emphasis to improve analytical capacity of SOE either by developing competencies in SOE or by networking with external researchers. Quality reporting has started and it need to be intensified and become regular.
6. It is obvious that the staff has been extremely flexible and adaptive in meeting new requirements and in adopting new statistical frameworks, new methods and procedures. The resources are not too large in some areas. This is a problem which the small statistical offices have to face everywhere. Some new allocations may be needed. It is also important to find solutions for new incentives to keep skilled and trained staff in place. Possibilities for the staff to move between different divisions and sections of the office should be part of such incentives. Mobility is also necessary for the broadening of the competencies of the staff.
7. The new Statistical Information System (SIS) is quite an ambitious approach. When it will be fully implemented, it will be very modern and progressive. It also will make statistical processes more effective.
8. SOE has put a lot of resources to improve its visibility. It is evident that currently the organisation is quite avant-garde what comes to customer orientation, products, their production methods, service standards and monitoring of the outcomes. The result is a very good customer/user satisfaction. One could ask if SOE could have any chance to increase cost-recovery of its products in order to get more funds for its disposal. The matter may also come up as an idea of performance management in public sector. It might finally mean that public sector bodies should pay for products which they distribute to each other.

ANNEX 1.

Official Statistics Act

Passed: 11.06.1997, entered into force 17.07.1997, published RT*I 1997, 51, 822

Amended: 01.06.2000, entered into force 26.06.2000, published RT I 2000, 47, 289

§ 1. Purpose of Act

This Act establishes the legal bases for the conduct of systematic and purposeful official statistical surveys.

§ 2. Official statistics

(1) Official statistics are aggregated and generalised information which is obtained as a result of collection and systematic processing of data from official statistical surveys.

(2) Official statistics reflect the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation of Estonia and changes occurring therein.

(3) Official statistics shall conform to the principles of impartiality, reliability, relevance, cost-effectiveness, confidentiality and transparency.

§ 3. Conduct of official statistical surveys

(1) The conduct of official statistical surveys comprises activities necessary for collection, compilation, processing, dissemination, analysis and storage of data.

(2) For each year, the Government of the Republic shall approve a list of official statistical surveys systematised according to the agencies conducting the surveys, except surveys conducted by the Bank of Estonia. If necessary, the list is updated.

(3) On the basis of the list of official statistical surveys, the Minister of Finance and, to the extent provided for in subsection 2 (8) of the Bank of Estonia Act (RT I 1993, 28, 498; 1994, 30, 463), the President of the Bank of Estonia shall approve the official statistical questionnaires.

(4) Official statistical surveys are financed from the state budget and other sources provided by law.

§ 4. Agencies conducting official statistical surveys

(1) The Bank of Estonia and state agencies authorised by law may conduct official statistical surveys.

(2) The main agencies conducting official statistical surveys are the Statistical Office and, to the extent provided for in subsection 2 (8) of the Bank of Estonia Act, the Bank of Estonia. The main agencies conducting official statistical surveys are independent in their choice of statistical methods but shall co-ordinate such methods with one another. The main agencies conducting official statistical surveys have the right to directly communicate with all government agencies in issues relating to the conduct of statistical surveys [01.06.2000].

(3) Prior to the commencement of data collection, agencies conducting official statistical surveys shall bring their methods of data collection, processing and dissemination into conformity with national and international standards, classifications and statistical methods. The classifications used in the conduct of official statistical surveys shall be approved by the Government of the Republic [01.06.2000]

(4) Prior to the commencement of surveys prescribed in the list of official statistical surveys, state agencies shall co-ordinate their methods of data collection, processing and dissemination with the Statistical Office. All subsequent changes to such methods shall also be co-ordinated with the Statistical Office.

§ 5. Duties of agencies conducting official statistical surveys

(1) In conducting official statistical surveys, data collected in state and other databases, and data resulting from or collected in the course of the activities of state and local government agencies and other legal persons shall primarily be used. Authorised processors of databases are required to coordinate the structure and definitions of the data and classifications used in databases with the Statistical Office [01.06.2000].

(2) Agencies conducting official statistical surveys shall communicate to the respondents the purposes of use, the principles of processing, transmission and dissemination, and the due dates for submission of collected data. Respondents shall also be informed of the liability upon non-compliance with the requirements provided for in § 7 of this Act.

