

# Law of Georgia on Official Statistics

## Chapter I General Provisions

### **Article 1. The Goal of the Law and the Scope of Regulation**

1. The goal of the law is to ensure producing independent, objective and reliable statistics in the country according to the fundamental principles of the United Nations and European Statistics Code of Practice and on the basis of internationally recognized basic principles of statistics.

2. The Law defines the essence, goal and principles of the official statistics and prescribes the legal foundations for producing the statistics and storing and disseminating the information derived as a result of producing the statistics, and for conducting the census of the population. The Law defines the system of the bodies responsible for the official statistics and the functions thereof.

3. This law applies to all resident legal entities and individuals, as well as to all non-residents on the territory of Georgia – in accordance with the Georgian legislation.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 may 2015

### **Article 2. Georgian Legislation Governing the Field of Official Statistics**

The Georgian legislation governing the field of official statistics consists of the Constitution of Georgia, the international agreements and treaties of Georgia, the present Law and other legislative and sub-legislative normative acts.

### **Article 3. Definitions**

The terms used in this Law have the following meanings:

- a) Administrative Source - the state register or any other data base which are produced or maintained, in electronic and in any other form, by the administrative body.
- b) Administrative Body - the body as defined in Subparagraph A, Paragraph 1, Article 2 of the General Administrative Code of Georgia.
- c) Confidential Statistical Data - any information collected for the statistical purposes allowing for identification of observation unit and through which it is possible to identify such data.
- d) Census of the Population - the unified process of acquiring, processing, evaluating, analyzing, generalizing and publishing the data characteristic for the social, economic and demographic conditions of the population of the country at a particular moment.
- e) Official Statistics - the system of statistical measures carried out within the statistical activity program based on which statistical data of social, economic, demographic and environment conditions of the country are acquired. The statistical data produced by the National bank of Georgia in line with the function set out in Subparagraph H, Paragraph 3 of Article 3 of the Organic Law of Georgia on National bank of Georgia, as well s the statistical data produced by other administrative

bodies provided that they are produced in observance of the methodology and standards which are in line with their international analogues and are approved/recognized by the Board of Geostat.

f) Statistical Survey - a survey conducted exclusively for the statistical purpose and which is based on collecting data on the statistical units.

g) Statistical Unit - elementary unit which is subject to the statistical survey and represents statistical unit of observation.

h) Statistical Activity Program- a long term annual plan approved by the President of Georgia which consists of the list of works to be carried out and their implementers, the frequency of observation and dates of publishing.

i) Household-a group of persons who observe the rules of common living and occupy a single dwelling and are connected by the shared budget (or a part thereof), and by relative or non-relative relationships (a household may consist of one person).

j) Geostat - the National Statistics Office of Georgia, the legal entity of public law.

k) Statistical methodology - Statistical methods and rules for studying social and economic processes.

l) National System of Official Statistics - the ensemble of organizations and units producing official statistics in the country, responsible for collecting, processing and disseminating official statistics on behalf of Georgia.

Law of Georgia №1292 of 24 September 2013

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

#### **Article 4. Basic Principles of Official Statistics**

1. Production and dissemination of statistics shall be based on the following basic principles of official statistics:

a) **Relevance, Impartiality and Equal Access** - official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the Government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation. To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens' entitlement to public information.

b) **Professional Standards, Scientific Principles, and Professional Ethics** - to retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage, and presentation of statistical data.

c) **Accountability and transparency** - to facilitate a correct interpretation of the data, the statistical agencies are to pre- sent information according to scientific standards on the sources, methods and procedures of the statistics.

d) **Prevention of Misuse**- the statistical agencies are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.

e) **Sources of Official Statistics**- data for statistical purposes may be drawn from all types of sources, be they statistical surveys or administrative records. Statistical agencies are to choose the source with regard to quality, timeliness, costs and the burden on respondents.

f) **Confidentiality**- individual data collected by statistical agencies for statistical compilation, whether they refer to natural or legal persons, are to be strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes.

g) **Legislation**- the laws, regulations and measures under which the statistical systems operate are to be made public.

h) **National Coordination**- coordination among statistical agencies within countries is essential to achieve consistency and efficiency in the statistical system.

i) **Use of International Standards**- the use by statistical agencies in each country of international concepts, classifications and methods promotes the consistency and efficiency of statistical systems at all official levels.

j) **International cooperation**- bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries.

