

ACT

of November 29, 2001

on State Statistics

The National Council of the Slovak Republic has resolved upon the following Act:

PART ONE
BASIC PROVISIONS

Article 1
Subject of the Regulation

The following Act shall regulate the criteria for collecting statistical information necessary for assessment of socio-economic developments, position and competencies of bodies executing the State statistics, roles of public bodies in the field of State statistics, rights and obligations of reporting units, protection of confidential statistical data against their misuse, provision and publication of the statistical data, ensuring comparability of statistical information and fulfillment of commitments arising from international treaties or agreements in the field of State statistics mandatory for the Slovak Republic.

Article 2
Definitions of Basic Notions

For the purposes of this Act:

- a) "State statistics" means any systematic and planned activity where the focus is to collect, process, provide and evaluate data on phenomena of a mass nature, provide for their comparability for the purposes of assessing the socio-economic development in the Slovak Republic and its ecological contexts; ensuring of the international comparability of the statistical data also falls within this scope
- b) "reporting unit" means any legal entity or natural person requested to submit data for the State statistical survey(s) pursuant to this Act,
- c) "reporting obligation" means an obligation of the reporting unit to provide free of charge, entire, correct, true and in deadlines identified data required by the State statistical survey (hereinafter referred to as the "statistical survey") included in the State Statistical Survey Schedule (hereinafter referred to as the "Survey Schedule"),
- d) "statistical survey" means data collected from the reporting units for statistical purposes pursuant to this Act; according to their periodicity, statistical surveys may be of a short-term, long-term or non-periodic nature,

- e) "statistical data" means any data on phenomena or facts surveyed, collected in the course of statistical survey,
- f) "confidential statistical data" (hereinafter referred to as the "confidential data") means any data related to an individual reporting unit, enabling thus its direct or indirect identification collected for statistical purposes pursuant to this Act. Direct identification is an identification of the reporting unit according to its commercial name, seat and identification number of the organization or agency (hereinafter referred to as the "identification number") or according to name and surname, address of permanent residence or personal number. Indirect identification is an identification of the reporting unit using other data collected in the framework of the statistical survey,
- g) "statistical information" means any information of a socio-economic, technical or ecological nature, arising as the summary of confidential data not enabling direct or indirect identification of any reporting unit,
- h) "statistical purpose" means any usage of statistical data for numerical, verbal or graphic description of phenomena or processes of a mass nature in the society, economy or environment through the statistical information containing information on the whole or part of it,
- i) "statistical coding" means a list of numerical codes and verbal expressions attached to them,
- j) "statistical classification" means a set of elements arranged according to the classification criteria,
- k) "administrative source(s)" means any data from registers and other sets of information necessary for the State statistics collected, gathered, processed or held by the State administration authorities or public institutions;
- l) "purpose, utilization of outcomes of statistical surveys, contents and factual characteristics, statistical indicators, identification of the reporting units, frequency and deadlines for the statistical data submission shall be laid down in a Survey Schedule; it identifies bodies executing the statistical survey and ensuring processing its information.

PART TWO

BASIC GUIDELINES AND ORGANISATION OF THE STATE STATISTICS

Article 3

Basic Guidelines for the State Statistics

- 1) When executing the State statistics and implementing the Survey Schedules, the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as "Office"), ministries

or other central authorities of the State administration (hereinafter referred to as the "ministries") and agencies founded by them or other bodies of the State administration founded pursuant to special regulations) (hereinafter referred to as the "State agencies") shall be guided by this Act, special laws or other generally binding legislation and shall apply the required expertise, for practical utilisation, and professional ethics, while using scientific methods of statistical work.

2) Office, ministries or the State agencies shall be independent and impartial in their collecting, processing or evaluating of the statistical information, exerting cost efficiency and maintaining the trust of the general public and shall be guided by the principles of reliability, objectivity, transparency, openness and protection of the confidential data.

3) The right of citizens to have the access to the public information in the field of the State statistics shall be respected by the Office while maintaining a balanced relationship between the costs and statistical load on one hand and the contribution on the other hand.

Article 4

Bodies Executing the State Statistics

1) Tasks of the State statistics shall be carried out by the Office.

2) Ministries or State agencies may also carry out the tasks of the State statistics under the conditions and to the extend set by this Act.

Article 5

Office

1) The Office is the central body of the State administration for the field of State statistics.

