Decree №375

of the Government of Georgia

September 27, 2023

Tbilisi

On the Approval of the Statute of the Legal Entity of Public Law – the National Statistics Office of Georgia

Article 1

In accordance with the paragraph 1 of Article 49 of the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics, the attached Statute of the "Legal Entity of Public Law – the National Statistics Office of Georgia" shall be approved.

Article 2

The decree shall enter into force from 1 October of 2023.

Prime Minister **Irakli Gharibashvili**

Statute of the Legal Entity of Public Law – the National Statistics Office of Georgia

Chapter I. General Provisions

Article 1. General Provisions

1. The National Statistics Office of Georgia (hereinafter, Geostat) is a legal entity under the public law which is established for producing and disseminating statistical information, based on the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics.

2. Geostat is an independent body that carries out its activities in accordance with the Constitution of Georgia, internationally recognized statistical principles, the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics, the Law of Georgia on Legal Entities under the Public Law, this Statute, the Statute of the Board of Geostat and other legal acts.

3. Geostat is the leading producer of official statistics in the country and coordinates the national system of statistics and all kinds of statistical activities related to the development, production, and dissemination of official statistics, except for the activities of the National Bank of Georgia.

4. In order to achieve its intended objectives and exercise its assigned functions, Geostat shall acquire rights and obligations, conclude agreements, act in relations with third parties in its own name, as well as be a plaintiff or/and a defendant in court.

5. Geostat possesses its independent balance sheet, a bank account, a seal with the name and the image of the state emblem, letterhead and other characteristics of a legal entity.

6. The legal address of Geostat is as follows: 30 Tsotne Dadiani Str., Tbilisi.

7. The official website of Geostat is as follows: https://www.geostat.ge.

Chapter II

Main directions, objectives and functions of Geostat

Article 2. Main objectives and functions of Geostat

Main objectives and functions of Geostat shall be the following:

a) To ensure the production and dissemination of independent, objective, and reliable official statistics in Georgia, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics of the United Nations and European Statistics Code of Practice, as well as the internationally recognized statistical methodology;

b) To provide timely, high-quality statistical information for the development and monitoring of economic and social policy, as well as for decision-making by public institutions and business entities, for conducting scientific research, and for informing the public and other user groups;

c) To ensure coordination of the National Statistical System and statistical activities;

d) To develop statistical standards and recommendations, implement them, and improve the quality and expand the scope of official statistics; To participate in ongoing international processes and activities and cooperate with international organizations.

Article 3. Functions of Geostat

The functions of Geostat are as follows:

a) To develop a unified policy for the field of statistics and ensure coordinated work with other bodies producing the statistics;

b) To develop the Statistical Work Programme;

c) To coordinate the implementation of the Statistical Work Programme;

d) To conduct statistical surveys;

e) To collect, process and store data in accordance with the best professional practice, including adherence to scientific principles and professional ethics;

f) To conduct censuses envisaged by Chapter VIII of the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics;

g) To define terms, methodology, classifications, and nomenclature of official statistics, in accordance with international concepts and classifications as far as possible;

h) To develop, produce and update various statistical registers;

i) To develop criteria for determining other bodies producing official statistics and the procedure for their recognition;

j) To facilitate dialogue between producers and users of official statistics on the need for statistics for national, regional, and local policy development, monitoring, and evaluation purposes;

k) To introduce and protect quality management concepts in the National Statistics System, except for the National Bank of Georgia;

l) To facilitate the correct interpretation of statistical data;

m) To promote public awareness of the role and importance of statistics;

n) To ensure equal access to official statistics for all users;

o) To present the national statistical system in discussions on current or future issues of official statistics at the international level;

p) To prepare Geostat's annual activity report;

q) To promote professional training of employees of Geostat and other bodies producing official statistics;

r) To establish statistical territorial units and define their scope of work;

s) To draw up the administrative offence report and present it to the court, within the area of its competence;

t) To carry out other activities as defined in the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics and the Statute of Geostat.

Chapter III

Management of Geostat

Article 4. Executive Director of Geostat

1. Geostat shall be led by the Executive Director. The Executive Director is appointed by the Prime Minister of Georgia, in accordance with the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics, for a term of 4 years.

