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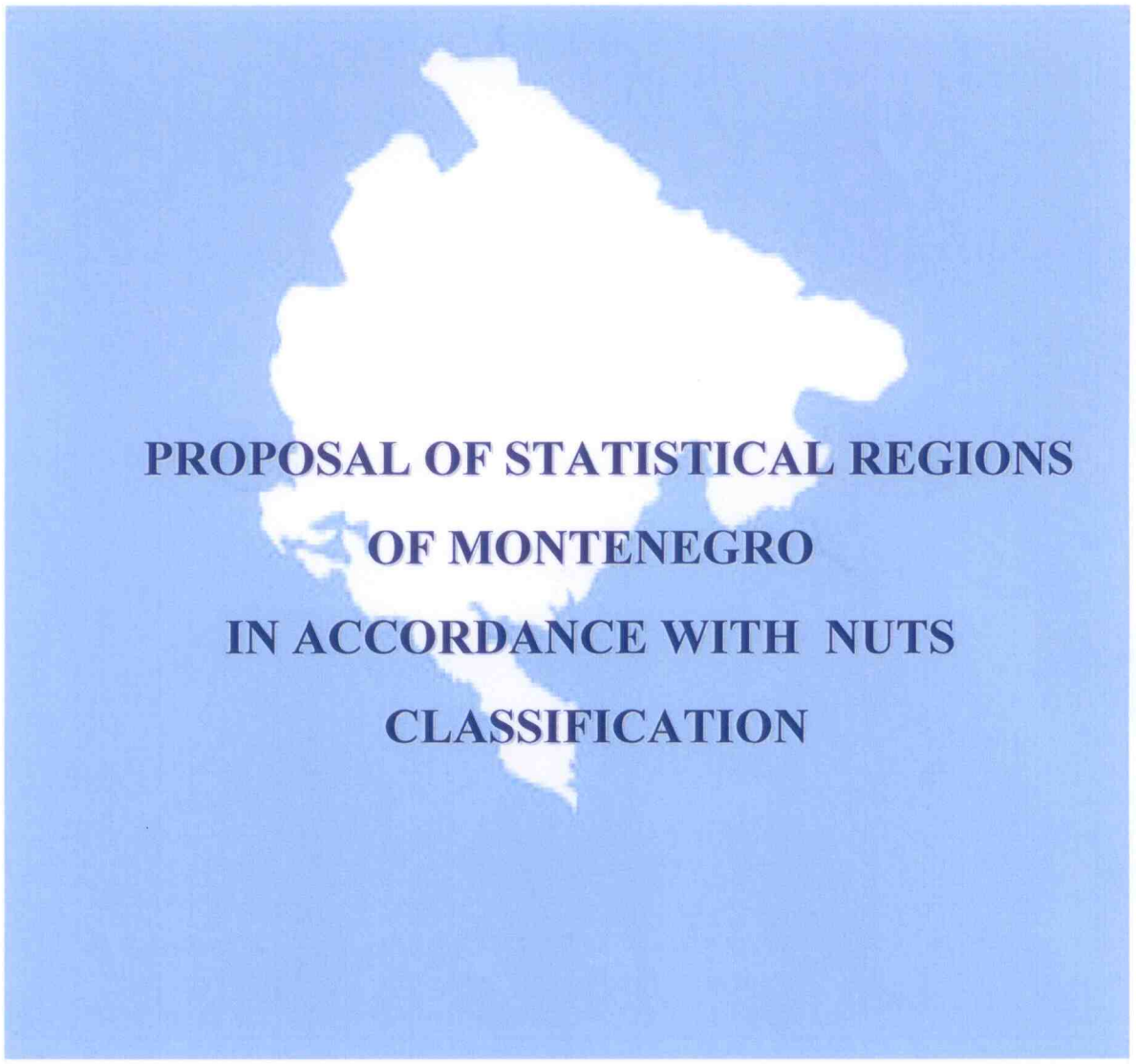

PROPOSAL OF STATISTICAL REGIONS OF MONTENEGRO IN ACCORDANCE WITH NUTS CLASSIFICATION

Podgorica, 2010

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Introduction

Establishment of statistical regions according to the EU nomenclature (The Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics - NUTS) is a part of the EU legal framework, which is required to be accepted by the candidate country before joining the EU. In accordance with the obligations from Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA), which is in force between Montenegro and the EU, and the needs for expression of comparable statistical data at the level of the European Union, Statistical Office of Montenegro MONSTAT has prepared a proposal of statistical regions, which are in accordance with the European statistical standard NUTS.

After the detailed analysis we had performed, we came with the proposal of statistical regions for Montenegro in accordance with NUTS classification. On the basis of the size of the population, territory occupied by the population, the rate of population growth, constancy of population structure by municipalities, and many other factors that we analyzed, Montenegro should be represented as one statistical region at all three levels, complies with provisions of the NUTS Regulation, LAU 1 (Municipalities) and LAU 2 (Settlements).