2) Bratislava shall be the seat of the Office. The Office may establish permanent or temporary workplaces outside its seat.

Article 6

President of the Office

1) The Office shall be headed by the President. Should he/she be absent, the Vice-president of the Office shall take over the President's role to the extent of his/her rights and responsibilities.

2) President of the Office shall be appointed or dismissed by the President of the Slovak Republic on a proposal from the Slovak Government. The term of office for the President

of the Office shall be five years.

3) The same person may not be re-appointed President of the Office for more than two consequent terms of office.

4) The function of the President of the Office shall not be compatible with execution of any other position in any other public administration body, neither with any employment or similar employment arrangements, neither with any business activity, membership in management or control body of any legal entity executing business activity, neither with any other profit-making or gainful activity, except for managing own property or being involved in research, pedagogic, literary or art work.

5) Restrictions set in Paragraph 4 shall not apply to performance of research, pedagogic, publication, literary or art work.

Article 7

1) The function of the President of the Office shall expire upon any of the following circumstances:

a) expiry of the term of office (Article 6, Paragraph 2);

b) resigning the function; execution of the function shall cease from the day of delivery of the notice from the President of the Office on resigning his function to the President of the Slovak Republic;

c) dismissal from the function; or

d) his/her death.

2) President of the Office shall only be dismissed (Article 7, Paragraph 1) by the President of the Slovak Republic if the President of the Office

a) no longer meets the requirements regarding the execution of his/her function or fails to discharge causes leading to incompatibility with execution of his/her function within three months of starting the execution of his/her function pursuant to Article 6;

b) has been lawfully sentenced for deliberate criminal offence or for criminal offence with an unconditional verdict without suspension and confinement;

c) has lost his/her capabilities for legal actions or his/her capabilities for legal actions have been restricted.

3) The Vice-president of the Office shall be appointed or dismissed by the Slovak Government on the proposal from the President.

Article 8
Competencies of the Office

The Office shall:

- a) process and disclose State statistics concepts;
- b) identify methodologies for the statistical surveys managed and executed by the Office, collect and process statistical data;
- c) collaborate with the ministries and State agencies to draft the Survey Schedules;
- d) collaborate with the ministries and State agencies to compile characteristics of the statistical surveys and to identify ways of collection of the statistical data for the purposes of the State statistics;
- e) manage and ensure project and program preparation regarding the processing of the statistical surveys and identify ways of collection and technologies for processing statistical data for statistical surveys carried out by the Office;
- f) identify methodology for keeping the system of national accounts and compile national accounts;
- g) collaborate with the ministries and State agencies to set, publish and administer statistical classifications, codes and registers;
- h) identify a way of forming, allocating and announcing identification numbers,
- i) within the scope of its competencies participate in the preparation and implementation of international treaties or agreements on co-operation concluded by the Slovak Republic and represent the Slovak Republic in international bodies and agencies in the field of the State statistics;
- j) organise and execute representative opinion polls on socio-economic issues;
- k) collect and acquire foreign statistical information for the purposes of comparison of the situation and trends in economy in the Slovak Republic and abroad;
- l) prepare analyses of selected characteristics of socio-economic and ecological trend in the Slovak Republic in the whole or in its part(s);
- m) provide statistical information to the foreign entities and co-operate with the

international bodies and agencies in implementing standards and classifications in the field of statistics;

n) Inspect compliance with reporting obligation in the filed of State statistics and impose fines for any breach of compliance;

o) disclose outcomes of statistical surveys for the Slovak republic or its territorial units and administrative units, inform the public on a regular basis on socio-economic and demographic trends, provide statistical information and issue statistical publications,

p) meet other responsibilities set by law.

Article 9

The Office shall be responsible for the environment in terms of organisation and staffing as well as program and technical environment for processing outcomes of elections or referendum carried out pursuant to special laws.

(E.g. Act of the Slovak National Council No.80/1990 Coll. on Elections to the Slovak National Council under the later regulations; Act of the Slovak National Council No.346/1990 Coll. on Elections to the Self-governing Municipal Bodies under the later regulations; Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 564/1992 Coll. on Way of Carrying-out the Referenda and Act No.46/1999 Coll. on Way of Election of the President of the Slovak Republic, Plebiscite on His/Her Dismissal and on Amendments of Some Acts.)

