

Statistical Commission
Thirty-eighth session
27 February – 2 March 2007

Item for information: Gender statistics

Background document
Available in English only

**Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group Meeting on
the Development of Gender Statistics**

**12-14 December 2006
United Nations, New York**

**United Nations
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Statistics Division**

**ESA/STAT/AC.122/L.3
February 2007
English only**

**United Nations Inter-Agency and Expert Group Meeting on
the Development of Gender Statistics
12–14 December 2006
United Nations Statistics Division, New York**

**Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group Meeting on
the Development of Gender Statistics***

* This document is being reproduced without formal editing.

Contents

I.	Introduction.....	3
	Background and objective of the meeting.....	3
	Opening session.....	3
	Organization of the meeting.....	4
II.	Summary of discussions.....	5
	The current state of gender statistics.....	5
	Identifying effective strategies and approaches.....	8
	Advancing gender statistics for poverty reduction strategies	12
	Increasing accessibility and use of gender statistics	16
	Knowledge management and information sharing	18
	Meeting global reporting requirements.....	21
III.	Next steps with gender statistics	22
	Elements of a gender statistics programme at the global level.....	23
	Modalities and time lines	25
IV.	Recommendations	26
	A. Launching a Global Gender Statistics Programme	26
	B. Initiatives for the development of gender statistics world-wide.....	27
V.	Annexes	32
	Annex 1. Information note	32
	Annex 2. List of experts	35
	Annex 3. Organization of work.....	43

I. Introduction

Background and objective of the meeting

1. The United Nations Inter-Agency and Expert Group Meeting on the Development of Gender Statistics was convened 12-14 December 2006, in New York. It was organized by the Social and Housing Statistics Section of the Demographic and Social Statistics Branch of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), in collaboration with the World Bank and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The meeting was to explore ways of strengthening collaboration and promoting partnerships among stakeholders in the development of gender statistics, including the identification of data needs and indicators for emerging policy goals.

2. The main objectives of the meeting were to: (a) review some of the key initiatives and strategies that had been most successful in promoting the development of gender statistics; (b) identify specific programmes and products that had enhanced capacities at national and regional levels in the collection, compilation and dissemination of gender statistics; and (c) agree on a plan to improve the availability, accessibility and use of reliable gender statistics for planning, monitoring and evaluation, at various levels, in particular at the national level. (See Annex 1 for further details about the meeting.)

3. The meeting brought together representatives of national statistical offices and academic/research institutions, as well as sub-regional, regional and international organizations. Experts included national experts involved in the production of gender statistics from 17 countries—Albania, Armenia, Bermuda, Canada, Guyana, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Lebanon, Malawi, Pakistan, Palestine, Philippines, Turkey, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Zimbabwe; representatives of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the United Nations Economic Commission of Europe (UNECE), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC), the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Secretariat for the Pacific Community; representatives from the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW); representatives from eight United Nations specialized agencies—Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Labour Office (ILO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the World Bank and the World Health Organization (WHO); as well as representatives of other international organizations and development partners—Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), United Kingdom Department for International Development (DFID), Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the global network—Women in the Informal Economy: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO). (See Annex 2 for the list of participants.)

Opening session

4. The Meeting was opened by Mr. Paul Cheung, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division. In his opening statement, Mr. Cheung highlighted the slackened pace of

development in gender statistics in the post-Beijing era and recalled that good collaboration and support among stakeholders had been essential to the success of the global gender statistics programme in the period leading up to Beijing. He exhorted the meeting to propose a plan for a renewed global gender statistics programme that addressed the following three main objectives:

“(a) to make effective use of tools and materials currently available, and identify missing components for development;

(b) to disseminate available statistics in a format and medium that meet the needs of a wide range of users; and

(c) to promote joint efforts and sharing of responsibilities among the respective institutions.”

5. Dr. Hadia Belhadj-El Ghouayel, Deputy Director, Technical Support Division, UNFPA, welcomed the experts to the meeting, noting that it presented an opportunity to strengthen cooperation among agencies and national counterparts. She stated that UNFPA was committed to working on basic data sources, and emphasized the need for coordination among producers of statistics to ensure that only one set of statistics on specific issues were available within specific time frames. Moreover, it was important that national statistical offices (NSOs) share their data with UNSD to ensure that official statistics were disseminated at the international level. She pointed out that the needs in gender statistics surpassed the production of data, and it was therefore necessary to follow a research agenda to fill the gaps in research on gender statistics. In this regard, the links between data collection, research agendas, policy and programme development, needed to be strengthened.

6. Ms. Grace Bediako, Chief of the Social and Housing Statistics Section, United Nations Statistics Division, reiterated the objectives of the meeting, welcomed the experts and invited the delegates to introduce themselves.

Organization of the meeting

7. As laid out in the Organization of Work (Annex 3), the meeting was structured along the following main topics:

- (1) The current state of gender statistics
- (2) Identifying effective strategies and approaches
- (3) Advancing gender statistics for poverty reduction strategies
- (4) Increasing accessibility and use of gender statistics
- (5) Knowledge management and information sharing
- (6) Meeting global reporting requirements

8. A number of papers were presented under each topic (see Annex 3 for the title of the papers and their respective presenters). Each session of presentations was followed by open discussions. The papers and presentations are available on the United Nations website (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/egm/genderstats06/default.htm>).

9. The Meeting was co-chaired by Sonia Montaña, Lina Castro, Victoria Velkoff, Joann Vanek, Lara Badre and Auxilia Ponga. The Rapporteurs for the Meeting were John Curry and Melinda Williams.

II. Summary of discussions

10. The salient issues that emerged from the discussions are summarized in the paragraphs that follow. The summary is broadly organized by session and, within each session, by key topic (or issue) addressed, and covers both the presentations and the ensuing discussions.

The current state of gender statistics

11. At the outset, experts discussed the scope of gender statistics, noting that gender statistics included sex- and age- disaggregated statistics that adequately captured the realities of both women and men; statistics that reflected specific gender issues; as well as statistics on issues that were particularly critical for either sex. It was generally agreed that gender statistics applied to all policy areas and allowed for an evaluation of gender issues and sex-based inequities. Experts stressed that gender was not a variable and that gender statistics did not simply refer to sex-disaggregated data. Rather, gender statistics required taking into consideration the different cultural, economic, social and political factors shaping the lives of women and men at all stages of the production and analysis of statistics.

Gaps in gender statistics

12. Reviewing improvements over the past 30 years in the availability of gender statistics at the international level, the experts noted that although some progress had been achieved, substantial gaps remained. At present, official sex and age disaggregated statistics were routinely available at the international level only for the most basic topics in social and demographic areas, such as population, births, deaths, school enrolment and labour force participation. For issues that required more detailed information or cross-classification with other relevant variables, sex- and age- disaggregated statistics were much less available. In this regard, some experts remarked the lack of detailed sex-disaggregated statistics on vulnerable groups, particularly, the girl child; adolescents, including early adolescents; the elderly; migrants; and indigenous peoples.

13. Many experts expressed concerns as well over the lack of statistics on emerging gender issues and on issues that either disproportionately or exclusively affected women. They underscored that gender statistics were not routinely available, at the national and international levels, on such key areas as: poverty; informal employment; access to employment opportunities, including hiring and promotion; entrepreneurship; access to and control over economic assets, including credit, land, property and inheritance; political participation; time use; school attendance; maternal mortality and morbidity; gender attitudes; and violence against women, domestic violence and trafficking, in particular.

14. Regarding violence against women, some experts raised the question of why the focus seemed to be only on women when both women and men were exposed to violence. It was observed that since women and men experienced different types of violence, under different circumstances, and with different consequences it was necessary to consider in totality gender-based violence and to ensure that the study approaches adequately reflected the gender dimensions.

15. In addition, some experts noted the lack of statistics on boys and men in areas that had been traditionally linked to girls and women such as fertility and sexual and reproductive health, including data on knowledge, attitudes and behaviours. The experts noted the need to improve the information about boys and men across a range of issues of gender concern.

16. The serious lack of gender sensitive data relating to emergency or disaster situations as well as to conflict and post-conflict situations was also noted. It was pointed out that gender statistics were as crucial for humanitarian work as they were for "development purposes." Therefore networking with humanitarian aid partners and advocating for the production and use of gender statistics in the humanitarian efforts was of crucial importance.

17. With specific reference to monitoring, evaluation as well as to promoting accountability in the fulfillment of commitments to gender equality goals, some experts noted the difficulties in assessing trends due to the absence of baseline statistics. Experts further expressed the need for an expanded list of MDG indicators to improve the monitoring of progress on gender equality at the national level, and asked about the possibility of expanding the MDGs at the global level. At the national and regional levels programmes had already expanded the list of topics and indicators based on their own priorities and contexts. UNSD reported that the MDG technical sub-group on gender was working on expanding the list of indicators but that at present the list would not be changed in view of the limited availability of comparable data.

Challenges impeding progress

18. Experts discussed at length some of the key factors underlying the slow progress in the availability of gender statistics. They generally agreed that among the primary challenges limiting the development of gender statistics were the low visibility of gender statistics, and the lack of political will at both national and international levels. Without sustained political support, improvements in gender statistics and its mainstreaming into official statistics would be severely constrained.

19. Strategies to increase visibility and political support for gender statistics included the following: First, gender statistics should be promoted as a public good that could be used not only for monitoring and planning but also for advocacy purposes. Second, campaigns should be conducted to present and explain the use and significance of gender statistics to policy makers. Lastly, some experts suggested engaging parliamentarians as a strategy to ensure the inclusion of gender statistics in the political agenda.

20. Experts pointed out that the lack of gender statistics in some subject areas was also partly due to the fact that the relevant information, such as the sex of the respondent, was not regularly collected, or when collected, it was not reported. For example, ILO noted that wage statistics were usually compiled from establishment surveys that often did not collect nor report such information disaggregated by sex. In general, the group agreed that this problem was most pronounced for data from administrative registers. WHO reported this problem with regards to register-based data on such diseases as malaria and tuberculosis.

21. It was noted that many countries did not have legislation requiring data collection institutions to report their data by sex. Some experts therefore suggested the need for national statistical legislations to include the requirement for the collection and reporting of sex-disaggregated data and of statistics relevant for addressing gender issues. In addition, it was pointed out that the relevant parties, including line ministries, civil registrars and courts needed to be sensitized about the importance of collecting and reporting such information.