(3) Agencies conducting official statistical surveys shall inform respondents of the intention to collect data or of any changes in the collection of data either by not later than one month before the commencement of the corresponding collection of data or by not later than one month before the due date for submission thereof.

§ 6. Respondents

(1) For the purposes of this Act, respondents are legal persons registered in Estonia, branches of foreign commercial undertakings, state and local government agencies, sole proprietors and natural persons who own immovable property, buildings or parts thereof.

(2) Once a year, respondents have the right to access data concerning themselves which are collected by agencies conducting official statistical surveys.

§ 7. Obligation to submit data collected through official statistical surveys

(1) At the request of agencies conducting official statistical surveys, respondents are required to submit, by specified due dates, data concerning their location, subordination, economic activities and financial status, the nature of their work, resources at their disposal, activity plans, and potential future development, to the extent established pursuant to subsections 3 (2) and (4) of this Act. No remuneration shall be paid for submission of data.

(2) State and local government agencies are required, at the request of agencies conducting official statistical surveys, to submit data they have collected in the course of their activities, except data the disclosure of which is prohibited by law.

(3) Persons who maintain databases are required, at the request of agencies conducting official statistical surveys, to submit data collected in the databases specified in subsection 5 (1) of this Act.

(4) Natural persons submit data concerning themselves on a voluntary basis unless otherwise provided by law.

(5) At the request of agencies conducting official statistical surveys, legal persons and state and local government agencies are required to disclose the subject matter of data they collect.

(6) As an exception, agencies conducting official statistical surveys may release a respondent wholly or partly, at a written request of the respondent, from the obligation provided for in subsection (1) of this section if submission of data is impossible or involves a disproportionate effort.

§ 8. Data protection

(1) Agencies conducting official statistical surveys are required to ensure the protection of collected data.

(2) Data collected through official statistical surveys may be used only for statistical purposes.

(3) Data collected through official statistical surveys shall not be used for control, taxation or any other non-statistical purposes.

(4) [Repealed 01.06.2000].

(5) Subsections (1)–(3) of this section do not apply to data which, by law, are public [01.06.2000].

(6) The Government of the Republic shall establish the procedure for the protection of data collected and processed by the Statistical Office [01.06.2000].

§ 9. Transmission and dissemination of data

(1) Agencies conducting official statistical surveys may transmit or disseminate collected data only in a form which precludes the possibility of direct or indirect identification of the respondents. In order to determine whether a respondent is identifiable, all means that a third person may reasonably use to identify such respondent shall be taken into consideration.

(2) As an exception, agencies conducting official statistical surveys may transmit or disseminate data which permit identification of respondents but only with the written consent of the respondents. Data which permit identification of respondents may also be transmitted without the consent of the respondents for the purposes of scientific research, pursuant to the procedure established by the Government of the Republic.

(3) Agencies conducting official statistical surveys shall not transmit or disseminate data which are being processed.

(4) [Repealed 01.06.2000].

(5) Data are deemed to be disseminated as of the moment of making them available for public use by an agency conducting official statistical surveys.

§ 10. Liability of respondents

(1) Liability of natural persons for non-compliance with the requirements provided for in § 7 of this Act is provided for in the Code of Administrative Offences (RT 1992, 29, 396; RT I 1995, 76–78, 1345; 83, 1441; 1996, 3, 56 and 57; 26, 528; 31, 631; 48, 944; 83, 1488; 86, 1538; 1997, 1, 3 and 4; 5/6, 30; 16, 259; 28, 423; 30, 472; 48, 777; 51, 822 and 823; 52, 833 and 834).

(2) If a legal person:

1) submits data collected through official statistical surveys later than the specified due date, a fine of up to 20 000 kroons is imposed;

2) fails to submit data collected through official statistical surveys or knowingly submits distorted data, a fine of up to 40 000 kroons is imposed.

(3) Upon non-compliance by a legal person with the requirements provided for in § 7 of this Act persons authorised by the Director General of the Statistical Office and the President of the Bank of Estonia have the right to prepare a report of administrative offence.

