



UNITED NATIONS

United Nations Statistical Commission

Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics

GWG Bureau meeting

Twenty fifth meeting – 21 March 2019, 09:00 EST

By video conferencing

Minutes

Participants

Canada	Alice Born
UK	Heather Savory, Mark Craddock, Rabia Mirza,
Denmark	Maciej Truszczynski
Netherlands	Bert Kroese
Switzerland	Bertrand Loison
UAE	Hatem El Sherif
Indonesia	Titi Kanti Lestari
Rwanda	Jean-Claude Nyirimanzi
AfDB	Momar Kouta
Eurostat	Albrecht Wirthmann
UNECE	Taeke Gjaltema
UNSD	Ronald Jansen, Karoly Kovacs, Ralf Becker, Ivo Havinga

Agenda

- Agenda item (1) Minutes of Meeting 24
- Agenda item (2) Big Data Week in Kigali
- Agenda item (3) Sustainable Business Model
- Agenda item (4) Other business

Action Points

- ⇒ Agendas of the workshops will be sent to bureau members
- ⇒ Contacting panelist on the organization of the panel the 5th Conference on Big Data in Rwanda on 2 – 3 May 2019
- ⇒ Drafting the text of the Kigali declaration
- ⇒ Continue working on the business model

Minutes

AGENDA ITEM (1) – MINUTES OF MEETING 24

No comments were received on the minutes.

AGENDA ITEM (2) – BIG DATA WEEK IN KIGALI

Organizational issues

- Progress is made in furnishing the venue.
- Interest for exhibition booths was shown by GOPA, 2-3 partners of UNGP and 3-4 local partners (like Central Bank of Rwanda).
- A vendor was identified to produce promotional materials, like tote bag, pen and t-shirt but looking for sponsors.

Workshops

- Mark Craddock will open on Monday morning with a plenary presentation on the UN Global Platform for all workshop and seminar participants.
- Trainers have been confirmed for the 3 workshops on Earth Observations, use of mobile phone data and use of scanner data. The agendas of the 3 workshops will be sent to bureau members.
- Two trainers will run the Earth Observations workshop with support of video presentations.
- Mobile phone data workshop will have 4 trainers and an additional one via WebEx
- The scanner data workshop will be run by 3 trainers

Conference

- Keynote: Chief Statistician of Kenya (who is also the chair of UN SC) has been confirmed
- UNSD will be in touch with moderators of the panels on the format and make sure that the panels are interactive.
- Netherlands suggested a limitation of 10 minutes for presentations and that the moderators prepare questions in advance.
- The Kigali declaration focusing on the business model for the UN Global Platform and should be ready 2 weeks before the conference.
- The bureau was asked to give further comments, suggestions and commitments to the panels via email.

Seminar

- Switzerland confirmed for introduction on the Data Innovation Paradigm for official statistics
- Other main presentations during the seminar are also confirmed.

AGENDA ITEM (3) – BUSINESS MODEL

ONS underlined that the background paper on the sustainable business model for the UN Global Platform, which was presented in a side-event during the UNSC, was well received; and that there remains less than a year left to make the model work.

- DFID and the Global Partnership on Sustainable Development Data are interested to be part of the African hub of the UN Global Platform, since raising funds for data innovation in Africa will work.
- NBS China wants to establish a UN-NSB China Institute for Big Data in Hangzhou and will sign a Memorandum of Intent for this in June followed by an MoU in October.

As outlined in the background paper on the sustainable business model for the UN Global Platform, the following points need to be in place for a UN Global Platform Institute:

- ⇒ The Institute will function under the UN umbrella
- ⇒ The exact rules and conditions for global governance of the Institute will have to be worked out. A global governing board would have to be established, which approves data policy, technological decisions, legal, human resources and finance decisions.

- ⇒ The operational procedures of the global aspects of the Institute need to be worked out, for example: global billing, global technology stack maintenance, global data set acquisition, global service contracts, etc.
- ⇒ Regional hubs are possible under specific conditions.

Netherlands broadly supports the model but pointed out that sustainability of the business model depends on sound funding.

ONS will reach work on establishing a charity organization for the UN GP Institute in the UK.

AGENDA ITEM (4) OTHER BUSINESS

No time for other business