Self-assessment questionnaire on the implementation of the OECD Council Recommendation on Good Statistical Practice

Central Bank

Chile

June 2018

General background

First, we would appreciate receiving brief descriptions of the National Statistical System including the following information whenever possible:

- Is the National Statistical System geographically, administratively, or institutionally centralised or decentralised?
- How many statistical operations are conducted for the production of official statistics?
- How many entities does the National Statistical System comprise?
- What are the main responsibilities of the various entities of the National Statistical System?

Response from adherent:

Please give brief answers here to each of the questions above:

The Central Bank is an autonomous body governed by its Constitutional Organic Law 18840 of 1989 (COL, LOC in Spanish). Provisions for producing statistics are included in the COL. Article 53 states that "the Bank shall timely compile and publish the main macroeconomic statistics, including those of a monetary and foreign exchange character, balance of payments and national accounts …" The National Statistics Compilation Plan assigns the CBCH the task of compiling and disseminating NA, monetary and financial, and BOP statistics. Article 53 establishes mandatory data reporting by public entities to the CBCH. Although there are no legal precepts empowering the CBCH to require private institutions to respond solely to statistical data requests, there is broad cooperation of the private sector with the CBCH. Article 40 of the CBCH's Basic Constitutional Act empowers it to demand from the private sector information on foreign exchange transactions. Confidentiality of the reported data is guaranteed by Article 66 and the CBCH's By-Laws. The CBCH has special agreements with various institutions for data sharing, in particular with the National Statistics Institute (NSI), the Superintendency of Banks and Financial Institutions (SBFI), the National Custom Service (NCS), the Internal Tax Service (ITS), and the National Tourism Service (SERNATUR).

Recommendation 1. Adherents put in place a clear **legal and institutional framework** for official statistics which should in particular provide:

i) details as to the organisation of the NSS, the legal status and role of the NSO, as well as the legal status, functions, relationship, rights and responsibilities of other institutions within the NSS;

ii) a clear mandate for institutions of the NSS to collect data for statistical purposes.

Good practice 1.1: Existence of a comprehensive and coherent statistical legislation periodically revised and amended. The statistical legislation defines the nature of official statistics; the legal framework for the compilation, production and dissemination of official statistics; the legal status, role in the system, functions, relationship, rights and responsibilities of institutions within the NSS; the mandate for data collection; the coverage of statistical activities; and the role, functions and composition of the Statistical Council. The statistical legislation also regulates the organisation of the NSS; the independence of the NSO and its head; the relationship between the producers of statistics and respondents; the access to administrative records and their use for statistical purposes; the dissemination policy; the legal infrastructure for ensuring the confidentiality and the penalties in case of breach of confidentiality; budget issues; the availability of sufficient resources for financing statistical programmes, the international statistical co-operation, and the co-ordination of statistical activities within the country's statistical system.

Good practice 1.2: Laws and regulations governing the collection, compilation and production of official statistics are consistent with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics of the United Nations.

Good practice 1.3: Statistical authorities have a clear mandate for data collection and the authority to compel respondents to comply with data requests (e.g. the Population and Housing Census, Agricultural Census, surveys, administrative sources, etc.). In the case of Population and Housing Census, the obligation for citizens to participate and to respond to the questionnaires is legally binding and established by law.

Good practice 1.4: Statistical authorities are required by law to conduct a Census of Population and Housing and a Census at of Agriculture at least every ten years.

Good practice 1.5: Statistical laws and regulations are publicly available.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 1:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 1. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 1 in your country?

The autonomy and technical profile of the Central Bank allow it elaborate statistics independently and under quality standards.

According to its Law the CBCH can request information from public entities in order to perform the functions of timely compile and publish the main macroeconomic statistics. The Bank shall have the authority to request and obtain from the various agencies and departments of the Public Service Administration, decentralized entities, and generally the public sector, any information it may deem necessary. However, there are no legal precepts empowering the CBCH to require private institutions to respond to data requests solely for statistical purposes, except for information on foreign exchange transactions. In order to reverse this condition, a new statistics law is discussed at Chilean congress, which includes the mandatory condition that private sector provide information for statistical purposes. Nevertheless, Central Bank based on its credibility receives voluntary information from private sector.