22. Another factor identified as limiting progress in gender statistics was the lack of resources, both technical and financial, at the national level. Experts discussed various ways in which lack of resources had hindered national capacity building in gender statistics. First, because of financial limitations, in many countries the primary activities for the collection of statistics, and therefore national data collection priorities, were often donor-driven thereby jeopardizing the sustained production of gender statistics.

23. Second, some donors have approached universities and private institutions rather than the national statistical office (NSO) to collect some types of data. This practice had undermined the strength of the NSO and limited long-term statistical capacity building. Experts stressed that the United Nations system, development partners and other international donors, should ensure that national statistical offices continued to play a central role as providers of statistical information.

24. Third, experts observed that countries often did not have available the necessary technical and financial resources to collect gender statistics through specialized surveys, such as time-use surveys or surveys on violence against women. Training on (a) how to mainstream gender into data collection; (b) how to integrate gender statistical activities into the work of national statistical offices; (c) how to maximize the use of available administrative systems; and (d) how to conduct gender analysis of data, should therefore be considered.

25. Some experts pointed out that a considerable amount of training and reference materials for the development of gender statistics were available at the international and regional levels. However few target users seemed to have access to them, while many of the potential users in countries had no knowledge of them. It was agreed that a notable challenge to improving gender statistics at the national level was that of increasing access to, as well as the effectiveness of, those existing tools and materials. The group felt that a network could help identify and disseminate best national practices in producing and using gender statistics, and should therefore be established. It was also noted that to be effective,

the network should include users and producers of statistics, researchers, politicians and the media.

26. The group likewise recognized that a wealth of data existed at the national level that were not being processed, analyzed, disseminated or used effectively to address gender concerns. To improve the availability of gender statistics, the group suggested that national statistical offices should try to make better use of data from existing administrative sources and surveys, and to fully disseminate the available statistics. Experts further stressed that data analysis should be planned in advance and resource requirements budgeted as part of the full set of operations, which encompassed data collection, processing and dissemination. Users of gender statistics, on their part, needed to be more proactive in accessing and using the existing data. It was pointed out that even if data had not been collected expressly for this purpose, they could be used for gender analysis. To provide a more complete and accurate picture of the situation of women and men a combination of indicators was often required.

Identifying effective strategies and approaches

27. Experts discussed a range of strategies and approaches found to be effective for improving the availability of gender statistics. The presenters shared with the group an illustrative set of activities that had been conducted to maximize the use of existing data; build capacity in the collection, compilation and analysis of gender statistics in general and for specific thematic areas or sectors; and mainstream gender statistics into policy formulation and monitoring.

Data mining

28. The experts noted that a first step towards improving the availability of gender statistics was to maximize the use of existing data. In this regard, experts from some countries, regional commissions and international organizations identified data mining from existing surveys and censuses as one of the effective strategies they had employed. Among the data mining activities highlighted were: (a) the review of existing national data collections to identify and develop inventories of sex-disaggregated statistics and gender-related indicators; and (b) the re-coding, re-tabulation and re-analysis of micro-data from surveys or censuses, from a gender perspective.

29. The United States Census Bureau (USCB) highlighted two projects that had focused on data mining to improve the availability of gender statistics. The first was one conducted in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), ORC Macro International, the World Bank, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and members of user groups and non-governmental organizations. It focused on the identification and development of a list of gender-related indicators that were available or that could be estimated using data from the Demographic and Health Surveys. The second project focused on the development of an inventory of sex-disaggregated economic data currently being collected by the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) countries. As part of this latter project, the USCB was developing a standard template to be used for future reporting of comparable sex-disaggregated economic data from the APEC

countries and was preparing a report on the economic contributions of women and men based on the data that had been identified.

30. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) presented its Gender-Disaggregated Data (GDD) capacity building programme which promoted the re-coding and re-tabulation of existing data for the production of sex-disaggregated databases that could be used in agricultural and rural development policy formulation and planning. As part of the programme, FAO had also developed a set of training materials to support data production and use, and was conducting training and sensitization workshops to improve the skills of agricultural data producers and users such as statisticians, planners and policy analysts.

31. The World Bank was likewise exploiting data from existing Living Standard Measurement Surveys (LSMS) and other surveys as part of its Gender Action Plan (GAP). Through data mining the World Bank aimed to: (a) identify indicators to monitor progress of the GAP in the areas of women's economic participation and the relationship between gender equality, growth and poverty reduction; (b) identify new areas to monitor gender equality; and (c) identify and fill gaps in coverage of data needed for monitoring progress of the GAP. The World Bank noted that its data mining activities would initially focus on target countries.

32. Data mining had also been used by the UNECA, UNECE and UNECLAC to generate gender sensitive indicators and analysis focusing on specific areas of gender concern for on-line and print dissemination. UNIFEM was likewise promoting data mining at the country level to generate sex-disaggregated indicators for tracking progress towards the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals by countries.

Compilation and dissemination of sex-disaggregated data

33. Ensuring the mainstreaming of gender into all data compilation and dissemination activities was also mentioned as a strategy necessary for improving the availability of gender statistics. In this regard, ILO highlighted its work for the development of a conceptual framework for mainstreaming gender in labour statistics, which was adopted by the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in 2003. In addition, ILO was currently working to ensure that all labour-related statistics from national sources were compiled and disseminated disaggregated by sex. Some experts suggested that the experience of ILO could be used as a model to develop a framework for mainstreaming gender into other areas, such as in agricultural statistics.

34. UNFPA highlighted its activities towards improving the dissemination of sex-disaggregated data in the areas of health and migration. In partnership with the Latin American and Caribbean Women's Health Network, UNFPA had developed a database (Atenea) of indicators for the follow-up on the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) that had enabled the network to periodically issue gender-sensitive reports on progress, and provided policy-makers and other non-governmental organizations with valuable information. It was also supporting the creation of the Statistical Information System on Central American Migration, which included the dissemination of sex-disaggregated statistics relevant for gender analysis of migration.

35. Several experts highlighted the importance of up-stream advocacy, i.e., directed at law makers and budget managers, and the finance ministry, etc., to support the compilation, analysis and incorporation of gender statistics in planning. This would require a well designed advocacy strategy in addition to engaging in partnerships and networking initiatives. In this context, gender statistics would need to be supplemented by other non-population-based research agenda that included qualitative research methodologies.

36. Some experts underlined the importance of getting the right balance between: (a) statistics, (b) analysis of those statistics, and (c) use of statistics and analysis to influence/generate evidence-based policy-making. Equal emphasis should therefore be given to analysis and use of gender statistics as was being devoted to the production and presentation of these statistics. In this context, it was useful to continue *The World's Women* series, which provided an analysis of levels and trends in gender differentials at the global level.

Mainstreaming gender into data collection

37. Some experts presented activities which had been found effective in mainstreaming a gender perspective into data collection. In this regard, UNFPA and UNIFEM highlighted their collaborative work with countries in South and West Asia that enhanced the gender-sensitivity of data collection procedures in the 2000 round of population and housing censuses. Gender mainstreaming into national population censuses was accomplished through a comprehensive set of activities that included: (a) a review of definitions and conceptual frameworks used in data collection; (b) development of gender-sensitive training materials and guidelines for field personnel; (c) conduct of training and sensitization workshops for staff at all levels of decision-making; (d) incorporation of women as enumerators; (e) review of census questionnaires and manuals; and (f) media campaigns.

38. Activities towards the development of materials and questionnaires for the collection of statistics in emerging areas of gender concern were also presented. UNIFEM noted its work towards the development of time-use survey instruments for the collection of data on unpaid work. WHO informed experts of the development of a standard questionnaire to collect information on violence against women, which had been tested in 10 countries. In addition, WHO had developed accompanying guidelines for maintaining the confidentiality of women, and a manual for researching violence against women. These tools could be used as background documents by countries interested in conducting such studies.

39. UNECE reported on its work on the development of concepts, definitions and classifications for the collection of statistics on violence against women. Work was being conducted through a task force that was currently compiling existing studies in the region. The objectives of the task force were: (a) to develop a set of common concepts, definitions and classifications; (b) develop a set of indicators on violence against women; and (c) identify a minimum set of questions on violence against women for the development of a short module that could be incorporated into ongoing surveys.

40. Similarly, UNFPA highlighted their work in supporting the incorporation of special modules on domestic violence and adolescent sexual and reproductive health into national surveys, particularly the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS).

41. The group welcomed all the initiatives for gender mainstreaming into data collection and for the development of gender-sensitive methodologies and instruments to collect information and the resulting materials on emerging areas. They noted that such information should be made widely available to countries. Country experts expressed interest in learning more about the programmes for mainstreaming gender into census activities and the instruments for the collection of statistics on violence against women and time use. There was also a need to piggy back on existing economic data collection exercises including household expenditure surveys, national accounts and other data sources for tracking expenditures.

Training

42. Experts noted that the development of training resources and their use for training had also been instrumental in improving the availability of gender statistics at the national level. Regional training workshops, many conducted by an international agency in joint partnership with regional organizations, had provided substantive training to countries in general or specific areas of gender statistics, including: data collection; database production; reporting; and gender sensitive analysis of available statistics. Follow-up activities after training workshops were however also necessary to reinforce lessons learnt during the training.

43. Experts noted that the training activities had also been used as a tool for raising awareness of gender issues among senior staff as well as various user groups. Successful experiences included the sensitization and training workshops conducted by UNFPA and UNIFEM among senior staff of NSOs as part of the activities for mainstreaming gender into census practices in South and West Asia. WHO also reported conducting training on gender and reproductive health to raise awareness among senior health professionals.

44. The World Bank likewise recounted the use of training to sensitize users and producers of statistics as well as to promote the mainstreaming of gender statistics into the regular production of official statistics in the Europe and Central Asia (ECA) region. The training had been conducted as part of an inter-agency collaborative effort involving UNECE, UNDP, FAO, UNFPA, USAID and the USCB. A key objective of this programme was the development of a critical mass of local trainers to carry out work in spreading gender statistics knowledge at the national level and to different users.

45. UNECE noted that a training manual on gender-sensitization for statisticians was currently being developed by a task force the objectives of which were to identify and compile relevant training materials, and to develop a training module for future dissemination and implementation.

46. Several country experts expressed interest in the training workshops and resources presented during the meeting. They acknowledged that despite the broad range of the training being conducted they were almost exclusively being done through short

workshops. Degree programmes in statistics did not provide training on gender statistics as part of the curriculum. There was a definite need for more regular training to foster the sustained development of technical capacity in gender statistics at the national level. The group suggested that information regarding available training opportunities needed to be better disseminated, as many experts were not aware of their existence.

