



LAW CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF A NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM

PREAMBLE

The Reigning Prince of Tartupaluk, bearing in mind that official statistical information is an essential basis for development in the economic, demographic, social, and environmental fields and for mutual knowledge and trade among the States and peoples of the world; recognizing that the essential trust of the public in official statistical information depends to a large extent on respect for the fundamental values and principles which are the basis of any society which seeks to understand itself and to respect the rights of its members; bearing in mind that the quality of official statistics, and thus the quality of the information available to the Government, the economy, and the public depends largely on the co-operation of citizens, enterprises, and other respondents in providing appropriate and reliable data needed for necessary statistical compilations and on the co-operation between users and producers of statistics in order to meet users' needs; desiring to establish for the Principality of Tartupaluk a national statistical system conforming to internationally accepted standards and concepts and operating entirely under public laws, regulations, and measures; believing that multilateral co-operation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries decides as follows:

ARTICLE I

In this Law,

“Chief Statistician” means the Chief Statistician of the Principality of Tartupaluk, as defined herein;

“department” means any department, board, bureau, agency or other division of the Government of the Principality of Tartupaluk;

“Minister” means a member of the Executive Council of the Principality of Tartupaluk;

“Office” means the National Statistical Office of the Principality of Tartupaluk, as defined herein;

“public utility” means any natural or juridical person that owns, operates or manages an undertaking for the supply of petroleum or other combustible products by pipeline; the transmission or distribution of gas, electricity, steel or water; the collection and disposal of garbage or sewage; the transmission, emission, reception or conveyance of information by any telecommunications system; or the provision of postal services;

“respondent” means a natural or juridical person in respect of whom or in respect of whose activities any report or information is sought or provided pursuant to this Law.



ARTICLE 2

The Reigning Prince of Tartupaluk, at the recommendation of the Executive Council of the Principality, shall appoint an officer whose title will be “Chief Statistician of the Principality of Tartupaluk” to hold office during pleasure and who shall be invested as a member of the Executive Council of the Principality upon his appointment and shall remain a member of the Council for the duration of his tenure as Chief Statistician.

ARTICLE 3

The Chief Statistician shall advise on matters pertaining to statistical programmes of the departments of the Government of the Principality of Tartupaluk, and confer with those departments to that end; decide on the manner in which data for statistical purposes are collected, how they are compiled and when and how statistics are published; supervise generally the administration of this Law and control the operations and staff of the National Statistical Office; and represent the Principality of Tartupaluk in international statistical meetings or designate one or more staff members of the National Statistical Office to do so.

ARTICLE 4

There shall be established with all practicable speed a statistics bureau, to be known as the National Statistical Office, the duties of which are as follows: to advise the Chief Statistician on statistical work plans and any other statistical issues; to collect, compile, analyze, and publish statistical information relating to the commercial, industrial, financial, social, economic, environmental and general activities and condition of the people; to collaborate with departments of government in the collection, compilation, and publication of statistical information, including statistics derived from the activities of those departments; to promote the avoidance of duplication in the information collected by departments of government; generally, to promote and develop integrated social and economic statistics pertaining to the whole of the Principality of Tartupaluk and to each of the regions thereof, and to co-ordinate plans for the integration of those statistics.

The Office shall endeavour to enhance the relevance of official statistics by holding periodic consultations with the most important user groups of official statistics, in particular government departments, the business community, and academia.

ARTICLE 5

At regular intervals as directed by the Executive Council of the Principality, the Chief Statistician shall submit to the Executive Council a work plan setting out all major statistical collections and planned publications, as well as estimates of expenditure and revenues related to this.

At the beginning of each such interval, the Chief Statistician shall publish a calendar of the most important planned releases of new statistics in that interval.

As soon as practicable after the end of each such interval, the Chief Statistician shall present a report to the Executive Council with regard to the activities of the National Statistical Office in the preceding interval.

ARTICLE 6

The Chief Statistician may employ such commissioners, enumerators, agents, or other persons as are necessary to collect for the National Statistical Office such statistics and information as the Chief Statistician deems useful and in the public interest relating to such commercial, industrial, financial, social, economic and other activities as the Chief Statistician may determine; and the duties of the commissioners, enumerators, agents or other persons shall be those duties prescribed by the Chief Statistician in pursuance of this Law.

Upon the recommendation of the Chief Statistician, the Executive Council of the Principality may, for such periods as it may determine, order the use of the services of any employee of the public service of the Principality of Tartupaluk in the exercise or performance of any duty, power or function of the National Statistical Office under this Law or any other Law, and any person whose services are so used shall, for the purposes of this Law, be deemed to be a person employed under this Law.

Any persons retained under contract to perform special services for the Chief Statistician pursuant to this Law; and the employees and agents of those persons shall, for the purposes of this Law, be deemed to be persons employed under this Law while performing those services.

ARTICLE 7

The Chief Statistician may enter into an agreement with any department for the sharing of information collected from a respondent.

Such an agreement shall provide that the respondent shall be informed by notice that the information is being collected on behalf of the National Statistical Office and the department; and that where the respondent gives notice in writing to the Chief Statistician that the respondent objects to the sharing of the information by the National Statistical Office, the information shall not be shared with the department or corporation unless the department or corporation is authorized by law to require the respondent to provide that information.

ARTICLE 8

A person having the custody or charge of any documents or records that are maintained in any department or in any municipal office from which information sought in respect of the objects of this Law can be obtained or that would aid in the completion or correction of that information, shall grant access thereto for those purposes to a person authorized by the Chief Statistician to obtain that information or aid in the completion or correction of that information.

