Bogota Declaration

4th Global Conference on Big Data for Official Statistics in Bogota, Colombia, 8-10 November 2017

Taking into consideration the recommendations contained in the Secretary-General's report of the *Independent Expert Advisory Group on a Data Revolution for Sustainable Development, entitled "A world that counts: mobilizing the data revolution for sustainable development", including:*

(a) *technology, innovation and analysis to establish a network of data innovation networks for leveraging and sharing data and data research;*

(b) *capacity-building and resources related to capacity-building and technology transfer, data literacy and resource mobilization through innovative financing mechanisms in partnership with the private sector; and*

(c) *governance and leadership related to partnerships and coordination between governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, the media and academia to promote good practices and principles in data sharing, open data and data rights.*

Recalling the adoption of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data (see E/CN.3/2017/3) and the related outcome documents of the regional conferences on the Transformative Agenda (see E/CN.3/2017/5) by the Statistical Commission at its 48th session in March 2017.

Highlighting that the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data calls upon the global statistical community to take action on the strategic area of modernizing and strengthening the national statistical systems with a focus on modernizing the governance and institutional framework; on applying statistical standards and new data architecture for data sharing, exchange and integration; and on facilitating the use of new technology and new data sources in statistical production processes.

The Global Working Group at the 4th Global Conference on Big Data for Official Statistics in Bogota

Proposes:

> to provide a major thrust for the strategic area of the Cape Town Action Plan on innovation and modernization by advancing global data collaboratives, facilitated by a trusted federated global platform initially for research and development in the discovery, access and use of data, statistical methodology, software applications and capacity building for the production of statistics and indicators. These partnerships will innovate and help modernize official statistics and their use of new data sources, including Big Data. It will enable data driven transformation in the production of specific statistics or SDG indicators for better decision making.

to progressively invest in research and development via task teams of the Global Working Group whose main objective is the innovation of current statistical production processes and the creation of new ways of compiling SDG indicators; define a framework for the evaluation of the task teams' work centered on the quality of the information produced as well as their cost effectiveness and scale successful projects by transforming them into data products for global consumption;

to progressively develop the data and technology architecture of the global platform based on the requirements of the work programs of the task teams of the Global Working Group, and underpinned by real user demands and business cases;

that this work program for trusted data, services and applications is undertaken under the auspices and guidance of the United Nations Statistical Commission, in support of the global community of official statistics by putting the national statistical systems of developed and developing countries at its heart;

that the global collaborative should build on the best practices of private and public Big Data initiatives, offers technology infrastructure and a network for data innovation to the official statistical community and addresses the need for an interconnected and federated network to facilitate:

(a) the exchange of ideas and methods for processing, analyzing and visualizing Big Data among official statisticians, data scientists and domain experts from the public and private sectors with a focus on research and development building towards modernized statistical production

(b) the sharing and exchange of trusted metadata, methods, services and applications for continuous development and reuse, including sharing trusted data where useful and legally possible. The sharing of sensitive data between trusted partners will be agreed bilaterally, whilst widely applicable open data sources can be generally made available

(c) the development, jointly among the official statistical community, private sector technology companies and other communities, of a trusted data architecture so different types of data can be shared safely and securely;

to support capacity building via a library of trusted training materials and a catalogue of trusted guidance material, methods and software applications and via conducting workshops on Big Data and new analytical techniques.

Underlines:

that the implementation of the global data collaborative as a federated system will place the community of official statistics at the heart of modern trusted data usage and information technology.

that it will offer both developed and developing countries opportunities to realize the benefits of multi-source data, including Big Data, administrative data, census data and survey data, to better understand economic, environmental and societal changes without investment in expensive technologies.

that the global collaborative for trusted data, services and applications will benefit all parties involved via synergies in sharing methods and data, creating a global culture of best practice and capability sharing.

that the sharing of knowledge and capacity building in human resources in the discovery, access and use of multi-source data is a shared responsibility of national and international statistical community and should be scaled in existing statistical capacity building programs.

Recommends:

a global data collaborative, facilitated by the global platform with the potential to accommodate many different types of trusted data, services and applications. The global data collaborative through the global platform should work towards:

a) making it easy for all nations to gain value by participating in the global network;
b) delivering a marketplace and a flexible cloud-based technology infrastructure to allow trusted data, methods, services and applications to be shared as a public good where useful and legally possible;
c) developing transparent partnership agreements with private and public sector organizations so that network partners contribute and derive value through a business model which is individually sustainable for all stakeholders and ensures access to trusted data.

Global Working Group assembled for the 4th Global Conference on Big Data for Official Statistics, Bogota November 2017.