2. A candidate for the position of Executive Director is selected through an open competition publicly announced by Geostat, by an independent Competition Commission established by a decree of the Government of Georgia.

3. The Executive Director may not be a member of a political party or engage in other political activities during the term of office.

4. (Deleted – 21.04.2026, №159)

5. The Executive Director, at the same time, is the Chairman of the Board of Geostat and the Chairman of the Advisory Board of Geostat.

6. The terms for termination of the Executive Director's authority are determined by the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics.

7. The termination of the authority of the Executive Director shall automatically result in termination of his membership in the Board of Geostat and the Advisory Board of Geostat.

8. The Executive Director shall have two deputies. Deputy Executive Director shall be appointed and dismissed by the Executive Director in accordance with the procedure determined by Georgian legislation.

9. In the absence of the Executive Director, one of the Deputy Executive Directors perform his/her duties based on the relevant order.

10. The Deputy Executive Directors are accountable to the Executive Director.

11. By the decision of the Prime Minister of Georgia, one of the deputies of the Executive Director shall perform the duties of the Executive Director, the Chairman of the Board of Geostat and the Chairman of the Advisory Board of Geostat, in the event envisaged in Article 10, paragraph 14 of the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics.

12. Functions of the Executive Director are as follows:

a) To lead Geostat;

b) To develop the Statistical Work Programme, agree it with the Board of Geostat, and submit it to the Government of Georgia for approval;

c) To develop programmes for Population and Agricultural Census and submit them for approval to the Government Commission for the Coordination of Population Census;

d) To develop the programme for the Economic census and submit it for approval to the Government of Georgia;

e) To develop and approve statistical standards, classifications, and methodologies used in the production of official statistics, as well as to recognize relevant international standards, classifications, and methodologies;

f) To design and approve the methodology for various types of censuses;

g) To appoint and dismiss Advisory Board members of Geostat;

h) To prepare the stuffing structure and salary fund of Geostat and submit them to the Geostat Board for approval;

i) To appoint and dismiss employees of Geostat;

j) To develop the draft budget of Geostat;

k) To develop criteria and rules for the determination of other bodies producing official statistics and submit them to the Government of Georgia for approval;

l) To submit Geostat's annual activity report to the Geostat Board for review and approval;

m) To submit Geostat's annual activity report to the Government of Georgia and the Parliament of Georgia no later than 1 May of each year;

n) To ensure publicity of Geostat's annual activity report;

o) To develop the rules and conditions for the delivery of printed statistical publications by Geostat and submit them to the Geostat Board for approval;

p) To develop the rules for determining the types and fees of services for additional processing of statistical data outside the Statistical Work Programme and submit it to the Geostat Board for approval;

q) To perform other functions as defined by the Statute of Geostat and Georgian legislation.

13. The Executive Director shall be authorized to delegate some of the functions defined by Statute of Geostat, except for those provided for in paragraph 12 of this article, to a person authorized by him/her.

14. The Executive Director shall be authorized within the scope of his/her competence to issue a normative act (order) in accordance with the present law and the Organic Law of Georgia "On Normative Acts".

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

Decree of the Government of Georgia №159 of 21 April 2026 - website, 22.04.2026

Article 5. Board of Geostat

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

2. The Board is a body established for the strategic development of official statistics and the professional independence of its producing bodies.

3. The Board shall consist of 9 members. One of them is the Executive Director of Geostat, who at the same time serves as the Chairman of the Board.

4. Out of the 9 members of the Board, 1 member shall be a representative of the National Bank of Georgia, 1 – a representative of the Ministry of Finance of Georgia, and 1 – a representative of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia. Their nominations are submitted to the Prime Minister of Georgia for approval by the heads of the respective institutions.

5. The remaining 5 members of the Council must not be employed in a public institution. Candidates for these positions are selected by an independent Competition Commission established by a decree of the Government of Georgia, based on an open competition publicly announced by Geostat.

6. (Deleted – 21.04.2026, №159)

7. The Board member referred to in paragraph 5 of this article shall be appointed by the Prime Minister of Georgia, in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics, from among the candidates selected through the open competition.