47. Some experts noted that although training for statisticians were important in order to develop the NSO's capacity in gender statistics, there was also a need to develop a core group of national gender statistics experts who would be called upon as the need arose. Experts noted that, owing to the high staff turnover in many national statistical offices, training NSO staff had often not led to long-term capacity development.

48. Experts felt that there was a need to expand the range of training on gender statistics available and to consider various training modalities, keeping in mind that producers as well as users needed training. In addition, experts noted that at present, gender sensitization and awareness-raising were much needed elements of gender statistics training. It would be useful to identify institutional facilities that could host regular training courses and develop a range of training programmes of various durations based largely on the existing materials. It was considered that organizations with expertise in particular areas could become responsible for teaching those sections or modules during the training.

Partnerships and inter-agency collaboration

49. In the presentations and discussions on effective strategies and approaches, experts also underlined the importance of partnerships and collaboration among international agencies, regional bodies, academic and research institutions and development partners in advancing gender statistics. Experts called for supporting such partnerships at the international, regional and national levels, which could lead to rationalizing the use of available resources and harmonizing approaches in order to maximize programme impact.

50. In particular, experts agreed that to further advance gender statistics there was a need to promote networking and collaboration through the convocation of joint workshops, inter-agency and expert groups, task forces and working groups, taking into account past experiences. An important outcome of such partnerships would be the creation of synergies, building on existing efforts/systems in order to avoid duplication. FAO proposed the creation of a working group on agricultural and rural development and offered to serve as the lead agency for the group.

Advancing gender statistics for poverty reduction strategies

51. The experts assessed the extent to which current methodologies and approaches for the measurement and analysis of poverty incorporated a gender perspective, noting that poverty was multidimensional and was manifested not in gender neutral ways. Poverty was evidenced in women's and men's differential access to opportunities and resources, such as income, employment, political participation and decision-making. Yet standard methodologies for the measurement and analysis of poverty had failed to consider poverty from a gender perspective. For example, income and expenditure data collected for the

measurement of economic poverty did not take into consideration the unequal distribution of resources within households or the vulnerability of individual household members, thereby masking the gender dimensions of poverty.

52. It was agreed that data collection and analysis methodologies needed to be enhanced to adequately capture the different ways in which women and men experienced poverty. Multiple approaches were also needed to deal with the complexity of poverty, particularly from a gender perspective. Moreover, it was necessary to sensitize economists about the relationship between gender and poverty.

53. Some experts noted that it was still possible to conduct a gender analysis of poverty with existing data. UNECLAC identified various ways in which census and household data could be re-tabulated to highlight gender-based differences in the experience of economic poverty by men and women within households, and noted that current poverty statistics, although fragmented, were nonetheless useful for the analysis of the links between gender and poverty.

54. The presenters reviewed various approaches being used to improve the measurement, assessment and monitoring of poverty with a gender perspective. Among the approaches reviewed were time-use surveys, specialized surveys for assessing poverty, and observatories for monitoring the impact of poverty reduction programmes.

Measuring poverty

55. The group discussed the value of time-use surveys for measuring various aspects of poverty, with particular reference to gender-based differentials. It was pointed out that time-use surveys could be used to capture information on the daily activities performed by members of a household, including girls, boys, women and men of different ages. This made it possible to reflect gender differences in the way time was spent and in the activities performed. Another value of time-use surveys was that because they covered all activities, they were well suited for measuring women's economic contributions through paid and unpaid work, and their participation in the informal economy.

56. Time-use surveys had also been used to measure gender differences in time poverty. By examining time-use patterns it was possible to gauge the amount of time women and men spent working; the time each had for leisure activities; and the patterns in care-giving activities.

57. The experts identified a number of key issues that could improve the effectiveness of time-use surveys, including for example, giving special consideration to seasonal variations in the conduct of specific activities; the life cycle stage of the household and its members; and the simultaneity and intensity of tasks. It was still likely, however, that certain activities would continue to be under-reported or not reported at all.

58. The experts showed interest in learning more about available classifications for time-use data and in planned activities for strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices (NSOs) to conduct time-use surveys. They also noted the need to leverage political and financial support for the conduct of time-use surveys. In addition, some experts voiced

the need for mainstreaming time-use data into poverty diagnosis, national policy making, programme planning and budgeting.

Assessment and monitoring of poverty reduction

59. Country activities for the assessment of poverty through specialized surveys were also discussed. Setting off the discussion was the presentation on Zimbabwe's experience using data collected through the 2003 Poverty Assessment Study Survey (PASS). It was noted that although the PASS was not explicitly designed to collect data on poverty from a gender perspective, it was possible to calculate several poverty indicators disaggregated by sex. In addition, the data in all the survey reports were disaggregated by sex.

60. In the analysis of the PASS data two categories of female-headship were constructed, namely, de facto and de jure female-headed households. This distinction allowed Zimbabwe to elucidate differences in the experience of poverty among women heads of households, taking into consideration their decision-making power. De facto female headed households were defined as those households where the woman reported being the head of the household and also noted having a husband or partner living elsewhere who sent remittances. De jure female headed households were defined as those households where the woman reported being the head of the household and did not report having a husband or partner living elsewhere. This distinction revealed that, contrary to prior assumptions (that the households that depended on remittances would be better off), de facto women heads of households were more exposed to poverty than de jure female heads of households. In de facto female headed households the absentee spouse continued to make the decisions, and whereas remittances were expected these were not usually forthcoming presumably because many of those who had gone to the cities to find work, were not employed.

61. Some experts found the split into de facto and de jure female headed-households insightful, and suggested incorporating this into international recommendations for the analysis of household data. The use of PASS 2003 in Zimbabwe for the assessment of poverty and gender was welcomed by the experts who pointed out that for the survey to be sustainable it should be integrated into the programme of the National Statistical System.

62. Two projects aimed at improving the monitoring of poverty reduction were presented by the World Bank. One examined the coverage of MDG indicators in poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSP), and the second project focused on an analysis of gender equality and poverty in fragile states to be included in the World Development Report 2007. It was noted that while there was a high alignment between certain MDG indicators and PRSP goals, continuous monitoring of the PRSP indicators through PRS progress reports remained weak. At the same time, PRSP targets appeared to be unrealistic when compared with historic trends charting improvements in the selected indicators. On the second initiative, the World Bank indicated that the analysis would focus initially on the MDG3 list of indicators and that an additional set of indicators would be chosen based on the following conditions: available data, instrumental for poverty reduction, and amenable to change by policies. Preliminary analysis had revealed the following problems: inconsistencies in the annual reporting of data for the MDG3 indicators; difficulties in

interpreting trends with ratios; and inability to track some of the relevant sub-national trends, such as those by urban/rural residence.

63. Experts took note of the studies being conducted by the World Bank and acknowledged the need to review additional indicators for future refinement of the MDG and MDG3 targets. There was also a need to document difficulties in monitoring some of the PRSP indicators for future reference and possible refinement.

Observatory on Gender and Poverty

64. The third approach for monitoring poverty reduction from a gender perspective considered by the group was the setting up of an Observatory on Gender and Poverty in Mexico. UNIFEM noted that the Observatory was developed as part of a partnership among users and producers of poverty statistics, including researchers and policy-makers, to improve the availability and use of gender-sensitive poverty statistics. In particular, the Observatory was to: (a) collect both quantitative and qualitative data for the development of relevant indicators; (b) conduct analysis of poverty using a gender perspective; and (c) provide recommendations for the design, follow-up and evaluation of policies on poverty reduction and eradication. Examples of the work conducted through the Observatory were presented, including an analysis of the linkages between poverty reduction programmes and violence against women; as well as of the differences in the experience of time poverty among poor and non-poor women.

65. Experts welcomed the use of observatories for improving the availability and use of gender-sensitive poverty statistics. Examples of the use of observatories in other fields, such as the Health Observatory set up in Chile by PAHO and the Observatory on MDGs in Colombia were mentioned. They noted the usefulness of the observatory approach in fostering networking and information sharing among users and producers of statistics, as evidenced by the collaboration established among statisticians, researchers and policy-makers through Mexico's Observatory on Gender and Poverty. The group agreed that these and other examples of observatories needed more in-depth study and suggested that some guidance would be needed on how this approach could be used for improving poverty statistics, and for future knowledge management and information sharing.

66. Overall, the group identified a number of issues for consideration in the development of poverty statistics, i.e.:

- (a) Define priorities in terms of data needs;
- (b) Further examine the potential uses of time-use surveys for addressing issues related to poverty and gender;
- (c) Develop a set of guidelines for selecting gender-sensitive indicators for poverty;
- (d) Develop methodologies and indicators that capture qualitative aspects of poverty such as attitudes and perceptions.

67. Experts further noted the need to conduct additional qualitative research to better understand the linkages between poverty and gender. It was pointed out that the cultural factor, which could play an important role in the successful implementation of some poverty reduction interventions, should also be reflected in poverty research. Surveys focused on perceptions and attitudes might provide some insight on the relevant cultural factors although methods had not been well researched at this stage.

68. The importance of networking for capacity building, information sharing, and for changing prevailing poverty analysis paradigms and methodologies to incorporate a gender perspective, was reiterated.

Increasing accessibility and use of gender statistics

69. Examples of effective data dissemination activities were presented by experts from national statistical offices, regional commissions and UNSD. The presentations revealed that national, regional and international organizations used similar products to disseminate existing gender statistics. These included a range of print publications such as press releases, flyers, posters, wall-charts, statistical reports, “women and men” booklets/reports, and analytical reports; as well as databases accessible in a variety of formats including public use files, CD-ROMs and on-line databases.

70. Several national experts identified the statistical report “Women and Men in...” as among the most effective tools for the dissemination of basic statistics on the situation of women and men in their countries. Because of their user-friendly format, the booklets were especially suited for the broad audience of non-technical users, and a good reference for policy-makers and gender advocates. In many cases, these publications had been developed in collaboration with, or with technical and financial support from international development partners. National experts identified the target users of their gender statistics dissemination activities as including: government institutions and ministries; international organizations; non-governmental organizations; policy-makers; researchers; universities; the media; and the general public.

