

Law Implemented by Decree No. 1793

Issued on February 22, 1979

Establishment of a Public Administration called the “Central Administration for Statistics” (CAS)

The President of the Republic,

Pursuant to the Constitution, notably Article 58 thereof,

Whereas the Government referred to the Parliament, pursuant to Decree No. 1078 of 18/3/1978, a summary draft law aimed at establishing a public administration called the Central Administration for Statistics (CAS),

Whereas more than forty days elapsed since the said summary draft law was submitted to the Parliament without approval,

Decrees as follows:

Article I: The summary draft law, referred to the Parliament pursuant to Decree No. 1078 of 18/3/1978, and aimed at establishing a public administration called the Central Administration for Statistics (CAS), was entered into force with its following text:

Article 1: At the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, a public administration, called the Central Administration for Statistics (CAS), shall be established.

Article 2: The term “Administrations” in the Law shall refer to the public administrations, public institutions, municipalities and other legal persons of the public sector.

Article 3: The CAS shall fulfill the following duties:

1. Establish, by itself or in cooperation with the competent administrations, all statistics related to the socioeconomic life of the country.
2. Unify the databases of establishments or individuals in the administrations in view of extracting the statistical information therefrom; conduct the technical supervision on statistics established by administrations, as well as centralize and coordinate such statistics.
3. Establish the internal economic accounts (national accounting), the balance of payments, and the other annual data on the socioeconomic activity of the country.
4. Conduct the statistics, investigations, and studies required by the Council for Development and Reconstruction (CDR), and the other economic studies required by the other administrations.
5. Conduct mandatory statistical investigations. Every statistical investigation, which is directly conducted by the CAS or through another institution, and is published in the official gazette, shall be considered as mandatory.
6. Analyze and publish the established statistics.
7. Contribute, with the Civil Service Council, to the formation and training of the personnel of the statistical units of administrations.

Article 4: 1. The CAS shall be composed of administrative and technical units that shall be established and cancelled pursuant to decrees issued in the Council of Ministers upon the approval of the Civil Service Council, subject to the provisions of Paragraph (2) of this Article.

2. Within a period of one year as of the entry into force of this Law, the Government should determine, pursuant to decrees issued in the Council of Ministers upon the approval of the Civil Service Council, the CAS personnel, the positions of such personnel, the special employment terms, ranks, payrolls, and indemnities of the CAS personnel, in addition to the conditions of classifying the personnel of the cancelled Central Directorate of Statistics in the Ministry of Public Planning in the new positions.

3. The CAS units shall be regulated, and the duties and powers of their personnel shall be determined pursuant to decrees issued in the Council of Ministers upon the approval of the Civil Service Council.

Article 5: All administrations should place at the disposal of the CAS the documents and information needed to establish statistics, and the natural and legal persons of the private sector should reply to the data and forms related to the mandatory investigations conducted by the CAS, without prejudice to the professional secrecy and any confidentiality stipulated by law.

Article 6: Every natural person, who refuses to provide information required during a mandatory investigation or provides wrong information, shall be subject to a fine ranging between fifty to two hundred Lebanese Pounds¹.

The information related to the personal and family life of individuals and the information, which requires imposing restrictions on their individual and public freedoms, shall be excluded from the previous paragraph.

Every legal person, who refuses to provide information required in a mandatory investigation or provides wrong information, shall be subject to a fine ranging between one thousand and five thousand Lebanese Pounds¹.

The information related to the identity and to the personal and family life of natural persons composing the legal person, and the information which requires imposing restrictions on their individual and public freedoms, shall be excluded from the previous paragraph.

Article 7: The CAS personnel and other persons working in the CAS shall be prohibited from disclosing, to third parties including administrations, the information related to the personal and family life of individuals, and the information related to the financial and professional conditions of natural and legal persons.

Article 8: The CAS personnel and other persons working in the CAS shall take the following oath, prior to initiating their work, before a civil court of first instance in Beirut:

“I swear by Almighty God to preserve the professional secrets and to fulfill my professional duties with all integrity and loyalty”.

Article 9: The CAS may sell its publications and charge a fee against the technical services it provides to third parties; the CAS may also determine the price of each unit of publications and services pursuant to a Resolution issued by the President of the Council of Ministers.

The profits of such publications and services shall be considered as revenues to the Treasury.

Article 10: This Law shall enter into force as of the publication thereof in the official gazette.

Article II: This Decree shall be published and notified, where needed, and immediately enforced as of the publication thereof in the official gazette.

Signature: Elias Sarkis