The recently-appointed Director General of Eurostat, Mr Walter Radermacher, is expected to visit the National Statistics Office on Monday 23 March 2009.

**Eurostat Director General to visit NSO**

Mr Radermacher will be having formal talks with the Chairman of the Malta Statistics Authority, Mr Reno Camilleri and with the Director General of NSO, Mr Michael Pace Ross.

Mr Walter Radermacher was appointed Director General of Eurostat as of 1 August 2008. He was previously head of the German Federal Statistical Office (Destatis) and, throughout his thirty-year career in this institution, he held a wide variety of posts, notably in the fields of environmental and economic statistics. He was President of Destatis between December 2006 and 2008, and was Vice-President between 2003 and 2006. During the German EU Presidency in the first six months of 2007, he was chair of the Council's Working Group on Statistics. He has also chaired the UN Committee on Environmental–Economic Accounting.

Mr Radermacher holds degrees in business economics from the University of Münster and the RWTH Aachen University.

On 30 September and 1 October, NSO will be hosting a high-level conference in Malta for the Directors General of all national statistical institutes in the 27 EU Member States. These DGINS conferences, as they are known, are the most important forum in the EU for discussions on the future and development of the European Statistical System (ESS). A half-day ESS conference on 2 October will then formalise decisions taken in the DGINS conference.