

**AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND THE NEW
EXECUTIVE LAW, TITLE 12, OF THE LIBERIAN
CODE OF LAWS REVISED, AS AMENDED, BY
ADDING THERETO A NEW CHAPTER 50A.**

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AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND THE NEW EXECUTIVE LAW, TITLE 12, OF THE LIBERIAN CODE OF LAWS REVISED, AS AMENDED, BY ADDING THERETO A NEW CHAPTER 50A.

Whereas, the Government of the Republic of Liberia recognizes that the existing National Statistical and Geo-Information System lacks coordination in data collection and compilation and that this has an adverse impact on the delivery of reliable, comprehensive and coordinated national socio-economic statistical and spatial data on a regular and timely basis; and

Whereas, the fourteen (14) year conflict has resulted to limited information, and gaps, to the extent that government decision-making may lead to inadequate policies, and subsequently to poor resource management and disenfranchisement of certain population groups; and

Whereas, access to reliable statistical and spatial data enables the development of efficient, transparent and accountable management of resources and governance and the functioning of democracy; and

Whereas, the demand and need for such statistical and spatial information and services from an independent and credible source has never been greater in Liberia than now, as the country emerges from war; and

Whereas, reliable statistical and spatial data will also help in the efficient and effective management of the environment and other resources critical to Liberia's reconstruction; and

Whereas, the establishment of an autonomous agency of government to supply the reliable statistical and spatial data, including data acquisition, analysis, geo-information and communication to meet the demands of domestic and international clients; and

Whereas, such an agency will consolidate the Liberian capacity necessary for Liberia-driven development, transparency and accountability, thereby providing a stable structure for informed decision-making and good governance for the future of Liberia; and

Whereas, the Republic of Liberia considers strategic partnership building and networking between producers and users of statistics and geo-information conducting country analysis, research, surveys and specialized studies, as the surest means for information-sharing on lessons learned and good practices, maximizing investments and achieving sustainable outcomes in these areas; and

Whereas, the Republic of Liberia recognizes the institutionalisation of gender and geographic mainstreaming to facilitate the understanding and application of gender and geographic analysis in the development process as means of capturing and addressing systematically gender and geographic inequality in opportunities, capacities and development; and

Whereas, further, the Government of Liberia recognizes that the present undertaking is a collaborative effort of all stakeholders to facilitate the establishment of an autonomous and accountable **Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS)** that will ensure the production and dissemination of accurate and timely human-development and environment friendly statistical and geo-information on Liberia for strategic advocacy, policy development, monitoring of trends and mobilization of resources for full implementation of National Development Programs.

NOW, THEREFORE,

It is enacted by the National Transitional Legislative Assembly:

Section 1: Amendment to Title 12: Immediately upon the passage of this Act, Sections 32.5 and 32.6 of Chapter 32, Part 11 of Title 12 of the New Executive Law of June 9, 1972, Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs, are hereby repealed and Chapter 50, Part IV of the aforesaid New Executive Law is hereby amended to provide for the creation of a new Chapter 50A, to read, word for word, as follows:

CHAPTER 50A: LIBERIA INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS AND GEO- INFORMATION SERVICES (LISGIS)

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Section 50A.1. Short Title: This Act shall be known and cited as the **National Statistics and Geo-Information Act.**

Section 50A.2. Institute Established: There is hereby established in the Executive Branch of the Government an autonomous agency, which shall be known as the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS). A Director-General as Statistician-in-Chief, who shall initially be appointed by the President, upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors, and subsequently by the Board of Directors, shall head the Institute. The Board shall also appoint three Deputy Directors-General as Deputy Statisticians-in-Chief: Deputy Director-General for Statistics and Data Processing, Deputy Director-General for Information and Coordination and Deputy Director-General for Administration. The Deputy Director-General for Statistics and Data Processing shall be the principal assistant to the Director General and shall act in the absence of the Director-General. In the absence of both the Director-General and the Deputy Director-General for Statistics and Data Processing, the Deputy Director-General for Information and Coordination shall act.

