



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
United Nations Statistical Commission
Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics
Sixth plenary meeting, 1 May 2019, Kigali, Rwanda

Report

Points for Action

➡ **List of assignments for the work on the UN Global Platform**

Action by Statistics Canada, Statistics Netherlands and UNSD

➡ **Preparing data management paper and business model**

Action by the GWG Bureau

➡ **GWG Report to the Statistical Commission**




Action by UNSD and the GWG Bureau. The GWG report needs to be submitted by the end of November 2019. Kigali declaration follow up.

Agenda

Opening by Niels Ploug, Statistics Denmark

- Agenda item (1) Overview of the work of the GWG – Niels Ploug
- Agenda item (2) 50th session of the Statistical Commission in 2019 – Ronald Jansen
- Agenda item (3) Progress report of the GWG Task Teams – Ronald Jansen
 - i. Task Team on Satellite data – input from Artur Laczynski
 - ii. Task Team on Scanner data – input from Michael Smedes
 - iii. Mobile Phone data – Ronald Jansen (UNSD) and Martin Schaper (ITU)
 - iv. Social Media data – Ronald Jansen
 - v. Privacy Preserving Techniques – Mark Craddock, ONS, UK
 - vi. Training, Skills, Capacity-building – Dominik Rozkrut, Statistics Poland
 - vii. Big Data for SDGs – Niels Ploug (Statistics Denmark) and Yusuf Murangwa (NISR) – Proposed new TOR
- Agenda item (4) UN Global Platform – Mark Craddock, ONS
- Agenda item (5) Kigali Declaration – Niels Ploug, Statistics Denmark
- Agenda item (6) Report to the Statistical Commission – Ronald Jansen, UNSD
- Agenda item (7) Other business

Documentation

-  Overview of the work of the UN Global Working Group on Big Data - Note by Niels Ploug, Statistics Denmark and co-chair of GWG
-  Progress report of the GWG Task Teams on EO – Note by DANE
-  Draft Kigali Declaration

Participants

Countries: Mr. Niels Ploug (Denmark - Chair), Mr. Jonathan Ross (Australia), Ms. Shu (China), Mr. Liu (China), Mr. Raul Ospina (Colombia), Mr. Mustapha (Egypt), Mr. Rifa Rufiadi (Indonesia), Ms. Soorin Hwang (Korea Republic), Mr. Gonzalo Cruz (Mexico), Mr. Mustapha Al Talib (Morocco), Mr. Bert Kroese (Netherlands), Mr. Ahmed Almufarji (Oman), Mr. Dominik Rozkrut (Poland), Mr. Artur Laczynski (Poland), Mr. Bertrand Loison (Switzerland), Mr. Mark Craddock, Mr. Tom Smith (United Kingdom), Mr. Zachary Mwangi (Kenya, Observer), Mr. Blaise Bienvenu (Central African Republic, Observer), Mr. Asalfew (Ethiopia, Observer), Mr. Gumni (Ghana, Observer), Mr. Yusug Murangwa (Rwanda, Observer), Mr. Isfiadus (Nigeria, Observer),

Organizations: Mr. Koua Louis Kouakoa (African Development Bank), Mr. Momar Kouta (African Development Bank), Ms. Elham Saleh (GCC-Stat), Mr. Ronald Jansen (UNSD), Mr. Martin Schaaper (ITU), Mr. Rajiv Ranjav (Paris21)

Remotely: Ms. Heather Savory (United Kingdom), Mr. Ivo Havinga (UNSD)

Minutes

Agenda item (1) Overview of the work of the GWG – Niels Ploug

Niels briefly presented the overview of the work of the GWG, since Bogota. Details are provided in the prepared note.

Agenda item (2) 50th session of the UN Statistical Commission – Ronald Jansen

The report of the GWG to the Commission in 2019 had been submitted for information only. In this report, the GWG responded to requests made by the Statistical Commission to make services available to the global statistical community on the UN Global Platform, and to provide further details on the business model of the Global Platform. Furthermore, the report presented the work of the various task teams of the Global Working Group (on earth observations, mobile phones, social media and scanner data, and privacy-preserving techniques).

Agenda item (3) Progress report of the GWG Task Teams – Ronald Jansen

Progress of the task teams was highlighted via the Handbooks, Projects and Capacity development activities. A series of Handbooks are either completed or underway. In this regard, it was pointed out that an Advisory group is needed to certify this work.

Several projects are in progress: three projects with use of Satellite data (for measuring water extent, agriculture crop production and land cover, respectively), transactional data (for measuring price fluctuations) and mobile phone data (for measuring human mobility). Given the availability now of AIS and flight tracking data many more projects are expected to be started up.

Finally, a full-week workshop on use of Earth Observations for agriculture and environment statistics was held in Bangkok with participation of a dozen Asian countries. Training materials of this event will be made available on the platform for further use.

In this regard, the Task Team on Training, Skills and Capacity Development will get a re-start under new leadership of Statistics Poland. Volunteers to become member of this team are welcome.

Agenda item (4) Progress report of the UN Global Platform – Mark Craddock

The UN Global Platform offers technology infrastructure and constitutes a network for data innovation to the official statistical community to facilitate global collaboration on trusted data, trusted methods and trusted learning.

Heather recalled how the Platform has evolved from an initial idea of the UN Global Working group on Big Data to a reality. She gave a quick overview of the status of the Platform in terms of available data, services, and partners. Details can be found in the prepared document.

Agenda item (5) Kigali Declaration – Niels Ploug

Niels presented the content of the Kigali Declaration, which will be further reviewed and become part of the GWG report to the 2020 UN Statistical Commission.

Agenda item (6) Report to the 2020 Statistical Commission – Ronald Jansen

As indicated in the note prepared by UNSD, the GWG report to the Statistical Commission for its 50th session in March 2020 will have to respond to the various requests made in Decision 49/107, including the creation of an Advisory group, addressing privacy concerns, progress on the platform and the presentation of the business case. The report can further give highlights from the Conference in Kigali, as well as present the Kigali Declaration. The GWG report needs to be submitted by the end of November 2019.

Agenda item (7) Other business

There was no other business.