Recommendation 2. Adherents ensure professional independence of National Statistical Authorities. To this end, Adherents should ensure that the National Statistical Authorities:

i) are professionally independent from other policy, regulatory or administrative departments and bodies, as well as from private sector operators, considering that professional independence of the producers of official statistics is essential for the production and the dissemination of objective statistics;

ii) have the exclusive authority, as part of their professional independence, to decide on statistical methods and dissemination;

iii) are protected, through the inclusion of explicit provisions in statistics legislation, from political and other interference in developing, compiling and disseminating official statistics.

Good practice 2.1: The professional independence of the Statistical Authorities from other policy, regulatory or administrative departments and bodies, as well as from private sector operators in compiling and disseminating official statistics is explicitly guaranteed by law, and ensured in practice by all entities of the NSS.

Good practice 2.2 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The Head of the NSO, and where appropriate, the heads of other National Statistical Authorities, have responsibility for ensuring that statistics are developed, produced and disseminated in an independent manner.

Good practice 2.3 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The Head of the NSO, and where appropriate, the heads of other National Statistical Authorities, have the sole responsibility for deciding on statistical methods, standards and procedures, and on content and timing of statistical releases.

Good practice 2.4 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The Head of the NSO, and where appropriate, the heads of other National Statistical Authorities, have sufficiently high hierarchical standing to ensure senior level access to policy authorities and administrative public bodies. They are of the highest professional calibre.

Good practice 2.5 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The appointment of the Head of the NSO and, where appropriate, the heads of other National Statistical Authorities, is based on professional competences only. The reasons on the basis of which the incumbency can be terminated are specified in the legal framework. These cannot include reasons compromising professional or scientific independence.

Good practice 2.6: National legislation provides a clear and detailed description of the procedure for appointment and dismissal of the Head of NSO. A list of conditions under which the Head of NSO can be dismissed is provided for by law.

Good practice 2.7: A clear reporting system for the Head of NSO is provided by law in order to ensure and reinforce its technical independence.

Good practice 2.8 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The statistical work programmes are published and periodic reports describe progress made.

Good practice 2.9 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Statistical releases are clearly distinguished and issued separately from political/policy statements.

Good practice 2.10 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The NSO, and where appropriate, other Statistical Authorities, comment publicly on statistical issues, including criticisms and misuses of statistics as far as considered suitable.

Good practice 2.11: Data collection, data production, and release of information are ensured without formal approval from third parties.

Good practice 2.12: A Statistical Council including external experts advises the Heads of National Statistical Authorities on strategic statistical issues. The nature of the Statistical Council and the reporting arrangements to government are provided for by law.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 2:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 2. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 2 in your country?

By Constitution, the CBCH is an autonomous institution of a technical nature with its own capital (Chapter XII). This provision guarantees the professional independence of the CBCH, ensuring that macroeconomic statistics are compiled following strict technical criteria and free from outside interference. The CBCH's management promotes professionalism with a continuous training program and by receiving technical assistance from other countries and international organizations. The appointment of the authorities of the Central Bank, as well as, professional staff follows procedures clearly defined. The CBCH monitors media coverage of macroeconomic statistics. When statistics are misinterpreted or misused, the CBCH provides comments and clarifications through its Communications Management Office.

Recommendation 3 Adherents ensure adequacy of human, financial and technical resources available for the production and dissemination of official statistics. To this end, Adherents should ensure that resources are:

i) sufficient to allow National Statistical Authorities to meet their commitment to quality, and to meet professional standards thereby fulfilling their role as providers of reliable, relevant and accessible data for national and international use;

ii) adequate to produce a minimum core set of data, to be defined nationally or internationally, to monitor the economy, society and the environment.

Good practice 3.1: National Statistical Authorities have sufficient funding for statistical production and dissemination, to support staff training, to develop computing resources, and to implement innovation. Resources are adequate in magnitude and in quality to meet statistical needs.

Good practice 3.2: The adequacy of resources is regularly monitored.

Good practice 3.3 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The scope, detail and costs of statistics are commensurate with needs.

Good practice 3.4 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Procedures exist to assess and justify demands for new statistics against their cost.

Good practice 3.5 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Procedures exist to assess the continuing need for all statistics, to see if any can be discontinued or curtailed to free up resources.

