



Brussels, 14.6.2016
C(2016) 3515 final

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

of 14.6.2016

**adopting the programme of ad hoc modules, covering the years 2019, 2020 and 2021, for
the labour force sample survey provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98**

(Text with EEA relevance)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. CONTEXT OF THE DELEGATED ACT

According to Article 7a(4) of Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community,¹ the Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts establishing a programme of ad hoc modules covering three years.

For each ad hoc module, the programme should define the subject, the list and description of the area of specialised information (the ‘ad hoc sub-modules’) forming the framework within which the ad hoc module technical characteristics referred to in Article 7a(5) are determined and define the reference period.

This programme is to be adopted not later than 24 months before the beginning of the reference period of the programme.

2. CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO ADOPTION OF THE ACT

The Commission has carried out appropriate consultations as part of the preparation of this act.

The Commission consulted national experts invited to expert meetings to discuss the draft delegated act. The consultation took place at the meetings of the working group on labour market statistics (LAMAS) on 24-25 June 2014, on 10-11 December 2014 and on 7-8 December 2015.

Moreover, the European directors of Social Statistics were consulted during their meeting on 23-24 February 2016.

Finally, the directors-general of the Member States' national statistical institutes were also consulted during a dedicated meeting held on 18 May 2016.

The Commission has kept both the European Parliament and the Council duly informed of the consultations.

3. LEGAL ELEMENTS OF THE DELEGATED ACT

The objective of this delegated act is to adopt the programme of ad hoc modules covering the years 2019 to 2021, according to Article 7a(4) of Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98.

The domains selected for the programme of ad hoc modules for the labour force sample survey are the following:

- Work organisation and working time arrangements (reference period 2019);
- Accidents at work and other work-related health problems (reference period 2020);
- Labour situation of migrants and their immediate descendants (reference period 2021).

Moreover, three areas of specialised information (‘ad hoc sub-modules’) are envisaged to be included in each ad hoc module:

¹ OJ L 77, 14.3.1998, p. 3.

- Flexibility of working times, methods at work and place of work (for the ad hoc module *work organisation and working time arrangements*);
- Accidents at work, work-related health problems and risk factors for physical health and/or mental well-being (for the ad hoc module *accidents at work and other work-related health problems*);
- Background information, language skills and obstacles/support to labour market participation (for the ad hoc module *labour situation of migrants and their immediate descendants*).

The delegated act concerns a matter relating to the European Economic Area (EEA) and its application should therefore extend to the EEA.

COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) .../...

of 14.6.2016

adopting the programme of ad hoc modules, covering the years 2019, 2020 and 2021, for the labour force sample survey provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 of 9 March 1998 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community,¹ and in particular Article 7a(4) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 577/98, it is necessary to specify the elements of the programme of ad hoc modules covering the years 2019, 2020 and 2021.
- (2) There is a need for a comprehensive and comparable set of data on work organisation and working time arrangements, and a need for more detailed data on labour market participation, in order to monitor progress towards the common objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy.
- (3) In the context of the ongoing debate on flexicurity² and the expressed need for greater adaptability of both enterprises and workers in Europe, a key issue highlighted in the European employment strategy and the employment guidelines,³ it is necessary to collect data with a large-scale European survey on the extent of application of various forms of new practices in work organisation and working time arrangements and the experiences of workers with these.
- (4) In its Communication on an EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020⁴, the Commission underlined the importance of improving statistical data collection on work-related accidents and diseases, occupational exposures and work-related ill-health. A new ad hoc module on accidents at work and work-related health problems should make it possible to compare data transmitted by Member States under the European statistics on accidents at work project with the situation of people on the labour market, and to collect data on work-related health problems. Moreover, it should provide information on occupational exposure to risk factors for physical health and mental well-being.

¹ OJ L 77, 14.3.1998, p. 3.

² Flexicurity is an integrated strategy for enhancing, at the same time, flexibility and security in the labour market. It attempts to reconcile employers' need for a flexible workforce with workers' need for security – confidence that they will not face long periods of unemployment.

³ Council Decision (EU) 2015/1848 of 5 October 2015 on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States for 2015 (OJ L 268, 15.10.2015, p. 28).

⁴ COM(2014) 332 final of 6.6.2014.

- (5) In its Communication *A European Agenda on Migration*⁵, the Commission acknowledged the need to develop structural actions related to migration. Measures for the integration of migrants should be promoted, including initiatives to improve language and professional skills, and to ease qualifications recognition and access to the labour market. Moreover, one of the key domains targeted by Council Recommendation (EU) 2015/1184⁶ focuses on removing barriers to labour market participation and reducing employment gaps for disadvantaged people, including the gap between Union citizens and non-Union citizens. In this context, detailed data on the labour situation of migrants are needed to provide a reliable evidence base for decision-making,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The programme of ad hoc modules for the labour force sample survey, covering the years 2019, 2020 and 2021, as set out in the Annex, is adopted.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 14.6.2016

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER

⁵ COM(2015) 240 final of 13.5.2015.

⁶ Council Recommendation (EU) 2015/1184 of 14 July 2015 on broad guidelines for the economic policies of the Member States and of the European Union (OJ L 192, 18.7.2015, p. 27).