Commission Regulation (EC) No 698/2006 of 5 May 2006 implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 530/1999 as regards quality evaluation of structural statistics on labour costs and earnings (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 698/2006

of 5 May 2006

implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 530/1999 as regards quality evaluation of structural statistics on labour costs and earnings

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 530/1999 of 9 March 1999 concerning structural statistics on earnings and labour costs[(1)], and in particular Article 11(iv) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EC) No 530/1999 was implemented by Commission Regulations (EC) No 452/2000[(2)] and (EC) No 72/2002[(3)] which define the content and evaluation criteria of the report on quality to be forwarded to the Commission (Eurostat) after each reference period.

(2) The information supplied in the quality report must refer to certain variables. Those variables are defined in Commission Regulations (EC) No 1726/1999[(4)] and (EC) No 1916/2000[(5)].

(3) Changes in the quality evaluation measures of structural statistics on earnings and labour costs are necessary as a result of the amendments made to Regulations (EC) No 1726/1999 and (EC) No 1916/2000 by Regulations (EC) No 1737/2005 and (EC) No 1738/2005 respectively. For the sake of clarity, and in order to reduce the burden for the national statistical offices, it is also necessary to harmonise the quality evaluation of statistics on labour costs and earnings.

(4) Regulations (EC) No 452/2000 and (EC) No 72/2002 should therefore be replaced by this Regulation.

(5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Statistical Programme Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1 The content and evaluation criteria of the report on quality referred to in Article 10(2) of Regulation (EC) No 530/1999 are laid down in the Annex to this Regulation.

Changes to legislation: *There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EC) No 698/2006. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

The variables specified in the Annex to this Regulation are defined in Annexes I and II to Regulation (EC) No 1726/1999 and Annexes I and II to Regulation (EC) No 1916/2000.

2 The information laid down in the Annex shall be supplied subject to the derogations contained in Community legislation concerning structural statistics on earnings and labour costs, the labour force survey, structural business statistics and national accounts.

Article 2

The quality report shall be transmitted to Eurostat at the latest 24 months after the end of the reference period for which the data was collected, unless stated otherwise in the Annex.

Article 3

Regulations (EC) No 452/2000 and (EC) No 72/2002 are repealed.

Article 4

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 20th day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

***Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made to Commission Regulation (EC) No 698/2006. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

ANNEX

Content and evaluation criteria of the report on the quality of structural statistics on labour costs and earnings

The reports on quality shall include information on all six dimensions of the European Statistical System (ESS) quality definition, namely relevance, accuracy, timeliness and punctuality, accessibility and clarity, comparability, and coherence.

1. Relevance

'Relevance' denotes the degree to which statistics meet current and potential users' needs. It refers to whether all statistics that are needed are produced and the extent to which concepts used (definitions, classifications, etc.) reflect user needs.

The quality reports on structural statistics on labour costs and earnings respectively shall cover:

— a summary of national core users,

— a description of their main needs including an assessment of their level of satisfaction with the data offered,

— a description of any gap (completeness) or part which is not considered relevant any longer by the users (redundancy). With respect to completeness, missing variables and missing breakdowns of the variables shall be clearly described.

The coverage of the items referring to national core users and their main needs, including the provision of information on user satisfaction, is optional.

By way of derogation from Article 2, the optional information on the level of satisfaction with the data offered, if provided, shall be transmitted to Eurostat at the latest 36 months after the end of the reference period.

2. Accuracy

'Accuracy' in the general statistical sense denotes the closeness of computations or estimates to the exact or true values of the variables under consideration.

2.1. Sampling errors

As an indication of accuracy, the coefficient of variation[(6)] shall be calculated and transmitted for key variables of both surveys.

(1) In the case of labour cost statistics the coefficient of variation shall be calculated and transmitted for the variables

'Annual labour costs'[(7)]

and

'Hourly labour costs'[(8)].

Apart from the coefficients of variation for the population as a whole, separate coefficients of variation should also be made available for both variables for the following individual breakdowns:

— NACE sections,

— NUTS level 1 (if appropriate),

— size band (1-9 (if appropriate), 10-49, 50-249, 250-499, 500-999, 1 000+).

(2) In the case of structural statistics on earnings the coefficient of variation shall be calculated and transmitted for the variables

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‘Gross earnings in the reference month’[9]

and

‘Average gross hourly earnings in the reference month’[10].

Apart from the coefficients of variation for the population as a whole, separate coefficients of variation should also be made available for both variables for the following individual breakdowns:

— full-time (separately for men and women) and part-time employees,
— NACE section,
— occupation (**[**[F1]ISCO-08**]** at the 1-digit level),
— age band (under 20, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60 and over),
— NUTS level 1 (if appropriate),
— **[**[F2]Educational attainment level (ISCED 2011 levels 0 to 8)**]**,
— size band of the enterprise (1-9 (if appropriate), 10-49, 50-249, 250-499, 500-999, 1 000+).

Textual Amendments

F1 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1022/2009 of 29 October 2009 amending Regulations (EC) No 1738/2005, (EC) No 698/2006 and (EC) No 377/2008 as regards the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO) (Text with EEA relevance).

F2 Substituted by Commission Regulation (EU) No 317/2013 of 8 April 2013 amending the Annexes to Regulations (EC) No 1983/2003, (EC) No 1738/2005, (EC) No 698/2006, (EC) No 377/2008 and (EU) No 823/2010 as regards the International Standard Classification of Education (Text with EEA relevance).

The breakdown by level of education is optional.

In addition, the Member States shall transmit a list of those cells of the multidimensional tables of the publication programme at European level as agreed with the Member States which are deemed not to be sufficiently reliable.

If non-probability sampling is used, a description of the possible sources of imprecision due to the sampling technique used and their effect on the estimations, if available, shall be provided instead.

2.2. Non-sampling errors

2.2.1. Coverage errors

The quality reports on structural statistics on labour costs and earnings respectively shall include the following information on coverage:

— description of any difference between the reference and the study population,
— estimated rates of under- and over-coverage[11] for the reference population.

2.2.2. Measurement and processing errors

The quality reports on structural statistics on labour costs and earnings respectively shall include the following information on measurement and processing errors[12]:

— information on variables with non-negligible measurement and processing errors,