The Statistics and Data Processing Units shall work closely to ensure consistency in the use of data and delivery of that data to the Information and Coordination Department where the GIS lab shall be

housed. Essentially the Statistics and Data Processing Department shall provide data with clear identifiers relating to geographic information that the Information and Coordination Department can then input into the GIS setting for analysis and map making.

Section 50A.3. Definitions and Interpretations: In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall have the indicated meanings:

"Authorized Officer means the Director-General and any person appointed as an authorized Officer under the provisions of subsections (1) and (2) of Section 50A.20."

"Board means the Board of Directors (BOD) of the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS)."

"Director-General means the Director-General of the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services at the level of Statistician-in-Chief."

"Geo-Information Services means the acquisition, management and dissemination of geographically referenced information to meet demands of domestic and international clients."

"Government means the Government of the Republic of Liberia."

"Institute means the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS)."

"(LISGIS) means the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services."

"National Statistical and Spatial System means all ministries and agencies of the Government of Liberia, relevant NGOs and/or other private sector agencies as well as United Nation (UN) Agencies, the European Union (EU), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), involved in the gathering of statistical and spatial data directly or indirectly through surveys, specialized studies, country analysis, and geo-information or through administrative actions."

"Person means any branch, political sub-division, Ministry or Agency of Government, individual, partnership, corporation, association, consulting firm and/or company, NGO/INGO or legal entity."

"President means the President of the Republic of Liberia."

"Spatial Data means database or data set comprising of statistical and geographic information that are used to produce maps."

"Statistician-in-Chief means the highest-ranking statistical professional in the Institute."

"Statistics means scientific methods for collecting, organizing, summarizing, presenting and analyzing data, as well as drawing valid conclusions and making reasonable decisions on the basis of such analysis; in a narrower sense the term denotes the data themselves or numbers derived from the data as, for example, averages."

Section 50A.4: Powers of the President: In keeping with the provisions of this Act, the President shall exercise such powers as follow:

1. Appoint initially the Board of Directors and its Chairman, with the Board becoming self-appointing thereafter upon recommendation of the Director General;
2. Appoint initially a qualified Director-General in keeping with Section 50A.2 herein above. Thereafter, the authority to make subsequent appointments shall vest in the Board;
3. Approve incentive for the members of the Board of Directors, which incentive shall be only a sitting fee that shall be no more than prevailing Government salary structure;
4. Approve regulations in respect of data collection, compilation and dissemination, upon recommendation of the Board; and

5. Receive and review annual and other reports from the Board of Directors.

Section 50A.5: Goals: The goals of LIS GIS shall be to:

1. Establish, develop and maintain a holistic National Statistical and Spatial Data System (NSSDS) and an integrated National Statistical and Spatial Database (NSSD);
2. Coordinate, monitor and supervise the NSSDS and NSSD to allow for the provision of holistic gender and geographic sensitive analysis for timely, relevant and acceptable standards of information to institutions of the Government, the business and the wider national and international communities.

Section 50A.6: Objectives: The objectives of LIS GIS shall be to:

1. Serve as the prime, authoritative agency of Government responsible for collecting, managing, coordinating, supervising, evaluating, analyzing, disseminating and setting quality standards for statistical and associated geo- information for overall national socio-economic reconstruction and development;
2. More specifically, formulate and implement national strategies, programs and policies for the development and management of a National Statistical and Geo-Information System and an integrated gender and environment sensitive National Statistical and Spatial Database in Liberia.