Good practice 3.6 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): National Statistical Authorities implement a policy of continuous vocational training for their staff.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 3:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 3. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 3 in your country?

In the case of de Central Bank of Chile, human resources dedicated to compile and disseminate macroeconomic statistics are adequate in number and professional qualifications. According to internal Human resources policy, the Staff regularly attends courses and training programs offered by international organizations, graduate programs abroad, and internships in recognized statistical agencies. Compensation levels are competitive. IT resources, physical infrastructure, and funding are adequate. For processing and analysis of the information, BCCH has adequate technology in terms of data bases and statistical software. An appropriate budget is available to maintain production statistics, assuring technical and quality standards. Measures are in place to monitor the cost-effectiveness of the statistical programs and to detect needs for improvements.

Recommendation 4. Adherents protect the privacy of data providers (including individuals, households, enterprises, administrations and all levels of government) and guarantee by law the confidentiality of the individual information provided and its use for statistical purposes.

Good practice 4.1 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Statistical confidentiality is guaranteed by law.

Good practice 4.2: Specific measures are in place to ensure the full protection of individual data from any potential disclosure without consent, with the aim to ensure the confidence of data providers in participating in statistical surveys: written instructions and internal guidelines are provided to statistical authority staff on the full protection of statistical confidentiality in the production and dissemination processes; appropriate penalties are prescribed for wilful breach of confidentiality and for any disclosure of individual data of a private nature that could infringe upon private life. These penalties are well-known to statistical staff and new employees sign legal confidentiality commitment upon appointment.

Good practice 4.3 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The confidentiality policy is made known to the public.

Good practice 4.4 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Physical, technological administrative and organisational provisions are in place to protect the security and integrity of statistical databases.

Good practice 4.5: Provisions are in place and internal guidelines are available to allow external users access to micro-data for statistical research purposes under strict protocols and only after anonymisation of the data.

Good practice 4.6: Privacy issues as regards the use of new data sources (e.g. social network data) are identified and procedures are implemented to guarantee statistical confidentiality.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 4:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 4. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 4 in your country?

Confidentiality of the reported data is guaranteed by Law, Article 66. Employees sign by contract the obligation of keeping confidentiality of the information they have access. The CBCH's Personnel By-Laws provide rules for CBCH employees. There are penalties that include dismissal or prosecution in case of breach of these regulations. In addition, the Ethics Code (March 2003) establishes clear standards describing the procedures that the organization and its staff must follow when potential conflict of interest situations arise (Section II, 1). It also includes clear ethical

standards on measures to be adopted to prevent the misuse or misinterpretation of statistics (Section II, 2). Compliance with the Code is facilitated by a culture of solid ethical standards.

The Central Bank has been permanently concerned regard to data bases protection and has specific policy regulations on security information. For that reason, different mechanisms have been developed in order to preserve data confidentiality. A protection data bases policy has been implemented, that includes profiled access to the data bases, encrypted data bases, anonymization of them; and special treatment for high sensitive information.

As regards assistance provided to the users of BCCh statistics, there are several channels in place to meet their various needs, requests and questions. Each channel has an identified procedure. The Central Bank doesn´t provide nominated micro – data information, in none case.

Recommendation 5. Adherents ensure the right to access administrative sources to produce official statistics. To this end, Adherents should ensure that:

i) National Statistical Authorities have the right to access administrative data for the regular production of official statistics and to use them in the interest of ensuring quality of official statistics, raising the analytical value of official statistics, reducing burden on survey respondents and reducing cost of statistical programmes;

ii) National Statistical Authorities co-operate with owners of administrative records as regards their statistical quality and have authority to influence their design to ensure they are fit for statistical purposes.

Good practice 5.1: The Statistical Authorities are authorised by law to use administrative records for the regular production of official statistics.

Good practice 5.2: Administrative sources are used whenever possible and cost-effective to avoid duplicating request for information and reduce reliance on direct surveys.

Good practice 5.3 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): National Statistical Authorities are involved in the design of administrative data in order to make administrative data more suitable for statistical purposes.

Good practice 5.4 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): National Statistical Authorities co-operate with owners of administrative data in assuring data quality.

