Cooperation between Kazakhstan in the field of statistics and the OECD

Cooperation between Kazakhstan and the OECD is carried out by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the OECD on the implementation of the draft Country Program for Cooperation between Kazakhstan and the OECD (approved by Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan No. 10 of January 20, 2015).

Active cooperation in the development of environmental statistics and national accounts began between the Bureau of National Statistics ASPR of the RK and the OECD since 2012.

In 2015 as part of this cooperation 3 agreements were signed and completed on the implementation of the following projects for 2015 – 2016:

1.​ “Implementation of indicators on “green growth” and “sustainable development";

2.​ “Implementation of the system of economic and environmental accounts 2012 (SEEA)";

3.​ “Implementation of the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA08).”

In July 2016, the Republic of Kazakhstan accepted an official invitation from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (after referred to as OECD) regarding the assignment of the status of “Participant” in the Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy of the OECD (after referred to as CSPP).

In 2018, 2 more agreements were signed on the realisation of the following projects for 2018 – 2019:

1.​ “Implementation of green growth indicators and preparation of the Report on green growth in Kazakhstan";

2.​ "Implementation of a system of environmental and economic accounting."

The next stage in this development of cooperation with the OECD is to carry out a number of events. In order to obtain the status of an “associate member” of the KSSP, which will allow Kazakhstan to become a full participant in all events and discussions on statistical methodology and the development of statistical policies for OECD countries.

The main condition for the participation of an Associate Member in the work of the CSSP or its subsidiary bodies in any capacity is that it adheres to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. Associate members of the CSSP will have to fulfill the following conditions for entry:

- Carry out an assessment of the National Statistical System (referred to as NSS), in this case conducting a “Review of the National statistical system of Kazakhstan" (referred to as the Review);

- Join the Council Recommendation on proper statistical practice and ensure its continued compliance;

- Prepare and provide data based on agreed international standards and methodologies that are required CSSP to carry out its work.

Moreover, the Partner Country must have previously and actively participated in the work of the CSSP as a “participant”.

Thus, today the significant task for Kazakhstan is to conduct an in-depth statistical review of the national statistical system (after referred to as the Review), after which the Bureau will be able to become a full “Associate Member” of the CSSP.

Taking into account the information above, the Decree of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan “On the signing of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on the implementation of the project “Review of the National Statistical System of Kazakhstan”” dated July 11, 2023 No. 551 was adopted.

In September 2023, the above Agreement was signed, the implementation of which is active now:

- In March 2023, the first in-person visit of OECD experts to Kazakhstan;

- in February the Bureau together with all interested government agencies have completed filling out questionnaires for 7 sections, the information is uploaded to the OECD portal.

- the second in-person visit is expected in September 2024.

The main purpose of the Review is to assess the compliance of the National Statistical System (NSS) of the country with the OECD Council Recommendations on Good Statistical Practices (after referred to as the Recommendation). As well as to study the quality of official statistics that are collected and published by both Bureau of National Statistics ASPR of the RK, and other government bodies, which are producers of official statistics in Kazakhstan.

The Recommendation is the first OECD legal document related to statistics and it provides a detailed plan for a robust NSS. The Recommendation reflects the fact that the quality of the statistics used is fundamental to ensuring the quality and scientific validity of the OECD's analytical work.

Based on the results of the Review, Kazakhstan will receive appropriate recommendations for improving the NSS. As well as for improving the quality of official statistics and their compliance with international standards.