Section 50A.7: Powers: In furtherance of its goals and objectives the Institute shall have the powers to:

1. Request, demand and collect from any Person(s), natural or legal Corporations, Business Houses, NGO's/INGO's, UN Agencies, EU, USAID, IMF, World Bank, etc., residing in the Republic, and from any Ministry, Bureau or Agency of the Government of the Republic, all information it may deem necessary to achieve its goals and objectives as set out in Sections 50A.5 and 50A.6 herein above, and to effectively carry out its functions as outlined in Section 50A.8 herein below; and in respect of any matter as set out in Annex 1 to this Act;
2. Process, analyze, store and disseminate the information obtained in item one above;
3. Seek financial and/or technical assistance from individuals, governments, the domestic and international communities and bi-lateral and multilateral institutions;
4. Maintain field offices and data collection capability in geographic administrations as justified by the volume of activities and with due regard to consideration of efficiency;
5. Develop the human resources needed to operate the National Statistical and Geo-Information System and the integrated National Statistical and Geo-Database;
6. Design, develop and review from time to time an appropriate Scheme of Service for all statisticians and geographers in the National Statistical System;
7. Collaborate and cooperate with sub-regional, regional and international producers and/or users of statistics;
8. Undertake and engage in any activities consistent with provisions of this Act and the laws of the Republic for the purpose of enhancing and promoting the goals and objectives of the Institute; and

9. Design and display a common seal, alter such seal at pleasure, and use it by causing it or a facsimile to be affixed or impressed or reproduced in any form or manner.

Section 50A.8. Functions and Responsibilities: The Institute (LISGIS) shall undertake the following functions and responsibilities:

1. Advise on all initiatives to collect data at all levels (locality/Village/Town, Clan, Districts, County, Regional and national) in the context of an integrated National Statistical and Geo-Information System;
2. Review Instruments for data collection developed for such initiatives including GIS data and maps, census and survey designs, questionnaires and concepts, definitions and nomenclatures to be used in conducting the said censuses and surveys, as well as the costs of such operations;
3. Establish and manage, in collaboration with respective ministries, a National Master Sample Frame consisting of population census, enumeration areas, listing of households and a register of enterprises, as a key instrument for coordination of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System;
4. Ensure that all surveys of enterprises and households and/or individuals will draw their respective sample from the National Master Sample Frame;
5. Compile, update and publish a rolling National Integrated Program of Sample Surveys of Households and a National Integrated Program of Sample Surveys of Enterprises to be conducted by various components of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System;
6. Conduct censuses and surveys;
7. Collect routine administrative statistics;
8. Collect, analyze and disseminate social, economic, environmental and national accounts statistics of internationally acceptable standard as and when required;
9. Create, establish and manage the integrated National Statistical and Geo-Database;
10. Organize, maintain and ensure free access to a central depository of data, statistical reports, spatial information products such as maps and geo-referenced list, publications and documents from both within and outside the country;
11. Publish as its regular output a Monthly Statistical Bulletin, a Quarterly Statistical Digest, an Annual Statistical Abstract, an Annual Economic Survey and an Annual Statement of National Accounts as sources of official statistics on Liberia;
12. Design the scope and content and organize the time schedule for the release of publications in item (11) above and as detailed in Annex Two of this Act;
13. Submit the Annual Economic Surveys to the Legislature at least a fortnight before presentation of the annual Budget of Government to provide background to the Budget for informed decision- making;
14. Undertake research on and develop techniques and methods for production of statistics and Geo-Information Services;
15. Establish a unified statistical service within the Government by facilitating and

ensuring the creation of a statistical capacity in sector ministries, geographic administrations and other components of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System;

16. Promote the use of appropriate information and communication technology (ITC) in statistical data and Geo-Information Services production process, dissemination and utilization;
17. Promote the understanding and use of official statistics and Geo-Data through information, education and communication (IEC) strategies (such as workshops, seminars, symposia, print and electronic media, etc.) to ensure popular participation and national ownership;
18. Promote and encourage the use of common and new concepts, methodologies, definitions, procedures, nomenclatures and standards, including geographic considerations and gender and development, in the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical information, in order to ensure integration of the National Statistical System as well as an integrated National Statistical Database;
19. Accredite all professional statisticians desirous of undertaking any statistical research in the country;
20. Enforce the Scheme of Service and monitor its implementation as provided for in Section 50A. 7(6);
21. Support sectoral capacity to acquire, access, use and contribute to the National Statistical System and the integrated National Statistical Database;
22. Develop for approval by the Board a public access to information policy;
23. Notwithstanding legislation and regulations on national security, protect private citizens' right to privacy;
24. Data produced by LISGIS should be provided free of charge to the Government of Liberia and its development partners. Provisions for cost of data products will be established to ensure cost-recovery; and
25. Perform such other functions as may be prescribed by the Board.