71. At the regional and international levels, experts showcased a range of on-line data dissemination activities that had been developed for the purpose of establishing regional and sectoral platforms to improve access to data and knowledge exchange. ECLAC introduced its on-line dissemination of selected gender-sensitive statistics and indicators that could be used for monitoring attainment of the objectives outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action, as well as other international conferences. The statistics and indicators presented were compiled from existing national data sources, including population and housing censuses and various household surveys, and could be accessed through a thematic framework that highlighted their policy relevance. The database also included information about other indicators that would be relevant for monitoring and planning but for which no data were currently available in the region.

72. UNECE, in collaboration with the UNDP, had likewise developed a gender database and website as part of its dissemination activities. UNECE highlighted the collaborative aspects of this data dissemination project, noting in particular the use of data

from partner organizations and the establishment of a task force for the development of the database. The task force comprised six countries and two representatives from international organizations, its main objectives being to: (a) foster collaboration and discussion with national statistical offices and other international organizations working on similar databases; (b) provide suggestions on new indicators or modifications to the database; (c) develop a marketing strategy to reach out to users; and (d) coordinate and produce publications using the existing data.

73. UNECE noted that to reduce the reporting burden on countries, the database was updated through the compilation of the relevant statistics from publications and websites of the national statistical offices, as well as through feedback from national gender focal points. In addition, work was currently underway to improve the data collection and dissemination activities of national statistical offices by ensuring that a gender perspective was integrated into all components of the statistics production process.

74. UNSD described its initiative for the dissemination of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) indicators underscoring the aspects that had ensured its effectiveness at the global level. In particular, UNSD noted that the sustained dissemination of the MDGs indicators at the global level had been possible because of a strong mandate from the Secretary General and the close collaboration that had been established with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes through the formation of an Inter-Agency and Expert Group (IAEG).

75. The IAEG was composed of representatives from 25 agencies; the regional commissions, and national statistical offices, and was coordinated by UNSD. The IAEG was responsible for: (a) compiling data and undertaking analysis to monitor progress towards attaining the MDGs at the global and regional levels; (b) reporting on the annual status of progress through a range of media; reviewing and preparing guidelines, methodological materials and technical notes related to the indicators; and (c) helping define priorities and strategies to support countries in data collection, analysis and reporting on MDGs. To address specific thematic issues, the IAEG operated through sub-groups in the areas of gender, employment, health, poverty and hunger, environment and slums. Continued communication among IAEG members was maintained through e-mail, teleconferences as well as two annual meetings. Also critical for the success of the MDG network, was the cooperation received from all agencies that had committed to provide data in an agreed format.

76. Recognizing the success of the MDG data dissemination initiative in improving access to a set of basic indicators for monitoring at the global and national levels, UNSD proposed the development of a common dissemination platform specifically geared to increase accessibility and promote the use of gender statistics and indicators at the global and national levels. The initiative, named GenderInfo, was planned to be released using the DevInfo platform, a State of the Art technology for indicator management and presentation through CD-ROMs and/or internet. DevInfo was currently used in about 100 countries.

77. UNSD emphasized that in order to pursue this initiative, there would need to be agreement on: (a) a comprehensive list of gender indicators that took into account data

availability and relevance to address gender concerns; and (b) a thematic framework that drew from existing frameworks currently used by specialized agencies, regional commissions and other relevant organizations. It was also noted that partnerships among relevant specialized agencies and institutions providing data were necessary to ensure the sustainability of the initiative.

78. Experts recognized the need for a common data dissemination platform at the global level and welcomed the initiative to develop GenderInfo. They emphasized the need to ensure that the product be developed as part of a coordinated effort among representatives from international and regional organizations, as well as national statistical offices. Some experts voiced their concern over the use of DevInfo as the underlying technology, citing difficulties that proprietary technology posed to many countries, some of which had a ban on these products. They urged UNSD to seek an “open source” platform that would fulfill the same purpose. UNFPA remarked that talks were underway regarding the possibility of making DevInfo an open source technology.

79. Experts also expressed interest in knowing which organizations would be involved in the selection of indicators and areas to be covered. They stressed the importance of defining a framework based on a set of policy relevant indicators and to ensure that all areas of gender concern were covered, and noted that the process of choosing the indicators should involve different types of users. They also noted the need to prioritize and harmonize the statistics and indicators to be included, as well as the classifications to be used. While it was important to reach an agreement over a common set of indicators to be used at the global level, the process should also take account of data availability at the national level. However, this orientation was not to restrict the activities towards the development of gender statistics and indicators at the regional and national levels, as additional information would be needed to address national and regional priorities.

80. The meeting stressed that GenderInfo should be one output in a larger effort to develop a common platform for the dissemination of data and resources on gender statistics. It was also pointed out that the dissemination platform should be designed as a standard mechanism to be updated on a regular or continuous basis.

Knowledge management and information sharing

81. The meeting discussed various activities which had been effective in promoting knowledge management and information sharing. Among those activities, experts highlighted various forms of networking, collaborations and partnerships as key ways of facilitating the sharing of information, ideas, experiences and best practices; as well as of promoting the mainstreaming of gender statistics into official statistics and into policy making. Experts also recognized the value of information technology in promoting knowledge management and information sharing and highlighted selected aspects of existing on-line resources developed for such purpose.

82. UNIFEM highlighted key lessons in knowledge management and information sharing drawn from five pilot projects (Morocco, Kyrgyzstan, Cambodia, Kenya, and Peru) on gender statistics and MDG-based Poverty Reduction Strategies. These projects had been

successful in: (a) incorporating gender sensitive analysis and strategies into MDG reporting and monitoring; (b) improving the accessibility of sex-disaggregated data and other information relevant to gender issues through databases, websites and print publications; and (c) increasing the use and analysis of the data. UNIFEM noted that the effectiveness of such pilots was dependent on the close partnerships and collaboration, at the country level, among stakeholder groups, i.e., the national statistical offices, administration representatives, gender focal points, development partners, non-governmental organizations, United Nations country teams, gender theme groups and members of the media.

83. In addition, UNIFEM underscored the importance of conducting advocacy and sensitization activities to promote partnerships and collaboration with members of the media and policy-makers. Sensitization of the media and policy-makers should involve not only explaining the relevance of gender statistics for monitoring and planning, but also how gender relations were linked to particular outcomes and to particular policies. The use of e-knowledge technologies had also been critical in facilitating knowledge management and information sharing, as was the localization of content through the use of relevant sub-national datasets and local languages, to ensuring their relevance.

84. Another mechanism for knowledge management identified by experts had been the regular convocation on gender statistics in the regions. Experts noted that regular meetings, conferences and workshops had facilitated knowledge management and information sharing not only by providing a forum for such exchange but also by fostering networking and the creation of collaborations and partnerships among participants, including both producers and users of statistics. In the central and southern American regions, UNIFEM and the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics (INEGI) of Mexico, in collaboration with ECLAC, had since 1999, convened on an annual basis, a meeting of NSOs, women's machineries and researchers, to report on progress and activities in gender statistics in their respective countries. In Europe, UNECE had convened biennial meetings to review progress on gender statistics in the member countries, and plan work at the regional level.

85. Similarly important had been the inclusion of gender statistics as an agenda item in the annual regional meetings of chief statisticians. Examples included the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), which had since 2000 followed this model with their Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) and, more recently, the Conference of Statisticians in the Americas. In addition, CARICOM had set up an advisory group comprising a subset of the SCCS that reviewed and proposed activities for the development of gender statistics in the region. The group had regular meetings and reported annually to the SCCS. UNECE also convened task forces on specific assignments that would also reported to the Conference of European Statisticians.

86. Experts noted that the regular convocation on gender statistics at the regional level had been instrumental not only in promoting knowledge management but also in fostering the mainstreaming of gender statistics into official statistics, particularly through the annual conferences of statisticians. Some experts therefore suggested that this strategy be

replicated at the global level by ensuring the inclusion of gender statistics as an agenda item in the annual meetings of the Statistical Commission.

87. The meeting also considered the value of using ICT solutions to promote knowledge management in gender statistics. Examples were presented on web-based knowledge management, including the websites of UNECE, UNECLAC and the Commonwealth Secretariat, which provided substantive information and a calendar of gender statistics activities in their respective regions as well as access to the regional gender statistics databases.

88. Several examples of web portals were presented highlighting their different approaches to knowledge management and key features. The web portals reviewed included the ReliefWeb, which served the information needs of the humanitarian relief community; the Development Gateway, which served the global community in propagating development related information; the GenderTrainingWiki of INSTRAW; and the WomenWatch, the UN internet gateway on gender equality and empowerment of women managed by the UN Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW). The WomenWatch portal provided up-to-date information and resources, including links to gender statistics websites, to wide range of users, from UN global and regional bodies, to other public, private and non-governmental bodies and networks. The directory of resources (many of them in different languages) was fully searchable and based on a Content Management System. Feedback from users was ensured by on-line discussions and emails, and the record showed the breadth of interest.

89. The group acknowledged that these sites were indeed useful and recognized that they served a variety of purposes. However experts noted that, although some included information on gender statistics, there was no central place to get information on gender statistics worldwide. Moreover, most of the available tools and materials and information about programmes and replicable experiences were fragmented and scattered across institutions and in various forms. Also critical, was the fact that most often stakeholders were not aware of the work done in other countries/regions, nor of gender-related meetings, conferences, seminars, etc. The experts once again emphasized the need for sharing of gender publications, arguing that with different countries, regions, and statistical agencies at different levels of evolution with respect to gender statistics, evidence of good practices from other countries and regions could help to persuade or motivate others.

90. The meeting recommended the development of a gender statistics portal to promote the sharing of knowledge and resources, and facilitate collaboration among stakeholders at the national, regional and international levels. Experts noted that the portal would ensure wider access to user-friendly resources and documentation—for example, references, training materials, training opportunities, methods, gender statistics publications, legislation, and micro-data. It was generally agreed that the portal should build on existing information. For example, it should provide links to, or tap information from existing gender statistics resources and databases maintained by the United Nations regional commissions, other regional bodies such as Eurostat, as well as countries. To improve accessibility, experts recommended that the portal be implemented in at least three of the United Nations official languages.

91. The group further recommended the establishment of a technical Task Force to provide guidance on the development of the portal. The Task Force would identify: (a) the primary audiences to be targeted by the portal; (b) the information needs of the target audiences; and (c) the types of information that the portal should include and link to. It was pointed out that the audience for gender statistics should not be limited to statisticians. Other users, for example, policy makers, the media and women's machineries, were important and should actively be engaged.