Article 10

Statistical Council

1) Statistical Council shall be established with the Office (hereinafter referred to as the "Council"). The Council shall become a permanent expert advisory body for the President of the Office in the field of State statistics.

2) The Council shall draft proposals and recommendations regarding the State statistics concepts and discuss the Survey Schedule and other tasks according to the Council by-laws.

3) The President of the Office shall become the Chairman of the Council.

4) Council members shall be appointed or dismissed by the President of the Office upon the recommendation of the ministries, State agencies and public institutions; Council members shall be selected from the experts operating in the field of statistical theory or statistical practise.

5) Council by-laws and rules of procedure shall be approved by the President of the Office.

Article 11

Scope of the Competencies of the Ministries and State Agencies

- 1) Ministries or State agencies shall execute the duties of the State statistics to the extent required of them as flows from the Survey Schedule.
- 2) Ministries or State agencies may within the scope of their respective competencies carry out Statistical survey(s) beyond the scope of the surveys identified in the Survey Schedule.
- 3) Any survey and collection of the information and data executed by ministries or State agencies pursuant to special laws shall not fall within the State statistics program.

Article 12

Survey Schedule

- 1) Statistical surveys shall be regulated by a Survey Schedule developed by the Office in collaboration with ministries and State agencies for a three-year period. Survey Schedules shall be published in a decree by the Office not later than 60 days prior to its effective date.
- 2) Requirements for the statistical surveys to be carried out by the Office shall be submitted to the Office by the ministries or State agencies before March 31 in a year prior to the effective time period of the Survey Schedule under development.
- 3) Ministries or State agencies shall submit proposals for their own short-term statistical surveys to the Office before April 30 in a year prior to entry into force of the Survey Schedule under development and proposals for their own long-term statistical surveys before July 31 in a year prior to entry into force of Survey Schedule under development.
- 4) During the years where a new Survey Schedule is not developed, the Office may upon its own discretion or upon requirements raised by the ministries or State agencies issue a decree amending the Survey Schedule.
- 5) Survey Schedule shall be developed to
 - a) include only those surveys that are relevant and necessary from social perspective,
 - b) carry out the statistical surveys in an efficient and effective way avoiding duplication

and stressing purposeful utilisation of the administrative sources,

c) ensure that data and information collection is of a suitable quality and comparable levels.

6) The following details shall be laid down for any of the statistical surveys listed with the Survey Schedule:

a) purpose and usage of the outcomes of the statistical survey concerned,

b) characteristics of the content and procedures for the implementation of the statistical survey concerned,

c) identification of the reporting units,

d) periodicity and deadlines for the statistical data provision,

e) body in charge of the statistical survey concerned in terms of its execution and processing.

7) The scope and utilisation of administrative sources for the purposes of the State statistics shall be regulated in a separate part of the Survey Schedule.

8) Costs related to execution of the statistical surveys carried out by the ministries or State agencies and listed within the Survey Schedule shall be settled, as their duty, within budget allocation of the relevant ministry or State agency executing them.

PART THREE DATA RESOURCES

Article 13

Data Used from the Administrative Sources

1) For the purpose of execution of the State statistics, the Office may require any ministry, State agency, self-governing municipal body or public institution to provide data collected, processed or held by them in carrying out their respective activities upon special regulations. These shall be obliged to provide the Office with the data required in a laid down deadline and free of charge.

2)The Office may require in particular:

a)data on natural persons as tax payers who in a taxable year reported revenues originating from conducting business or carrying out some other independent gainful activity; data on legal entities as taxpayers who in a taxable year reported revenues

originating from whole activity and on handling all property in the following structure:

1. commercial name,
2. identification number,
3. seat in case of legal entity,
4. address of permanent residence and personal number in case of natural person,
5. date of being registered with the income taxpayers' register ,
6. date of returning certification on being registered for income tax payments,
7. date of the last updating of taxpayer's entry in the register,
8. number of the tax office within which scope the taxpayer concerned belongs according to his seat or address of permanent residence.

b) summary data on revenues and summary data on the tax reported, tax paid, any reduction of a tax base and unenforceable tax arrears by tax administrator, by the type of the tax and also broken down to a natural person as a citizen, natural person carrying out any business activity and legal entity in the structure:

