

Mr. Laurs Norlund  
Director  
EUROSTAT – Directorate C

Vienna, 18. January 2006

Subject: Provision of loans by regional government to hospitals  
Your reference: ESTAT/C-3/LN/LA/gr D(2005) 30352, 21.DEC. 2005

Dear Mr. Norlund,

Please find attached detailed comments on your letter about loans by state governments to hospitals of 21 December 2005. Sorry for the slight delay caused partly by investigating new information which became available for us very recently.

As regards the further treatment of the loan issue in the Austrian National Accounts we propose a reclassification of these amounts as subsidies when there are legally binding documents that the funds needed by the hospitals to repay the “loans” are provided by the state governments themselves. As regards the time of recording these payments as non-financial transactions we propose the time when these legally binding documents (law, decision etc.) enter into force. In the attachment you find also quantitative information about the financing of hospitals out of all single state government budgets.

I look forward to receiving your reaction on this subject as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Reinhold Schwarzl  
Director

Attachments