



EUROPEAN COMMISSION Audiovisual Services

Midday statement by Algirdas ŠEMETA, Member of the EC in charge of Taxation and Customs Union, Audit, Anti-Fraud, on Commission Decision defining the role and responsibilities of Eurostat:

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The role and responsibilities of Eurostat, the EU statistical office, have been clarified and reinforced in a Decision adopted by the Commission today. This is another important step forward in ensuring high quality, reliable and independent European statistics. Today's Decision reflects the need to strengthen the governance of European statistics, taking into account significant developments in recent years, not least the central role that Eurostat now plays in European economic governance. Through the Decision, the Commission pledges to uphold the independence of Eurostat and its Director-General in their tasks, and ensure high-quality standards are respected for European statistics.



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TIME	DESCRIPTION	DURATION
00:00:00	Title	00:00:05
00:00:05	Algirdas Semeta, Member of the EC in charge of Taxation and Customs Union, Audit, Anti-Fraud arriving in the press room	00:00:04
00:00:09	SOUNDBITE by Algirdas Semeta (In English) saying that: Trough a decision adopted this morning, we are enshrining in Eurostat the principles and standards that we expect national statistical authorities to apply. Essentially, this is a commitment on confidence in statistics by the Commission. We pledge to uphold the independence of Eurostat and ensure the highest standards. This should be mirrored at national level by all member states as soon as possible.	00:00:35
00:00:44	Cutaway	00:00:03
00:00:47	SOUNDBITE by Algirdas Semeta (In English) saying that: The quality of European statistics is also a central focus of today's decision. Eurostat's responsibility for verifying data and monitoring the proper application of the European statistics' code of practise is underlined. We have also proposed a new labelling system for European statistics which should signal their dependability and their	00:00:28

	statistics which ensure high quality and then high quality.	
00:01:15	Cutaway	00:00:03
00:01:18	SOUNDBITE by Algirdas Semeta (In English) saying that: There will be better cooperation between Eurostat and other Commission services to ensure reliability, consistency and resource efficiency in any statistics that are published at EU level.	00:00:14
00:01:32	Cutaway	00:00:04
00:01:36	SOUNDBITE by Algirdas Semeta (In English) saying that: The decision on Eurostat is another step in reinforcing high quality European statistics in ensuring that they are trustworthy, impartial and fit for purpose. I truly believe that the work we are doing in this area is paying off. We can confidently rely on our statistics to underpin and guide policy decisions and to give an accurate picture of the EU's economic state.	00:00:31
00:02:07	Algirdas Semeta leaving the press room	00:00:06
00:02:13	End	00:00:00