92. Some experts pointed out that although the portal should also target the public at large, it was important to ensure its recognition as an authoritative source of information among official statisticians. In this regard, some experts voiced concerns over the use of collaborative technologies such as the "wiki" for the sharing of information and resources. It would be necessary to explore ways of assuring the quality of the information presented in the portal by establishing control mechanisms for the inclusion of new materials and resources. At the same time, experts noted the importance of assuring the integrity of the information as well as its ownership by the collaborating institutions.

Meeting global reporting requirements

93. DAW informed experts of the new mandate from the Economic and Social Council, which requested the Secretary-General, through resolution 2006/9 of 25 July 2006, to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), on an annual basis, a report on the priority theme that includes proposals for possible indicators, elaborated in cooperation with the Statistical Commission, to track progress towards the attainment of the goals set out as part of the priority theme. At its fifty-first session (27 February to 9 March 2007), CSW will consider "The elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child," as its priority theme for 2007. DAW requested input from experts to identify the set of indicators to be submitted to CSW and the Statistical Commission for consideration. The selection of indicators should take into consideration the capacity of countries to produce them and their substantive relevance.

94. Participants suggested a range of indicators currently available within their countries or region in areas such as education; health; reproductive health, including teenage pregnancy; nutritional status; child labor; mortality; violence against the girl child; and hunger. Additional focus areas relevant to improving the situation of the girl child were suggested, including time use, girls in conflict and post-conflict situations; minority groups and vulnerable groups, including orphaned children; and the role of men and boys. However, experts pointed out that data on these issues were scanty. For example, information on ethnicity was not currently available for many countries.

95. In the area of education, it was suggested that completion rates better captured differences between girls and boys than enrolment, and that these could easily be obtained from administrative records. For violence against the girl child, it was suggested that data on perpetrators and types of punishments could be used for policy formulation. Some experts noted that data on violence against women and girls, however, was currently not available for many countries. Experts suggested possible sources of data on violence against women to include prison, correctional institutions and police records.

96. The need for contextual information in order to better understand the environment in which girls lived was also stressed. Some experts noted that contextual information should capture issues such as public safety, access to resources and infrastructure. It was important to look at different age groups of female children and to develop indicators that reflected both individual factors and the social/physical environment. In this regard, experts noted the need to improve the reporting of data on adolescents (10-19 years), especially on early adolescents (10-14 years) as these age groups were currently underreported. The meeting also suggested that more data be collected on the very sensitive subject of gender-based violence, including sexual violence, experienced by girl children during and after a conflict/disaster.

97. Two key sources of data from which possible indicators could be derived were: MICS and DHS. It was noted that collaboration with UNICEF would be critical in this process. However, some experts noted that there was a need to evaluate the gender sensitivity of these sources of data.

98. There was also the need to establish a regular mechanism at the international level for the identification and development of indicators on key areas of gender concern to respond to the new mandate from the Economic and Social Council, and inquired about possible mechanisms for their inclusion as an agenda item in the Statistical Commission. UNSD commented that some avenue would need to be sought to the get proposed indicators to be considered by the Statistical Commission.

III. Next steps with gender statistics

99. The meeting agreed that, although overall, improvements in gender statistics had been slow, and progress had been uneven across countries and regions, important lessons were available from the different initiatives that had been undertaken over the years in this field. With more coordinated support and proper management and sharing of the accumulated knowledge countries could draw on the experiences of others to advance their own programmes

100. The meeting concluded that while there were several areas to be tackled and gaps to be bridged, in the immediate future, the focus should be on leveraging the collective knowledge and achievements of the last three decades. It suggested that a Global Gender Statistics Programme (GGSP) would be needed to provide direction and technical support to the regional, sub-regional and national gender statistics programmes. Drawing on the key elements of successful initiatives, the GGSP would promote effective sharing of tools and materials; exchange of information on good practices and strategies; and collaborative programming for capacity building and addressing gaps. The GGSP would also assure greater benefits could accrue from ongoing efforts.

101. The meeting also recognized that different countries, regions, statistical agencies and other entities involved in statistical work were at different levels of evolution with respect to gender statistics, and would all need to continue to improve their own work. The purpose of the GGSP would therefore essentially be to benefit members at every point in

the spectrum through, in particular, the creation of strategic networks and partnerships. Three main components were envisaged for the Programme:

- (a) Interagency and expert group to advance gender statistics at the global level
- (b) Electronic Bulletin Board (portal) as a technical and information resource and channel for both formal and informal networking
- (c) Development of training courses (package/module), including modification of existing courses, as necessary.

Elements of a gender statistics programme at the global level

(a) Interagency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics

102. The meeting noted that one of the common elements of successful national and regional gender statistics programmes had been the regular convocation on gender statistics in the regions. The Group felt that a regular gathering of producers and users of gender statistics at the global level would foster better exchange of knowledge and good practices, and expand opportunities for joint planning and linking of activities.

103. It was proposed that an Interagency and Expert Group for Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) with membership from the gender statistics programmes/units of international, regional and national institutions be constituted. Specifically, member institutions should include the United Nations Statistics Division; United Nations entities, including specialized agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions; other international, regional and sub-regional organizations; selected national statistical offices; national research institutions; and gender statistics focal points. Representation should be at senior/high level. The main tasks of the IAEG-GS would be to: take stock, review progress, challenges and emerging needs; identify good practices; and propose actions for the international, regional, sub-regional and national levels.

104. It was proposed that a formal launching of the IAEG-GS be organized in 2007, and a World Forum for Gender Statistics be convened for this purpose. Italy offered to host the Forum, and proposed October 2007, as a possible time for it.

105. It was requested that the conclusions of this and subsequent IAEG-GS meetings be reported to the Statistical Commission and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) for further direction.

(b) Bulletin board for gender statistics

106. The meeting took note of the examples presented on web-based knowledge management, including the websites of regional organizations and web portals serving the needs of various communities of practice, and recommended the development of an ICT tool to promote knowledge management and information sharing to advance gender

statistics. The second component of the GGSP thus would involve the development of an Electronic Bulletin Board (portal) for Gender Statistics.

107. The Bulletin Board should serve as a technical and information resource — a channel for networking; a “One-stop-shop” on who is doing/has done what. It could be a single point-of-entry for international, regional and national institutions as well as individuals to access tools and materials, information on activities and programmes, including meetings, data collection development work, data, methodologies, definitions, etc. The members of the network would be the relevant departments, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations; other international, regional and sub-regional organizations; national governmental and non-governmental institutions; academic and research institutions, development partners; and civil society organizations; whose contribution would include providing up-to-date information and links to the Bulletin Board. Experts acknowledged that countries were at varying levels of data collection and availability and the Bulletin Board would serve the interests of the gender community irrespective of the individual gaps.

108. The portal should also provide a platform for disseminating a comprehensive database on statistics and indicators on gender issues world-wide. There was a discussion about problems related to data privacy issues, which would have to be taken into consideration in the development of the portal. It was pointed out that the compilation and dissemination of indicators, while critical for highlighting gender-based disparities, should not be an end in itself. The data should be analyzed to provide the needed direction for policy interventions. It was further noted that Internet access was not evenly distributed and for some audiences other electronic media, such as CD ROM, would provide the resource needed for gender analysis. To broaden the audience for gender statistics and enhance the utility of the information being disseminated, therefore, one of the outputs of this component of the programme would be issuing a CD of these statistics and indicators using the DevInfo platform.

(c) Development of training curricula and courses

109. It was noted that the capacities of national statistical offices (NSOs) still needed strengthening to enable NSOs to provide gender-sensitive statistics, as well as basic statistics, and support analysis and use of these data. The experiences of countries had shown that the requirements for gender statistics were more likely to be met where some basic institutional capacity existed in the NSO for the production of statistics in general. The training component of the GGSP would take a two-prong approach. On the one hand, the capacity of national statisticians would be enhanced with respect to the integration of a gender perspective into routine statistical work, including data collection of NSOs and line ministries. On the other hand, gender issues would be mainstreamed into statistical training, to assure the sustainability of gender statistics capacity in NSOs.

110. An important component of both objectives of training would be to strike the right balance between statistics, their analysis and the use of both the statistics and analysis to influence/generate evidence-based policy-making. As much emphasis needed to be placed on the analysis and use as was currently being placed on the production of statistics. Thus

a crucial module of the training courses would be data analysis with gender perspective. In addition, in all training courses, sensitization and advocacy for gender statistics should be adequately covered.

111. The courses would be designed either using/modifying existing courses or developing new curricula to suit country/region specific needs in different settings. The first type of courses would be conducted in the context of targeted workshops, seminars and similar settings, and should be directed primarily to statisticians from the national statistical systems, i.e., NSOs and line ministries. The second type would comprise short-term training courses (stand-alone or part of regular statistics training programmes), of varying durations, and for a broader target audience, including mid-management level practitioners, statisticians and users of statistics, policy makers and programme officers, etc.

112. It was suggested that the courses should be developed for adoption and adaptation by training and academic institutions, such as the World Bank Institute, ILO Turin Centre, the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP), other regional centres, and universities that offer training in official statistics, etc. Countries and organizations, with experience in gender analysis and training could be asked to assist in the development and implementation of the training courses (at county or regional levels).

Modalities and time lines

113. The Meeting agreed that the GGSP should be managed by a Secretariat and a steering committee. UNSD would be the Secretariat of the Programme, and the steering committee would be constituted by key partners of the current meeting—UNSD, the World Bank and UNFPA, some agencies with field presence, such as UNDP, and the regional commissions; with the participation, on rotation basis, of other United Nations entities such as WHO, FAO, DAW and UNIFEM active in this field, and selected countries.

114. Within the next two months, UNSD should constitute the Steering committee, in consultation with the World Bank and UNFPA, prepare a roadmap for the programme, and the design for the Bulletin Board. During this period, the preparatory work on the statistics and indicators component of the Bulletin Board should also be undertaken.

115. It was emphasized that unless the outputs of the GGSP were in several languages, the audience and beneficiaries of the programme would still be limited. In particular, it was strongly recommended that the Bulletin Board be in at least three of the official languages of the United Nations (English, French and Spanish).

116. It would be important that the proposed programme be reported to the Statistical Commission for its consideration, and progress on its implementation regularly communicated to the Commission.

IV. Recommendations

117. The Group made the following recommendations for advancing work in gender statistics at the global, regional and national levels, with two main components.

