I.   Generic template for national reports providing information on quality, sources and methods, together with information on the statistical processes used for the compilation of the statistics underlying the MIP indicators (including concrete specifications for Labour Force Statistics)

Reporting institution: …..

Selected principles					Some specific examples for indicators and related questions (Response options, unless indicated otherwise: not implemented; partially implemented; fully implemented)	Statistical domain specifications
European Code of Practice principles	Public Commitment on European Statistics by the ESCB	Selected elements				
Institutional Environment	*Institutional Environment*	*CoP/PC*	*IMF DQAF*	*SIMS*	*Question(s)*	*LFS*

| CoP1 Professional Independence | PC1 Professional Independence | 1.1/1.1 | 1.1.1
1.1.2 | | The independence of [name of reporting institution], from political and other external interference in developing, producing and disseminating official statistics is guaranteed by law.
Legal basis: Pls confirm the independence by referring to the relevant national and EU legal act(s) and the formulation used in the legal act. | Statistical activity in Bulgaria is regulated by the Statistics Act, Law for Protection of Personal Data, Electronic Government Act and specific legal acts such as acts on 2011 population and housing census and on intra-community trading of goods (Intrastat). According to the law, statistics activities shall be carried out in compliance with the principle of professional independence. |
| | | 1.4/1.5 | | | The [name of reporting institution] has an annual statistical work programme which is made public.
Statistics work programme: Pls confirm the existence of a statistics work programme and specify where to find it (or similar document), if available. | Statistics work programme:
The annual National Statistical Programme is elaborated in accordance with Chapter Three of the Law on Statistics. The programme includes Plan for activity of National Statistical Institute (NSI) and the Plans for statistical activities of the Bodies of Statistics. Labour market is included in the annual programme as a separate theme.
http://www.nsi.bg/en/content/12967/basic-page/national-statistical-programme-2015 |

CoP2 Mandate for data collection	PC2 Mandate for data collection	2.1/2.1	0.1.1	S 7.1	The mandate(s) of the [name of the institution(s)] to collect information for the development, production and dissemination of European Statistics is specified in law. *Allocation of responsibilities: Pls explain the allocation of responsibilities in producing the relevant statistics.* *Legal basis: Pls confirm the mandate by referring to the relevant legal act(s) and any other kind of formal agreements.*	Allocation of responsibilities: The National Statistical Institute of Bulgaria (NSI) is the main producer of European statistics in Bulgaria, including labour market statistics. Legal basis: - Council Regulation (EC) N° 577/98 of 9 March 1998 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community ; - Statistics Act.
CoP6 Impartiality and objectivity	PC6 Impartiality and objectivity	6.6/6.6	1.2.4	S9.1 + S9.2 S.20.1	Advance notice is given on release calendars and on major revisions or changes in methodologies, source data and techniques. *Advance release calendar: Pls confirm the existence of an advance release calendar and provide a*	Release calendar: The production of the main indicators (quarterly results) is accompanied by an EU-LFS release calendar which provides transparency for the users on the availability of the data and favours a timeliness data release of the results. http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/1978984//6048829/LFS_release_announcement.pdf Revision policy: Revisions of previously released data based on EU-LFS are not expected, unless major errors are identified in the data delivered or

						link to it. *Revision policy: Pls explain succinctly the revision policy and provide a link to material on the revision policy, if existent.*	in their processing. Exceptional revisions may happen e.g. after new estimates of population from a population census.

Statistical Processes	*Statistical Processes*	CoP/PC	*IMF DQAF*	SIMS	*Question(s)*		**LFS**
CoP7 Sound methodology	PC7 Sound methodology	7.1/7.1	2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4	S4.3 S4.4 S4.5 S4.6 S 6 S12.1	Pls specify the relevant statistical standards to which the statistics abide *Links/references to existing comprehensive methodological documentation on specific aspects of the national sources and methods can also be provided*		General remarks: The European Union Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) provides population estimates for the main labour market characteristics, such as employment, unemployment, inactivity, hours of work, occupation, economic activity, and other labour related variables, as well as important socio-demographic characteristics, such as sex, age, education, household characteristics and regions of residence. The definitions of employment and unemployment, as well as other survey characteristics follow in general the definitions and recommendations of Eurostat and the International Labour Organisation. The definition of unemployment is further specified in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1897/2000. Comprehensive EU-LFS methodological documentation: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_labour_force_survey
					Pls specify adherence or deviations from concepts and rules according to international standards and highlight coverage gaps		Exceptions to coverage: Collective households are not surveyed, except student and worker hostels. The objects of the survey are non-institutional households. Divergence of national concepts from European concepts for the labour