2. Producing the statistics and disseminating the information derived as a result of producing the statistics shall be in compliance with the international standards and practice.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

#### **Article 5. Cooperation with the International and Local Organizations**

1. In view of the basic principles set out in Article 4 of the present Law it is important that Geostat cooperate with the international and local organizations in order to effectively produce the official statistics.

2. The goal of international cooperation in the field of statistics is to introduce the international practice and methodology and share relevant experience based on the agreements and treaties concluded with the international organizations engaged in this field.

3. Cooperation with the local organizations means the cooperation and coordination of the Geostat with the bodies producing the statistics in order to effectively produce the statistics.

#### **Article 6. Legal Status of the Geostat**

According to the Georgian legislation the Geostat is a legal entity of public law (LEPL) established for producing and disseminating the information. The Geostat independently carries out its activities based on the Georgian legislation.

### **Chapter II**

#### **Competences, Structure and Funding of the Geostat**

#### **Article 7. Competences of the Geostat**

1. The following shall be the competences of the Geostat:
  - a) Work out a unified policy for the field of statistics and secure coordinated cooperation with its territorial units and other bodies producing the statistics;
  - b) Work out a statistical activities program;
  - c) Carry out statistical activities set out in the statistical activity program, which includes the following:

Conduct of statistical surveys;

Process the administrative data exclusively for the statistical purpose; c.c)

Process the data on the observation unit;

Produce the schedule for promulgation of the statistical data and ensure its publicity;

Disseminate the statistical data in observance of the schedule and secure the equal access to the statistical data for all the users;

Work out the statistical methodology and standards in line with their international analogues and facilitate their introduction;

d) Conduct the census of the population;

e) Prepare the annual report;

f) Establish statistical territorial units and define their scope of work;

g) Draw the administrative offence record and file in court;

h) Carry out other activities as defined in the present Law and the Charter of the Geostat.

2. The Geostat shall produce the statistics based on the methodology and standards which are in line with their international analogues and are approved/recognized by the Board of the Geostat.

3. Based on a relevant agreement the Geostat shall be authorized to produce the statistics which is not envisaged by the statistical activity program.

4. The Geostat may not carry out any activity which contradicts the basic principles of official statistics as defined in Article 4 of the present Law and the goals and priorities identified by the Government.

5. Specific competencies of the bodies of the Geostat shall be defined in the charter of the Geostat. The charter of the Geostat shall be submitted by the Executive Director of the Geostat and be approved by the Government of Georgia.

Law of Georgia №1292 of 24 September 2013

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

#### **Article 8. Executive Director of the Geostat**

1. The Executive Director shall lead the Geostat and he/she also shall act as the Chairman of the Board and the Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Geostat, if, by Item 4, Article 14<sup>1</sup> of the present Law, the Board of the Geostat shall not make a different decision.

2. Out of the Board members envisaged by Item 4, Article 11 of the present Law the Board of the Geostat shall nominate the Executive Director who shall be appointed for the term of 4 years and may be dismissed by the Prime Minister of Georgia.

3. The Executive Director shall have at least 1 Deputy Director who shall carry out the responsibilities of the Director in case of his absence.

4. The Deputy Executive Director shall be appointed and dismissed by the Executive Director.

5. The Executive Director shall carry out the functions set out in the present Law and the charter of the Geostat through the staff of the Geostat.

6. The requirements of Georgian legislation in regard of the conflict of interests shall apply to the Executive Director.

7. After the termination of authority of the Executive Director, the same person has the right of to participate in the competition of the Board members of the Geostat.