- (a) A Global Gender Statistics Programme (GGSP) built on networking, partnerships, and collaboration
- (b) Initiatives for the development of gender statistics world-wide

A. Launching a Global Gender Statistics Programme

118. The Group considered that it is critical to have a Global Gender Statistics Programme (GGSP) to provide guidance, stability and linkages among the various initiatives, particularly at the international, regional and sub-regional levels, as well as at the national level. As detailed under “Next Steps with gender statistics” the GGSP would support and complement national, regional and other international gender statistics programmes, with the following three components:

- (i) Inter-Agency and Expert Group to advance gender statistics at the global level (IAEG-GS), comprising UNSD; UN entities, including specialized agencies, funds and programmes involved with gender statistics; regional commissions; development partners; and selected countries on rotating basis, to take stock of progress, challenges and gaps, plan future work, and identify good practices.
- (ii) A Global Electronic Bulletin Board (portal) as a technical and information resource and channel for networking. The Bulletin Board will have a data dissemination component, with a website and a CD with statistics and indicators on gender issues as outputs, drawing from data dissemination platforms such as the DevInfo.
- (iii) Developing training courses (package/modules) for statisticians, mid-management officials and planning officers, across sectors, to promote the production and use of gender statistics for policy formulation and planning, as well as for monitoring and evaluation of development strategies.

119. UNSD should serve as the secretariat for the GGSP, assisted by a Steering Committee constituted by representatives of UNSD, UNFPA, the World Bank, selected United Nations funds and programmes with field presence, such as UNDP, and the regional commissions; with the participation of other United Nations entities active in this field, such as FAO and UNIFEM, and selected countries, on a rotation basis.

120. UNSD, in consultation with UNFPA and the World Bank, should circulate by end-February 2007, the main elements of the GGSP, work plan and outputs, as well as the preliminary design for the Bulletin Board.

- (i) The Bulletin Board (portal) for gender statistics, should build on existing initiatives, and be maintained in at least three UN languages, providing access

to user-friendly resources and documentation—for example, references, training materials, methods, gender statistics publications, databases, legislation and a calendar of training opportunities, meetings and other convocations on gender statistics. To this end, protocols for the sharing of the requisite data among agencies and institutions should be defined.

- (ii) As necessary, a technical Task Force of gender statistics experts and users should be formed to consider the types of information that the global portal should link to; determine the audience and the information they would require; provide guidance on the selection of indicators for dissemination; and plan for development of additional indicators, as well as additional emerging topics.

121. The Steering Committee should convene a World Forum on Gender Statistics to officially launch the High Level Interagency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS), and the Bulletin Board. The meeting welcomed the proposal of ISTAT to host the Forum in Italy, possibly in October 2007.

122. High level commitment should be secured for the production and dissemination of gender statistics, in general and specifically, for the GGSP, through the regular reporting of programme activities and progress to the Statistical Commission.

B. Initiatives for the development of gender statistics world-wide

123. The Inter-Agency and Expert Group recognized that while a GGSP will help to organize gender statistics work done under different banners under a single umbrella, different countries, regions, statistical agencies, and other entities involved in statistical work were at different levels of evolution with respect to gender statistics, and would need to continue to improve their own work. Having been apprised of the vast and rich experiences accumulated over the years through the international, regional and national gender statistics programmes, it concluded that “knowledge management and information sharing” is an essential element for advancement of gender statistics. The following recommendations were made for furthering work at the national, regional and global levels.

(a) Networking, partnership and collaboration

124. For the global gender statistics programme to bring the intended benefit to experts at the different stages of statistical development, it should aim to support and foster partnerships among international, regional and national institutions to:

- (i) Leverage knowledge and resources for the development and dissemination of gender statistics.
- (ii) Promote collaboration with academic and research institutions to capitalize on synergies and increase analysis of data.

125. International and regional institutions should team up and work on areas requiring further attention, such as agricultural and rural development; poverty; time-use; violence; human rights; participation in the labour force, with particular reference to wage gap and

decent work; access to health care, including HIV treatment and new technologies; access to energy; and the situation of vulnerable groups, to make evident the relevant gender issues with respect to concepts, measurement, collection and analysis of the data, drawing on the practical experiences and expertise in countries.

126. User-producer dialogue should be initiated and maintained at all levels, and in all sectors of gender statistics. The constituency of users should include both actual and potential users, such as policy makers, parliamentarians, the media, researchers, mid-management officers and development planners in specific areas such as agriculture, as well as the women's machineries.

(b) Advocacy and sensitization

127. The Group noted that, from the experiences of many countries, there is still a long way to go for gender to be mainstreamed into national development programmes, and for gender statistics into the corresponding monitoring and evaluation plans. There is a need therefore to raise awareness among policy-makers (political and technical) on the necessity of incorporating a gender perspective and gender statistics into policy formulation, implementation and monitoring. To this end:

- (i) Capacity building in gender statistics should include a gender sensitization and advocacy component, drawing from good practices from different countries.
- (ii) The media should be targeted as beneficiaries of the sensitization and advocacy on the use of gender statistics, and as agents and recipients of the dissemination of statistics.
- (iii) The modalities for training should take cognizance of the fact that users as well as producers need training.

(c) Capacity development

128. Capacity in the production of basic statistics is fundamental to the sustained development of gender statistics. Given the high attrition of staff in many national statistical systems, NSOs in particular, it is necessary to have a continuous programme to develop national capacities in gender statistics.

- (i) The primary goal of capacity building in gender statistics should be to develop a critical mass of national gender statistics experts to support the mainstreaming of gender perspective in data collection exercises, as well as in the production of gender statistics at the country and regional levels.
- (ii) The capacity of national statistical offices (NSOs) in data mining and analysis should be strengthened through training and by supporting joint activities with research institutions.

- (iii) Consideration should be given to developing institution-based training programmes of varying durations, for general as well as specific training, to broaden the options for capacity building.
- (iv) The United Nations funds and programmes, with field offices, should be encouraged to contribute to the capacity building efforts by supporting the participation of national experts in regional and international workshops and seminars.
- (v) The statistical literacy programme of UNDP, and similar initiatives at the national level, should consider gender statistics sensitization and training as part of the programme.
- (vi) The capacity of national women's machineries and other users should be strengthened through training and sensitization activities, so as to be meaningfully involved in all stages of data collection, request gender perspectives in data collection initiatives and reporting, and appropriately use and interpret gender statistics.
- (vii) Consideration should be given to reflecting gender concerns in methodological materials, i.e., international recommendations, handbooks and manuals on the production of statistics.

(d) Maximizing the use of available data

129. The Inter-Agency and Expert Group reiterated the vital role statistics had played in bringing visibility to issues of critical importance for gender equality, such as on traditional areas of concern about sex-segregation of the labour market; the preponderance of women in informal employment; and others such as gender-based violence, gender roles within the family, poverty, etc. The group therefore recommended that:

- (i) As a first step to gender analysis, greater use should be made of existing data from household- and enterprise-based censuses and sample surveys, as well as administrative records in order to highlight sex differentials in all spheres of life in households, in families, enterprises and in society and to design gender sensitive indicators. To this end, the mining of data from existing sources should be promoted.
- (ii) The potentials of administrative sources of data should be explored more systematically, particularly for issues such as health, gender-based violence and access to resources, in order to reduce reliance on costly surveys and ensure sustainability of the sources of gender statistics.
- (iii) The analytical capacity of national statistical systems should be strengthened to ensure that available data are used productively and the findings communicated more successfully to the appropriate audiences, especially to the policy makers and the media.

130. There is need to increase accessibility and promote the use of gender statistics at the global, regional, sub-regional and national levels. For their effective use:

- (i) Data, disaggregated by sex and age as appropriate, should be compiled and disseminated in user-friendly compilations and policy relevant analyses.
- (ii) Data should be disseminated taking into account the specific audiences such as: media, community leaders, gender advocates and parliamentarians, which may each require special formats of presentation and media.
- (iii) Gender statistics should be integrated into the main platform for the dissemination of social and/or development indicators, particularly at national level, such as within the context of national databases.
- (iv) Emphasis should be placed on conducting analyses that raise policy relevant questions and, to the extent possible, provide explanations useful for policy considerations.
- (v) There should be increasing attention placed on the use of gender statistics and their analyses to influence/generate evidence-based policy-making, through their incorporation into reports such as national PRSP, MDG, CEDAW and other relevant reports.

(e) Mainstreaming gender statistics

131. There has been substantial progress in the review of concepts and methods on many of the basic social and demographic topics, but substantial gaps remain in some areas such as in gender-based violence, crime and victimization, poverty and time use. Moreover, as national and international development agenda adopt specific themes as focus, such as poverty, and as new issues emerge of concern for gender equality, it will be necessary for some of these topics to be reviewed as well. To this end, there is need to:

- (i) Mainstream gender statistics into the national strategic plans for statistics such as those of the national statistical office and statistical units of line ministries.
- (ii) Promote activities that concentrate on the review of concepts and associated classifications on current statistical topics especially relevant for gender equality such as: household dynamics and composition, tenure of housing, violence, femicide, etc.
- (iii) Initiate activities towards the development of concepts, methods and related classifications in areas where there are data gaps such as: poverty measures (taking into account its various dimensions), time-use, informal employment, enterprises, and gender-based violence.
- (iv) Ensure that legislations relevant for the production of national statistics include gender statistics.

(f) *Improve the availability of technical assistance*

132. The Inter-Agency and Expert Group observed that while long-term capacity building was essential for institutional strengthening, some countries do require immediate or urgent assistance at certain stages of their data production, and such exceptional opportunities for integrating gender into survey planning, questionnaire design, data analysis and dissemination should not be missed. For timely response to such requests, a pool of professionals with expertise in gender statistics and gender analysis should be identified. These experts would be employed to draft a guidebook and provide technical assistance as requested by countries. This resource would also ensure more consistent and timely approach to advancing gender statistics, particularly at national, sub-regional and regional levels.

V. Annexes

Annex 1. Information note

United Nations Inter-Agency and Expert Group Meeting on the Development of Gender Statistics

Date:	12-14 December 2006
Place:	New York
Host:	United Nations Statistics Division
Contact:	Elisa Munoz-Franco, Social and Housing Statistics Section
E-mail:	munozfranco@un.org
Website:	http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/egm/genderstats06

INTRODUCTION

Over the last 30 years, substantial effort and resources have been invested towards the development of gender statistics worldwide. With the support of international organizations and other development partners, national statistics offices and counterpart women's machineries, as well as gender advocates and researchers, have initiated programmes to mainstream gender statistics into the work of national governments. Notable progress has been achieved yet substantial gaps remain. According to a recent assessment¹, the availability of basic gender statistics has improved, but unevenly at the national and regional levels. Moreover, there are still critical areas of concern for gender equality, such as violence against women, time-use, decision-making, and poverty, for which little or no gender-sensitive conceptual and methodological guidelines are available.