ARTICLE 9

No person shall, without lawful excuse, refuse or neglect to answer, or willfully answer falsely, any question requisite for obtaining any information sought in respect of the objects of this Law or pertinent thereto that has been asked of him or her by any person employed or deemed to be employed under this Law; or refuse or neglect to furnish any information or to fill in to the best of his or her knowledge and belief any schedule or form that the person has been required to fill in, and to return the same when and as required of him or her pursuant to this Law, or knowingly give false or misleading information or practice any other deception thereunder.

ARTICLE 10

No person who, having the custody or charge of any documents or records that are maintained in any department or in any municipal office from which information sought in respect of the objects of this Law can be obtained or that would aid in the completion or correction of the information, shall refuse or neglect to grant access to the information to any person authorized for the purpose by the Chief Statistician; or shall otherwise in any way willfully obstruct or seek to obstruct any person employed in the execution of any duty under this Law.

ARTICLE 11

The Chief Statistician shall establish a coding system for goods imported into and exported from the Principality of Tartupaluk to enable the collection, compilation, analysis and publication of statistics in relation to those goods.

ARTICLE 12

Instead of, or in addition to, using agents or employees for the collection of statistics under this Law, the Chief Statistician may prescribe that a form be sent to a person from whom information authorized to be obtained under this Law is sought. A person to whom such a form is sent shall answer the inquiries thereon and return the form and answers to the National Statistical Office properly certified as accurate, not later than the time prescribed therefore and indicated on the form or not later than such extended time as may be allowed at the discretion of the Chief Statistician.

ARTICLE 13

For the purposes of this Law, the Chief Statistician, or any person authorized by the Chief Statistician to do so, may inspect and have access to any returns, certificates, statements, documents or other records obtained on behalf of other government departments; and the Ministers of other government departments shall cause the returns, certificates, statements, documents or other records to be made available to the Chief Statistician or person authorized by the Chief Statistician to inspect the records.

For the purposes of this Law, the Treasurer of the Principality shall cause to be sent to the Chief Statistician returns of imports and exports into and from the Principality of Tartupaluk and details of the means of transportation used therefor.

ARTICLE 14

The Reigning Prince of Tartupaluk shall, by order, and in consultation with the Chief Statistician, prescribe the questions to be asked in any census taken by the National Statistical Office.

ARTICLE 15

Except for the purpose of communicating information in accordance with any conditions of an agreement made under this Law, and except for the purposes of a prosecution under this Law but subject to this Article, no person, other than a person employed or deemed to be employed and sworn in under this Law as described herein, shall be permitted to examine any identifiable individual return made for the purposes of this Law; no person, who has been sworn in under this Law as described herein shall disclose or knowingly cause to be disclosed, by any means, any information obtained under this Law in such a manner that it is possible from the disclosure to relate the particulars obtained from any individual return to any identifiable individual person, business or organization.

ARTICLE 16

The Chief Statistician and every person employed or deemed to be employed pursuant to this Law shall, before entering on his duties, be sworn in by taking and subscribing, in one of the official languages of the Principality, a solemn affirmation to faithfully and honestly fulfill his or her duties as an employee of the National Statistical Office in conformity with the requirements of this Law, and of all rules and instructions thereunder and not without due authority in that behalf to disclose or make known any matter or thing that comes to his or her knowledge by reason of his or her employment.

Where a person retained under contract to perform special services for the Chief Statistician pursuant to this Law is a juridical person, the chief executive officer thereof and such other officers, employees and agents thereof as are used to perform the special services shall, before entering on any of the duties required under the contract, take and subscribe such a solemn affirmation on behalf of the juridical person.

ARTICLE 17

The Chief Statistician may, by order, authorize the following information to be disclosed: information relating to a person or organization in respect of which disclosure is consented to in writing by the person or organization concerned; information relating to a business in respect of which disclosure is consented to in writing by the owner for the time being of the business; information available to the public under any statutory or other law; information relating to any hospital or health centre, library, educational institution, welfare institution, public utility or other similar non-commercial institution except particulars arranged in such a manner that it is possible to relate the particulars to any individual patient, inmate or other person in the care of any such institution; information in the form of an index or list of individual establishments, firms or businesses, showing any, some or all of the following in relation to them: their names and addresses; the telephone numbers or other contact points at which they may be reached in relation to statistical matters; the products they produce, manufacture, process, transport, store, purchase or sell, or the services they provide, in the course of their business; or whether they are within specific ranges of numbers of employees or persons engaged by them, or constituting their work force.

ARTICLE 18

Except for the purposes of a prosecution under this Law, any return made to the National Statistical Office pursuant to this Law and any copy of the return in the possession of the respondent is privileged and shall not be used as evidence in any proceedings whatever.

No person sworn under this Law shall by an order of any court, tribunal or other body be required in any proceedings whatever to give oral testimony or to produce any return, document or record with respect to any information obtained in the course of administering this Law.

ARTICLE 19

No person shall, after taking the affirmation under this Law, willfully disclose or divulge directly or indirectly to any person not entitled under this Law to receive the same any information obtained by him or her in the course of his or her employment that might exert an influence on or affect the market value of any stocks, bonds or other security or any product or article.

ARTICLE 20

No person shall impersonate an employee of the National Statistical Office for the purpose of obtaining information from any person; or represent himself or herself as making an inquiry under the authority of this Law when the person is not an officer, employee or agent of the National Statistical Office.

Signed at Ottawa, Ontario, Canada on 8 April 2007
by order and in behalf of the people of the Principality.

[*Signed*]

His Serene Highness Prince Cavan of Tartupaluk, van Uift