



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROSTAT

Directorate D: Government Finance Statistics (GFS) and quality

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Ms Maria Stavropoulou
Hellenic Statistical Authority
Piraeus 46 & Eponiton street
185 10 Piraeus
Greece

**Subject: Classification of entities - guidance request
State Orchestra of Greek Music**

Reference: Your letter Γ1-1380 of 02/12/2015

Dear Ms. Stavropoulou,

Thank you for the letter requesting Eurostat opinion on the sector classification of the State Orchestra of Greek Music. After examining your request, please find below Eurostat's preliminary view on the sectorization of the above-mentioned unit in national accounts.

1. ANALYSIS

Eurostat takes note that, despite the numerous requests of ELSTAT, the State Orchestra has not provided the data needed in order to undertake the usual analysis that would determine the sector classification of the unit.

According to ELSTAT, the entity has been under liquidation for the last eight years. The unit seems however to continue to perform economic activities and it seems to be subsidized by the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs, Culture and Sports.

2. CONCLUSION

Based on the elements above and given the nature of the unit, Eurostat considers that the State Orchestra of Greek Music should be reclassified in the general government sector in the absence of financial information. Amongst other, it is to be underlined that the refusal to provide data to the Greek statistical authorities makes de facto impossible for the State Orchestra to abide to the 50% rule, which is an absolute pre-condition for any unit to be classified outside the general government sector.

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3. PROCEDURE

This preliminary view of Eurostat is based on the information provided by the Greek authorities. If this information turns out to be incomplete, or the implementation of the operation differs in some way from the information currently available and the assumptions made above, Eurostat reserves the right to reconsider its view.

In this context, we would like to remind you that Eurostat is committed to adopt a fully transparent framework for its decisions on debt and deficit matters in line with Council Regulation 479/2009 and the note on ex-ante advice. Eurostat therefore publishes all official methodological advice (ex-ante and ex-post) given to Member States on its website. In case you have objections to the publication of this specific case, we would appreciate if you would let Eurostat know *before 10 January 2015*.

Yours sincerely,

(e-Signed)

Eduardo Barredo Capelot
Director