



## PRESS RELEASE

### New EU Twinning Project to harmonise Armenian statistics with EU standards

**On 16 March 2011** Armenia will officially start a EU Twinning project which will aim at upgrading Armenian statistics. The project "Forwarding Armenian Statistics Through Twinning" will be officially opened by Mr. Jan Plovsing, Director General of Statistics Denmark; Mr. Stepan Mnatsakanyan, President of the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia; Mr. Raul de Luzenberger, Head of the European Delegation to the Republic of Armenia; and Mr. Michael Borg-Hansen, Danish Ambassador to Ukraine, Georgia, and Armenia.

The **objective** of the project, which is financed by the European Union with a budget of € 1,000,000, is to support the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia through institutional twinning with upgrading specific elements of the Armenian system of official statistics. This objective will be reached through the introduction of a comprehensive management framework, and compilation methodologies closely aligned to European Union standards.

In this way the project will help Armenia produce statistics according to EU methodologies so the statistics will be directly comparable to the statistics of other European countries, as well as worldwide. The improved statistics will, furthermore, provide valuable information for the Armenian public in general, and Armenian policy makers in particular.

The project will run until 30 January 2013, and the **following results** are expected as outcomes:

- Metadata and quality indicators for all major collections of the NSSRA will be collected, systematised, and published on the NSSRA website;
- The statistical business register will be reorganised, the statistical forms of the structural business survey restructured, and the reporting burden reduced;
- The coverage of the Armenian national accounts will be improved;
- The agricultural census will be planned and rolled out;
- A harmonized consumer price index for Armenia will be developed;
- A survey of enterprises' and institutions' use of information and communication technologies will be implemented and the results published.

**Date and time:** 16 March, 2011 at 14.30

**Place:** Congress Hotel, Ballroom Hall, 1 Italy Str., Yerevan

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