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Statistical Legislation: Toward a More General Framework

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Abstract

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The paper outlines a general framework for statistical legislation. The implications of statistical legislation for the whole statistical system, as well as for centralized versus decentralized statistical systems, are addressed. The general framework is spelled out by identifying “essential” components of statistical legislation. The paper illustrates how these components can be applied to different country situations, and it draws attention to a number of additional topics for discussion and areas for future study in statistical legislation. It also brings together summary descriptions of the statistical legislation of a large number of countries that underlie the derivation of the essential components. It thus provides a reference for countries considering new or revised statistical legislation.

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Contents	Page
Introduction	4
I. Current country practices.....	6
II. Key elements of statistical legislation	9
1. Functions of statistical system	10
2. Power to collect statistical information	10
3. Professional independence of statistical system	11
4. Confidentiality of data	11
5. Coordination in statistical organization.....	11
6. Selected Examples	12
III. Additional topics.....	16
1. Coverage of official statistics.....	16
2. Statistical standards.....	16
3. Charging for official statistics.....	16
4. User consultation	17
5. New issues for access to official data.....	17
6. Role of private producers of statistics	17
7. Treatment of central statistical office versus system as a whole.....	17
APPENDICES	
I. Summary descriptions of statistical legislations	18
1. Albania	18
2. Antigua and Barbuda	19
3. Armenia	20
4. Azerbaijan.....	21
5. Bangladesh.....	22
6. Benin	22
7. Bolivia	23
8. Bulgaria	26
9. Burkina Faso.....	27
10. Cambodia.....	27
11. Cameroon.....	28
12. Chile	29
13. China, People's Republic of.....	30
14. Dominica	34
15. Fiji	35
16. The Gambia	35
17. Grenada.....	36
18. Guinea-Bissau.....	37
19. Hong Kong SAR, China.....	37
20. Jordan	38

21. Kazakhstan.....	39
22. Kuwait	40
23. Kyrgyz Republic	40
24. Mali	41
25. Malta.....	42
26. Mauritius.....	43
27. Mongolia.....	46
28. Nepal.....	47
29. Oman	48
30. Panama	48
31. Paraguay	49
32. Romania.....	51
33. Senegal	52
34. South Africa.....	53
35. Sri Lanka.....	55
36. Sweden	56
37. Tanzania.....	58
38. Uganda.....	59
39. Venezuela	60
40. Yemen.....	62
II. Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	63
References	64
Table	
1. Examples of the key elements of statistical legislation	13