(4) Upon non-compliance by a legal person with the requirements provided for in § 7 of this Act, an administrative court has the right to hear the matter and impose punishment.

(5) The sanctions prescribed in clauses (1) 1) and 2) of this section are imposed pursuant to the procedure provided for in the Code of Administrative Offences.

[§§ 11–12 omitted]†

§ 13. Repeal of Act

The Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic Statistics Act (ENSV Teataja 1990, 9, 145) is repealed.

* RT = Riigi Teataja = State Gazette

† The omitted sections amend other legislation

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ANNEX 2.

The sample sizes and non-response rates of different business surveys:					
Branch	periodicity of the survey		sample size	non-response %	
	*	** ***			
Industry (PRODCOM)	Annually		1910	6,1%	
Industry		Quarterly	1600	3,6%	
Industry		Monthly	870	0,5%	
Electricity balance	Annually		30	0,0%	
Sale of electricity		Monthly	3	0,0%	
Power plant	Annually		30	0,0%	
Energy and Fuel	Annually		4690	6,4%	
Energy production		Monthly	250	0,0%	
Accommodation (establishments)	Annually		680	1,5%	
Accommodation (establishments)		Monthly	680	1,5%	
Retail Trade and Sales, ... repair of motor vehicles		Monthly	1290	6,1%	
Wholesale trade		Quarterly	940	12,0%	
Retail Trade		Quarterly	1110	6,2%	
Sales, ... repair of motor vehicles		Quarterly	320	2,2%	
Accommodation		Quarterly	130	3,2%	
Catering		Quarterly	230	7,9%	
Tourism		Quarterly	90	5,7%	
Tourism services (establishments)		Quarterly	380	3,7%	
Road accidents		Monthly			admin.data
Motor vehicle register	Annually				register
Motor vehicle register		Monthly			register
Road transport	Annually		340	5,5%	
Road transport		Quarterly	360	0,0%	
Transport of goods by road		Weekly	120	29,2%	
Stock of railway and railway accidents	Annually		100	0,0%	
Transport by railway	Annually		10	0,0%	
Transport by railway		Quarterly	10	0,0%	
Transport by railway		Monthly	10	0,0%	
Inland waters transport	Annually		3	0,0%	
Inland waters transport		Quarterly	1	0,0%	
Ship accidents	Annually		10	0,0%	
Transport by sea	Annually		10	0,0%	
Transport by sea		Quarterly	10	0,0%	
International passenger traffic through ports	Annually		4	0,0%	
International passenger traffic through ports		Quarterly	4	0,0%	
Transport of goods through ports	Annually		10	0,0%	
Transport of goods through ports		Quarterly	10	0,0%	
Vessel traffic through ports	Annually		20	0,0%	

Vessel traffic through ports		Quarterly		20	0,0%
Loading-unloading in ports		Monthly		10	0,0%
Transport related economic activity		Quarterly		400	1,3%
Stock of public roads	Annually			1	0,0%
Stock of municipal and private roads	Annually			210	0,0%
Stock of tram and trolley-bus transport	Annually			1	0,0%
Tram-trolley-bus		Quarterly		1	0,0%
Stock of telecommunication	Annually			120	0,0%
Telecommunication services		Quarterly		120	0,0%
Stock of post	Annually			1	0,0%
Postal services		Quarterly		30	0,0%
Pipeline transport	Annually			1	0,0%
Border crossings		Monthly	admin.data		
Boat accidents	Annually			1	0,0%
Services activities		Quarterly		2330	6,3%
Air transport		Quarterly		7	0,0%
Airports		Quarterly		5	0,0%
Airports		Monthly (I CAO)		1	0,0%
On-flight origin and destination		Quarterly		2	0,0%
Aircraft register	Annually		register		
Real Estate companies		Quarterly		610	52,0%
Real estate		Quarterly		60	0,0%
Construction	Annually		register		
Construction		Quarterly	register		
Construction		Quarterly		640	6,1%
Financial statistics		Quarterly		620	7,4%
Financial statistics (EKOMAR)	Annually			11900	15,8%
Research and development (BES)	Annually			910	10,2%
* Annually - year 2000					
** Quarterly - III quarter 2001					
*** Monthly - December 2001					

ANNEX 3.