Good practice 5.5 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Agreements are made with owners of administrative records which set out their shared commitment to the use of these data for statistical purposes.

Good practice 5.6: Recommended practices are available for the reporting and presentation of administrative data.

Good practice 5.7: Linking administrative data with survey data is encouraged by National Statistical Authorities with the aim of reducing the burden on respondents, reducing the costs in producing official statistics, and increasing the analytical value of official statistics.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 5:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 5. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 5 in your country?

The current statistic law ensure to the Central Bank the right to access administrative records. Particularly, in order to improve the relations with other institutions, CBCH has bilateral arrangements with different entities for data sharing. In particular with National Statistics Institute (NSI), the Superintendency of Banks and Financial Institutions (SBFI), the National Custom Service (NCS), the Internal Tax Service (ITS), and the National Tourism Service (SERNATUR), Superintendency of Securities and Insurance (SVS). These agreements establish content of the information provided to the Bank by these institutions, periodicity of the shipments, means of transfer of information, confidentiality of data and other commitments that each part of the agreement acquires under such agreements. As part of the commitments, in some cases, concepts methods and techniques to deal with the data are sharing in order to assure data quality of the information transferred. But, the law doesn't permit share nominated information. Nevertheless, the new statistics law currently discussed at Chilean Congress would allow this data sharing.

Recommendation 6. Adherents ensure the impartiality, objectivity and transparency of official statistics, through the development, production and dissemination by the National Statistical Authorities of statistics respecting scientific independence put in place in an objective, professional and transparent manner in which all users are treated equitably. Equitable treatment implies in particular equal access to data by all users.

Good practice 6.1: Official statistics are collected, compiled and disseminated on an impartial and objective basis and determined by statistical considerations only.

Good practice 6.2: Equal access to official statistics for all users at the same time is guaranteed by law. If a public or private body has access to official statistics prior to their public release, this fact and subsequent arrangements are publicised and controlled. In the event that a leak occurs, pre-release arrangements are revised to as to ensure impartiality.

Good practice 6.3 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Choices of data sources and statistical methods as well as decisions about the dissemination of statistics are informed by statistical considerations.

Good practice 6.4 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Errors discovered in published statistics are corrected at the earliest possible date and publicised.

Good practice 6.5 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Information on the methods and procedures used is publicly available.

Good practice 6.6 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Statistical release and statements made in press conference are objective and non-partisan.

Good practice 6.7: Statistical release dates and times are announced in advance. A twelve-month-ahead advance release calendar is provided. Official statistics are released according to a standard daily time. Any divergence from the dissemination time schedule is publicised in advance, explained, and a new date is set.

Good practice 6.8: Any major revision or changes in methodologies are announced in advance.

Good practice 6.9: Internal guidelines are made available by statistical authorities to respond to erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics. They are well-known by staff.

Good practice 6.10: Statistical plans and programmes, methodologies, processes and procedures quality assessments are made publicly available by the statistical authorities.

Good practice 6.11: Guidelines exist for the presentation of data, including the treatment of time series breaks, and seasonally adjusted data, with the aim to ensure that official statistical data and metadata are presented in a way that facilitates proper interpretation and meaningful comparisons.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 6:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 6. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 6 in your country?

BCCh has a public calendar which provides the timeliness and the kind of publications. These releases are daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual data, in full compliance with the Bank's advance release calendar.

The macroeconomic statistics compiled by BCCh are released simultaneously to all users and no persons or institutions outside the Bank have access to the data prior to their publication on the web site. According to requests from users, the Bank does have room for improving the access to its statistics. Relevant metadata are easily available and regularly updated. Errors discovered in published statistics are corrected at the earliest possible date and publicized.

Regarding to revision policy and practice, data are provisional when first released. Revisions follow the announced calendar on the Website. Quarterly data of the calendar year are revised each time a new quarter is released. Annual revisions are carried out in March of the following two years. The public is informed of major changes in methodology on the CBCH´s publications.

Also, alert messages informing the users of the release of new statistical information are available upon request. In addition, the BCCh runs regular meetings with a Users' Committee, composed by market analysts and academics. In this Committee the Bank explains and discusses its agenda, new methodologies, projects, etc. The Bank carries out periodical conferences, meetings and courses directed to journalists, academics and students.