Hoping that our proposal will be accepted,,

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR

Radomir Đurović

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THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF MONTENEGRO

According to the current legal regulation there is no administrative division of the regions in Montenegro. Law on Territorial Organization of Montenegro is in the force since 1960, amended in 1965, 1970 and 1990, ("Official Gazette" 10/60, 6/65, 6/70, and 45/90), under which the territory of Montenegro is divided in twenty one municipality with the population, shown in the following map, as well as in the table 3.

Figure 1. Map of Montenegro - municipalities with the number of inhabitants - estimation of population, average the middle of 2008

An overview of total area of Montenegro and of municipalities is given in the following table..

Table 1. Area of Montenegro and the municipalities in km²

MONTE NEGRO	Andrijevica	Bar	Berana	Bijelo Polje	Budva	Danilovgrad	Žabljak	Kolašin	Kotor	Mojkovac
13812	283	598	717	924	122	501	445	897	335	367

/continue/

Nikšić	Plav	Plužine	Pljevlja	Podgorica	Rožaje	Tivat	Ulcinj	Herceg Novi	Cetinje	Šavnik
2065	486	854	1346	1441	432	46	255	235	910	553

Source: Real-Estate Administration of Montenegro

As regional division of Montenegro is not defined by the national legislation, when defining the proposal of statistical regions for Montenegro in accordance with NUTS classification, we followed the criteria compliant with the criteria defined by Regulation (EC) No 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS).

POPULATION OF MONTENEGRO, TOTAL AND BY MUNICIPALITY

Number of population was used as the most important criteria for defining the statistical regions.

Table 2. Population in Montenegro (2003-2008)[1]

YEAR	MONTENEGRO - TOTAL
2003	**620278**
2004	**622118**
2005	**623277**
2006	**624240**
2007	**626188**
2008	**628804**

Source: MONSTAT

[1] The last population census in Montenegro was carried out in 2003, and later assessment were done on the basis of the mentioned population census 2003 and vital statistics (number of births and deaths, natural increase and internal migration of population as the regular annual statistical research)

On the basis of data presented in the Table 2, it is visible that the growth rate of population for the period 2003-2008, 1.4% is very small, showing that the population is changed slowly. According to the population of Montenegro estimates (The publication "Demographic Trends in Montenegro since the Middle of 20th Century up to 2050") in the high fertility variety in 2010, the expected population in Montenegro is the 642.789.

Table3. Population by municipalities (2003-2008)

YEAR→ MUNICIPALITIES↓	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Structure in %, 2004	Structure in %, 2008
Andrijevica	5819	5743	5658	5588	5545	5498	0.91	0.87
Bar	40003	40415	40780	41217	41706	42213	6.43	6.71
Berana	35176	35112	35023	34884	34817	34832	5.58	5.54
Bijelo Polje	50414	50230	50048	49780	49630	49626	7.99	7.89
Budva	15821	16088	16280	16510	16736	16976	2.56	2.70
Danilovgrad	16536	16480	16464	16480	16509	16596	2.62	2.64
Žabljak	4224	4160	4124	4078	4048	4023	0.66	0.64
Kolašin	10006	9852	9698	9537	9398	9278	1.57	1.48
Kotor	22999	22996	22953	22871	22800	22744	3.66	3.62
Mojkovac	10097	10009	9899	9746	9595	9498	1.59	1.51
Nikšić	75327	75317	75292	75246	75192	75247	11.98	11.97
Plav	13812	13807	13806	13863	13933	13934	2.20	2.22
Plužine	4288	4228	4156	4064	3981	3894	0.67	0.62
Pljevlja	35873	35605	35245	34814	34481	34221	5.66	5.44
Podgorica	168736	170876	172626	174401	176569	178677	27.17	28.42
Rožaje	22649	22868	23084	23283	23447	23622	3.64	3.76
Tivat	13659	13622	13601	13513	13487	13624	2.17	2.17
Ulcinj	20267	20357	20447	20529	20653	20801	3.24	3.31
Herceg Novi	33058	33052	33033	33024	33075	33133	5.26	5.27
Cetinje	18548	18397	18222	18046	17869	17715	2.93	2.82
Šavnik	2966	2903	2837	2766	2717	2651	0.46	0.42

Source: MONSTAT

According to the data shown in the table 3, the structure in the five-year period from 2004 up to 2008 is relatively stable. The highest change in the structure is observable in the municipality of Podgorica, 27.17% in 2004 up to 28.42% in 2008, and leading to the conclusion that future changes will be similar and not exceeding maximum threshold NUTS III level in consideration of the NUTS classification.

