

NB: Unofficial translation

Legally binding texts are those in Finnish and Swedish

Act on the National Land Survey of Finland

(900/2013; amendments up to 580/2014 included)

Chapter 1 – Tasks and organisation

Section 1 – National Land Survey of Finland

- (1) The area of operations of the National Land Survey of Finland under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry comprises the whole country.

(580/2014)

Section 2 – Tasks

- (1) The task of the National Land Survey of Finland is to:
- 1) see to the real estate formation and land consolidation operations and keeping of registers on real property;
 - 2) see to the registration matters concerning real property and keeping of the title and mortgage register;
 - 3) see to the general mapping operations and maintaining of the national topographic information system concerning topographic information and aerial photographs, promote relevant mapping and map production and make available, publish and distribute map information and other information on its field of operations;
 - 4) produce ICT services to agencies and institutes within the administrative branch of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and bodies managing public administration tasks;
 - 5) follow the development of the field of operations and participate in international cooperation;
 - 6) ensure the further development of the field of operations and carry out other tasks specifically laid down or assigned to it by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry;
- (2) In addition, the National Land Survey of Finland:
- 1) engages in scientific research in the fields of geodesy, positioning, navigation, geoinformatics, cartography, spatial data technology, photogrammetry, laser scanning and remote sensing;
 - 2) sees to the geodetic and photogrammetric metrology and metrology relating to laser scanning and other spatial data metrology;
 - 3) carries out the national basic geodetic measurements, maintains the measurement standards for geodetic and photogrammetric measurements and functions as the national measurement standard laboratory for length and gravitational acceleration;
 - 4) develops and tests methods and equipment for geodesy, spatial data technology, positioning and remote sensing and promotes taking them into use;
 - 5) supports the maintenance and development of the spatial data infrastructure;
 - 6) publishes information on the research results and promotes their utilisation.

- (3) The National Land Survey of Finland may, upon order, carry out tasks pertaining to its field of operations and produce ICT services for specific sectors also for actors other than those referred to in paragraph 4 of section 2(1). In addition, it may see to tasks laid down for the municipal cadastral surveyor on the grounds of a contract concluded with the municipality.
- (4) The National Land Survey of Finland has the right to accept donations for its operations and for specific studies.

(580/2014)

Section 3 – *Organisation*

- (1) The National Land Survey of Finland has a Central Administration, which is based in Helsinki.
- (2) The units under the Central Administration are:
 - 1) Production Operation Unit;
 - 2) General Administration Unit;
 - 3) Centre for ICT Services;
 - 4) Finnish Geospatial Research Institute.
- (3) The area of operations of the units comprises the whole country.
- (4) Provisions on the service points of the National Land Survey of Finland are laid down by Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Åland has a service point of its own.

(580/2014)

Section 4 – *Tasks of the units*

- (1) The tasks laid down for the National Land Survey of Finland are organised as follows:
 - 1) the tasks referred to in paragraphs 1–3 of section 2(1) are the responsibility of the Production Operation Unit;
 - 2) the tasks referred to in section 2(2) are the responsibility of the Finnish Geospatial Research Institute;
 - 3) the tasks referred to in paragraph 4 of section 2(1) are the responsibility of the Centre for ICT Services.
- (2) The General Administration Unit sees to the general, financial and personnel administration of the National Land Survey of Finland.
- (3) Each unit sees to the tasks referred to in paragraphs 5 and 6 of section 2(1) within their respective fields of tasks.

Section 5 – *Rules of Procedure*

- (1) Further provisions on the organisation structure and tasks of the National Land Survey of Finland and how these are organised are issued in the Rules of Procedure of the National Land Survey of Finland. The Rules of Procedure are published in the Statute Book of Finland.
- (2) Further provisions on the internal organisation of a unit and its tasks and how these are organised are issued in the Rules of Procedure of the unit of the National Land Survey of Finland.
- (3) The Director-General decides on the adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the National Land Survey of Finland and on the Rules of Procedure of a unit on the submission of the Head of Unit.