Recommendation 7. Adherents employ sound methodology and commit to professional standards used in the production of official statistics. To this end, Adherents should:

i) apply appropriate statistical procedures and methods, including a stated revisions policy;

ii) strive to adhere to international norms and standards, such as methodological manuals developed by the United Nations Statistical Commission or by the OECD, and international classifications in the statistics collected by the OECD.

Good practice 7.1: Official statistics are produced according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics with regard to methods and procedures used for the collection, processing, storage and dissemination of statistical data.

Good practice 7.2 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Sound statistical methodology requiring adequate tools and procedures and expertise is implemented and guaranteed by the national statistics law.

Good practice 7.3: International statistical standards, guidelines and good practices are applied in the National Statistical System as appropriate.

Good practice 7.4: National statistical classifications developed by statistical authorities are consistent with international classifications. Detailed concordance exists between national classifications and the corresponding international classification.

Good practice 7.5 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Procedures are in place to ensure that standard concepts, definitions and classifications are consistently applied throughout the National Statistical Authorities

Good practice 7.6: Subject matter advisory committees made up of external experts advise on relevant statistical matters.

Good practice 7.7 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Graduates in the relevant academic disciplines are recruited.

Good practice 7.8: Co-operation with the scientific community, academic institutions and international organisations is organises to improve methodology and the effectiveness of the methods implemented, and to improve methodological ant technical skills of staff.

Good practice 7.9: Strategies for recruitment, as well as processes for technical and managerial development and training of existing staff, are established, implemented, and revised as required.

Good practice 7.10: In the case of statistical surveys, questionnaires and systems for production are systematically tested prior to the data collection.

Good practice 7.11: Parallel runs are undertaken when systems or questionnaires are redesigned in any significant way.

Good practice 7.12 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Survey designs, sample selections and estimation methods are well based on regularly reviewed and revised as required.

Good practice 7.13 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The business register and the frame for population surveys are regularly evaluated and adjusted if necessary in order to ensure high quality.

Good practice 7.14 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Data collection, data entry, and coding are routinely monitored and revised as required.

Good practice 7.15 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Appropriate editing and imputation methods are used and regularly reviewed, revised or updated as required.

Good practice 7.16 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Revisions follow standard, well-established and transparent procedures.

Good practice 7.17: A revision schedule is published by the producers of official statistics.

Good practice 7.18: The design of statistical questionnaires used in survey-based data collection processes is regularly reviewed.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 7:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 7. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 7 in your country?

CBCH follows the international standards in the production of its macroeconomic statistics: Financial and non-Financial National Accounts and Balance of Payments and International Investment Position. These statistics are elaborated under SNA 2008[1] and BPM6 criteria. The BMD4 is also followed in the case of FDI figures.

Statistical techniques are broadly appropriate. GDP compilation is mainly based on supply-and-use tables. The double-deflation method is used to estimate around half of value added. The reference year has been recently updated to 2013. In 2008 compilation, Chile moved to chain-linked volume estimates of GDP, both quarterly and annual. The Denton method is used for benchmarking quarterly and annual figures. In the case of Balance of Payments, statistical techniques are used by the DBP to adjust data derived from primary sources to improve quality, coverage, and timelines. Also estimates are used to adjust data in case of nonresponse or missing data. Quarterly GDP data are seasonally adjusted.

National classifications of economic activities and products are broadly consistent with the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) Rev. 4 and the Central Product Classification (CPC), Rev. 2, respectively.

Intermediate data and outputs are assessed and validated against available information.

[1] Only exception is defense expenditure that is not being recorded as gross fixed capital formation.

Analyses of revisions are carried out and the corresponding documentation prepared.

Recommendation 8. Adherents commit to quality of statistical products and processes, in particular to key quality dimensions as defined in national and international quality assessment frameworks, for instance in the *Quality Framework and Guidelines for OECD Statistical Activities*: timeliness and punctuality (statistics are released in a timely and punctual manner); relevance (statistics meet the needs of users); accuracy (statistics accurately and reliably portray reality); credibility (confidence is placed by users in statistics products); coherence and comparability (statistics are consistent internally, over time and in space and it is possible to combine and make joint use of related data from different sources); and interpretability and accessibility (see Recommendation 9).