Section 50A.9. Board Established: The formulation of policies and implementation strategies for the overall development, management and operation of the Institute as well as the exercise of, and responsibilities for, general supervision of the Institute shall be vested in a Board of Directors, which initially shall be appointed by the President.

Section 50A. 10. Composition and Qualification of the Board: The Board shall be constituted as follows:

1. **Composition:** The composition of the Board shall not exceed twenty-one (21) and no less than eleven (11). Membership shall consist of a minimum of 30% and maximum of 38% representation by the Government of Liberia, maximum of 19% representation or at least one by international institutions, maximum 43% representation or at least six by the private sector and learned individuals, consisting of members representing the below listed institutions:

a.	Ministry of Planning & Economic Affairs	Chairman
b.	Ministry of Finance	Member
c.	Ministry of Agriculture	"
d.	Ministry of Education	"
e.	Ministry of Health & Social Welfare	"

f.	Ministry of Internal Affairs	"
g.	Ministry of Gender & Development	"
h.	Ministry of Labor	"
i.	University of Liberia	"
j.	The Central Bank of Liberia	"
k.	Liberia Bankers Association (LBA)	"
l.	Liberia Business Association (LIBA)	"
m.	Liberia Chamber of Commerce	"
n.	Rubber Planters Association (RPA)	"
o.	Timber Association of Liberia (TAL)	"
p.	Liberia National Bar Association (LNBA)	"
q.	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	"
r.	United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	"
s.	European Union (EU)	"
t.	World Bank (WB)/International Monetary Fund (IMF)	"
u.	Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment (LACE)	"

- 2. Qualification:** The members of the Board shall be appointed exclusively from among persons who qualify for appointment by virtue of their professional knowledge, experience and interest in statistics and informatics or in such other matters of statistics as appointed initially by the President to establish the institution and thereafter by the Board to support and develop the institution, which support may be either in the form of access to resources or professional expertise.

Section 50A.11. Powers and Functions: Subject to the provisions of this Act the Board shall:

1. Formulate and monitor the policy framework and implementation strategies governing the operations and management of the Institute;
2. Monitor the development and functioning of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System and the National Statistical and Geo-Database, taking into account gender, geographic and environmental considerations, using basic human development indicators;
3. Approve the respective programs of activities of the Institute and other components of the National Statistical and Geo Information System;
4. Monitor and assess the performance of the Institute and other components of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System against pre-determined key performance indicators;
5. After initial appointment by the President to establish the Institution, nominate and approve the Director-General and the three Deputy Directors-General;
6. Define the duties and functions of the Deputy Directors-General;
7. Evaluate annually the performance of the Director-General and Deputy Directors-General;
8. Approve the Institute's Annual Budget;
9. Review and approve, from time to time, the Terms of Reference (TORs) and associated fees of national and international consultants/Technical Advisors required by the Institute;
10. Focus on the financial health of the Institute and strategic direction required for the sustainable growth of the Institute;
11. Be informed of the activities of the national statistical and information systems,

and have the opportunity to object;

12. Determine, from time to time, the Institute's structure, staffing levels and terms and conditions of service;
13. Shall approve the number and types of budget positions, the conditions of employment and the salary scale for officers and staff, the modalities of employment by the Executive Director of officers and staff of the Institute, other than the Deputy Executive Director and Financial Director;
14. Submit to the President within ninety (90) days after the end of each Fiscal Year, a report on activities of the Institute and all the other components of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System in that Fiscal Year and their future plans; 15. Make such by-laws, rules and Regulations as may be necessary for itself and for the efficient operation of the Institute, provided that such by-laws, rules and Regulations are not inconsistent with Laws and Statutes of the Republic of Liberia; and
16. May co-opt any person to attend any of its meetings in the capacity of advisor or expert on any matter in relation to his or her expertise, for the effective operations of the Board.