PURPOSE

The United Nations Statistics Division, in collaboration with The World Bank and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), is convening an Inter-Agency and Expert Group Meeting on the Development of Gender Statistics to explore ways of strengthening collaboration and promoting partnerships among stakeholders in the development of gender statistics. The meeting will review some of the key initiatives and strategies that are considered as being most successful; identify specific programmes and products that have enhanced capacities at national and regional levels in the collection, compilation and dissemination of gender statistics; and plan for launching an initiative to improve the availability, accessibility and use of reliable gender statistics for planning, monitoring and evaluation, at various levels, in particular at the national level.

¹ *The World's Women: Progress in Statistics*. United Nations publications, Sales no. E.05.XVII.7.

KEY ISSUES

1. Review of effective strategies and approaches

Programmes and support by various stakeholders for the development of gender statistics have had varying degrees of success in improving the availability, quality and use of gender statistics, particularly at national level. Identifying those strategies that have been most successful is critical to further the mainstreaming of gender into official statistics.

- What are the notable achievements? How are they sustained?
- Which gender statistics programmes/projects have been institutionalized? What specific actions assured this outcome?
- Which tools and materials have been used for training?
- What data dissemination strategies are being implemented by agencies and national offices to enhance the accessibility of gender statistics?
- What can we learn from those experiences? What made them successful?

2. Defining initiatives for advancing gender statistics

Although considerable improvements have been made in the production of gender statistics, the demand for those statistics is not being adequately met. Statistics and indicators are not being compiled and disseminated regularly in formats and media that are suitable for the wide range of audiences. Moreover, gender statistics are not available for some fundamental policy goals, such as poverty reduction, in many countries' development strategy. There are lessons to be drawn from not only past gender programmes but also from other statistics programmes, such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Three main pillars in a plan for advancing gender statistics to be considered are:

- *Mainstreaming gender into statistics for a selected policy area*: What are the major issues on the national and international development agenda, e.g., MDGs, poverty reduction, etc.? How is gender being factored into the poverty reduction strategy programmes (PRSPs) for national development? What are the data needs? What technical materials and research on the related concepts and methods are required?
- *Increasing accessibility and use of gender statistics*: What are the challenges to providing quick and easy access to gender statistics for a wide range of non-technical users? How can these challenges be addressed? How can the advantages of the DevInfo platform be best utilized to expand access and use of gender statistics? In what ways can the tool be used to meet data needs of key stakeholders and to build national capacity in the use of gender statistics?
- *Knowledge management and information sharing*: What are some effective ways of exchanging knowledge and information among countries, agencies and other stakeholders? How can the adoption and application of available tools and materials in national gender statistics programmes, be realized?

3. The way forward

The conclusions of *The World's Women: Progress in Statistics* suggest that more needs to be done for gender to be mainstreamed into official statistics. The separate and often disparate efforts of the many national and international actors, have generated numerous products (tools, materials and activities) but with limited impact.

- What can agencies do differently to ensure more far-reaching results and greater benefit to countries?
- What role should NSOs play in promoting the mainstreaming of gender statistics into national development planning?
- Would it be useful to agree on minimal set of goals and targets to be met for gender statistics?
- What types of partnerships should be established? Where do the comparative advantages lie? How should responsibilities be divided?
- What other considerations would be needed?

Annex 2. List of experts

UN AGENCIES

FAO	
1.	Mr. John Curry Gender Research Officer Gender and Population Division (SDW) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations Viale delle Terme di Caracalla 00153 Rome Italy
ILO	
2.	Ms. Adriana Mata Greenwood Bureau of Statistics International Labour Office 4, Route des Morillons CH-1211 Geneva 22 Switzerland
UNDP	
3.	Ms. Radhika Lal Senior Policy Advisor ICT for Poverty Reduction & MDGs Poverty Group Bureau for Development Policy 304 East 45 th Street, Room FF-11104, New York, NY 10017
UNFPA	
4.	Ms. Maria Jose Alcalá Technical Advisor, Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Culture, Gender and Human Rights Branch Technical Support Division/UNFPA 220 E. 42nd Street, Floor 17 New York, NY 10017
5.	Mr. Stan Bernstein Senior Policy Advisor Technical Support Division Office of the Director 220 East 42 nd Street, Room 1748 New York, NY 10017
6.	Ms. Lisa Eklund Technical Officer UNFPA Geneva Liaison Office 13 Chemin des Anémones 1209 Chatelaine/Geneva Switzerland

7.	Ms. Ann Erb Leoncavallo Speechwriter New York, NY 10017
8.	Ms. Kourtoum Nacro Technical Advisor New York, NY 10017
9.	Ms. Aminata Touré Officer-In -Charge Culture, Gender and Human Rights Branch New York, NY 10017
10.	Ms. Miriam Jato, Senior Programme Adviser Africa Division New York, NY 10017
11.	Ms. Riet Groenen Adviser on Gender and Human Rights 13 Chemin des Anémones 1209 Geneva Switzerland
UNICEF	
12.	Ms. Claudia Cappa Assistant Programme Officer Strategic Information Sectio, DPP 3 UN Plaza New York, NY 10017
UNIFEM	
13.	Ms. Karen Judd Communications Specialist Office of Executive Director 304 East 45 th Street, Room FF-1540 New York, NY 10017
14.	Ms. Maria Fe Durano Programme Specialist Room No.: FF 1640 304 East 45 th St. New York, NY 10017
15.	Hanny Cueva Beteta Programme Specialist Governance, Peace and Security 304 E. 45 th Street, 16th Floor New York, NY 10017, USA
16.	Ms. María de la Paz López Barajas Gender specialist UNIFEM Mexico

World Bank	
17.	Ms. Gulnara A. Febres Senior Operations Officer Poverty Reduction and Economic Management (WBIPR) 1818 H Street, NW Washington DC, 20433, USA Room J 4-143, Mail Stop J 4-403
18.	Mr. Juan Carlos Guzman E T Consultant Gender and Development Group, (PRMGE) Room MC 4-548A, Mail Stop MC 4-400
19.	Ms. Sulekha Patel Development Data Group 1818 H Street NW Washington, DC 20433
WHO	
20.	Ms. Lale Say Scientist Monitoring and Evaluation Department of Reproductive Health and Research 20 Avenue Appia CH-1211 CH-27 Geneva, Switzerland

UN SECRETARIAT

DESA Division for the Advancement of Women	
21.	Ms. Sylvie I. Cohen Deputy Director 2 UN Plaza, Room 1254 New York, NY 10017
22.	Mr. Johannes Lang DAW Women Watch Web Manager 2 UN Plaza New York, NY 10017
DESA Statistics Division	
23.	Ms. Grace Bediako Chief, Social and Housing Statistics Section 2 UN Plaza, Room 1552 New York, NY 10017
24.	Ms. Ionica Berevoescu Associate Statistician 2 UN Plaza, Room 1548 New York, NY 10017
25.	Mr. Martin Butterfield Inter Regional Adviser 2 UN Plaza, Room 1564 New York, NY 10017

26.	Ms. Haoyi Chen Statistician 2 UN Plaza, Room1536 New York, NY 10017
27.	Ms. Francesca Coullare Statistician 2 UN Plaza, Room 1674 New York, NY 10017
28.	Ms. Erlinda Go Statistician 2 UN Plaza, Room 1550 New York, NY 10017
29.	Ms. Elisa Muñoz-Franco Associate Statistician 2 UN Plaza, Room 1538 New York, NY 10017
30.	Mr. Diego Rumiany Associate Statistician 2 UN Plaza, Room 1566 New York, NY 10017

UN REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

	ECA
31.	Ms. Tacko Ndiaye Economics Affairs Officer UNECA, African Center for Gender and Social Development, P. O. Box 3001, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
	ECLAC
32.	Ms. Sonia Montañó Chief, Women and Development Unit Casilla 179-D Vitacura Santiago, Chile

OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

	CIDA – Canada
33.	Ms. Diana Rivington One Dag Hammarskold Plaza 885 Second Avenue, 14th Floor New York, NY 10017
	Commonwealth Secretariat
34.	Dr. Auxilia Ponga Adviser Public Sector and Governance Social Transformation Programmes Division Commonwealth Secretariat Marlborough House Pall Mall London SW1Y 5HX. United Kingdom

	DFID
35.	Ms. Katie Fawkner-Corbett Economic Adviser, Equity and Rights Team 1, Palace Street, London, SW1E 5HE United Kingdom
	IPU
36.	Ms. Julie Ballington IPU Secretariat 5 Chemin du Pommier CH 1218 Le Grand-Saconnex Geneva, Switzerland
	SPC
37.	Ms. Kim Robertson Consultant Gender Statistics Secretariat of the Pacific Community Pacific Women's Bureau B.P. D5 98848 Noumea Cedex New Caledonia
	WIEGO
38.	Ms. Joann Vanek Director of Statistics Programme Women in Information Employment: Globalizing and Organizing 80 Park Ave. Apt. 12K New York, NY 10016

NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICES

	Albania
39.	Ms. Lantona Kostallari Coordinator Social Research Center Rr. Lek Dukagjini Nr.5 Tirana, Albania
	Armenia
40.	Mr. Gagik Gevorgyan Member on State Council of Statistics National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia Republic of Armenia
41.	Ms. Astghik Gyulbenkyan Main Specialist Household Survey Division 3 Government House Republic Avenue 0010 Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