Quality management, monitoring, evaluation plans and reports

Good practice 8.1: A quality policy ensures that the producers of official statistics systematically assess the quality of official statistics. Quality policy is publicly available through guidelines, frameworks, reports, etc. and staff members receive appropriate training for their application.

Good practice 8.2: An efficient, and possibly independent, quality management system exists. It includes an appropriate organisational structure; quality indicators and other tools and processes for the planning, implementation, and monitoring of the quality of source data; and the collection, processing, and dissemination of official statistics.

Good practice 8.3: The national quality management systems are based on recognised models for quality frameworks, such as the IMF Data Quality Assessment Framework (DQAF), the European Foundation for Quality Management, European Code of Practice, the European Statistical System Quality Assurance Framework, Total Quality Management and ISO EN 9001, etc.

Good practice 8.4 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): There are regular and thorough reviews of key statistical outputs involving external experts where appropriate (ECoP).

Good practice 8.5: Quality assessment and certification processes guarantee the official nature of statistics produced in various parts of the NSS.

Good practice 8.6: The organisational structure of the entities belonging to the NSS and governance arrangements are appropriate and regularly reviewed to assess and justify new statistical demands and related costs.

Good practice 8.7: Information and communication technologies are regularly monitored and assessed for use in data collection, data processing and data dissemination.

Accuracy

Good practice 8.8 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Source data, intermediate results and statistical outputs are regularly assessed and validated (ECoP).

Good practice 8.9: National Statistical Authorities put in place processes to ensure that sampling and non-sampling errors are measured, systematically documented, and that information is made available to users.

Good practice 8.10: Studies and analysis of revisions are regularly conducted according to transparent procedures and the results are made available to users.

Timeliness and punctuality

Good practice 8.11: Timeliness meets international statistical release standards.

Good practice 8.12 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): The periodicity of statistics takes into account user requirements as much as possible (ECoP).

Good practice 8.13 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): A standard day time for the release of statistics is made public. (ECoP)

Good practice 8.14 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Preliminary results of acceptable aggregate accuracy are released when considered useful. (ECoP)

Coherence and comparability

Good practice 8.15: Official statistics are consistent within datasets (i.e. elementary data are based on comparable concepts, definitions and classifications and can be meaningfully combined), across datasets (i.e. data are based on common concepts, units, definitions and classifications, or that any differences are explained and can be allowed for) and over time (i.e. data are based on common concepts, definitions, units, classifications, and methodology over time, or that any differences are explained and can be allowed for).

Good practice 8.16 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Statistics from the different sources and of different periodicity are compared and reconciled (ECoP).

Good practice 8.17 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Statistics are compiled according to common standards with respect to scope, definitions, classifications, and units in the different surveys and sources. (ECoP)

Relevance

Good practice 8.18 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Processes are in place to consult users, monitor the relevance and utility of existing statistics in meeting their needs, and consider their emerging needs and priorities. (ECoP)

Good practice 8.19: User satisfaction surveys are undertaken on a regular basis. The results are publicly released and considered as an input for decisions about plans and priorities and they are reflected in the statistical work programmes.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 8:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 8. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 8 in your country?

CBCH commits to quality of statistical products and processes and it carries out effort continues in order to improve all the dimensions involved in quality concept. In that sense the CBCH is currently working on defining its medium and long-term strategic planning in order to include the best practices in its statistics work. For this purpose this year the Statistics Division has derived in

an exercise which requires a peer review of best practices in the statistical field. In this revision the Bank of Portugal was our peer reviewer and its focus was all statistical process: information systems and micro – data, methodology, dissemination and quality issues. A description of our system and recommendation were the results presented in the past May.

On the other hand, the Division has begun another initiative aimed to create a permanent instance for quality assurance.

Recommendation 9. Adherents ensure user-friendly data access and dissemination, so that statistics are presented in a clear and understandable form, released in a suitable and convenient manner, including in machine-readable form ('open data'), can be found easily and are available and accessible on an impartial basis with supporting metadata and guidance. This also entails a commitment to respond to major misinterpretations of data by users.

Good practice 9.1: Statistical information is available through different dissemination tools, including media channels, Internet, online database and paper publications and easily downloadable in different formats.

