



NSO was established by virtue of the Malta Statistics Authority Act XXIV of 2000 and replaced the Central Office of Statistics (established 1947) as from 1 March 2001.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

- **Mission Statement of NSO**

The NSO mission is to serve the statistical information needs of Parliament, Government and the community by striving for excellence through rigorous protection of confidential data, quality information from respondents and a timely, objective and responsive statistical service.

- **Status of NSO in the Maltese Public Administration System**

The National Statistics Office is the executive arm of the Malta Statistics Authority. The Authority is a body with its own legal personality and all legal and judicial representation is vested in the Chairperson of the Authority. As regards the public administration system, the Authority falls within the remit of the Minister of Finance.

- **Procedure of Appointment of Director General of NSO**

The Director General is appointed by the Authority following consultation with the Minister for a period of three years with possible renewals of further three-year periods.

- **Location of NSO**

NSO operates from centralised offices at:

Lascaris
Valletta VLT 2000
Malta
Tel: +356 25997209
Fax: +356 25997205
email: nso@gov.mt

- **NSO Organisational Structure**

		Support Function	
		Corporate Services	Director General
Statistical Domains	Social Statistics Population Education Labour Market Living Conditions Culture Consumer Prices and Purchasing Power Parities	Management Services Information Services Information Technology	International Relations Legal Services Research and Methodology
	Sectoral Statistics Agriculture Fisheries Tourism Transport Environment and Resources		
	Economic Statistics National Accounts Government Finance Balance of International Payments International Trade Business Structures Short-term Business Statistics		

- **Main Legal Act**

The Malta Statistics Authority Act XXIV of 2000.

- **Statistical Programme**

The main priorities for NSO in 2008 are:

- i. appointment of Director General;
- ii. Household Budgetary Survey 2008;
- iii. setting-up of a Quality Control Unit;
- iv. adoption of Special Data Dissemination Standard (SDDS).

II. SYSTEM OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS IN THE COUNTRY

- **The Role of NSO in the National Statistical System; Other Major Players**

The Maltese Statistics Act gives NSO an important coordination function in respect of the statistical activities of other official bodies in Malta. Major stakeholders in this field include:

- ministries;
- government departments and entities;
- Central Bank of Malta;

- commercial banks;
- trade unions and employers' organisations;
- NGOs.

III. ADVISORY BODY/STATISTICAL COUNCIL

The Malta Statistics Authority was set up by Legal Act XXIV of 2000, which came into effect on 1 March 2001. This Act has a legal personality that is distinct from that of the National Statistics Office. The Authority exercises a regulatory and supervisory role in the production, compilation and dissemination of official statistics in accordance with national and international requirements and standards. It is composed as follows:

- a chairperson appointed by the Minister;
- the Director General *ex officio* member;
- six other members to be appointed by the Minister and representing the Central Bank of Malta, the trade union movement, the University of Malta, the business community and two professionals in the field of statistics.

IV. PUBLICATIONS

In 2007, NSO published 207 news releases on various statistical topics. Published output also included seven full publications.

V. OTHER RELEVANT REMARKS (e.g. major policies)

NSO corporate documentation includes:

- Code of Conduct and Practice for Malta Statistics Authority Employees;
- Policy on Statistical Confidentiality;
- Dissemination Policy;
- Policy on Revisions of Official Statistics;
- Policy on Reducing Statistical Response Burden;
- Policy on Relations with the Media.

More information on National Statistics Office Malta may be accessed at:

<http://www.nso.gov.mt>