Section 50A.12. Meetings: In keeping with the provisions of this section, the Board shall operate as follows:

1. **Time and Venue:** The Board shall ordinarily meet at least once every six (6) months at a time and place designated, provided that it may meet in emergency sessions if and when necessity so requires.
2. **Quorum:** A simple majority of the members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the Board.
3. **Voting:** Decisions of the Board shall be determined by a simple majority vote of the members present. In the event of a tie, the Chairman shall have a casting vote.
4. **By-Laws:** Except as otherwise expressly provided for in this Act, the Board shall adopt by-laws to govern its proceedings. .
5. **Secretary:** The Director-General of LISGIS shall be the Secretary to the Board.

Section 50A.13. The Secretariat of the Board: The Headquarters of the Institute shall provide the Secretariat of the Board. The Director-General shall attend all meetings of the Board, but shall have no voting right.

Section 50A.14. Powers and Functions of the Director-General: The powers and functions of the Director-General shall be as follows:

1. Be the Chief Administrative and Executive Officer of LISGIS and shall be responsible for its overall day-to-day management;
2. Advise the Board on overall National Statistics and geo-information policy matters;
3. Formulate and recommend to the Board procedures, methods and regulations on the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical and spatial data to be

collected in the National Statistical and Geo-Information System;

4. Present annually to the Board for approval an integrated rolling three/five year Work Plans setting out targets and benchmarks of the Institute and other components of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System and publish it upon approval;
5. Coordinate and supervise generally the implementation and management of an integrated National Statistical and Geo-Information System and the development and management of an integrated National Statistical and spatial Database;
6. Implement the work plans approved by the Board for the furtherance of the Institute's objectives;
7. Submit to the Board within sixty (60) days after the end of the Fiscal Year an annual audited statement of accounts and a report on the activities of the Institute covering the period;
8. Carry out censuses and surveys in accordance with the Oath of Confidentiality;
9. Ensure that statistics and geo-information produced reflect a gender and geographic perspective;
10. Approve for publication and dissemination statistical and spatial data produced by other agencies;
11. Protect members of staff of the Institute from undue interference and influence in the execution of their duties;
12. Administer the Scheme of Service for staff in the Institute and in other components of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System;
13. Develop and promote human resource development programs for the statistical and geo-information cadre in the country;
14. Appoint Statistical Managers at the level of Directors or equivalent upon the approval of the Board;
15. Recommend to the Board for appointment and promotion of staff up to the level of Assistant Director or its equivalent in the Institute, taking into consideration the need for national geographic balance;
16. If and when necessary, recommend to the Board for review and approval the Terms of Reference (TORs) and associated fees of national and international consultants/Technical Advisors required by the Institute;
17. Advise on appointments and promotions of professional staff up to the level of Deputy Director or its equivalent in other components of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System;
18. Consult and co-operate with agencies of the Government and other institutions constituting the National Statistical and Geo-Information System;
19. Review and submit to the Board his/her observations and recommendations on all proposals for each national statistical and spatial surveys to be conducted by any component of the National Statistical and Geo-Information System;
20. Promulgate guidelines indicating procedures regarding proposals submitted to the Director-General by the various components of the National Statistical and

Geo- Information System as indicated in sub-section 18 herein above;

21. May appoint committees as may be expedient for the efficient and effective operation of the Institute;
22. Prepare and submit to the Board for its approval the Annual Budget of the Institute for each Fiscal Year;
23. May delegate from time to time any of the powers conferred upon him/her by this Act as may be required and appropriate for the efficient administration of the Institute;
24. Be responsible for the public relations activities of the Institute; and
25. Perform such other functions as may be prescribed by the President and/or the Board of Directors.

