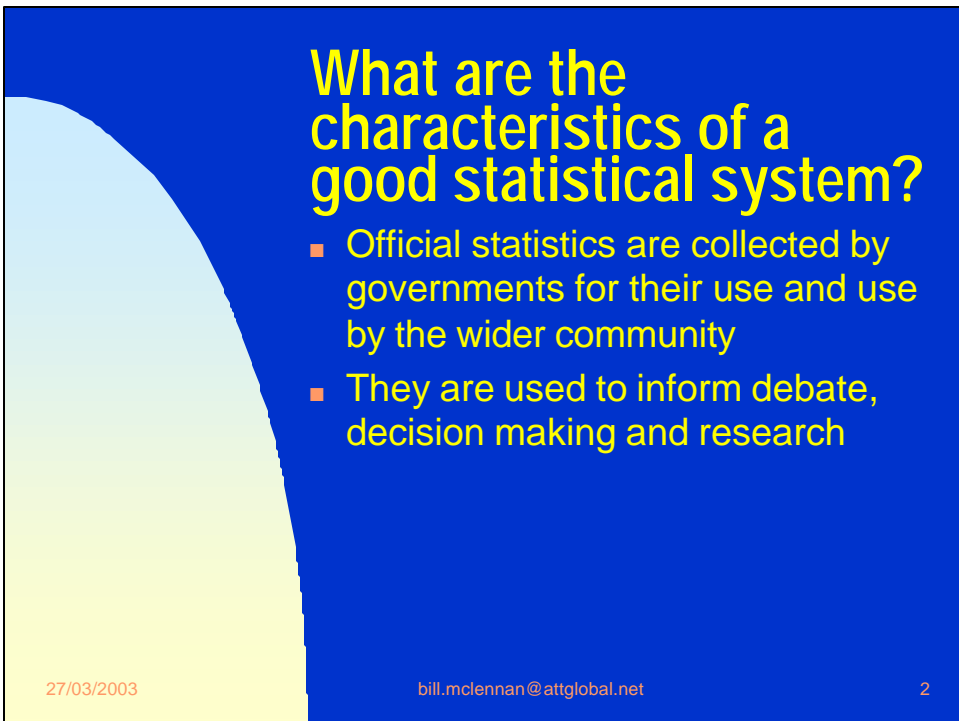


Managing the capabilities of a statistical office

Bill McLennan

!

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What are the characteristics of a good statistical system?

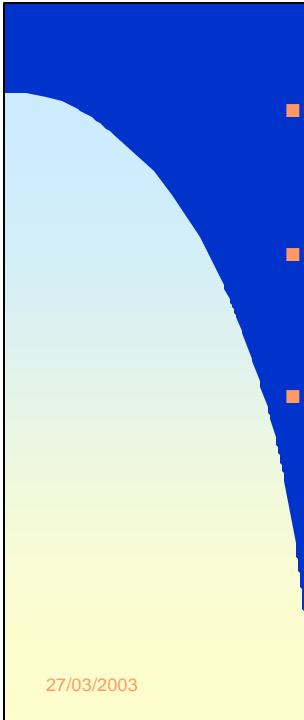
- Official statistics are collected by governments for their use and use by the wider community
- They are used to inform debate, decision making and research

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- They provide an objective assessment of the changes taking place in national life
- They offer a window on the work and performance of government itself
- They allow the impact of public policies and actions to be assessed

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How I managed the ABS

- Set long term directions
- Determine the work program

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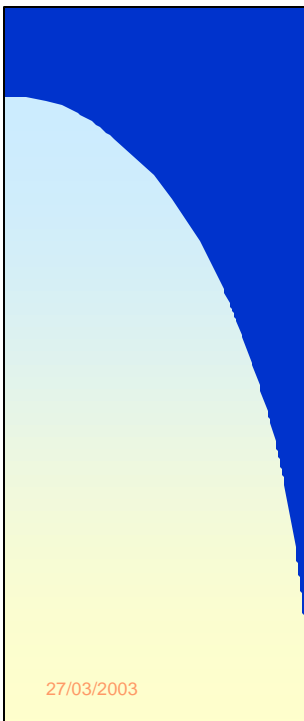


- Get statistics used
- Manage wisely
- Sensitive to major stakeholders

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Set long term directions

- Determine strategic issues
- Draw up a corporate plan

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Determine the work program

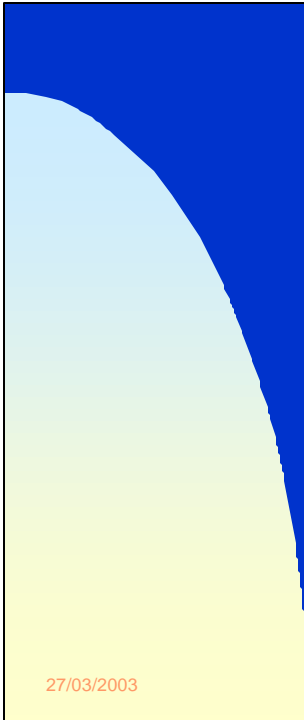
- Determine user needs; major departments
- User groups/ advisory bodies

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- Most work is of an ongoing nature (??)
- It takes time to develop a new statistical series
- Technological developments

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Get statistics used

- Statistics have no value unless they are used
- Publication and dissemination practices
- The electronic age

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Sensitivity to major stakeholders

- Government
- Major users
- The public
- Staff

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Manage wisely

- Work program
- People
- Finance
- Technology
- Productivity

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How to manage wisely?