	Bermuda
42.	Ms. Melinda Williams Social Statistician Department of Statistics P.O. Box HM 3015, Hamilton HM MX Bermuda
	Canada
43.	Ms. Heather Dryburgh Statistics Canada 170 Tunney's Pasture Driveway Jean Talon Bldg, 7-D2 Ottawa Ontario Canada, K1A 0T6
	Guyana
44.	Ms. Jacqueline Tull Bureau of Statistics Avenue of Republic and Brickdam Georgetown, Guyana
	Italy
45.	Ms. Sara Demofonti Researcher ISTAT Via Adolfo Rava 150 00142 Rome Italy
	Jamaica
46.	Mrs. Valerie Nam Director of Censuses Demographic and Social Statistics 7 Cecelio Avenue Kingston 10, Jamaica WI
	Jordan
47.	Ms. Manal Sweidan Head of Gender Statistics Division Department of Statistics of Jordan P. O. Box 2015 Amman 11181, Jordan
	Lebanon
48.	Ms. Nisrine Tawily Assistant Researcher Population and Development Strategies Programme Ministry of Social Affairs Badaro, 5 th Floor, MoSA Bldg, facing Fransabank Beirut, Lebanon
49.	Ms. Lara Badre Lebanese Central Administration of Statistics Kantary, Army Street Finance and Trade Building, 5th floor Beirut, Lebanon

	Malawi
50.	Ms. Mercy Kanyuka Deputy Commissioner National Statistical Office P.O. Box 333 Zambia, Malawi
	Pakistan
51.	Mr. Mukhtar Ali Malik Joint Secretary Statistics Division 5-SLIC Building Blue Area, F-6/4 Islamabad, Pakistan
	Palestine
52.	Ms. Enaia Zidan Director General Population and Social Statistics Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics P.O. Box 1647 Ramallah, West Bank (via Israel)
	Philippines
53.	Ms. Lina Castro Director Social Statistics Office National Statistical Coordination Board 2 nd Floor Midland Buendia Bldg. 403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue Makati City 1200 Philippines
	Turkey
54.	Ms. Deniz Uyanik Statistician/Team Manager Necatibey Cod. No. 114 Yicatepe/Ankara 06100 Turkey
	United States of America
55.	Ms. Manisha Sengupta Demographer/Statistician US. Census Bureau 4700 Silver Hill Road Washington, DC 20233
56.	Ms. Victoria Velkoff, PhD Assistant Division Chief, Population Estimates and Projections, Population Division Rm 5H185 U.S. Census Bureau Washington, DC 20233-8800

	Uzbekistan
57.	Mr. Ulugbek Olimov Project Manager UNDP Uzbekistan MDG Statistics Project
	Zimbabwe
58.	Ms. Joyce Aqueline Malaba Senior Statistician/Researcher 5 Bargrove Close Glen Lorne P O Chisipite Harare, Zimbabwe

Annex 3. Organization of work

Tuesday, 12 December 2006	
9:00 –10:00	Registration of experts
10:00 –10:30	<p>1. Opening Introductory remarks by the Director of UNSD (or his representative) and UNFPA Purpose of the meeting Selection of Chairs and Rapporteur</p>
10:30 –13:00	<p>2. The current state of gender statistics This session will examine progress to date in the availability of gender statistics and indicators for monitoring and planning. It will present a historical overview of accomplishments in mainstreaming a gender perspective into statistics and in the availability of gender statistics and indicators at the national and global levels. Key gaps and challenges will be also reviewed.</p>
10:30 –12:00	<p>Presentations</p> <p>a) The current state of gender statistics: Gaps and the way forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Elisa Muñoz Franco, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)</i> - <i>Joann Vanek, Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO)</i> - <i>Lucia Fort, Gender and Development Group, PREM, World Bank</i> </p> <p><i>Invited interventions</i></p> <p>b) National gender statistics capacities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Regional commissions and programmes</i> - <i>National Institutions</i> </p>
12:00 –13:00	<p>General discussion The discussion will focus on the gaps and challenges impeding progress at national, regional and international levels; with specific indications of priority areas (thematic, programme orientation, country needs, and data needs).</p>
13:00 –15:00	Lunch break

<p>15:00 –18:00</p>	<p>3. Identifying effective strategies and approaches The session will review key tools and materials that had been particularly effective in enhancing capacity and improving the availability, quality and use of gender statistics at the national and global levels. It will identify key measures of success and examine some factors that had contributed to successes.</p>
<p>15:00 –17:00</p>	<p>Presentations</p> <p>a) Building capacity in the compilation of gender statistics - <i>Grace Bediako, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)</i> - <i>Victoria Velkoff, US Census Bureau</i></p> <p>b) Production of gender-sensitive data for thematic areas/sectors - <i>John Curry, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</i> - <i>Adriana Mata Greenwood, International Labour Office (ILO)</i> - <i>Sulekha Patel, Development Data Group, World Bank</i></p> <p>c) Mainstreaming gender statistics in policy formulation and monitoring - <i>Gulnara Febres, Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Division, World Bank Institute</i> - <i>Hanny Cueva Beteta, UNIFEM</i> - <i>Maria Jose Alcalá, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)</i></p>
<p>17:00 –18:00</p>	<p>General discussion National institutions, regional programmes and institutions, and development partners will report on their experiences in the use of available tools and materials. The discussion will address issues of sustainability and portability of programme initiatives at national and regional levels; review ways of enhancing the utilization of available tools and materials; and identify strategic approaches that could be adapted for implementation in selected areas of gender statistics.</p>
<p>18:00 –19:00</p>	<p>Reception</p>

Wednesday, 13 December 2006

<p>10:00 –13:00</p>	<p>4. Advancing gender statistics for poverty reduction strategies The session will review directions being taken to mainstream gender and gender statistics into poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSP), with a view to defining initiatives for advancing gender statistics for critical areas of gender concern, at the national, regional and global levels. Presenters will provide examples of work being done to incorporate gender into poverty measurement, poverty reduction processes and materials, and survey methods and practices, including living standards-type and other relevant surveys.</p>
<p>10:00 –12:00</p>	<p>Presentations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Gender and Poverty: Conceptual overview<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Sonia Montaña, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean</i>b) Poverty analysis<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Tacko Ndiaye, Economic Commission for Africa</i>- <i>Joyce Malaba, National Expert, Zimbabwe</i>c) Monitoring and Evaluation<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Sulekha Patel, Development Data Group, World Bank</i>- <i>María de la Paz López Barajas, UNIFEM</i>
<p>12:00 –13:00</p>	<p>General discussion The discussion will centre on the successes and challenges in mainstreaming gender and gender statistics into poverty reduction and related policy areas. Countries with poverty reduction strategies will report on their experiences. The main goal of the discussion will be to deliberate on the actions (including the development or dissemination of tools, guidelines and materials) needed to be taken in order to ensure that policy programmes such as PRSP incorporate a gender perspective from the outset.</p>
<p>13:00 –15:00</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>

<p>15:00 –18:00</p>	<p>5. Increasing accessibility and use of gender statistics</p> <p>The session will review major data initiatives currently underway that seek to improve availability, accessibility and use of gender statistics and indicators at the national, regional and global levels. Also of interest was how such initiatives were shaping national practices in data dissemination. Presentations will cover different forms in which gender statistics were being made accessible to users, changes in the data requirements and specifications of users, and the ways in which the growing demands were being met. Experiences from adaptations of data dissemination models such as DevInfo (for example in the form of MDGInfo and country-specific DevInfo), will be presented.</p>
<p>15:00 –17:00</p>	<p>Presentations</p> <p>a) Using available statistics to monitor progress towards gender equality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Lale Say, World Health Organization</i> - <i>Juan Carlos Guzman, Gender and Development Group, PREM, World Bank</i> <p>b) National dissemination initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Enaia Zidan, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics</i> - <i>Astghik Gyulbenkyan, National Statistical Service of the Republic of Armenia</i> <p>c) Building partnerships in data dissemination at the regional and global levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Victoria Velkoff, on behalf of the Economic Commission for Europe</i> - <i>Sonia Montaña, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean</i> - <i>Francesca Coullare, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)</i> <p>d) Developing a common dissemination platform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Diego Rumiany, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)</i>
<p>17:00 –18:00</p>	<p>General discussion</p> <p>Countries with national DevInfo platforms will report on their experiences. The discussion will consider avenues for improving coordination and collaboration, through specific inter-agency initiatives, in the dissemination of gender statistics and supporting materials, and capacity-building.</p>

Thursday, 14 December 2006

<p>10:00 –13:00</p>	<p>6. Knowledge management and information sharing The session will review key activities, media and fora at the regional and global levels that had been particularly effective in promoting knowledge management and information sharing. Presenters will elaborate on key lessons from achievements and challenges, and particular aspects of the initiatives that had served to engage stakeholders’ interest, participation and contribution in these arenas.</p>
<p>10:00 –12:00</p>	<p>Presentations</p> <p>a) Media and fora - <i>Marina Durano, UNIFEM</i> - <i>Sonia Montaña, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean</i> - <i>Victoria Velkoff, on behalf of the Economic Commission for Europe</i></p> <p>b) ICT solutions for knowledge management - <i>Diego Rumiany, United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)</i> - <i>Johannes P. Lang, United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)</i></p> <p>Invited interventions</p> <p>c) Experiences in knowledge management and information sharing - <i>Regional institutions</i> - <i>Development partners</i></p>
<p>12:00 –13:00</p>	<p>General discussion Regional institutions and development partners will report on their experiences with activities aimed at promoting knowledge management and information sharing. The discussion will provide some direction on the ways in which such initiatives may be strengthened and/or replicated in other regions; and identify additional tools and activities to further promote the expansion of the knowledge base.</p>
<p>13:00 –15:00</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>

<p>15:00 –16:00</p>	<p>7. Meeting global reporting requirements (Special interactive session) The special session will review and discuss a set of indicators to measure progress towards ending discrimination and violence against girls in key areas of concern. The indicators were selected at the Expert Group Meeting on The Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination and Violence against the Girl-child, organized by the Division for the Advancement of Women, in collaboration with UNICEF, on 25-28 September 2006.</p>
<p>15:00 –15:15</p>	<p>Presentation</p> <p>a) Identification of data needs and indicators for measuring progress on major gender-related policy issues: the case of the girl child - <i>Sylvie I. Cohen and colleagues, United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women (DAW)</i></p>
<p>15:15 –16:00</p>	<p>General discussion Taking into account data availability, the discussion will identify a minimum list of indicators for recommendation to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Statistical Commission.</p>
<p>16:00 –18:00</p>	<p>8. Next steps and recommendations The objective of this session was to define priorities for advancing work on gender statistics at all levels, with particular emphasis on promoting inter-agency collaboration to support the promulgation of available methodological guidelines and their adoption by the relevant national offices; sharing of responsibilities; and setting milestones and time frames for the proposed activities. The recommendations will be based on suggestions culled from the deliberations of the previous sessions.</p>