					that are of <u>material relevance</u> for the statistics. Pls indicate whether actions to address the deviations and coverage gaps are envisaged.	statistics. Employment - Treatment of long-term absences: Persons on maternity leave for raising a child up to 1 year of age are considered employed. According to the legislation during this period they receive 90% of their salaries. Persons on parental leave (unpaid leave with duration of 6 months) are considered employed.
CoP8 Appropriate Statistical procedures	PC8 Appropriate Statistical procedures	8.2/8.2	3.1 3.3 3.4	S12.1 S21.1 S21.3 S 21.5-6	Pls provide a succinct assessment of the robustness of the statistics by elaborating briefly on the relevant sources of information, statistical methods and procedures used across the various frequencies. *Pls provide links/references to existing comprehensive methodological documentation on specific aspects of the national statistical procedures. The objective should be to get an overview on how much the statistical output are anchored in actual collected data rather than*	The following publications provide users with a tool for assessing the quality of the statistics which are based on the EU-LFS. It gives a brief description of the survey and a summary of the main quality indicators, which are: relevance, accuracy, accessibility and clarity, timeliness and punctuality, comparability, and coherence. The quality report is updated annually. Labour force survey in the EU, candidate and EFTA countries — Main characteristics of national surveys Quality report of the European Union Labour Force Survey See: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/lfs/publications/quality-reporting Further individual country information: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cache/metadata/EN/employ_esqrs.htm

Statistical Output	Statistical Output	CoP/PC	IMF DQAF	SIMS	Question(s)	LFS
					on estimation methods or similar judgemental inputs.	
CoP11 Relevance	PC11 Relevance	11.1-11.3	0.3	S.14	Pls specify briefly why the statistics are relevant by referring to the multiple purposes for which the statistics are used at (i) international, (ii) EU and (iii) national level. References to the statistical legislation and other formal or informal commitments could be sufficient. In addition, if applicable, the outcome of user consultation processes could also be given.	EU-LFS results are used by the DG Employment and a number of other Directorates of the Commission mainly for measurement and monitoring of policy agenda purposes. The European Central Bank (ECB) uses short term LFS statistics related to Euro area. Key users include NSI's, international organizations, news agencies and researchers which use various aspects of EU-LSF data for international or intra EU comparisons.

| CoP12 Accuracy and reliability | PC12 Accuracy and reliability (including stability) | 12.1/12.1 | 3.5 | S 15.1

S 15.2

S15.3

S.18.2

S 20.2 | The analysis should be based on the following indicators (to be compiled by the ECB/Eurostat on a common data vintage) on the reliability of first releases for the relevant series (selected for their material impact and to avoid compensatory effects in the case of balancing items):

Directional reliability indicators;

Revisions' indicators (e.g. MAPE, MACE or RMSRE depending on the indicator).

and provide a succinct assessment of the accuracy and reliability of the statistics on the basis of the results, with an attempt to provide a relative objective measure, explaining also the main reasons for revisions. | Information on the accuracy and reliability of the LFS data by providing information on the quality indicators.
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Confidence limits at 95 % level of significance, annual average 2014:

Number of employed (x1000): 2 981 ± 61, Number of part time employed (x1000): 79 ± 7, Number of unemployed (x1000): 385 ± 21, Rate of unemployment (%):11.4 ±0.6 |
| | | | | | Pls provide a succinct | Information on frame quality (under and over coverage and |

					assessment of the level of the statistical discrepancies ("*internal consistency*") focusing on their size and direction (systematic bias).	misclassifications) of the LFS sample and specific measurement errors. The sample is drawn from the lists of households obtained from Population Census. During the survey field work problems are found on: non-occupied houses or houses used for other purposes; one household (according to the Census list) divided into two or more separate households or the opposite. Rate is 6.5%
CoP13 Timeliness and punctuality	PC13 Timeliness (including punctuality)	13.1 13.4	4.1	S.16	Pls specify the timeliness requirements for international and EU purposes and the national target publication dates. Pls specify punctuality defined as deviations in relation to the timeliness requirements and target dates specified above.	Information on possible delay of delivery to Eurostat of the full dataset. Information not available for publication According to Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 data shall be delivered to Eurostat within twelve weeks from the end of a reference quarter. For 2014 deadline for transmitting the data was respected.
CoP14 Coherence and comparability	PC14 Consistency and comparability	14.1/14.1	4.2.1 4.2.2 4.2.3	S17.2 S 18.1	Pls provide a succinct assessment of the results of the consistency check of the statistics with other related domains or data sets with which the statistics must show coherence ("*external consistency*"). The results should provide a relative objective measure to facilitate cross-country comparability, e.g.	Information on the assessment of the results of the consistency check of the statistics with other related domains ("external consistency"). Coherence of LFS data with National Accounts data, registered unemployment and Business statistics data. Generally coherence to other statistics can be limited due to different sources, different scopes or different coverage and units. The coherence of LFS data with Business statistics data is good. The coherence of LFS data with registered unemployment and with National Accounts data is lower. For a summary of the deviations see: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-statistical-working-papers/-/KS-

						be presented as a ratio of the inconsistency between compared statistics, as a percentage of GDP, where appropriate.	TC-15-004 (Chapter 8)
						Pls provide a succinct assessment of the time consistency, specifying (i) whether the time series presents breaks and if so explaining the reasons for the breaks; (ii) the length of the series for which back data are consistent; and (iii) whether the statistics are consistent across the various frequencies (monthly/quarterly/annual) where relevant.	Since 1983, improved comparability between results of successive surveys has been achieved, mainly due to increased harmonisation, greater stability of content and higher frequency of surveys. However, the following factors may somewhat detract from perfect comparability: - population figures used for population adjustment are revised at certain intervals on the basis of new population censuses; - reference periods may not have remained the same for a given country due to the transition to a quarterly continuous survey; - countries may modify their sample designs; - in order to improve the quality of results, countries may change the content or order of their questionnaire. Information on EU-LFS breaks and individual country breaks are documented: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_labour_force_survey_%E2%80%93_data_and_publication **Major changes in recent years** 2006: − A new LFS questionnaire being used since the first quarter of 2006, increasing the number of available variables.

						− WSTATOR – Parental leave, newly introduced in Bulgaria, is taken into account to determine the ILO labour status and is considered as employment from which the person concerned was absent during the reference period. 2007: The new NUTS 2 codes introduced. 2008: − The wave approach implemented in the national LFS at the beginning of the year. Twenty five variables collected on an annual basis. The third wave is used for data collection of annual variables. − Sample size increased by 1 504 households (to a total sample size of 19 504 households). − Reference period extended to all 13 weeks of the quarter. − No compulsory military service from the beginning of 2008. Several changes introduced to the questionnaire to match more closely the list of EU-LFS variables and explanatory notes. 2012: − Update of the sampling frame based on Census of Population 2011. − Changes in the weighting procedure.
CoP15 Accessibility and Clarity	PC15 Accessibility and Clarity	15.1/15.1	5.1.1 5.2.1	S9.3 S 11 S12.1	Pls provide a brief description of the dissemination policy and dissemination means, including links to the data	The Eurostat online publication describes the European Union (EU) labour force survey (EU-LFS), a large sample survey among private households in Europe and an important source for European statistics about the situation and trends in the EU labour market. The publication provides information on the main features, the legal basis, the

					and respective metadata.	methodology and the data as well as on the historical development of the EU-LFS. http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/EU_labour_force_survey