1. the State budget,
2. budget of a higher-level territorial unit,
3. municipal budget,

c) data reported on a customs declaration to the extent necessary for compilation of foreign trade statistics, particularly type of goods, type of trading, customs regime, country of destination, country of origin, and/or country of trading, weight of goods, units of measurement, value of goods, identification number of inland exporter, importer or person making customs declaration, commercial name, seat, data on customs duty assessed and paid, import surcharge assessed and paid, other fees related to import as assessed and paid and on unenforceable customs arrears,

d) information on tariff and other rate measures applicable at the import,

e) data on sickness insurance and pension security scheme, commercial name in case of legal entities or permanent address and place of business (if not the same) in case of natural persons, identification number of premium payer, date registration and date of deregistration and number of insureds,

f) data on mandatory health insurance, commercial name in case of legal entities or address of permanent residence and place of business (if not the same) in case of natural persons, identification number of premium payer, number of employees registered for whom premiums are paid by a payer.

3) Upon request of the Office territorial self-governing authorities shall provide data from their respective information systems free of charge for the needs of the regional statistics.

Statistical Survey with Natural Persons

Following data may be collected within statistical surveys where natural persons are obliged to report:

- a) name and surname, personal number, address of permanent residence, business carried out by a natural person submitting the data,
- b) data on business activities;
- c) any real estate owned or rented by a natural person concerned and yields on it;
- d) size and utilisation of an agricultural land including the land not serving for agricultural production;
- e) agricultural activities though not carried out as a business activities;
- f) technical means used for agricultural activities;
- g) social and demographic characteristics of natural persons including the data on any change of place, type or duration of their stay;
- h) living standard;
- i) structure of revenues and expenditures of households;
- j) housing standard;
- k) food consumption structure and volume;
- l) any complementing function(s) of labour market;
- m) consumption of fuel and energy in households annually or in longer time-periods.

Article 15

Census of Population, Houses and Apartments

A special law shall regulate the Census of population, houses and apartments.
(E.g. Act No. 165/1998 Coll. on Census of Population, Houses and Apartments in 2001.)

Article 16

Agricultural Census

The Office or competent ministry in collaboration with municipalities shall execute

agricultural census. The municipalities using forms forwarded to them by authorities executing the census concerned shall undertake the relevant data collection; any municipal costs incurred in the context of the census shall be settled by that authority as well.

Article 17

Roles of Local State Administration and Self-governing Bodies in the Field of the State Statistics

- 1) Bodies of local state administration and self-governing bodies shall
 - a) collect, process and submit to statistical information found by them with legal entities established or founded by them to the Office,
 - b) co-operate with the Office in preparing and processing outcomes of elections or referendum,
 - c) design and execute census of population, houses and apartments following the instructions and in collaboration with the Office to the extent and under the conditions laid down in special law.
- 2) Local state administration and self-governing bodies shall be obliged to co-operate in the field of the State statistics with the Office, ministries and State agencies executing statistical surveys.

Article 18

Reporting Units

- 1) Reporting units listed within statistical surveys shall be entitled to be informed about the purpose and the extent of the survey concerned, measures securing protection of the data provided within the statistical survey, and on their rights and responsibilities.
- 2) Bodies executing the State statistics shall be obliged to forward the reporting units forms, and/or technical requirements of information and provide necessary methodological assistance for the purpose of the statistical survey execution all free of charge.
- 3) Reporting units shall be obliged to provide complete and accurate data required for the statistical surveys included in the Survey Schedule within the laid down deadlines and free of charge.
- 4) To meet its reporting obligation and objective to provide evidence of completeness and accuracy of the statistical data submitted, reporting units shall establish appropriate records in the given deadlines, particularly by keeping register(s) of data required by the statistical survey.

5) Should a reporting obligation be not met by the reporting unit, the competent authority executing the statistical survey shall be obliged to survey any necessary statistical data at the reporting unit's expense.

6) The reporting unit may not refuse its reporting obligation pursuant to this Act without prejudice to provisions of special regulations in compliance with the State, service, bank, tax or commercial confidentiality.)

(E.g. Act No. 241/2001 Coll. on Protection of Confidential Facts and on Amendments of Some Laws.)

PART FOUR INSTRUMENTS ENSURING COMPARABILITY

Article 19

Statistical Classifications and Statistical Codes

1) With the co-operation of the ministries and State agencies statistical classifications (hereinafter referred to as the "classifications") and statistical codes (hereinafter referred to as the "codes") shall be derived and communicated by the Office.

