UNITED NATIONS
United Nations Statistical Commission
Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics
GWG Bureau meeting

Twenty fourth meeting – 14 March 2019, 09:00 EST
By video conferencing
Minutes

Participants

Canada	Alice Born
UK	Mark Craddock, Rob Bumpstead, Rabia Mirza,
Denmark	Maciej Truszczynski
Netherlands	Matjaz Jug
Switzerland	Bertrand Loison
Indonesia	Titi Kanti Lestari
Rwanda	Yusuf Murangwa, Jean-Claude Nyirimanzi
AfDb	Momar Kouta, Rafik Mahjoubi
Eurostat	Albrecht Wirthmann
UNSD	Ronald Jansen, Karoly Kovacs, Ralf Becker, Ivo Havinga

Agenda

Agenda item (1)   Big Data Week in Kigali

Action Points

⇨ Confirmation of the speakers at the 5th Conference on Big Data in Rwanda on 2 – 3 May 2019

Minutes

AGENDA ITEM (1) – BIG DATA WEEK IN KIGALI

Eurostat requested to speak first because of other commitments. Eduardo Barredo-Capelot will represent Eurostat at the Conference (2-3 May) to share experience of the Big Data projects under ESSnet and – for example – NTTS 2019. Eduardo could be a panelist in the last session on the way forward and on the session on Capacity Development to highlight the European Statistical Training

Program. Further, a colleague of Eurostat will contribute remotely to the workshop on the use of mobile phone data.

The Big Data week in Kigali will feature 6 events: 3 workshops, the seminar, the meeting of the GWG and the Conference.

1. **Workshops**

   ➡ UNSD informed that the trainers are selected and confirmed – and funding of travel of the trainers will be shared between UNSD, AfDB and UN ECA

   ➡ Before the start of the workshops on Monday morning a 'general session' will be held for all participants of the 3 workshops + seminar in which the UN Global Platform will be presented, explained and demonstrated

2. **Meeting of the GWG**

   ➡ All members of the GWG have been informed

   ➡ Agenda includes: discussion on the UNGP business model; report of the TTs (work done and workplan for 2019)

   ➡ If there is a Kigali declaration, it has to be prepared very soon and well ahead of the meeting – it needs to be approved by the GWG and then be presented at the Conference

   ➡ The suggestion on having a declaration was supported

   ➡ UNSD offered to make a draft and to send to the bureau, AfDB and NISR for comments before wider circulation

   ➡ The UN Statistical Commission did not discuss the Big Data report this year, and therefore, did not decide on the business model. However, the signals received at the side-meeting were positive and supporting to continue the process of establishming the Global Platform Institute

3. **Seminar**

   ➡ The draft outline of the seminar is placed on the website

   ➡ Presenters are being contacted and confirmations are on the way

➡️ The opening lecture will be given by Bertrand

➡️ Among many others, UN Global Pulse (Uganda) is also expected to make a country case presentation

➡️ Further suggestions are welcome

4. **Conference**

➡️ Opening: video message from DSG of UN is in the works

➡️ Minister of Finance of Rwanda will make the opening remarks – details will be sent to UNSD shortly

➡️ Keynote: Chief statistician of Kenya (who is also the chair of UN SC) has been contacted. This needs to be confirmed. Yusuf will contact him.

➡️ Details for the panels were sent to the bureau and Ronald informed the group about the exact status of the suggested participants

➡️ The format of the panels can vary and the panelist should be instructed accordingly. In some panels, presentations can be made, in others, we would only expect oral statements to keep more time for discussion:
   - AfDB confirmed that Charles will participate and agreed to be part of the 1st panel
   - Canada stated that Sylvie will not participate. They will inform us who will represent Statistics Canada
   - Countries of Africa are encouraged to present case studies
   - Netherland suggested that the Opal project in Senegal would be of interest to be presented
   - UNECA project on the use of mobile phone data in countries (like Ethiopia, Tunisia) is being presented
   - AfDB is ready to present on the establishment of the Innovation Lab

In the further detailing of the Business model for the Global Platform consideration should be given to open the platform up for work that goes beyond Research and Development and goes into the routine production of statistics. Such possibility could be attractive for countries with a less developed (and difficult to maintain) IT infrastructure.

The bureau was asked to give further comments, suggestions and commitments to the Agenda via email given the time limitation for the current WebEx meeting.