8. The term of office of the Executive Director as a member of the Board shall be determined by the period of his/her term as Executive Director.

9. After the expiration of the term in office of the Executive Director, the same person shall be eligible to become a member of the Board in accordance with the procedure established by this Statute.

10. The term of office of the members of the Board defined by paragraph 4 of Article 5 of this Statute shall be determined by the period during which they hold the relevant position in public service.

11. The term of office of the members of the Board determined by paragraph 5 of Article 5 of this Statute shall be 4 (four) years.

12. After the termination of the Board member's term of office, the same person has the right to participate in the open competition for the selection of the Board members.

13. The composition of the independent Competition Commission, the procedures for conducting the open competition, and the mandatory qualification requirements for candidates for Board membership shall be determined by a decree of the Government of Georgia, as provided for in paragraph 3 of Article 10 of the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics.

Decree of the Government of Georgia №248 of 7 July 2025 - website, 08.07.2025

Decree of the Government of Georgia №159 of 21 April 2026 - website, 22.04.2026

Article 6. Functions of the Board

1. The functions of the Board are as follows:

a) To submit relevant recommendations with regard to the statistical activities of Geostat;

b) To review the Statistical Work Programme submitted by the Executive Director of Geostat and to develop relevant recommendations;

c) To periodically review the progress of the implementation of the Statistical Work Programmes;

d) To review and approve the annual report of Geostat submitted by the Executive Director;

e) To review the criteria and rules for determining other bodies producing official statistics and the procedure for their recognition, as developed by Geostat, and to develop relevant recommendations;

f) To develop relevant recommendations for the Census program;

g) To review and approve the staffing structureand salary fund of Geostat;

h) To review the draft budget of Geostat and to prepare appropriate recommendations;

i) To determine types and fees of services related to the additional processing of statistical data outside the scope of the Statistical Work Programme, upon submission by the Executive Director of Geostat;

j) To provide statistical data in hard copies and determine the manner and conditions of delivery of printed publications, upon submission by the Executive Director of Geostat;

k) To prepare and approve the Board Statute, which shall determine the operational and decision-making procedures of the Board;

l) To approve the procedure for providing access to confidential data for scientific and research purposes;

m) To carry out other activities as determined by the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics and the Statute of the Board.

2. The Board is authorized, within the scope of its competence, to adopt a normative act (resolution) in accordance with the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics and the Organic Law of Georgia on Normative Acts".

3. Information on the composition, mandate, as well as its work shall be public.

Chapter IV

Consultation Bodies of Geostat

Article 7. Advisory Board of Geostat

1. The Advisory Board of Geostat (hereinafter, the Advisory Board) is a consultative body of 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. The Advisory Board of Geostat shall consist of at least 9 members. One of them is the Executive Director who, at the same time, serves as the Chairman of the Advisory Board.

3. In case of early termination of the Executive Director's term of office, the members of the Advisory Board shall continue to perform their duties until a new Executive Director is appointed.

4. The mandatory qualifications required for the Advisory Board members, the functioning of the Advisory Board, and its decision-making rules are defined by the Statute of the Advisory Board of Geostat, which is approved by the Executive Director of Geostat.

Article 8. Functions of the Advisory Board

1. The functions of the Advisory Board are as follows:

a) To provide consultations to Geostat regarding statistical activities and to submit recommendations;

b) To perform scientific analysis of statistical standards and methodologies used in statistical activities and to prepare recommendations for the Executive Director of Geostat;

c) To review modern methods of statistical activities, provide consultations and submit proposals to the Executive Director regarding the improvement of statistical methodologies;

d) To carry out other activities determined by the Law of Georgia on Official Statistics and the Statute of the Advisory Board of Geostat.

Article 9. Other Advisory Body

1. The Executive Director of Geostat is authorized to establish other consultative body to support the promotion of strategic and methodological activities in the field of official statistics. Its members shall be selected from within or outside the national statistical system.