PROPOSAL OF STATISTICAL REGIONS OF MONTENEGRO IN ACCORDANCE WITH NUTS CLASSIFICATION

The proposal of statistical regions for Montenegro is based on the following:

- That there is no administrative i.e. legal division of Montenegro by regions or areas, thus the criteria laid down in EU regulation on NUTS classification were used when drafting the classification;
- that the criteria of classification, i.e. Article 3, Paragraph 3 of Regulation No 1059/2003 according to which the whole member country can be one statistical region acoording to the NUTS region at that level, if the population of whole member country is less than the minimum threshold for certain NUTS level.

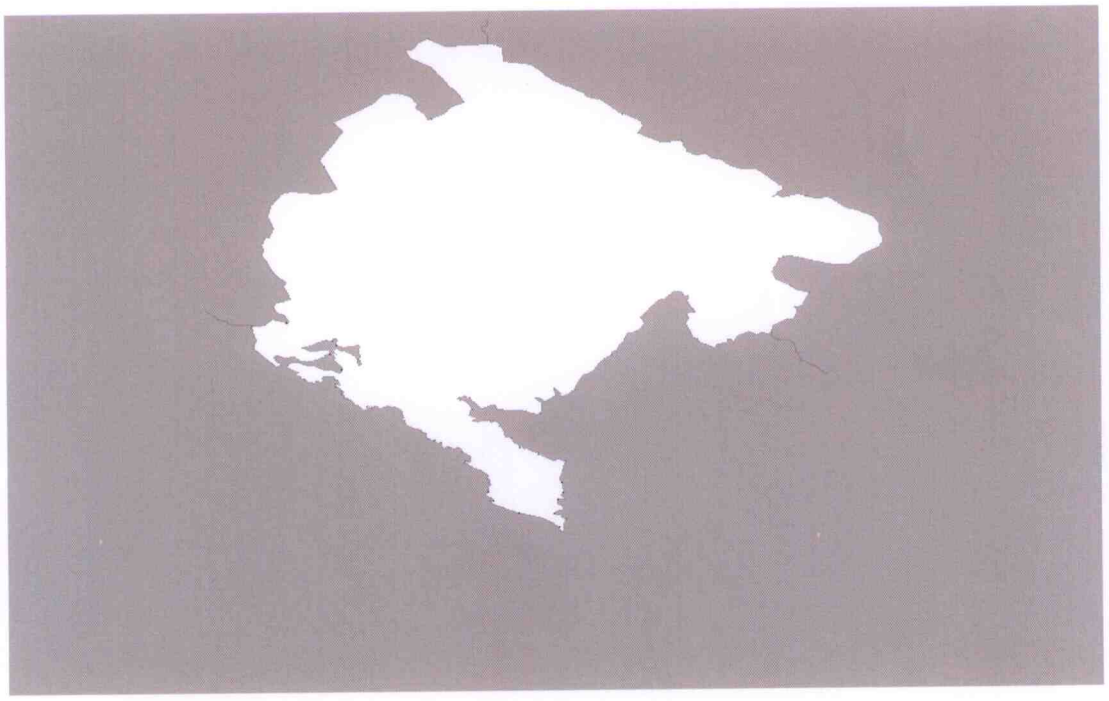
On the basis of procedures for the statistical unit establishment, determined by regulation and on the basis of experience in the NUTS division of EU countries with small population, for ex. Luxembourg, Cyprus, etc, Statistical Office of Montenegro MONSTAT in cooperation with the experts through the CARDS 2003 project, outlined that Montenegro match to the criteria of statistical distribution:

- **At all three levels (NUTS 1-3) complies with provisions of the NUTS Regulation, LAU 1 (municipalities) and LAU 2 (settlements).**

NUTS 1	MONTENEGRO
NUTS 2	MONTENEGRO
NUTS 3	MONTENEGRO
LAU 1	MUNICIPALITIES
LAU 2	SETTLEMENTS

Figure 2. Map of Montenegro with the proposal of statistical regions for Montenegro in accordance with NUTS classification

MONTENEGRO – NUTS level 3



LEGEND

National level
NUTS level 1
NUTS level 2
NUTS level 3

CONCLUSION

As the projected population of Montenegro in mid-year 2008, 628.804 (Table 2), was less than the maximum limits for certain NUTS level, while analysis of population trends suggests that population growth from the last census 2003 to 2008 does not affect significantly, so that in the freezing period of NUTS classification that would last for three years, Montenegro is not to exceed the maximum limits NUTS III level, our proposal for Montenegro as one statistical region in all three levels is the most acceptable one. Statistical Office of Montenegro MONSTAT as the official data producer in this moment has the capacity to meet the EU requirements in regards with the statistical data production only if Montenegro is one statistical region in all three levels which are in accordance with the European statistical standard NUTS .

List of abbreviations:

NUTS - Nomenclature of territorial units for statistics
(franch: Nomenclature D'unités Territoriales Statistique)

LAU - Local Administrative Units

MONSTAT - Statistical Office of Montenegro