Law of Georgia №1292 of 24 September 2013

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

### **Article 9. Executive Director**

1. The functions of Executive Director shall be the following:

a) Lead the Geostat;

a<sup>1</sup>) Appoint the Advisory Board members of the Geostat;

b) Develop the statistical standards, classifications and methodology to be used in the course of carrying out statistical activities and submit them for approval to the Board of the Geostat;

c) Develop the statistical activity program and submit it for approval to the Government of Georgia;

d) Develop the methodology for General Population Census and submit it for approval to the Government Commission for Coordination of Population Census;

e) Develop the population census program and submit it for approval to the Governmental Coordination Commission for Census;

f) Develop the list of staff and the salary funds and submit them for approval to the Board of the Geostat;

g) Appoint and dismiss the employees of the Geostat;

h) Work out the draft budget of the Geostat according to the statistical activity program;

i) Submit the Geostat's annual progress report to the Government of Georgia and the Parliament of Georgia;

j) Ensure publicity of the Geostat's annual progress report approved by the Board of the Geostat;

k) Carry out the other functions as defined by the charter of the Geostat and the Georgian legislation.

2. The Executive Director shall be authorized to invite foreign or local experts on the contractual basis in accordance with the recommendations of the members of Board of the Geostat in order to ensure effective operation of the Geostat.

3. The Executive Director submits the Geostat's annual progress report to the Government of Georgia and the Parliament of Georgia not later than May 1 of each year

4. The report envisaged by Item 3 of this paragraph must include information on:

a) Statistical activities carried out during the year;

b) Execution of the Geostat's budget.

5. The Executive Director shall be authorized to delegate some functions stipulated in the Charter of the Geostat, except the functions provided in this Article, to the duly authorized persons.

Law of Georgia №3755 of 26 October 2010

Law of Georgia №1292 of 24 September 2013

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

#### **Article 10. Sources of Funding the Geostat**

The sources of funding the Geostat shall be:

a) The state budget of Georgia, on an annual basis, and in accordance with the Law of Georgia on the State budget;

b) The fees charged for the services provided;

c) The grants issued by a donor as defined in Article 3 of the Law of Georgia on the Grants;

d) Other sources as allowed by the Georgian legislation.

### **Chapter III**

#### **Board of the Geostat**

##### **Article 11. Board of the Geostat**

1. The Board of Geostat (hereinafter, the Board) shall function at the Geostat.

2. The Board shall consist of 7 members and a Chairman.

3. Out of the 8 members of the Board one member shall be a representative of the National Bank of Georgia, –one - a representative of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, and one – a representative of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia.

4. The other 5 members of the Board shall not be public servants.

Law of Georgia №4469 of 22 March 2011

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

##### **Article 12. Appointment of the Board Members**

**Article 12. Selection and Appointment of the Board Member.** (Shall enter into force from 1 January 2018)

1. The managers of relevant agencies defined by Item 3, Article 11 of the present Law shall submit for approval the nominations of the candidates to the Prime Minister of Georgia.

2. The persons envisaged by Item 4, Article 11 of the present Law shall be appointed by the Prime Minister of Georgia at the consent of the Parliament of Georgia in accordance with the rules established by this Article.

2. The Board member, as envisaged by Item 4, Article 11 of the present Law, shall be appointed as a result of open competition by the Prime Minister of Georgia with the consent of the Parliament of Georgia, in accordance with the rules established by this Article.

2<sup>1</sup>. The competition of those Board members, who are not public servants, shall be announced by the Geostat, and the competition commission shall be established by the Prime Minister of Georgia. **(Shall enter into force from 1 January 2018)**

3. The Prime Minister of Georgia shall present 8 candidates for the existing 5 vacancies to the Parliament of Georgia for approval and in case the vacancies are less than 5 the number of candidates shall exceed the total number of vacancies by at least one.

3. The Prime Minister of Georgia shall present at least 8 candidates, from the persons selected as a result of competition, for the existing 5 vacancies to the Parliament of Georgia for approval; in case the number of vacancies is less than 5, the number of candidates shall exceed the total number of vacancies by at least one. **(Shall enter into force from 1 January 2018)**

4. Within 21 days from the date of submitting the nominations, and within 2 weeks from the date of renewal of the session in case the Parliament recesses, the Parliament of Georgia shall give consent by secret ballot to the Prime Minister of Georgia to appoint the members of the Board.

