

LOI N° 99-014 du 12 avril 2000 portant création Organisation et Fonctionnement
du Conseil National de la Statistique

THE STATISTICS ACT, 2002

Being an Act to establish Statistics Sierra Leone as a body corporate for the collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of official and other statistics and to provide for other related matters.

ENACTED by the President and Members of Parliament in this present Parliament assembled.

PART 1 - PRELIMINARY

1. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

“business” means any person carrying on a commercial activity whether corporate or unincorporated;

“Constitution” means the Constitution of the Republic of Sierra Leone, 1991,(Act No. 6 of 1991);

“Council” means the Statistics Sierra Leone Council referred to in section 3;

“document” includes:

a) a form, questionnaire, schedule, notice or report whether in printed or photographic form;

b) a documentary recording or transcribed computer printout or record capable of being produced as a printout by a mechanical or electronic device;

c) a medium or device by means of which information is recorded or stored;

“household” means a group of people who live together at least four nights a week, eat together and share resources, or a single person who lives alone;

“Minister” means the Minister responsible for development;

“officer”, in relation to Statistics Sierra Leone, means a member of the staff of Statistics Sierra Leone;

“official statistics” means statistics designated as official statistics by the Statistician-General;

“other organisation” means any non-governmental or non-profit organisation, voluntary association or other organisation other than a business or household;

“return” means a document completed by:

(a) a respondent;

(b) or an officer of Statistics Sierra Leone which produces statistics, for the purpose of producing official or other statistics;

“statistical collection” means the process of:

a) conducting a population or other census or a sample survey; or

b) collating administrative records or data for statistical purposes;

“Statistician-General” means the person appointed as Statistician-General under this Act;

“statistics” means aggregated numerical information relating to demographic,

economic, financial, environmental, social or similar matters, at national, regional or local level, which is compiled and analysed according to relevant scientific and statistical methodology;

PART 11 - ESTABLISHMENT OF STATISTICS SIERRA LEONE

2. (1) There is hereby established of a body to be known as Statistics Sierra Leone.

(2) Statistics Sierra Leone shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and capable of acquiring, holding and disposing of any property, whether movable or immovable, and of suing and being sued in its corporate name and subject to this Act, of performing all such acts as bodies corporate may by law perform.

(3) Statistics Sierra Leone shall have a common seal, the use of which shall be authenticated by the signature of the Statistician-General and any other member of the Council designated in that behalf by the Council.

3 The governing body of Statistics Sierra Leone shall be a Council which shall, subject to this Act, have the control and supervision of Statistics Sierra Leone, provide strategic guidance to the Statistician-General in all areas of statistics, in particular in the area of the quality of the statistics series and on strategies of improving data production as well as advise the Minister on matters concerning government statistical policy.

4 (1) The Council shall consist of a Chairman and the following other members :-

(a) four members nominated by the Minister one each from the Northern Province, Southern Province, Eastern Province and the Western Area respectively;

(b) the following persons or their representatives:-

(i) the Vice Chancellor, University of Sierra Leone;

(ii) the Governor, Bank of Sierra Leone;

(iii) the President, Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture;

(iv) the Development Secretary;

(v) the Financial Secretary;

(vi) the Commissioner of Labour;

(vii) the Resident Representative, United Nations Development Programme;

(viii) the President, Sierra Leone Association of Journalists; and

(ix) the Statistician-General who shall be secretary to the Council.

(2) The Chairman and the members of the Council referred to in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of Parliament, but no person shall be appointed if he is under a legal disability from holding public office.

5. (1) The Chairman and the members of the Council referred to in paragraph (a)

of subsection (1) of section 4 shall hold office for a period of three years and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

(2) A person shall cease to be a member of the Council on any of the following grounds:

(a) for his inability to perform the functions of his office by reason of infirmity of mind or body;

(b) for proven misconduct;

© if he becomes bankrupt or insolvent;

(d) if he is convicted of a criminal offence;

(e) if he fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Council without reasonable cause;

(f) if he resigns his office by written notice to the Minister.

6. The Chairman and the other members of the Council shall be entitled to such remuneration, fees and allowances as the Council may after consultation with the Minister, determine.

7. (1) Where the Chairman or a member of the Council dies, resigns, is removed from office or is absent from Sierra Leone for a continuous period exceeding three months or is by reason of illness unable to perform the functions of his office,

(a) the members of the Council shall elect one of their number to act as Chairman until such time as the Chairman resumes his office or another is appointed in his stead; and

(b) in the case of the member, the Chairman shall arrange, subject to this Act, to have another person appointed, elected or nominated to the Council, as the case may be.

(2) Where a person is elected as Chairman or appointed as a member to fill a vacancy, he shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the previous Chairman or member and shall, subject to this Act, be eligible for re-appointment, re-election or re-nomination, as the case may be.

