

## **MINUTES OF THE SESSION OF THE STATISTICAL SYSTEM COUNCIL**

Held on 21 February 2025, at 10:00 a.m., in the Conference Hall of the Statistical Office

### **MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Miroslav Pejović,  
Branka Šušić Radovanović, MSc,  
Prof. Dr Nevena Mijajlović,  
Ernad Kolić, MSc,  
Ana Ljumović,  
John M. Barac,  
Mira Radunović, MSc,  
Marko Todorović,  
Marijan Marijanović,  
Aleksandra Pajović,  
Biljana Vučetić,  
Dr Mirjana Nedović Vuković,  
Prof. Dr Božidar Popović,  
Marina Jovanović, and  
Petar Vučeljić.

### **MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ABSENT:**

Miloš Mišković and  
Robert Rajković.

### **AGENDA:**

1. Report on the implementation of the Annual Plan of Official Statistics for 2024;
2. Report on the implementation of the Action Plan of the Strategy for the Development of Official Statistics 2024–2028 (for 2024);
3. Report on activities carried out for the Population, Households and Dwellings Census in 2024 and on the use of funds provided from the Budget of Montenegro;
4. Other business.

After establishing the quorum for holding the regular session of the Statistical System Council, the Chair of the Council, Prof. Dr Nevena Mijajlović, welcomed the new member, Mr Petar Vučeljić, representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The members of the Council adopted the suggestions and the minutes of the previous session by a majority vote. The representatives of the Union of Employers of Montenegro, Ms Marina Jovanović, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Mr Petar Vučeljić, abstained from voting.

The proposed agenda was adopted unanimously.

Regarding the first agenda item, Mr Ernad Kolić, Acting Assistant Director of the Sector for Coordination of Statistical Data Sources, informed the members of the Council that the Statistical Office, in cooperation with other producers of official statistics, and in accordance with Article 26 of the Law on Official Statistics and the Official Statistics System ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", Nos. 18/12 and 47/19), had prepared the draft Report on the implementation of the Annual Plan of Official Statistics for 2024.

The draft Report provides an overview of the implemented statistical surveys by statistical domains, as defined in the Annual Plan of Official Statistics for 2024.

Following a brief discussion, a vote was taken and the Council unanimously issued a positive opinion on the draft Report on the implementation of the Annual Plan of Official Statistics for 2024.

Regarding the second agenda item, Mr Ernad Kolić, Acting Assistant Director of the Sector for Coordination of Statistical Data Sources, stated that the draft Report on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Strategy for the Development of Official Statistics 2024–2028 had been prepared in accordance with Article 19 of the Regulation on the manner and procedure for drafting, aligning and monitoring the implementation of strategic documents ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 54/18).

The General Secretariat of the Government of Montenegro issued a positive opinion on the structure and content of the Report.

Following a brief discussion, a vote was taken and the Council unanimously issued a positive opinion on the draft Report on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Strategy for the Development of Official Statistics 2024–2028.

Regarding the third agenda item, the Director of the Statistical Office, Mr Miroslav Pejović, stated that the Report on the activities carried out for the Population, Households and Dwellings Census in 2024 and on the use of funds provided from the Budget of Montenegro represents the continuation of the reporting obligation on Census-related activities implemented during 2024. The Report consists of two parts: the first part

contains the Report on Census activities carried out in 2024, while the second part contains the Report on the use of funds provided from the Budget of Montenegro in 2024.

Following the information provided, the members of the Council unanimously issued a positive opinion on the draft Report on the activities carried out for the Population, Households and Dwellings Census in 2024 and on the use of funds provided from the Budget of Montenegro.

Under the item "Other business", the Director of the Statistical Office informed the Council that the draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Statistics and the Official Statistics System is currently in parliamentary procedure and that its adoption is expected by the end of the month. In this regard, he noted that the Statistical Office, in anticipation of the adoption of the amendments, had established a Working Group for the purpose of updating the trilateral agreement, with representatives of the Ministry of Finance, the Central Bank of Montenegro and the Statistical Office appointed as members of the Working Group.

The Director of the Statistical Office also informed the members of the Council that the Agricultural Census had been completed and that a press conference was held on 20 February 2025, at which the Census results were published. He highlighted that the Statistical Office had excellent cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, the scientific community, agricultural producers and other stakeholders during the preparation and implementation of the Agricultural Census.

Furthermore, he announced that the Statistical Office and other producers of official statistics are expected to undergo a EUROSTAT Peer Review mission in June/July 2026. He emphasised the importance of maximum participation of other producers of official statistics and expressed the readiness of the Statistical Office to support other producers through the Expert Team of the Statistical System of Montenegro, by sharing all relevant information in order to ensure efficient preparation for the Peer Review mission.

President of the Statistical System Council

Prof. Dr Nevena Mijajlović

No: 01-078/25-2479/1

Date: 13 June 2025