



UNITED NATIONS

United Nations Statistical Commission

Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics

GWG Bureau meeting

First meeting – 21 March 2018, 13:15 EST

By video-conferencing

Minutes & Action Points

Participants

UK	Heather Savory, Mark Craddock
Denmark	Niels Ploug, Maciej Truszczynski
Canada	Sylvie Michaud, Eric Rancourt
Netherlands	Matjaz Jug
Colombia	Angela Palma, Sandra Moreno, Carolina Ronderos
Mexico	Andrea Fernandez
UNSD	Ronald Jansen, Ivo Havinga, Markie Muryawan, Catheryn Tajon

Agenda and Documentation

- Agenda item (1)** UN Statistical Commission
- Note by Statistics Denmark on GWG to-do-list (based on Decision 7)
 - Note by UNSD on 49th session of the Statistical Commission
- Agenda item (2)** UN World Data Forum
- Note by UNSD on UN WDF
- Agenda item (3)** Project and Partnerships
- Note by UNSD on Partnerships and Letter to GWG members
 - Note by UNSD on ongoing projects
- Agenda item (4)** Domain Names
- Note by UNSD on possible Domain Names
- Agenda item (5)** INFOTEC meeting of INEGI
- Note by INEGI on Preliminary program of INFOTEC meeting
- Agenda item (6)** Calendar of Activities
- No documentation

Minutes

AGENDA ITEM (1) – GWG TO-DO-LIST

1. Make all its products and services (handbooks, methods and training materials) easily available. This means that the GWG website should be more user friendly with updated content, with a link to the GWG platform, with better access to existing information and better structure and design.

Action Point: *UNSD updates website, and coordinates with Mark on link to the GWG Platform and with Andrea on new functionalities; report – for 2nd meeting*

2. Ensuring that the quality of each of the GWG products is vetted by an appropriate advisory group whose membership might include experts from national statistical agencies, academia, scientific and technical partners, and other communities as appropriate. The TOR of the scientific and of the technical advisory group needs to be prepared.

Action Point: *Niels and Heather to report – for 3rd meeting*

3. Work on the legal, ethical and funding considerations are initiated during the phase 2018-2020.

Action Point: *Heather and Niels to report – for 2nd meeting*

4. Delivering practical products and services including learning materials to help with the realization of the sustainable development goals, including SDGs in the TORs of the TTs and projects.

Action Point: *Statistics Denmark should prepare a report, which covers a template for the TORs of the Task Teams, contains a template for the MOU of TT members, and makes reference to the document, which was prepared by Andrea – for 2nd meeting*

5. Organize future conferences on Big Data for official statistics; Rwanda has requested to organize the Big Data conference in 2019; Korea requested to organize for 2020

The GWG **agreed** that it would resume an annual cycle for the Big Data conferences, beginning with the 5th Conference in April/May 2019 in Africa, followed by the 6th Conference in April/May 2020 in Korea Republic.

Action Point: *Heather, Niels and Ronald – consult with AfDB, UNECA and Rwanda for the 2019 conference; will reply to Korea for the 2020 conference; double check with Stefan on resuming annual cycle; report for the 2nd meeting*

6. Plan virtual and physical meetings for the coming period (2018/2019) no later than April 1.

Action Point: UNSD to organize bureau WebEx meeting every two weeks; prepare a schedule with preliminary agendas; for 2nd meeting

7. Composition of the GWG Bureau: United Kingdom, Denmark, Canada, Netherlands, Mexico, Colombia, Indonesia, UAE and the African Development Bank (Relation to the HGL MOS).

Action Point: UNSD in consultation with co-chairs to invite AfDB, Indonesia, and UAE; also invite UNECE as relation to HLG-MOS; for 2nd meeting

AGENDA ITEM (1) – NOTE ON 49TH SESSION OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION

The Bureau took note of the document. It was decided to post as much as possible the documents of the Bureau meetings on the GWG website.

The Bureau agreed that overall the GWG received much support for its initiatives. Decision 7 on Big Data for official statistics reflects this and contains all elements for the GWG to further develop its short- and longer-term work programme. The revised draft decisions, including Decision 7, will be posted on the Statistical Commission website on Friday, 23 March 2018.

AGENDA ITEM (2) – NOTE ON THE UN WORLD DATA FORUM

The Bureau was informed that acceptance of the proposals would be decided by 31 March 2018. It was seen as a good idea to create space at the WDF for those private sector companies, which have shown commitment to partner with the GWG. GWG can consider proposals for the plenary session, which it cannot control, or proposals for satellite events, which it can control, including organizing a meeting of the GWG.

Action Point: UNSD will inform about the outcome of the acceptance of proposals. Further work is needed to position our work and partners on plenary session of the UNWDF; for 2nd meeting

AGENDA ITEM (3) – NOTE BY UNSD ON PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

AGENDA ITEM (3) – NOTE BY UNSD ON ONGOING PROJECTS

The Bureau welcomed these two documents. The GWG still needs to discuss the approach of how to decide on the use cases for the proof of concept. The Bureau agreed that members of the GWG should continue their interactions with international agencies, public and private sector partner, while keeping the Bureau informed.

Action Point: UNSD to prepare guidance on the GWG governance in relation to interactions of GWG members with private and public partners; for 2nd meeting

AGENDA ITEM (4) – NOTE BY UNSD ON DOMAIN NAMES

The Bureau discussed the proposals in this document, and concluded as follows:

- ✚ The main portal for all the work of the GWG will be the GWG website on the UN website; this website will get another URL which will be ending in un.org. The current proposal is <http://datacollaborative.un.org>
- ✚ The GWG Platform task team led by ONS, UK, will develop the platform on the ONS server under a more generic URL. This URL will be subsidiary to the URL of the main portal. One way to achieve this is via unchecking of the Google search indexing of the ONS URL.
- ✚ The navigation between the main portal and the GWG platform should be seamlessly and easy.

Action Point: Ronald and Mark will work out the details and report back to the GWG Bureau; Mark will also provide the TOR of the platform task team; for 3rd meeting

AGENDA ITEM (5) – PRELIMINARY AGENDA OF THE INFOTEC SEMINAR, 4-5 SEP 2018, MEXICO CITY

Andrea informed the Bureau of the INFOTEC seminar on 4-5 Sep 2018 in Mexico City. The program, which is still in an early stage, focuses on the best practices to safeguard the confidentiality of statistical information to generate geographic, environmental, economic, demographic and social information, in the digital era. The Bureau noted that the work of the task team on Privacy Preserving Techniques could be of interest to the seminar.

Action Point: Bureau Members to consider whether they will attend INFOTEC (all)

AGENDA ITEM (6) – CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

This agenda item was not discussed. It can be brought on the agenda for the 2nd meeting