8 (1). The Council shall meet, for the dispatch of business at such time and place as the Chairman may decide but shall meet at least once every two months.

(2) The Chairman shall, at the request in writing of not less than eight members of the Council, call an extraordinary meeting of the Council at such time and

place as he may determine.

(3) The Chairman shall preside at the meetings of the Council and in his absence the members present shall elect one of their number to preside.

(4) The Council may at any time co-opt any person to act as an adviser at its meeting but the person shall not be entitled to vote on any matter for decision by the Council.

(5) A member of the Council who has any interest, whether direct or indirect in any matter being considered by the Council, shall disclose the nature of his interest to the Council and such disclosure shall be recorded in the minutes of the Council and such member shall not take part in any deliberation or decision of the Council relating to that matter; and a member who contravenes this subsection shall be guilty of misconduct and liable to be removed from the Council.

(6) The quorum at a meeting of the Council shall be eight.

(7) All questions proposed at a meeting of the Council shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present and where the votes are equal the Chairman or the person presiding shall have a casting vote.

(8) Any proposal circulated among all members and agreed to in writing by two-thirds majority of all members shall be of the same force or effect as a decision made at a duly constituted meeting of the Council and shall be incorporated in the minutes of the next succeeding meeting of the Council:

Provided that, if a member requires that such proposal be placed before a meeting of the Council, this section shall not apply to such proposal.

(9) The Council shall cause minutes of all its meetings to be taken and signed by the Chairman and kept in the proper form.

(10) Subject to this Act, the Council shall regulate the procedure at its meetings.

9 (1). The Council may for the discharge of its functions appoint one or more Committees to perform such functions as the Council may determine.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Council shall appoint a Statistical Coordinating Committee and a National Census Advisory Committee consisting of such members and performing such functions as the Council may determine.

(3) A Committee shall submit the report of its proceedings to the Council at such time as the Council may determine.

PART 111 - FUNCTIONS OF STATISTICS SIERRA LEONE

10 (1) The object for which Statistics Sierra Leone is established is to serve as the central authority for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of accurate, clear, relevant, timely and high quality statistical information on social, demographic, economic and financial activities to serve the needs of users including government and the general public.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), it shall be the responsibility of Statistics Sierra Leone to-

(a) supervise and manage a national population census to be conducted every ten years or at such shorter interval as may be determined by the President;

(b) review and approve all definitions and classification schemes employed in statistical work with particular reference to issues of labour statistics, gender, disability, regional and similar socio-economic issues in accordance with appropriate national and international standards and classifications;

© ensure the efficient and comprehensive collection, processing, analysis, documentation and storage of statistical information throughout Sierra Leone;

(d) compile, report and document statistical data as well as maintain libraries or archives of statistical publications and make them accessible to the public;

(e) impartially disseminate statistical information to government departments, other institutions and the general public;

(f) establish and maintain such offices in Sierra Leone necessary for the operations of Statistics Sierra Leone;

(g) promote co-ordination and integration of statistical activities of data collecting agencies including the Bank of Sierra Leone and the Ministry of Finance in accordance with recognised international technical standards in order to advance the quality, consistency, comparability and optimum use of official statistics and to avoid unnecessary duplication;

(h) create public awareness of statistical collection and other activities related to the collection of statistics;

(i) designate statistics produced by Statistics Sierra Leone or other institutions as 'official statistics';

(j) delegate any power conferred or duty imposed on Statistics Sierra Leone by this Act and impose conditions for such delegation;

(k) furnish the Minister each year with a report in respect of the activities of Statistics Sierra Leone during that year, which report the Minister shall table before Parliament;

(l) promote and develop statistical training;

(m) protect respondents from undue burden and breaches of confidentiality; and

(n) do all other things that may promote the object of Statistics Sierra Leone stated in subsection (1).

11. Subject to this Act, in the performance of its functions under this Act, Statistics Sierra Leone shall not be subject to the control or direction of any person or authority.

PART IV EMPLOYEES OF STATISTICS SIERRA LEONE

12 (1) Statistics Sierra Leone shall have an officer with the designation of Statistician-General, appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Minister and on such terms and conditions as the Council may determine.

(2). No person shall be appointed to be Statistician-General unless he has proven technical knowledge and ability in the collection, analysis and application of statistics.

(3) The Statistician-General shall be the chief executive officer of Statistics Sierra Leone and shall be responsible for the implementation of the decisions of the Council.

(4) Subject to the general supervision and control of the Council, the Statistician-General shall be responsible for:

(a) the day-to-day administration of Statistics Sierra Leone;

(b) the organization, discipline and control of the officers and other staff of Statistics Sierra Leone;

(c) the management of the funds, property and business of Statistics Sierra Leone.

13 (1) There shall be appointed by the Council such other employees as

Statistics Sierra Leone may require for the efficient discharge of its functions under this Act.

(2) Other public officers may be transferred to or otherwise give assistance to Statistics Sierra Leone.