2) Classifications and codes shall be issued by the Office in a decree.

3) Classifications and codes shall be mandatory for the authorities executing State statistics and for the reporting units when providing data for the statistical survey purpose and for data processing and in other cases when stipulated by a special regulation.

(E.g. Act No. 455/1991 Coll. under the later regulations, Article 2 of the Commercial Code.)

Article 20

Statistical Registers

1) Following registers shall be kept primarily by the Office:

a) register of organisations,

b) agricultural register (farm register),

c) register of accommodation units,

d) register of census wards,

e) register of space units.

2) To keep the registers listed in Paragraph 1 the Office may use the data acquired pursuant to Article 13 or from other registers.

Article 21

1) Any legal entity or natural person who is a business-person or carries out other gainful activities pursuant to the special regulations) (hereinafter referred to as the "businessman") shall be registered by the Office with the register of organisations with data acquired according to this Act and in line with special regulations. Within the scope set by this Act the register shall become a public list of organisations.

2) Pursuant to Paragraph 1 the following data shall be filled in the register of organisations:

a) identification number,

b) commercial name,

c) seat in case of legal entity and place of business in case of a businessman,

d) regional identification of a seat and place of business, mail address, telephone or telefax number(s),

e) subject of business or other activity,

f) legal status of a legal entity,

g) date of establishment of a legal entity; date paper showing registration issued, or date of legally issued permit empowering to carry out a business in case of a businessman,

h) date and way of cancellation of legal entity; date of cancellation of eligibility to carry out a business in case of a businessman,

i) category regarding size of organisation,

j) sector for national accounts (relevant class),

k) facts on economically active or non-active organisation,

l) name and surname of a statutory representative and his/her permanent address in case of legal entity;

m) personal number and address of permanent residence in case of a businessman,

n) number of employees.

3) Internal units of an organisation shall also be filled in the register of organisations. For the purposes of the State statistics an internal unit of an organisation means a place where subject or his business or other activity is carried out. Data necessary for the registration of the internal unit of an organisation with the register of organisations shall be forwarded by the organisation upon request of the Office.

4) To update the register of organisations the Office shall be entitled to require from legal entity or businessman any data necessary and such entity/person shall be obliged to meet the Office's requirement in the deadline identified.

5) Data listed in Paragraph 2, letters a) to l) shall become public data and therefore may be provided to anybody upon request. Bodies listed in Article 31, Paragraphs 1 to 3 shall be delivered the data free of charge, other applicants will have to pay.

6) Data listed in Paragraph 2, letters m) and n) shall not become a public data.

Article 22

Data on legal entities and natural persons carrying out agricultural production and registered pursuant to a special generally binding regulation) shall be registered with the agricultural register. The Office in a special legislation may adjust details on the date register including scope of activities according to the statistical survey criteria.

Article 23

Accommodation units' register shall contain data on accommodation settings offering temporary accommodation for people and data on commercial entities operating them.

Article 24

Census wards register shall contain census circuits of the whole territory of Slovakia established pursuant to a special law.

Article 25

1) For the purposes of space identification of statistical data the space units register shall contain space units related to the territorial and administrative arrangements of the Slovak Republic.

2) Data kept with the space units register are public.

Article 26

Registers listed in Paragraphs 22 to 24 shall not be public.

Article 27

Identification Number

1) An identification number shall be used for unambiguous identification of a legal entity or businessman and is relevant for the register. The methodology for its establishing shall be prescribed by the Office.

2) The identification number shall be attached to every legal entity or businessman. Once attached the same identification number may not be attached to any other legal entity or businessman, neither in case of cancellation of legal entity or businessman who had been attached that number initially.

3) Every legal entity or a businessman shall have only one identification number. The legal entity or businessman who have been allocated an identification number in relation to their business activities and would like to expand their business activities shall be obliged to report their identification number in official contact with an authority which is entitled to issue a certificate empowering them to carry out these other activities.

4) The Office shall derive the identification number of a branch plant or other internal unit of an organisation with the same legal status from the identification number of a legal entity that the branch plant or other internal unit is a part of and from order number.

5) The identification number shall be attached by:

a) a court to legal entities registered with the Commercial Register,

b) a regional office to non-investment funds, common-interest-based associations of legal entities and non-profit organisations delivering public services,

c) the Office to foreign entities/persons, budgetary organisations and semi-budgetary organisations, foundations, land communities or other communities founded for the special purpose, political parties and political movements, church organisations and religious societies and other legal entities not registered with the Commercial Register,

d) a district office to businessmen doing business upon issued licence,

e) the Office to businessmen doing business upon permits other than licence.

