
Jil Matheson Chair, UN Statistical Commission | UK National Statistician

Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group
on Sustainable Development Goals:

Mr. Macharia Kamau
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

Mr. Csaba Körösi
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of Hungary to the United Nations

26 March 2014

Dear Excellency,

Offer of support on measurement issues; statistical notes to all issue briefs

I am writing as the Chair of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC). It is my great pleasure to transmit to you a compendium of 29 statistical notes as input to your deliberations on a set of sustainable development goals (SDGs). They provide information on the measurement aspects of the 29 issues discussed by the Open Working Group during its first eight sessions. Earlier versions of these notes have been provided to many of the sessions.

The statistical notes have been drafted under the auspices of the UNSC Friends of the Chair group on broader measures of progress which has been tasked to facilitate and provide support to the ongoing process towards a post-2015 development agenda to ensure that a robust statistical measurement approach is incorporated from the outset. Experts from many national statistical offices and international organisations, steered and coordinated by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), participated in the drafting and review of these notes which provide a basis for the discussion of measurement issues in the various areas.

The community of official statisticians stands ready to provide further support to the Open Working Group in the design of sustainable development goals and targets as it concerns their measurability. We will be ready to further elaborate the information contained in the statistical notes depending on your needs or provide any other possible form of support, facilitated through the Statistics Division.

Yours sincerely,



Jil Matheson