

Statute of the National Council for Productivity

Article 1 Introductory provisions

- /1/ The Statute of the National Council for Productivity (hereafter „statute“), as a separate advisory body of the head of the Government Office of the Slovak Republic (hereafter „head of Office“) established in accordance with article 13 paragraph 3 of the Organisational order of the Government Office of the Slovak Republic, modifies the standing, duties, composition and the means of assembly of the National Council for Productivity (hereafter „the National Council“).
- /2/ The National Council is formed based on the recommendations of **the Council dating from September 20, 2016, related to the establishment of national councils for productivity** in each of the member states of the European Union.

Article 2 Scope of the National Council

- /1/ The primary duty of the National Council is to monitor, analyse and assess the productivity and competitiveness of the Slovak Republic. The assessment will cover the areas of innovation, business environment, education, effectiveness of the public sector, as well as the attractiveness of the Slovak Republic for foreign investment. The conclusions drawn by the National Council are subsequently discussed in the presence of relevant public and private sector institutions and social partners.
- /2/ The duty of the National Council is to analyse such developments that may have had an impact on productivity and competitiveness, to formulate independent analyses and provide a basis for a strengthened political discussion on a national level. The National Council publishes its analyses in an annual report on the development of productivity and competitiveness (hereafter „Report“) and is obliged to inform the public about its activities. In the process of drafting the Report, which will serve as a foundation in collective negotiations, the aim of the National Council is to move towards greater transparency and a higher degree of professionalism in the field of economic analyses. It also aids with reforms focused on sustainable economic development and convergence. In cooperation with key partners, the National Council conducts an analysis of policies according to need and if required, makes use of external experts with the goal of providing the government with recommendations and appropriate reforms that facilitate increased competitiveness and productivity in the economy. The analyses of the Council are based on transparent and comparable indicators. They are concerned with long-term driving forces and determinants of productivity. The National Council assesses strategic priorities, development needs of the state and considers national specificities and aspects related to the European Union. Its scope also encompasses any related economic, social and environmental issues. It has functional autonomy and professional independence, so as to conduct its duties in an unbiased, neutral and impartial manner and formulate analyses for the benefit of the greater good. The National Council also cooperates with productivity councils of other EU member states, with the goal of a strengthened dialogue,

better exchange of opinion and best practice, and the possibility of conducting joint analyses.

/3/ The secretariat of the National Council, in cooperation with the members of the National Council, draws up the Report by January 31 of the following calendar year.

Article 3 **The Composition of the National Council**

/1/ The National Council is formed by members with voting rights and members whose vote plays an advisory role only, as specified in paragraphs 2 to 4.

/2/ A member of the National Council with a voting right is the representative of

- a) The Institute for Strategy and Analyses of the Government Office of the Slovak Republic,
- b) The Institute of Financial Policy of the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic,
- c) The Institute of Social Policy of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic,
- d) The Institute of Educational Policy of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic,
- e) Centre for Economic Issues of the Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic
- f) Office of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic for Investments and Informatization,
- g) Slovak Academy of Sciences,
- h) The National Bank of Slovakia,
- i) The Council for Budget Responsibility,
- j) Slovak Banking Association,
- k) Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic.

/3/ A member of the National Council, whose vote plays an advisory role only, is the representative of

- a) The Confederation of Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic,
- b) Federation of Employers' Association of the Slovak Republic,
- c) The National Union of Employers,
- d) The Slovak Chamber of Commerce,
- e) Supreme Audit Office of the Slovak Republic,
- f) Club 500,

/4/ The National Council has a chair and two vice-chairs. The chairman of the National Council is the head of the Institute for Strategy and Analyses of the Government Office of the Slovak Republic. Vice-chairmen of the National Council are elected amongst themselves by the members with voting rights at the first assembly. The chair of the National Council and the vice-chairs are deemed members of the National Council with a voting right.

/5/ The chair of the National Council is appointed and called off by the head of Office The remaining members of the National Council are appointed and called off by the head of

Office based on the proposal of the subjects specified in paragraphs 2 and 3, with the exception of vice-chairs of the National Council specified in paragraph 4.

- /6/ Aside from members specified in paragraphs 2 to 4, another representative of a subject that has suggested a member of the National Council may also partake in the assembly of the National Council.
- /7/ Membership in the National Council is in good faith, without entitlement for compensation.
- /8/ Membership in the National Council is terminated by:
 - a) the loss of membership of the subject in the National Council,
 - b) being called off from function,
 - c) voluntarily giving up the membership,
 - d) death.

Article 4

Duties of the chair of the National Council, members of the National Council and the secretariat of the National Council

- /1/ The chair of the National Council
 - a) administers the activities of the National Council,
 - b) proposes the agenda of the assembly of the National Council,
 - c) calls upon and leads the assembly of the National Council,
 - d) partakes in the assembly and voting of the National Council,
 - e) puts forward proposals of documents in relation to the discussed agenda at the assembly of the National Council,
 - f) proposes resolutions from the assembly of the National Council,
 - g) approves and signs the minutes taken at the assembly of the National Council,
- /2/ The vice-chair of the National Council
 - a) acts as a deputy to the chair of the National Council at times of the chair's absence in full scope based on delegation by the chair,
 - b) partakes in the assembly of the National Council with a voting right.
- /3/ The members of the National Council with a voting right
 - a) partake in the assembly of the National Council,
 - b) approve the Report,
 - c) approve the agenda of the assembly of the National Council,
 - d) put forward their proposals for supplementation of the agenda of the assembly of the National Council,
 - e) comment on the material presented at the assembly of the National Council,
 - f) put forward their proposals, information, recommendations, opinion and any other material related to the discussed agenda based on their own initiative and the decision of the National Council,