6) Should an incorrect identification number be attached, correction action shall be taken by the authority, which attached the incorrect identification number.

7) Identification numbers for the needs of judges, regional offices and district offices shall be provided by the Office.

8) A legal entity with no identification number attached pursuant to Paragraph 5, letters a), b) or d) shall be obliged to announce to the Office its establishment and other facts needed for the allocation of an identification number and registration with the register of organisations within ten days since its establishment. The same obligation shall apply also if there is a change or cancellation of the above facts.

9) The obligation laid down in Paragraph 8 may be met by the founder, establisher of the body or regional office on behalf of the legal entity concerned.

10) Any businessman carrying out business activities which are not licensed shall be attached the identification number by the Office upon data collected from legal entities, municipalities or State administrative authorities issuing certificates on eligibility for such activities pursuant to special regulations.

11) Identification number shall be notified by the Office to the legal entity or natural person concerned within ten days since the delivery of data listed in Paragraphs 8 and 10.

12) The general regulation on administrative proceedings (Act No. 71/1967 Coll. on Administrative Proceedings (Administrative Code)) shall not apply to identification numbers attached pursuant to this Act.

Article 28

Identification Number of Space Units

Any space unit shall be identified by its identification number, which shall not be changed during the whole existence of a space unit concerned. Any newly established basic territorial unit or any territorial technical unit shall be given the identification number by the Office.

PART FIVE

DISSEMINATION OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Obligation to Maintain Confidentiality and Confidential Data Protection

Article 29

- 1) Employees of authorities or bodies executing the State statistics, mayors of municipalities or employees of other entities providing the processing of the statistical surveys or data collection for agricultural census or natural persons executing this activity upon contracts or agreements concluded, shall be obliged to maintain confidentiality regarding confidential data they know.
- 2) Any provision or publication of confidential data under the conditions provided for in this Act shall not constitute violence to confidentiality obligation.
- 3) Obligation to maintain confidentiality shall continue after the employment contract has ceased to exist or once the relevant work is completed.

Article 30

- 1) No confidential data may be published, communicated or used for purposes other than the statistical ones, unless approved so by legal entities or natural persons who had provided them and to whom the data refers.
- 2) Approval pursuant to Paragraph 1 must be made in writing and it must be obvious from it what confidential data is covered and in what way can be used.
- 3) Confidential data may only be provided abroad if that is necessary for meeting liabilities arising from an international treaty mandatory for the Slovak Republic, and if a receiving country provides at least the same level of data protection as is given in the Slovak Republic.
- 4) Authorities or bodies executing State statistics may provide confidential data for research purposes to legal entities where the basic mission is to carry out science or research if conditions for data protection are ensured by such legal entities. Data shall be provided in such a form as will not enable direct identification of a legal entity or natural person whom the shared data refer to.
- 5) If in a given set identified through a statistical survey methodology not more than one data can be obtained, bodies executing State statistics may publish or provide data referring to one single case if, considering the circumstances, the person to whom the data refer can be neither identified nor traced back.
- 6) Any data that can be found in generally accessible resource developed in line with legislation (e.g. directories, lists, codes, registers) or any data disclosed publicly by reporting units about themselves or any data that can be found easily or data arising from summary of sufficient number (at least three) of confidential data so that reporting units falling within the summary can not be identified shall not be deemed to be confidential.
- 7) The Office, ministries or State agencies shall be obliged to adopt all the measures to

protect confidential data against their misuse, primarily to adopt necessary organisational or technical actions and ensure that only staff instructed in writing on their obligation to meet confidentiality obligation regarding the confidential data concerned shall be working with them.

8) If any personal data are a part of the statistical survey, the Office shall process, use or protect them pursuant to a special law.

(Act No. 52/1998 Coll. on Protection of Personal data in Information Systems.)

Article 31

Statistical Information Granting

1) The following bodies or authorities shall be granted statistical information by the Office free of charge and in the scope, deadlines and frequency agreed:

a) the President of the Slovak Republic;

b) the National Council;

c) the Government;

d) ministries, National Bank of Slovakia, legal entities established by law as public institutions, Slovak Intelligence Service, local State administration bodies, local self-governing bodies, central bodies of trade unions and associations and unions of employers;

e) Eurostat, Statistical Office of European Communities.