- Rolling three year forward work program
 - ◆ Program/project
 - ◆ Broad resource allocation

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Slide 13 features a blue background with a light blue and yellow curved graphic on the left side. The text is in yellow and white. The main content is a bulleted list with two main items, each followed by three sub-items. The date '27/03/2003' is in the bottom left, the email 'bill.mclennan@attglobal.net' is in the bottom center, and the number '13' is in the bottom right.

- Corporate involvement - a must
 - ◆ ABS Management Meeting
 - ◆ Division Head Meeting
 - ◆ Branch Head Reports
- Development & implementation of policy

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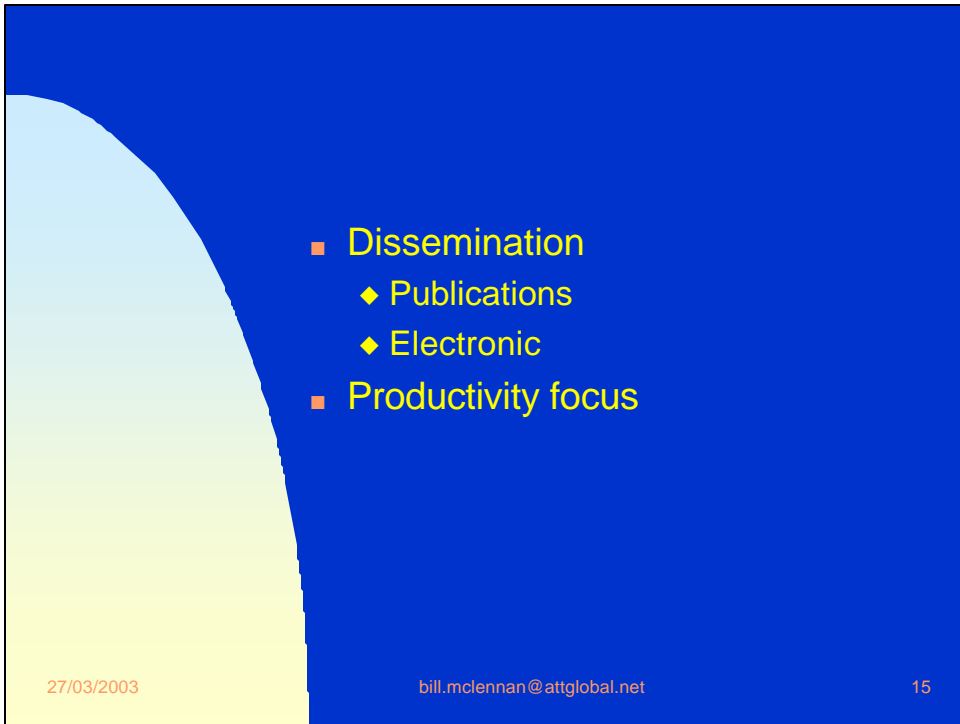
Slide 14 features a blue background with a light blue and yellow curved graphic on the left side. The text is in yellow and white. The main content is a bulleted list with one main item followed by three sub-items. The date '27/03/2003' is in the bottom left, the email 'bill.mclennan@attglobal.net' is in the bottom center, and the number '14' is in the bottom right.

- People management
 - ◆ Staffing
 - ◆ Training/staff development
 - ◆ Pay & conditions

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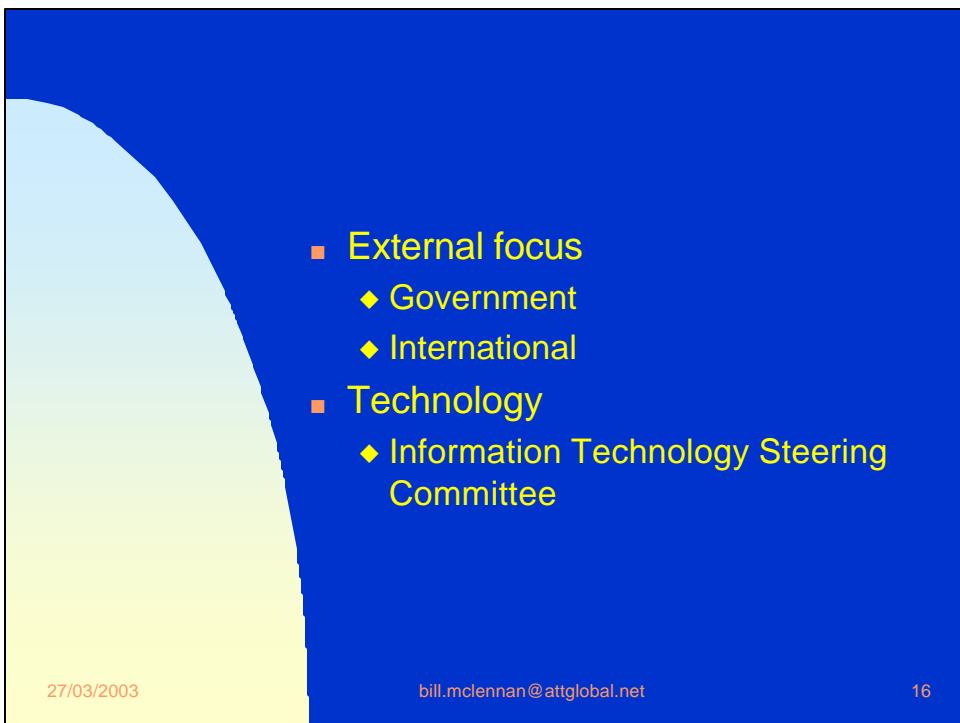


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- Dissemination
 - ◆ Publications
 - ◆ Electronic
- Productivity focus

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- External focus
 - ◆ Government
 - ◆ International
- Technology
 - ◆ Information Technology Steering Committee

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What does this mean for you?

- The management responsibilities should be similar
- The context will be different
- The same, or similar, issues should arise in each agency

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