5. The consent shall be deemed to be given provided that the candidate nominated for the vacancy receives the majority votes of the Members of the Parliament of Georgia attending the plenary session that shall not be less than 1/3 of the total number of the members of the Parliament of Georgia.

6. If the number of candidates having received the votes of more than 1/3 of the total number of the members of the Parliament of Georgia exceeds the available vacancies the consent shall be regarded to be given to the candidate who has received more votes.

7. In case the candidates receive the equal number of votes re-voting shall be conducted among the candidates who have received the equal number of votes.

8. If a candidate nominated for a vacancy has not received sufficient votes the Prime Minister of Georgia shall present new candidates for the relevant vacancy to the Parliament of Georgia within 21 days. They are selected according to the rules established by this Article.

9. The members of the Board shall be appointed by the Prime Minister of Georgia after the Parliament of Georgia gives its consent.

8. If a candidate nominated for a vacancy has not been approved, the Prime Minister of Georgia shall present other candidates selected as a result of competition for the relevant vacancy to the Parliament of Georgia within 21 days. They are selected according to the rules established by this Article. Otherwise, a new competition shall be announced.

9. The Board member shall be appointed by the Prime Minister of Georgia after approval by the Parliament of Georgia. **(Shall enter into force from 1 January 2018)**

10. The term of office of the members of the Board envisaged by Item 3, Article 11 of the present Law shall be the same as the term of office of the relevant positions the members held in the public service.

11. The term of office of the members of the Board envisaged by Item 4, Article 11 of the present Law shall be 4 years. No person may be appointed as a member of the Board for two terms in succession.

11. The term of office of the Board member envisaged by Item 4, Article 11 of the present Law shall be 4 years.

11<sup>1</sup>. After termination of authority of the Board member, the same person has the right to participate in the competition of the Board members. **(Shall enter into force from 1 January 2018)**

12. The qualifications required of the Board members and relevant procedures for their appointment shall be defined in the charter of the Board based on the present Law.

Law of Georgia №1292 of 24 September 2013

Law of Georgia №1689 of 29 November 2013

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

### **Article 13. Functions of the Board**

The functions of the Board shall be the following:

- a) Submit relevant recommendations with regard to the statistical activities of the Geostat;
- b) Review the statistical activity program submitted by the Executive Director of the Geostat and work out relevant recommendations;
- c) Review and approve the annual report of the Geostat submitted by Executive Director of the Geostat;
- d) Review the statistical standards, classifications and methodology to be used in the course of statistical activities, work out recommendations, and approve them, or accept the international standards and methodology;
- e) (removed - 01.05.2015, N 3584);
- f) Work out relevant recommendation for the population census program;
- g) Review and approve the list of the staff and the salary funds of the Geostat;
- h) Review the draft budget of the Geostat and work out relevant recommendations;
- i) Work out and approve the charter of the Board, which shall define the operations of the Board and the decision making procedures;
- i<sup>1</sup>) to make decision on drawing the administrative offence record;
- j) Other activities as defined in the present Law and the charter of the Board.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

Law of Georgia №5500 of 22 June 2015

### **Article 14. Basis for Termination of Authority of the Board Member and the Executive Director**

1. The basis for termination of authority of member of Board shall be the following:

- a) A personal statement made by the member;
- b) The member has been declared legally incapable, or has been declared missing or dead by a court;

- c) A court judgment of guilty against the member has entered in legal force;
  - d) Death.
2. In addition to the basis set out in Item 1 of this Article the basis for termination of authority shall also be the following:
- a) In case of the member of the Board envisaged by Item 3, Article 11 of the present Law:
    - Violation of the requirements of the legislation of Georgia governing the conflict of interests;
    - Termination of holding a relevant position in the public service;
  - b) In case of the member of the Board envisaged by Item 4, Article 11 of the present Law:
    - b.a) Elapse of the term of office as a member of the Board;
      - Failure to carry out the authority as a member of the Board during 2 months for an illegitimate reason;
      - Fill in a position in the public sector;
  - c) In case of the Executive Director of the Geostat:
    - Violation of the requirements of the legislation of Georgia governing the conflict of interests;
    - The term of office of the Executive Director elapsed.
3. The authority of member of the Board shall be terminated by the Decree of the Prime Minister of Georgia
4. The Executive Director may be dismissed by the Prime Minister of Georgia.

