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**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs



## Information Note

# Thematic Conference for the Arab States on Agile and Resilient National Statistical Systems in Times of Change

*Amman, Jordan, 13 – 15 June 2023*

## BACKGROUND

The Arab Thematic Conference (13-15 June, Amman) is part of a series of regional conferences organized to understand further and prioritize the emerging needs of statistical organizations to adapt and develop, as stressed in the Cape Town Global Action Plan (CTGAP) for Sustainable Development and in the final report of the series of conferences on a Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics. In particular, the monitoring of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related regional and national development policies requires national statistical systems to grasp the potential of innovative technologies in a rapidly changing data ecosystem while reinforcing leadership, coordination, communication and dialogue through institutional and organizational reforms, in compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, endorsed by the General Assembly in 2014. Modernization, transformation and adaptation are crucial if official statistics are to meet the widening and increasing requirements of policymakers, researchers, the media and civil society for high-quality, timely and disaggregated statistics.

## OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the Arab Thematic Conference is to understand better and prioritize the emerging needs of statistical organizations to adapt and develop and exchange experiences and strategies of Member States in such processes. The Conference will also stimulate an exchange of information on national best practices as well as recent global and regional initiatives and programmes supporting the transformation and modernization of official statistics to address emerging user needs for high-quality and internationally comparable statistics and indicators. Moreover, the Conference will allow the organizers to collect additional information on practices, success stories and challenges at the national level but also initiatives at regional level to support and guide the modernization and transformation of national statistical systems and eventually inform forthcoming revisions and updates of the Handbook.

## OUTCOME

The Conference will provide a forum for senior statisticians to address recent institutional, organizational and technical developments addressing future challenges and opportunities for the production of official statistics and indicators. It is expected that the outcome of the Conference will contribute to update of the Handbook on Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems. The Handbook is a living document, is a non-prescriptive compendium providing guidance and informing statistical organizations on critical issues and topics, including new and emerging ones while acknowledging the diversity and specificity of national contexts.

## DATE AND VENUE

The meeting will be held at the **Kempinski Hotel, Amman** on 13-15 June 2023. The meeting starts every day at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m.

## LANGUAGE AND DOCUMENTATION OF WORK

The working language of the meeting is English and Arabic with simultaneous interpretation. Documentation for the meeting will be available in English and, where possible, in Arabic.

## PARTICIPATION

This thematic conference will bring together high-level representation from national statistical offices in the Arab region, as well as international and regional organizations to discuss these issues. The conference is oriented towards chief statisticians and senior managers with a strategic role within the national statistical system.

All participants should register for the meeting by completing the respective registration form and sending it to the ESCWA secretariat or UNSD (as indicated in your invitation) **by 1 May 2023**.

All participants attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas should be made as soon as possible at the Embassy of Jordan in the country in which the participants reside, with reference to the meeting of the ESCWA. If necessary, the ESCWA secretariat can provide a letter to facilitate obtaining a visa (email: [maha.elayoubi@un.org](mailto:maha.elayoubi@un.org) or fax: +961 1 978 735).

#### TRAVEL, DSA AND ACCOMMODATION

All participants' travel and accommodation may be covered by the ESCWA secretariat or the UN Statistics Division. Please refer to the administrative instructions that were sent with your invitation.

#### TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM THE AIRPORT

The Queen Alia International Airport in Jordan is approximately 35 minutes from Amman. Participants should make their own arrangements from and to the airport through airport taxis (fare around 25 JD) or hotel taxis.

Passengers must complete a "Declaration Form" before departure at <https://www.visitjordan.gov.jo>.

This will generate a QR code which must be presented before boarding and upon arrival.

This does not apply to:

- nationals of Jordan, their spouses, and children;
- passengers who do not need prior approval to enter Jordan;
- passengers with a permanent diplomatic QR code.

## GENERAL AND TOURIST INFORMATION

- **Time Zone:** Amman (GMT+3)
- **Electricity:** Electricity Voltage is 230V
- **Currency:** Jordanian dinar is accepted everywhere in Amman.
- **Weather:** Average temperatures in June range from 36° / 18° degrees Celsius.
- **Tourism:** The following websites provide information on tourist attractions in Amman and Jordan:  
<https://bit.ly/3UskoKR>

## CONTACT

Participants may contact Ms. Maha El Ayoubi (email: [maha.elayoubi@un.org](mailto:maha.elayoubi@un.org) or phone: +961 1 978 735) or Ms. Khadija Mansour (email: [mansour10@un.org](mailto:mansour10@un.org) or phone +961 1 978 475 for any questions regarding their participation in the meeting.

## ORGANIZERS

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