Section 50A.15. Organization: The Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services shall consist of, but not limited to, the following departments:

- a. Department of Statistics and Data Processing
- b. Department of Information and Coordination
- c. Department of Administration

Section 50A.16. Department of Statistics and Data Processing: The Department of Statistics and Data Processing shall provide professional services in the following specialties, but not limited to: Censuses and surveys; Economic Statistics consisting of Industrial Statistics, Trade Statistics and National Accounts; Population/Social Statistics; and Research /Specialized Studies; Providing methodologies for Surveys and Censuses; Adopting new concept and establishing standards; Formulating and implementing a Scheme of Service for statisticians, geographers and other geo-professionals in Liberia. The Department of Statistics and Data Processing shall also undertake data processing activities for all other departments, and provide statistical analysis service to the Department of Information and Coordination.

Section 50A.17. Department of Information and Coordination: The functions of the Department of Information and Coordination shall include, but not be limited to, the exercise of oversight responsibility for: Acquisition of spatial data and production of spatial information products; Providing coordination between the Institute and the various components of the National Statistical and Information System, as well as among the various components themselves; Providing training and manpower development; Producing and disseminating publications/documentations and maps; and Providing analytical services. Primarily, this Department shall focus on generation, analysis, management and dissemination of spatial information and the building of capacity within the Institute and among partners to execute their respective roles.

Section 50A.18. Department of Administration: The functions of the Department of Administration shall include, but not limited to, the administration of the internal and external affairs of the Institute, including provision of administrative support in the running and day-to-day management, operation, logistics, promotion, personnel, legal services, registry and internal regulations. .

Section 50A.19. Completion of Organizational Structure: In furtherance of Sections 50A.15, 50A.16, 50A.17 and 50A.18 herein above, the organizational structure of the Institute shall be completed in such manner and with such personnel as shall be determined by the Director-General, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, as the efficient achievement of the goals and objectives of the Institute shall determine and as resources will allow.

Section 50A.20. Appointments of Authorized Officers: Subject to the provisions of Section 50A.13, the Director-General, subject to confirmation by the Board:

1. Shall appoint heads of Departments as authorized officers for the purposes of this Act.
2. May appoint on an Ad Hoc basis any Person within or without the employ of LISGIS, including national and international consultants, as authorized officers for the purposes of this Act.

Section 50A.21: Confidentiality of Information Furnished:

1. **Information Furnished:** All information furnished to the Institute pursuant to the provision of Section 50A.7(1), (2) and (7) supra, shall be confidential and shall be disclosed or published by the Institute only in the form of general economic, statistical or spatial reports, without specific reference to the source of such information.
2. **Oath of Confidentiality:** Every person in the employ of LISGIS, from the level of secretary up to Director-General, shall be required, before commencing his or her duties, to take and subscribe before a Justice of the Peace or an appropriate legal authority an OATH of Confidentiality as set out in Annex III to this Act.

Section 50A.22. Statistical and Geo-Information: The Institute shall, in keeping with the provisions of this Act, undertake the following activities:

1. Conduct of census and survey on any matter specified in Annex 1 of this Act;
2. Collection of statistical and Geo-Information on any matter specified in Annex I of this Act;
3. Approval of sampling methods in the taking of censuses and surveys and in the collection of statistics and Geo-Information;
4. Processing and storing of statistical and spatial data; and
5. Dissemination of statistical and spatial data.

Section 50A.23. Source of Funding: The sources of funding for the Institute shall consist of the following:

1. Funding from the Government;
2. Donations and Grants from individuals, corporations and other national and international organizations; and
3. Revenue arising from its income generating activities.

Section 50A.24. Fiscal Year: The Fiscal Year of the Institute shall be consistent with the Fiscal Year of the Government.