2. Information about the mandate, composition, and activities of the other Advisory Body shall be public.

Chapter V

Structure of Geostat, functions of structural units and their management

Article 10. Structure of Geostat

1. Geostat shall fulfill its rights and obligations through its structural units – departments and territorial bodies.

2. The Geostat consists of the following departments:

a) Department of Strategic Planning and Coordination

b) Department of International and Public Relations

C) Internal Audit Department

d) Information Technology Department

e) National Accounts Department

f) Business Statistics Department

g) Price Statistics Department

h) Social Statistics Department

i) Agricultural and Environment Statistics Department

j) Population Census and Demographic Statistics Department

k) External Trade and Foreign Investments Statistics Department

Article11. Main functions of Geostat structural units

1. **The main functions of Department of Strategic Planning and Coordination** are as follows:

a) Development, coordination, and monitoring of statistical methodology, standards and classifications;

b) Ensuring, coordination, and monitoring of the quality of the statistical data;

c) Development, coordination, and monitoring of statistical work programs;

d) Ensuring the development of Geostat's strategic and policy documents and monitoring their implementation;

e) Legal support;

f) Ensuring compliance with the legal regulatory norms and rules established by Georgian legislation in the field of occupational safety;

g) Coordination and management of budgetary and financial-economic activities of Geostat;

h) Financial and accounting reporting;

i) Protection and inventory of financial and non-financial assets;

j) Management and development of human resources;

k) Management of documents;

l) Implementation of archival activities;

m) Protection of confidentiality of relevant documents;

n) Organization, implementation and reporting of public procurement;

o) Provision of administrative and material-technical support;

p) Carrying out other authorities under the legislation of Georgia.

2. The main functions of the **Department of International and Public Relations** are as follows:

a) Ensuring public relations;

b) Ensuring relations with local and international organizations;

c) Providing organizational support for the activities of Geostat Board and the Advisory Board;

d) Ensuring the coordination of activities related to the dissemination of statistical data;

e) Coordinating the preparation of Geostat activity reports;

f) Ensuring communication with mass media;

g) Ensuring access to public information;

h) Coordinating and providing photo and video services for Geostat activities;

i) Carrying out other authorities under the legislation of Georgia.

3. The main functions of the **Internal Audit Department** are as follows:

a) Assessing compliance of Geostat activities with the legislation of Georgia and relevant regulatory acts;

b) Assessing the quality of risk management facing by Geostat;

c) Assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of financial management and control system;

d) Carrying out other activities stemming from the specifics of Geostat's activities that do not contradict Georgian legislation and the independence principles of internal audit;

d) Implementing the internal audit process, developing recommendations based on relevant findings and analysis, and monitoring their realization;

f) Carrying out other authorities under the legislation of Georgia.

4. The main functions of the **Information Technology Department** shall be as follows:

a) Ensuring software support for statistical activities, design, protection, and administration of database;

b) Creation, updating and ensuring the security of geo-information maps and databases;

c) Ensuring the systematic and the technical maintenance of computers, telephones, network and peripheral equipment; creation, administration and providing security of regional and local computer networks;

c) Ensure security, administration and updating of Geostat website.

5. The main functions of the **National Accounts Department** are as follows:

a) Production of the System of National Accounts;

b) Collection and processing of statistical data related to the public finance and the monetary system;

c) Production the satellite accounts.

6. The functions of **Business Statistics Department** are as follows:

a) Creation, updating and coordination of the system of registers for legal entities under private and public law;

b) Planning, organizing, analysing and disseminating statistical surveys regarding the entities engaged in various types of economic activities;

c) Production of the Energy Balance;

d) Planning, organizing, conducting, analysing, and disseminating tourism statistical survey.

e) Planning, organizing, conducting, analysing, and disseminating the results of economic censuses;

7. The basic functions of **Price Statistics Department** are as follows:

a) Price registration;

b) calculation and dissemination of consumer, producer, and other price indices;

c) Participation in international comparison programs.

8. The main functions of the **Social Statistics Department** are as follows:

a) Planning, organizing, conducting, analysing and disseminating the results of household income and expenditure surveys, surveys of the use of information and communication technologies by households, as well as other statistical surveys of the standard of living conditions;

b) Planning, organizing, conducting, analyzing and disseminating the results of labour force statistical surveys;

c) Planning, organizing, conducting, analyzing and disseminating the results of statistical surveys on wages;

d) Collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of statistical data in the area of social sphere (healthcare, education, culture, crime, etc.);

e) Planning, organizing, conducting, analyzing and disseminating the results of other statistical surveys related to the social sphere;

f) Collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of gender statistics.