Law of Georgia №1292 of 24 September 2013

Law of Georgia №3355 of 20 March 2015

### **Chapter III<sup>1</sup>**

#### **Advisory Board of the Geostat**

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

#### **Article 14<sup>1</sup> Advisory Board of the Geostat**

1. Advisory Board of the Geostat is an advisory body to the Geostat. Members of the Advisory Board shall be appointed and dismissed by the Executive Director, with the term of appointment being equal to that of the Executive Director.
2. Advisory Board of the Geostat shall consist of at least 8 members.
3. The qualifications required for the Advisory Board members, functioning of the Advisory Board and its decision-making rules are defined by the Charter of the Advisory Board of Geostat approved by the Executive Director of Geostat.
4. According to the Board decision, the Chairman of the Advisory Board may be elected from one of the Board members, which is not a public servant.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

## **Article 14<sup>2</sup>. Functions and Resolutions of the Advisory Board of the Geostat**

1. Functions of the Advisory Board of the Geostat:

- a) Submit relevant recommendations with regard to the statistical activities of the Geostat;
- b) Analysis of the statistical activity program and recommendations;
- c) Scientific analysis and provision of recommendations to the Board with regard to statistical standards and methodology used in statistical production;
- d) Review modern methods of statistical activities; submit relevant recommendations to the Board with regard to further enhancement of statistical methodology;
- e) Other activities, as defined in the present Law and the Charter of the Board.

2. Advisory Board decisions have the nature of recommendations and are not mandatory.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

## **Chapter IV**

### **Other Statistics Producing Bodies**

#### **Article 15. The Function of the National Bank of Georgia in the Field of Official Statistics**

Based on the function defined in Subparagraph H, Paragraph 3, Article 3 of the Organic Law of Georgia on the National Bank of Georgia in the field of the official statistics, the function of the National bank of Georgia is to produce the statistics in compliance with the international standards and methodology.

#### **Article 16. Official Statistics Produced by the Administrative Bodies**

1. The state and local self-government bodies, legal entities of public law and other administrative bodies shall produce the official statistics taking into consideration the goals and objectives of their activities, and responsibilities observing the methodology and standards which are in line with their international analogues and are approved/recognized by the Board of Geostat.

2. The Geostat shall secure coordinated work with the official statistics producing bodies and shall issue recommendations on the statistical standards and methodology necessary for producing the statistics. The Geostat shall coordinate exchange of information among the administrative bodies in order to produce the statistics and shall facilitate effective implementation of the statistical standards and methodology approved.

## **Chapter V**

### **General Population Census**

### **Article 17. Purpose of the Census**

The census shall be conducted at all administrative and territorial units of Georgia in order to acquire accurate data on the population which is necessary to identify the demographic situation of the population in the country and identify priorities for social and economic development as well as to inform the public at large.

### **Article 18. Citizens' Obligation**

1. Every citizen of Georgia, as well as every foreign national and stateless person residing on the territory of Georgia shall be obliged to participate in the census.

2. The person is obliged to provide objective data to the Geostat.

3. The Population Census shall not apply to foreign citizens holding diplomatic immunity and their family members, foreign military servants and their family members.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

### **Article 19. Basic Principles of Census**

The following shall be the basic principles of census:

a) Pervasiveness of census;

b) Conduct the census by the periodicity not exceeding 10 years;

c) Conduct the Census on the territory of the country in line with the unified methodology and methods;

d) (removed-01.05.2015,N3584);

e) Conduct the census on the whole territory of Georgia at the same time, except for the cases when:

it is difficult to reach some mountainous places and hardly accessible settlements in Georgia in the course of the census. At such places the census shall be carried at a certain time taking into consideration the circumstances in the settlements;

It is not feasible to conduct the census on the specific territory due to the reasons independent of the Geostat.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

Law of Georgia №5500 of 22 June 2015

### **Article 20. Population Census Program and the Census Date**

1. The census shall be carried out based on the census program. The Executive Director of the Geostat shall develop the census program and submit it for approval to the Governmental Coordination Commission for Census.