Section 50A.25: Audit: For the purpose of ensuring transparency and accountability in the management of its resources, the accounts of the Institute shall be audited annually by the Auditor General, or, upon request of the Board, by an Independent Auditor appointed or endorsed by the Auditor General.

Section 50A.26. Offences and Penalties:

1. Any official and/or employee of the Institute who shall;
 - a) Violate the provisions of Section 50A.21 of this Act; or
 - b) Knowingly prepare and/or compile for publication any false statistical information; or
 - c) Directly or indirectly use such information, before publication, for personal gain shall be dismissed from office and prosecuted on the charge of third degree felony in keeping with Part III, Chapter 50 of the New Penal Law (1978).
2. Any person not in the employ of the Institute who shall:
 - a) Knowingly receive and use such information for personal gain, in violation of the provisions of this Act, or
 - b) Knowingly receive and publish or communicate such information to any other person in contravention of any provision of this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and liable for prosecution in keeping with sub-section 1 herein above.
3. Any person who or institution which:
 - a. Hinders or obstructs an authorized officer in the exercise of any of the powers or the discharge of any of the duties under this Act; or
 - b. Fails to:-
 - (i) Duly complete any return form or other document lawfully left with or sent to, or
 - (ii) Transmit or deliver such return, form or other document in accordance with such directions as may be contained therein or given by an authorized officer; or
 - (iii) Answer any questions lawfully asked by an authorized officer; or
 - c. Contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of this Act and/or Regulations; or
 - d. Knowingly provides any information which is untrue in any material way in any return form or other document submitted in terms of that provisions of this Act or Regulations, or

- e. Knowingly provides any information in response to queries by an authorized officer which are false in any material way in contravention of the provisions of this Act or Regulations, shall be guilty of an offence of a misdemeanor and upon conviction punishable pursuant to Chapter 50 of the New Penal Law of Liberia (1978).

4. Other Offences:

Any officer, employee or other person acting, for and/or on behalf of the Institute who commits the crime of theft or embezzlement of any funds money, income or other property of the Institute shall be guilty of the offences described herein and upon conviction shall be punishable in keeping with the relevant provision of Chapter 15, Title 26 of the New Penal Law of Liberia (1978).

Section 50A.27. Regulations: Subject to the approval of the President, the Institute shall from time to time, issue and promulgate Regulations for the collection, processing, storage and dissemination of national statistics and geo-information for the purpose of giving effect to the goals and objectives set forth in the provisions of this Act. Such Regulations shall apply nation-wide or to such area or areas, socio-economic groupings or persons within the country as may be specified in the Regulations.

Section 50A.28. Protection of Members of the Board and Staff:

1. No member or members of the Board shall be personally liable for any act or acts committed by him/her in the exercise of his or her duties in good faith and without negligence for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.
2. No employee or other person acting on behalf of the Institute shall be personally liable for any act or acts committed by him or her in the exercise of his or her duties in good faith and without negligence for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

Section 50A.29. Transfer of Assets: Upon the passage and the coming into effect of this Act, all properties and assets which were formerly owned and vested in the Department of Statistics of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs shall henceforth and immediately be transferred to and vested in the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS).

Section 50A.30 Transitional Provision: Immediately following the effective Date of this Act, the Liberia Institute of Statistics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) shall continue to operate out of the offices formally occupied by the Department of Statistics in the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs (MPEA), forerunner of the LISGIS, until at such time that resources are provided for its relocation in more appropriate surroundings. In addition, the appropriations intended for the Department of Statistics in the budgetary appropriations of the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs for the Fiscal Period July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005, shall constitute the initial financing of the Institute by the Government, until at such time that additional and adequate resources are provided for the proper and more efficient operation and management of the LISGIS.

Section 2: Effective Date: This Act shall take effect immediately upon publication in handbills.