Good practice 9.2: A dissemination policy ensures the free dissemination of official statistics.

Good practice 9.3: In order to ensure equal access to national statistics for international users, English-language statistical information (data and metadata) is available on websites of National Statistical Authorities.

Good practice 9.4: A corporate strategy and appropriate guidelines are in place for the preparation of statistical publications (paper and electronic).

Good practice 9.5: A corporate database and glossaries promote the use of standard statistical concepts and definitions.

Good practice 9.6 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Users are kept informed about the methodology of statistical processes including the use of administrative data.

Good practice 9.7 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Metadata are documented according to standardised metadata systems.

Good practice 9.8: A corporate strategy and appropriate guidelines are in place for the preparation and dissemination of metadata on concepts, scope, classifications, basis of recording, data sources, statistical techniques, differences from internationally accepted standards, annotation of good practices, geographical coverage, etc.

Good practice 9.9: Processes ensure that sampling and non-sampling errors are measured and systematically documented and that information is made available to users for all key statistical outputs.

Good practice 9.10: Internal guidelines are available in statistical agencies on responding to erroneous comments. These guidelines are well known by staff.

Good practice 9.11 (adopted from the European Statistics Code of Practice): Access to micro-data is allowed for research purposes and is subject to specific rules or protocols.

Good practice 9.12: Where a pricing policy exists for specific services or custom-designed products, conditions of sale are clearly communicated.

Good practice 9.13: Educational material is developed with the aim to enhance the use of official statistics and to avoid their misuse and misinterpretation.

Good practice 9.14: Official statistics are released in machine-readable form ('open data') that encourage reuse and analyses.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 9:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 9. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 9 in your country?

Central Bank has development different instances to disseminate information that it produces. The Statistical data Base (]BDE), mobile BDE, which can accessed by mobile telephones, different presentations for making a friendly – environment to users like interactive charts, are some of the examples in this issue.

English-language statistical information (data and metadata) is available also on websites in order to ensure equal access to national statistics for international users.

Detailed updated metadata are available in special publications and on the CBCH's website. Metadata are also available on the IMF's DSBB, although need updating.

Publications available on the CBCH's website provide an institutional contact point for helping to the users in the case of doubts or questions.

Recommendation 10. Adherents establish responsibilities for co-ordination of statistical activities within the National Statistical System. To this end, Adherents should ensure that:

i) the co-ordination of statistical activities among statistical producers is done through the use of standard concepts and classifications and avoids the duplication of effort;

ii) responsibilities for such co-ordination function are clearly laid out and anchored in statistical legislation.

Good practice 10.1: The role and responsibilities of all producers of statistics are clearly determined by law. A co-ordinator of the National Statistical System, such as the NSO, is also designated by law.

Good practice 10.2: The designated co-ordinator has responsibility to co-ordinate the statistical activities of official producers in the NSS and to represent the NSS as a whole. This concerns in particular the use of appropriate statistical concepts and procedures, the implementation of international standards and efforts to minimise duplications in data collection, production and dissemination of official statistics.

Good practice 10.3: Procedures, mechanisms, tools, guidelines, or agreements are in place to ensure effective co-ordination within the NSS. Procedures include: establishment of a national statistics plan; co-ordinated data dissemination, e.g. through a single data portal; assistance with

implementation of international standards and classification; and common quality management processes.

Good practice 10.4: Exchange of statistical information between statistical agencies is actively undertaken.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 10:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 10. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 10 in your country?

The Central Bank is an autonomous body that by law is part of the statistical system. CBCH maintains agreements with the others institutions belonging to statistical system to establish content of the information provided to the Bank by these institutions, periodicity of the shipments, means of transfer of information, confidentiality of data and other commitments that each part of the agreement acquires under such agreements. As part of the commitments, in some cases, concepts methods and techniques to deal with the data are sharing in order to assure data quality of the information transferred.

Recommendation 11. Adherents commit to international co-operation. To this end, Adherents should:

i) encourage statistical producers to achieve common goals in statistics jointly with the statistical producers in other countries and with international organisations, with a view to developing internationally comparable statistics, to designing international standards and to exchanging information on good practice;

ii) provide the necessary data for the OECD's reporting system and analytical work, in compliance with international statistical standards as recognised by the OECD and preferably using the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange method/standard in particular for domains with internationally agreed Data Structure Definitions (DSDs).

