

staff and assimilation of new computation techniques and methods; specialised technical assistance granted to Romania by the Statistical Office of the European Union - Eurostat and by the National Statistical Offices of EU Member States; joint participation, together with other countries, in the large scale statistical surveys; improved legal framework on statistics functioning; extended statistical surveys and improved quality of statistical works, of the statistical publications editing and large scale dissemination of statistical data.

The overall mission of Romanian statistics, crucial for the democratic society, to ensure information in accordance with the increasing needs of statistical data users, of the society in general, is nowadays more and more perceived and assumed. At present, its role becomes more and more important in the context of globalisation and of other large scale phenomena, such as information society affirmation and development, outlining the millennium objectives envisaging sustainable development and others alike. These processes of exceptional significance, with effects over time as far as the evolution of world economy, but also of Romanian economy, in close relationship, are concerned have a special impact upon statistical data production.

Therefore, statistics plays a crucial role in giving adequate answers to the challenges and changes that are to take place in the society, entailed by a dynamic market and an increasingly intense and sharp competition associated to communication technologies development. More than ever, knowledge becomes indispensable in decision-making process, while statistical information is a core element.

As a corollary of official statistics recognition, it should be pointed out that within the European Union statistics plays a crucial role. A series of vital policies is based on harmonised statistics meant to quantify the effects and to provide for the reference elements needed for monitoring.

In case of Romanian statistics, this is subject to a double impact, being in the position of facing the process of joining the European Statistical System, on the one side, and of continuous evolution, in consonance with the statistics of the other Member States, that have nowadays an ascendency of organisational, technical and functional nature as against Romanian statistics, on the other side.

There is a multitude of reasons and arguments in favour of a continuous and coherent undertaking after the moment of Romania's accession to the European Union. These reasons and circumstances are mainly envisaging the fact that statistical production is a long lasting process and develops, from technical and methodological standpoint, in the context of the European Statistical System. Statistical data quality, core objective at present, but particularly in the perspective, will face a continuous improvement, requiring, at the same time, important financial, material and human resources.