ANY LAW TO THE CONTRARY NOT WITHSTANDING

ANNEX ONE

MATTERS RELATING TO WHICH STATISTICAL INFORMATION MAY BE COLLECTED, COMPILED, ANALYZED, ABSTRACTED AND PUBLISHED

- 1.1 Population Housing
- 1.2 Vital occurrences and mortality
- 1.3 Migration
- 1.4 Internal and external trade, balance of trade and trade indices
- 1.5 Agriculture, including animal husbandry, horticulture and allied industries
- 1.6 Land tenure and the occupation and use of land
- 1.7 Forestry and logging
- 1.8 Hunting and fishing
- 1.9 Mining and quarrying, including the prospecting of metallic, non-metallic and natural gaseous substance and petroleum
- 1.10 Manufacturing, building, construction and productive industries generally
- 1.11 Fuel and Power
- 1.12 Distributive trades
- 1.13 Banking, insurance and finance generally
- 1.14 Transport and communications
- 1.15 Commercial and professional undertakings
- 1.16 Community, recreational and personal services
- 1.17 Local government
- 1.18 Social Welfare and Education
- 1.19 Labor, including industrial disturbances and disputes and industrial injuries, accidents and compensation
- 1.20 Health
- 1.21 Employment and unemployment
- 1.22 Salaries, wages, bonuses, fees, allowances and other payments and honorarium for services rendered
- 1.23 Incomes earnings, profits, rent and interest
- 1.24 Personal expenditure and consumption
- 1.25 Savings
- 1.26 Capital investment
- 1.27 Stocks of manufactured and un-manufactured goods
- 1.28 Wholesale and retail prices and costs of living
- 1.29 External finance and all matters appertaining to a balance of payments
- 1.30 Tourism
- 1.31 Non-governmental organizations
- 1.32 Poverty and nutritional indicators
- 1.33 Biodiversity and status of environment
- 1.34 Others as approved by the Board

ANNEX TWO

SCOPE CONTENT AND THE TIME SCHEDULE ON RELEASE OF STATISTICAL DATA

1. Monthly .
 - a. Consumer Price Indices
 - b. Market Information
 - c. External Trade Statistics
2. Quarterly
 - a. Industrial and Ad-Hoc Production Statistics
 - b. External Trade Statistics
 - c. Consumer Price Indices
3. Semi-Annually .
 - a. Half Year Economic Indicators
 - b. Demographic Indicators
 - c. Rent Survey Results
 - d. Social Statistics
 - Health
 - Vital Statistics
 - Education
 - Family Planning & Reproductive Health
 - e. External Trade Statistics
 - f. Consumer Price Indices
4. Annually
 - a. Economic Survey Results
 - b. Income Tax Statistics
 - c. Motor Vehicles Registration Statistics
 - d. Manufacturing, Cost of Construction and Wholesale Price Indices
 - e. Migration and Tourism Statistics
 - f. National Accounts
 - g. Agriculture Survey Results
 - h. Balance of Payments Statistics
 - i. External trade statistics
 - j. Consumer price indices
5. Two Yearly
 - a. Rural Child Nutrition Survey Results
 - b. National Poverty Monitoring Survey Results
6. Three Yearly
 - a. Symposium Reports
7. Five Yearly
 - a. Agriculture Census Results
 - b. Labor Force Survey Results
 - c. Manpower Survey Results
 - d. Housing Survey Results
 - e. Directory of Industries

- f. Input-Output Tables
- g. Demographic and Health Survey Results
- h. Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
- i. Atlas and Gazetteer
- j. State of the Environment

8. Ten Yearly

- a. Sources and Methods Used for National Accounts
- b. Population and Housing Census Results
- c. Household Expenditure Survey Results
- d. Industrial Production Census Results

ANNEX THREE

OATH OF CONFIDENTIALITY

I, _____, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully and honestly perform and fulfil my duties as _____

In conformity with the provisions of the National Statistics Act, and shall not, without authority or until such information is made public, reveal, disclose or divulge any information acquired by virtue of my position and/or duties, nor directly or indirectly use it for personal gain.

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