Good practice 11.1: National statisticians participate actively and regularly in international expert groups, conferences and workshops.

Good practice 11.2: National Statistical Authorities participate in joint projects with other countries to share development burden.

Good practice 11.3: Heads of NSOs or their staff chair international statistical bodies.

Good practice 11.4: National Statistical Authorities participate in the main international statistical fora to exchange on their statistical practices, to participate in research and conceptual work and to contribute actively to the definition and design of international norms and statistical standards.

Good practice 11.5: Access to micro-data by international organisations is explored as a means to reduce the burden of countries responding to questionnaires.

Good practice 11.6: National Statistical Authorities provide complete and timely answers to the questionnaires of international organisations.

Good practice 11.7: Producers of official statistics use modern statistical and IT tools, such as SDMX for the regular transmission of data and metadata to international organisations, notably the OECD.

Response from adherent on Recommendation 11:

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 11. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 11 in your country?

Central Bank participate actively and regularly in international expert groups, conferences and workshops, as well as: Working group for International Trade on Good and Services Statistics, FDI Statistics, Financial Account and National Account organized by OECD. Also participates in regional activities (ALADI meeting on services), APEC, BIS, CEMLA, IMF between others. Both heads and

staff attend to international statistical fora to exchange on their statistical practices, and they carry out research and conceptual work in order to be on line with the international conceptual discussion. In the same way, Statistical Division of the CBCH are organizing the second statistical conference this year, in October, which will address about globalization and financial statistics. International experts have been invited as well as, statics offices from the region to share knowledges and experiences.

On the other hand Central Bank has subscribed compromises with different International Organization for sending data related with the statistics that it produces: FMI, OCDE, WB, BIS.

Answers to the questionnaires are provided to these institutions according to defined schedules.

Recommendation 12. Adherents encourage exploring innovative methods as well as new and alternative data sources as inputs for official statistics, and in particular encourage statistical agencies to actively explore possibilities to use new data sources (including large datasets owned by the private sector), or to combine existing and new data sources as input for official statistics. At the same time, these opportunities are weighted against the limits of using modern information technologies and the need to maintain the quality of official statistics.
Good practice 12.1: National Statistical Authorities actively encourage and undertake research on new sources and new methods for official statistics, including in the private sector and through combination of existing sources.

Good practice 12.2: National Statistical Authorities develop methodological work and IT structure to ensure the quality of official statistics when new and alternative data sources are used as input.

Good practice 12.3: An explicit policy is formulated towards the use of "Big Data[2]" and private data that considers legal, technical and methodological implications.

Good practice 12.4: Implications for statistical infrastructure, statistical methods, and analytical tools are systematically assessed.

Good practice 12.5: There are explicit agreements between producers of official statistics and owners of private data; and legislation which regulate access to this information and deal with privacy issues.

Good practice 12.6: National Statistical Authorities participate in the development of capabilities to process geospatial data.

<u>Response from adherent on Recommendation 12:</u>

Please enumerate the main strengths and weaknesses identified with regard to recommendation 12. Are other good practices relevant to this recommendation implemented in your country? What kind of actions do you consider important to improve the situation as regards recommendation 12 in your country?

The Central Bank, aware of the challenges posed by the new IT (digital economy - globalization), has been proposed to begin new tasks in order to advance in a better coverage of its measurements and assess the effect of this technologies as well. The Statistical Division of the Central Bank considers, for this year, to establish a working group to deal with this issue. It will identify possible sources of bias in the measurement of the economy due to the non-

2 ***Big data*** are data of high volume, velocity, and variety that demand cost-effective, innovative forms of processing for enhanced insight and decision making (definition based on Gartner).

incorporation of relevant products (services such as Uber, AirBnB, Spotify, free provision services like Gmail, travel agency websites, among others). Its tasks will be to identify associated products and classifications, to explore sources of information for their measurement and design new instruments to capture relevant information (use of administrative records such as credit cards, for instance).

Statistics Division has been working on pilot projects on Big Data. Some exploration is being carried out regarding a Vacancy Indicator and a Housing Price Index.