- g) propose resolutions from the assembly of the National Council,
 - h) call upon the assembly of the National Council.
- /4/ Members of the National Council, whose votes play an advisory role only
- a) partake in the assembly of the National Council,
 - b) comment on the agenda of the assembly of the National Council,
 - c) put forward their proposals for supplementation of the agenda of the assembly of the National Council,
 - d) comment on the material presented at the assembly of the National Council,
 - e) put forward their proposals, information, recommendations, opinion and any other material related to the discussed agenda based on their own initiative and the decision of the National Council,
- /5/ The secretariat of the National Council is the Institute for Strategy and Analysis of the Slovak Republic, which is responsible for the organisational and administrative aspects of the National Council.
- /6/ The secretariat of the National Council primarily
- a) prepares proposals of the Report,
 - b) consults the proposal of the Report with members of the National Council, with the supplementary aim of data access; the proposal of the Report is, however, drafted independently,
 - c) prepares analyses in the area of competitiveness and innovation, possibly in cooperation with external actors within the public sector and the academia,
 - d) participates in the European network of national councils of productivity.
 - e) Facilitates the organisational preparations associated with the assembly of the National Council (invitations, documents, meeting minutes, etc.)

Article 5

The assembly of the National Council and the voting of the National Council

- /1/ The goal of the assembly of the National Council is to present the Report's conclusions, as well as to address possible remarks.
- /2/ The assembly of the National Council is called upon by the chair in writing, with the invitations sent electronically or by any other reasonable means of communication, at latest 10 working days prior to the date of the assembly. In justifiable circumstances may the chair shorten this notice period, if so required for the satisfactory fulfillment of the duties of the National Council.
- /3/ A member of the National Council is obliged to confirm his/her attendance at the assembly of the National Council at latest one day prior to the assembly. In case the member is no table to attend the assembly of the National Council, he/she may send a representative based on written announcement of their so-doing (electronically or in letter format), which must be delivered to the secretariat of the National Council at least one day prior to the assembly. The individual attending in place of the member of the National Council has the same rights as the member he/she is representing.

- /4/ The National Council gathers in assembly according to need, although it must meet at least once per year.
- /5/ In extraordinary circumstances (for example, in the case of unexpected significant macroeconomic shocks in the domestic or international economy), members of the National Council reserve the right to call upon an extraordinary assembly of the National Council for Productivity following the approval by the absolute majority of all its members. The chair of the National Council is obliged to call upon the extraordinary assembly of the National Council within three weeks since approval was granted to conduct an extraordinary assembly. The head of the Office is also entitled to call upon an extraordinary assembly of the National Council, even without the agreement of the absolute majority of its members.
- /6/ The assembly of the National Council is led by the chair of the National Council. The National Council deliberates based on the agenda of the assembly, which is proposed by the chair. Any given member may raise another point of discussion to be covered by the agenda. To add the point to the agenda, it must be approved by the absolute majority of members present at the assembly.
- /7/ The secretariat of the National Council sends a draft Report to the members of the National Council in line with article 4 paragraph 1 to 4 for review at least 15 working days before the assembly of the National Council.
- /8/ Members of the National Council put forward their remarks to the draft Report in writing at least two working days prior to the assembly of the National Council.
- /9/ Every member of the National Council has the right to present their assessment of the draft Report at the assembly of the National Council.
- /10/ If members of the National Council with a voting right decide, based on reasoned discussion, to modify the draft Report, a new draft Report must be presented within 14 working days following the assembly of the National Council.
- /11/ The finalised Report to be published is approved by the absolute majority of the members of the National Council with a voting right.
- /12/ The National Council makes decisions based on resolution.
- /13/ The National Council forms a quorate if the absolute majority of members with the voting right are present. To approve the resolutions, an approval by the absolute majority of present members with a voting right is required.
- /14/ Every member of the National Council has one vote. In the case of a tie in the number of votes, the vote of the chair will be decisive.
- /15/ Based on the nature of the discussed issues, the chair may invite additional individuals to the assembly of the National Council; these invited individuals do not have a voting right. A member of the National Council with a voting right may also suggest the invitation of another individual.

/16/ The chair of the National Council may also decide on the discussion and approval „per rollam“. Members of the National Council will express their views on the material sent out „per rollam“ in writing at latest within three working days following the day the material was sent out by the secretariat of the National Council. In justified circumstances may this notice period be shortened or extended, given the approval by the chair of the National Council or by the absolute majority of all members of the National Council with a voting right. A member of the National Council presents his/her views at the time of voting in written procedure „per rollam“ electronically or by any other reasonable means to the secretariat of the National Council within the date stipulated in the notice. If a member of the National Council with a voting right fails to present his/her view, the vote is counted in favour of the resolution. The resolution is approved, if the absolute majority of the members of the National Council agree with a voting right agree with it.

Article 6 Resolutions of the National Council

Minutes are kept at the assembly of the National Council, which include the agenda of the assembly of the National Council, results from the discussion of individual points within the agenda, the resolution that was accepted at the assembly of the National Council, as well as any other information that is requested to be included by a member of the National Council. The minutes from the assembly are audited by the chair. The information regarding the attendance of individual members of the National Council at the assembly also forms a part of the minutes.

Article 7 Concluding clauses

/1/ This statute comes into effect as of 1.9.2019.

/2/ Any changes and additions to the statute are proposed by the chair of the National Council or by the absolute majority of all members of the National Council with a voting right and is approved by the head of the Office in the form of amendments.

In Bratislava, August 28, 2019
Number: 19958/6681

Mgr. Matúš Šutaj Eštok
Head of the Government Office of the Slovak Republic