



APD Budget Conference in Galicia

## Fernández Currás says that the 2012 Budgets are realistic and will help us to get back on the road to growth

- The Secretary of State for Budgets makes a serious and firm commitment to Europe
- The expenditure ceiling, which will be used to draw up the 2013 Budgets, is set to be approved in July

**8 June 2012.** The Secretary of State for Budgets, Marta Fernández Currás today took part in the APD conference on General State Budgets in Santiago de Compostela, where she made a serious and firm commitment to Europe.

During her speech she said that, "This Government is in the Europe that we want; the Europe that we are sure of and to which we will remain committed; this Government will never swim against the tide of Brussels".

Referring to the 2012 Budgets, the Secretary of State explained that one of the fundamental premises taken into account when drawing up the accounts, was that they should contain a set of realistic forecasts on the way the economy will evolve, and that they would also identify any existing imbalances so that the necessary measures could be put in place to resolve them.

During her speech she pointed out that, logically, in light of the difficulties being faced by the Spanish economy, tough measures have had to be taken, "that we do not like", but that will play a key role in getting us back

on the road to growth and job creation, which will help to restore the well-being of Spain's citizens.

Fernández Currás supported the implementation of the Budgetary Stability Act as the most effective weapon for correcting the deficit that is preventing growth in Spain, which is shared by both the autonomous regions and local authorities. The core principle of the Act is that no public administration should spend more than it has.

### **Payment to suppliers**

The Secretary of State made reference to the supplier payment plan launched by the Government, with a maximum budget of 35 billion euros, which enables companies to receive payment for outstanding invoices with regional governments and local authorities.

The total debt paid by 3,774 local authorities stands at more than 9.0 billion euros, relating to around 1.8 million invoices. In Galicia, some 6,083 suppliers have been paid a total of 191 million euros under the plan.

Payments will begin to be made to regional government suppliers on 30 June.

She believes that in Spain there is a problem of fiscal conscience which needs to be corrected and that an effort has to be made to put an end to the situation of "with VAT or without VAT" when paying for a particular service or purchase, and called for a change in the way that people think. "There is a problem of fiscal conscience", she added.

Fernández Currás says the expenditure ceiling, which will be used to draw up the 2013 Budgets, is to be approved in July. A set of General State Budgets which, she said, will be influenced by the path undertaken in 2012, which has laid the foundations for a return to growth and recovery. She sent out a positive message stating that, "We expect to see improvements and signs of recovery and we are confident that next year the structural reforms and measures implemented will begin to bear fruit and we'll be able to get back on track economically".