9. The main functions of the **Agricultural and Environment Statistics Department** are as follows:

a) Planning, organizing, conducting, analyzing and disseminating the results of agricultural censuses;

b) Planning, organizing, conducting, analyzing and disseminating the results of various statistical surveys in the fields of agriculture and environment;

c) Production of food balances.

10. The main functions of the **Population Census and Demographic Statistics Department** are as follows:

a) Planning, organizing, conducting, analyzing and disseminating the results of population censuses;

b) Collection, processing and analysis, and dissemination of primary data reflecting vital statistics and population migration;

c) Planning, organizing, conducting, analyzing and disseminating the results of other statistical surveys related to the demographic sphere.

11. The main functions of the **External Trade and Foreign Investments Statistics Department** are as follows:

a) Planning, organizing, conducting, analyzing and disseminating the data on foreign economic activities (including Foreign Direct Investments (FDI));

b) Processing, analyzing and disseminating the data on external drade;

c) Carrying out the Mirror Comparison of export-import data;

d) Collection and processing of statistical data for the Balance of Payments (including international services by types of activities), external debt statistics and International Investment Position.

Article 12. Management of structural units

1. A structural unit is managed by a Head of Department.

2. The Head of Department is appointed and dismissed by the Executive Director of Geostat, in accordance with Georgian legislation.

3. The head of the department directly reports to the Executive Director and the supervising Deputy.

4. The Head of Department:

a) Distributes responsibilities among employees of the subordinate structural unit/division and monitors their performance

b) Submits proposals to the Executive Director on organization of work of the structural unit, incentives, or disciplinary measures;

c) Is responsible for decision-making and organization of the unit;

d) Within the scope of his/her competence, reviews applications and other correspondence;

e) Performs individual tasks of the Executive Director or supervising deputy;

f) Performs other functions provided by legislation.

Article 13. Territorial Bodies of Geostat

a) Tbilisi Statistics Bureau

b) Adjara Statistics Bureau

c) Guria Statistics Bureau

d) Imereti Statistics Bureau

e) Kakheti Statistics Bureau

f) Mtskheta-Mtianeti Statistics Bureau

g) Racha–Lechkhumi and Kvemo Svaneti Statistics Bureau

h) Samegrelo-Zemo Svaneti Statistics Bureau

i) Samtskhe-Javakheti Statistics Bureau

j) Kvemo Kartli tatistics Bureau

k) Shida Kartli Statistics Bureau

2. The main functions of territorial bodies shall be as follows:

a) Organizing and conducting statistical surveys in their territory;

b) Collecting, processing and analyzing statistical data;

c) Ensuring coordination and communication with users and respondents of statistical information;

d) Carrying out the other activities provided by legislation.

3) Territorial bodies of Geostat are managed by the Head of Bureau.

4) The Head of Bureau is appointed and dismissed by the Executive Director of Geostat, in accordance with the legislation.

5. The area of activity of territorial bodies is determined by the order of the Executive Director of Geostat.

Chapter VI

Funding and Property of Geostat

Article 14. Funding and Property of Geostat

1. Geostat is financed by:

a) The state budget of Georgia each year, in accordance with the Law of Georgia on the State Budget of the respective year;

b) Revenues received from the provision of statistical services;

c) G rants issued by a grantor (donor) as defined in Article 3 of the Law of Georgia on Grants;

d) Other sources permitted by the legislation of Georgia.

2. In order to exercise the powers granted by law, Geostat shall be provided with state property in the manner and form determined by Georgian legislation.

Chapter VII

The rules for introduction of amendments and additions to the Statute of Geostat, reorganization and liquidation of Geostat

Article 15. Introduction of amendments and additions to the Statute of Geostat

Introduction of amendments and additions to the Statute of Geostat is performed in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the legislation of Georgia.

Article 16. Reorganization and liquidation of Geostat

The reorganization and liquidation of Geostat are performed in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the legislation of Georgia.