Global Assessment of Estonian statistical system: third mission Tallinn, 11-12 February 2002

Preliminary Agenda

Sunday, February 10

21.30 Arrival of Ms Vihavainen by boat “Fantaasia“, meeting at the port

Monday, February 11

9.00-11.00 Meeting with the management of the Statistical Office (room 509)
Mr Rein Veetõusme, Director General,
Mr Ülo Randaru, Deputy Director General,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics
Division

11.00-12.30 Meeting with the users of statistics (room 520)
Mr Tõnis Nirk, Head of External Economic Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Ms Marje Josing, Director, Estonian Institute of Economic Research,
Ms Kersti Katkosild, Account Executive, Association of Estonian IT and Telecommunications
Companies,
Mr Peeter Kern, Acting Director, Cable-TV “Starman “
Ms Piret Kallas, Project Manager of Tourism Surveys, Estonian Tourist Board,
Mr Aivar Reinap, Economic Journalist, Head of Economic Department, daily newspaper “Postimees“,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics Division,
Ms Mare Zaneva, Head of International Co-operation Section

12.30-14.00 Lunch in the restaurant “Mihkli Trahter“ with Ms Nogelainen

14.00-15.00 Meeting with the other government institutions as providers of data or partners in providing official
statistics (room 520)
Ms Reet Kirt, Head of Statistics Department, Bank of Estonia,
Mr Jaanus Kroon, Head of Balance of Payments Statistics Division, Bank of Estonia,
Mr Tanel Steinberg, Acting Head of Government Sector Division, Ministry of Finance,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics Division

15.00-15.15 Coffee break

15.15-16.15 Meeting on population statistics and population census (room 520)
Ms Urve Kask, Head of Population and Social Statistics Division,
Mr Mati Sundja, Deputy Head of Population and Social Statistics Division – Head of
Population Censuses Section,
Ms Anne Herm, Head of Population Statistics Section,

- Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics
- Division
- 16.15-17.00 Meeting on dissemination policy (room 520)
Ms Sirje Laud, Acting Head of Marketing and Dissemination Division,
Ms Anne Nuka, Head of Information and Marketing Section,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics
Division
- 18.45 Meeting at the reception of the hotel
- 19.00 Dinner in the restaurant “Troika“, address: Raekoja plats 15

Tuesday, February 12

- 9.00-10.00 Meeting on agriculture statistics (room 520)
Mr Jüri Merendi, Head of Environment Statistics Division,
Ms Aili Maanso, Head of Agricultural Statistics Section,
Ms Mai Talvik, Head of Department of the Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics

Division

- 10.00-11.00 Meeting on enterprise statistics (room 520)
Ms Ly Villemi, Head of Enterprise Statistics Division,
Ms Katre Viljalo, Deputy Head of Enterprise Statistics Division,
Ms Merike Põldsaar, Head of the Group of Methodology,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics

Division

- 11.00-11.15 Coffee break

- 11.15-13.00 Meeting on macroeconomic statistics and other EMU-related statistics (room 520)
Ms Erika Sisask, Head of Macroeconomic Statistics Division,
Mr Peeter Leetmaa, Deputy Head of Macroeconomic Statistics Division,
Ms Merle Saaliste, Head of Foreign Trade Statistics Section,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics

Division

- 13.00-14.00 Lunch in the café of SOE with Ms Nogelainen

- 14.00-14.30 Meeting on price statistics (room 520)
Ms Viktoria Trasanov, Head of Price Statistics Division,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics

Division

- 14.30-15.30 Meeting on IT (room 520)
Mr Vadim Buttell, Head of Informatics Department,
Mr Ivo Tamm, Counsellor on IT,

Ms Eda Froš, Head of Databases Section,
Mr Ülo Randaru, Deputy Director General,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General - Head of Development of Statistics

Division

15.30-17.15 Summary meeting (room 509)
Mr Rein Veetõusme, Director General,
Mr Ülo Randaru, Deputy Director General,
Ms Maie Nogelainen, Deputy Director General – Head of Development of
Statistics Division

17.30 Car from the Statistical Office to the port (boat “Vana Tallinn“)

STATISTICAL OFFICE OF ESTONIA