2. The census date for each census shall be determined in the population census program.

3. When it is difficult to reach some mountainous places and hardly accessible settlements in Georgia in the course of the census, the census shall be carried out at a certain time taking into consideration the local circumstances of the given settlement.

4. The General Populations Census methodology developed in line with international standards is approved by the Government Commission for Coordination of Population Census.

### **Article 21. The Bodies Responsible for Conducting the Census**

1. The Geostat shall be responsible for preparing, conducting and processing the data obtained as well as for publishing and disseminating the results.

2. To establish the Census date in order to solve the matters to preparing and conducting the Census in a timely manner as well as to ensure the coordination of the actions of the [state] executive Director no later than 3 years before at the nomination of Executive Director and on the basis of the Executive Decree the Governmental Coordination Commission for Census (hereinafter, the Commission).

3. The Geostat shall develop the population census program and consider the methodological and organizational issues as well as identify the list of activities to be carried out at along with setting implementation deadlines and identifying the implementers. The Commission shall approve the population census program and questionnaires.

4. The Chairman of the Commission shall be the Prime Minister or a member of the Government of Georgia. The Chairman shall be appointed by the Prime Minister of Georgia.

5. The operational procedures and activities of the Commission shall be defined in the charter of the Commission. The charter shall be approved by the Government of Georgia.

6. The Commission shall continue its operations for no less than 6 months from the date of conducting the census.

### **Article 22. (removed-01.05.2015, N3584);**

### **Article 23. Publishing the Census Results**

Preliminary results of the census shall be published within 6 months from the date of conducting the census and the final results shall be published no later than 18 months.

### **Article 24. Storage of the Census Results**

The census results in hard copy shall be stored until all the census results are published. The information in electronic form shall be stored with an unspecified term.

## **Chapter VI**

### **Collecting, Disseminating, Storage and Observing Confidentiality of Statistical Data**

### **Article 25. The Obligation to Provide Statistical and other Information**

1. Unless otherwise provided for by the legislation of Georgia, with the view of fulfilling its functions the Geostat shall be authorized to request and receive from administrative bodies, physical and legal persons all kinds of statistical data and other information, including confidential information and/or information containing personal data, in line with the "Law on Personal Data Protection".

2. Unless otherwise provided for by the legislation of Georgia, upon Geostat's request, administrative bodies shall be obliged to provide available information on physical persons and legal entities of private law to Geostat, including confidential information and/or information containing personal data in line with the "Law on Personal Data Protection".

3. Unless otherwise provided for by the legislation of Georgia, legal entities registered in the Register of entrepreneurial and non-commercial legal entities are obliged to provide Geostat, upon Geostat's written request, including such request in electronic form, with the available information (including confidential information) in paper or electronic form.

4. In case of failure to provide information to Geostat required under the statistical activities program approved by the Government of Georgia, legal entities registered in the Register of entrepreneurial and non-commercial legal entities shall be liable to proceedings stipulated in the Code of Administrative Offices of Georgia.

5. Deadlines for providing information to Geostat stipulated by Item 3 of this Article shall be determined by Geostat, taking into consideration periodicity of a relevant statistical survey. Such deadlines should not be less than 7 days after submission of the information request to the addressee (and/or receipt of the information request by the addressee) in a written, including electronic, form.

6. The submission of a written request to an addressee shall be confirmed with a relevant document, while receipt of an electronic letter by an addressee shall be confirmed with a corresponding reply letter. 7. In case of refusal to receive the letter, it is considered to be delivered.

8. Imposition of administrative liability does not exempt the person from the obligation to submit the information.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

#### **Article 26. Access to the Statistical Data and their Storage**

1. Statistical data shall be public except for the data which allows for identification of observation unit.

2. Statistical data, except the census statistical data, shall be stored in hard copy until it is completely published and in electronic form - for 20 years.