Chapter 2 – Leadership and decision-making

Section 6 – *Tasks and power of decision of the Director-General*

- (1) The National Land Survey of Finland is led by the Director-General.
- (2) The Director-General decides on the administrative matters pertaining to the National Land Survey of Finland. By a Government Decree the power of decision on an administrative matter may be transferred to another public servant.
- (3) The Director-General may assume the power of decision on an administrative matter in which the power of decision rests with the Head of Unit or other public servant.
- (4) A substitute for the Director-General is appointed by the Director-General.

Section 7 – *Issue of orders*

- (1) The Director-General decides on the issue of orders within the competence of the National Land Survey of Finland.
- (2) The Director-General decides on the issue of orders upon submission of the relevant public servant. The preparation of the submission shall be separated from the making of the administrative decisions relating to the application of the order.

Section 8 – *Qualification requirements of the Director-General* (To be repealed on 1 March 2015)

- (1) The qualification requirements of the Director-General are a higher university degree, diverse experience required for the task and leadership skills proven in practice and experience in leadership.

Section 9 – *Tasks and power of decision of a Head of Unit*

- (1) A unit of the National Land Survey of Finland is led by the Head of Unit.
- (2) Matters pertaining to the unit are decided by the Head of Unit or other public servant as specified in the Rules of Procedure of the unit.

Section 10 – *Processing of registration matters*

- (1) The Head of the Production Operation Unit shall specify which ones of the Registration Lawyers act as the lawyers responsible for registration matters. The tasks of the lawyers responsible for registration matters are specified in the Rules of Procedure of the unit.
- (2) The Head of the Production Operation Unit may order a person with a public-service employment relationship belonging to the staff of the production operations of the unit to decide on registration matters if the person concerned has sufficient skills to manage the task.

(580/2014)

Section 11 – *Further provisions*

- (1) Further provisions on the staff, tasks of the staff, titles, qualification requirements for the posts and filling the posts are issued by Government Decree. Further provisions on the organisation and tasks of the units may be laid down by Government Decree.

Chapter 3 – **Miscellaneous provisions**

Section 12 – *Exercise of the right of action*

- (1) The Central Administration of the National Land Survey of Finland acts as the plaintiff and defendant on behalf of the state and supervises the state's interest and right before courts of law and public authorities in all matters concerning the National Land Survey of Finland.
- (2) A Head of Unit is entitled to represent the state in matters concerning the unit in question where a representative of the Central Administration does not act.

Section 13 – *Processing and deciding on an administrative complaint*

- (1) The decision on an administrative complaint concerning the action of the National Land Survey of Finland or its public servant or official is made by the Director-General. However, in the Rules of Procedure of the National Land Survey of Finland it may be specified that the decision on a complaint concerning the action of a public servant or official of the National Land Survey of Finland is made by another public servant.
- (2) The decision on an administrative complaint concerning the action of the Director-General or the substitute for the Director-General is made by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

(580/2014)

Section 14 – *Charges for products and services*

- (1) Charges are collected for maps, aerial photographs, publications and other similar products and services and tasks carried out upon order where the charges to be collected concerning these have not been specified separately and for the processing of registration matters as laid down in the Act on Criteria for Charges Payable to the State (150/1992).
- (2) When determining the amount of the charge to be collected for maps, topographic information data, aerial photographs, publications and other similar products and services intended for public use, part or all of the costs arising from the acquisition of the material may be disregarded or the whole charge may be waived.
- (3) Products and services of the Centre for ICT Services are subject to charge payable by the customer. The charges shall cover the total costs arising to the centre for producing the products and services. The centre agrees on the services produced and amount of charges for the products and services in service contracts to be concluded with the customer.

Section 15 – *Entry into force*

- (1) This Act enters into force on 1 January 2014.
- (2) This Act repeals the Act on the National Land Survey of Finland (505/1991).
- (3) After the entry into force of this Act the provisions on the Land Survey Office laid down elsewhere in the law or otherwise referred to apply to the National Land Survey of Finland.