2) Any other international agency or institution shall be granted statistical information free of charge if there is a mutual data exchange process or if stipulated by an international treaty mandatory for the Slovak Republic. When providing statistical information Paragraph 4 shall be followed otherwise.

3) Apart from the cases listed in Paragraphs 1 and 2 the Office shall be entitled to provide statistical information acquired through statistical surveys to anybody upon request at fee agreed in line with the price regulations.

4) Statistical information disclosed by the Office shall be provided to international agencies or institutions by the ministries or State agencies. If providing statistical information other than that disclosed by the Office, the ministry or State agency concerned shall inform the Office about that.

5) Bodies or authorities executing the State statistics pursuant to Paragraph 4 may

mutually and free of charge exchange the statistical information incurred within the Survey Schedule.

Article 32

Fines

1) Following fines may be imposed in case of violating any obligation laid down by this Act:

- a) SKK 100,000 for the failure to meet reporting obligation pursuant to Article 18, Paragraph 3 by the reporting unit;
- b) SKK 50,000 for the failure to meet the obligation laid down by Article 30 on granting confidential data;
- c) SKK 20,000 for the failure to meet the obligation laid down by Article 18, Paragraph 4 by reporting unit or for failure to meet obligation laid down by Article 27, Paragraphs 3 and 8.

2) Relevance of a failure to meet reporting obligation, circumstances leading to the failure, duration of a failure and consequence(s) for statistical survey shall be considered when determining the amount of fine.

3) Fines pursuant to Paragraph 1 may be imposed within one year from the day when the failure concerned has been revealed by the Office, ministry or State agency competent for imposing fine, however not later than within three years from the day when the failure occurred.

4) The general regulation on administrative proceedings shall apply to fine imposing proceedings pursuant to this Act.

5) The relevant office, ministry or State agency executing the statistical survey and to which the reporting unit is obliged to meet its reporting obligation shall be authorised to impose a fine.

6) Any fine imposed shall become the State budget revenue.

Article 33

1) Any failure to meet the confidentiality obligation pursuant to Article 29 shall be deemed to be an offence for which a fine of up to SKK 100,000 may be imposed without prejudice to the provisions of special regulations on damage indemnification.

2) Any offence pursuant to Paragraph 1 shall be discussed by a district office pursuant to a special regulation.(Act of the Slovak National Council No. 372/1990 Coll. on Offences under the later regulations.)

3) Any fine imposed shall become the State budget revenue.

PART SIX TEMPORARY AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 34

1) Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Bratislava, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Trnava, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Trenčín, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Nitra, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Zilina, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Banská Bystrica, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Presov and Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Kosice hereby cease to exist as of the day of entering into force of this Act.

2) The Office shall take over rights and responsibilities of Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Bratislava, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Trnava, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Trenčín, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Nitra, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Zilina, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Banská Bystrica, Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Presov and Regional Administration of the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in Kosice resulting from employment relationships, property ownership or any other relationship as of the day of entering into force of this Act.

3) Any statistical survey approved prior to the entry into force of this Act and completed or executed after its entry into force shall be deemed to be a statistical survey approved according to this Act. Any identification number attached prior to its entry into force shall be deemed to be attached pursuant to this Act.

Article 35

Provisions of this Act regarding protection of the confidential data shall apply also to the individual data collected the from statistical surveys prior the date of entry into force of this Act.

Article 36

Following is hereby revoked:

1. Act of the Slovak National Council No. 322/1992 Coll. on State Statistics under the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 453/1992 Coll., Act of the Slovak National Council No. 2/1993 Coll., Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 155/1993 Coll., Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 74/1995 Coll., Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 301/1995 Coll., Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 278/1996 Coll. and Act No. 306/1999 Coll.;
2. Act of the National Council of the Slovak Republic No. 45/1993 Coll. on State Statistic Surveys Executed with Population;
3. Decree of the Federal Statistical Office and Federal Ministry of Finance No. 243/1988 Coll. on Statistical Surveys and Accounting Reporting.

Article 37

This Act shall enter into force on January 1, 2002.

Rudolf Schuster p. s.
Jozef Migas p. s.
Mikulás Dzurinda p. s.
(Personal Signatures)