3. Information collected in paper form containing personal information shall be destroyed within three months after publication of the statistical information.

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

## **Article 27. The Revenues Received as a Result of Disseminating Statistical Data and Publications**

1. Within the statistical activity program the Geostat shall:

- a) Furnish all the users with the statistical data in electronic form free of charge;
- b) Provides printed statistical publications to all users for a fee, at the exception of the administrative bodies, other bodies of state authority, foreign diplomatic representations accredited in Georgia, foreign statistical bodies and international organizations disseminating statistical information.

2. Beyond the statistical activity program the revenues to be received from the statistical activities carried out on the contractual basis shall be defined in relevant contracts.

3. The dissemination of statistical data beyond the statistical activity program may be chargeable. The types and tariffs of the data stipulated in this paragraph are determined by the Geostat's Board pursuant to the recommendation of the Executive Director.

4. The revenues received according to the paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article are used to maintain the Geostat's activities.

Law of Georgia №3293 of 2 July 2010

Law of Georgia №3584 of 1 May 2015

## **Article 28. Observing Confidentiality of Statistical Data**

1. The data collected for the purpose of producing official statistics shall be confidential if it allows for identification of observation unit or it is possible to identify such data through it.

2. The confidential statistical data shall not be issued or disseminated or used for a non-statistical purpose but for the exceptions envisaged by the Georgian legislation.

3. When producing the official statistics it is obligatory to destroy or store separately the identity data including the questionnaires containing such data and used for statistical surveys according to the rules defined in the Georgian legislation.

## **Article 29. The Obligations and Responsibilities of the Employees of the Geostat**

1. The confidential statistical data collected and processed for the purpose of statistical survey shall not be used or disseminated either for the personal, academic, research or any other activities, by the employees of the units of the Geostat.

2. The Geostat units shall be obliged to secure dissemination of true statistical data.

3. Violation of the provisions set out in the present Law by the employees of the Geostat units will lead to imposing a disciplinary responsibility against them.

4. In view of the guilt or/and the damage inflicted the Executive Director shall impose the following disciplinary penalties: warning, withholding a salary and/or dismissal.

## **Chapter VII Transitional and Final Provisions**

### **Article 30. Transitional Provisions**

1. No later than 10 working days from the date when the present Law comes into effect the reorganization of the Department of Statistics, the state subordinated body of the Ministry of Economic Development of Georgia, shall be announced and completed till 1 February 2010.

2. As a result of the reorganization the Department of Statistics, the state subordinated body of the Ministry of Economic Development of Georgia, shall be established as National Statistics Office of Georgia, the legal entity of public law (LEPL). The Geostat shall be deemed established as of the moment of the appointment of the acting Executive Director and the approval of the charter of the Geostat.

3. Upon the completion of the reorganization the President of Georgia shall appoint the acting Executive Director and approve the charter of the Geostat.

4. The acting Executive Director of the Geostat shall lead the Geostat until the first composition of the Board of the Geostat is appointed.

5. No later than 30 work days from the date when the present Law comes into effect the President of Georgia shall present the candidates of the members of the Board to the Parliament of Georgia. The candidates shall be nominated and appointed in accordance with Article 12 of the present Law.

6. The Geostat shall be a legal successor of the Department of Statistics, the state subordinated body of the Ministry of Economic Development of Georgia.

### **Article 31. Final Provisions**

1. The present Law, except Articles 1-29 and Item 3 of Article 31 of the present Law shall come into force upon its publication.

2. Articles 1-29 and Item 3 of Article 31 of the present Law shall come into force as of 1 February 2010.

3. The following [acts] shall be considered invalid:

a) The Law of Georgia on Statistics, dated 12 November 1997 (the Parliamentis Utskebani, N46, 3.12.1997, page 58);

b) The Law of Georgia on the Census of the Population, dated 12 October 2001 (the Sakartvelos Sakanonmdeblo Matsne, N31, 01.11.2001, Art. 122).

President of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili

Tbilisi

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