



.....



**The sixth meeting of Committee of DGs  
Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire, 30 November  
to 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2012**

# **Draft conclusion and recommendations**

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. The sixth Meeting of Directors General of National Institute of Statistics was held in Hotel President, Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire from 30 November to 2 December 2012 on the theme: Post-2015 Development Agenda Statistical Requirements.

## II. ATTENDANCE

2. In attendance were the representatives of the following countries: Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, The Congo, The Democratic Republic Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, The Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Swaziland, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, The Sudan, Tunisia, The United Republic of Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Western Sahara, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

3. The following Regional Economic Communities, Statistical Training Centers and International Organizations were also represented: ECCAS, SADC, EAC, UEMOA, CEMAC, ECOWAS Bank for investment and Development (EBID), ENSEA, IFORD, Makerere University, AFRISTAT, EUROSTAT, PARIS21, ILO, ECA, UNDP, EUROSTAT, PARIS21, DFID, UNWOMEN, Islamic Development Bank, INSEE France, DIAL, OECD, African Development Bank and African Union Commission.

## III. RECOMMENDATIONS

4. After extensive discussions of the above agenda items, **We** therefore, recommend the following:

### A. General recommendations

- a) Request the AUC, AfDB and UNECA to organize the committee of DGs as a supreme body to discuss issues related to statistical development on the continent and make recommendations to the Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, and the Summit for consideration and adoption;
- b) Request AUC to include on the agenda of the Annual Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development and present the status of statistical development, experiences learnt and challenges faced and progresses made different working groups of SHaSA;

- c) Request AUC to present annually a status report on statistics development on the continent to Pan African Parliament Meetings ;
- d) Request the AUC to strengthen its capacity (human and financial) to enable it to implement the African charter on statistics and SHaSA;

**B. Statistical requirements for the post 2015 development agenda**

- a) Endorse the resolutions on statistics requirements for the post 2015 development agenda;

**C. Boosting intra African Trade**

- a) Request AUC to organize a forum to broadly discuss trade and infrastructure statistics
- b) Request AUC in collaboration ECA and AfDB to harmonise the classifications and standards for recording and Coding System (SH 2012)

**D. Implementation of the African charter on statistics**

- a) Recommit ourselves to take the necessary steps to sign and ratify the African Charter on Statistics so that the charter can enter into force by end 2013 ;
- b) Request AUC to send all necessary reference materials to NSOs before the end of the year to facilitate countries to sign and ratify the charter;
- c) Request AUC assist countries to prepare technical documents and materials to fast-track the signing and ratification of the African Charter on Statistics;
- d) Request AUC to finalize the statistical model law for African Countries, include some aspects on gender and widely disseminate it;
- e) Request countries to consider the statistical model law based on the principles of the African Charter on Statistics when developing national statics laws;
- f) Request countries to promote the release of microdata for use for research purposes while protecting the confidentiality of the individual; this should be included in the statistical law.
- g) Request countries to support the AU solidarity initiative to build the capacity of member states.
- h) Request AUC to conduct in depth analysis of the questionnaire on gap analysis of national statistics laws against the African Charter on Statistics and come up with a comprehensive report to be submitted to AGSHa.

- i) Request AUC, ECA and AfDB to train countries on the African charter on statistics and its principles;
- j) Request AUC to finalize and send a comprehensive methodology for countries to assess gap analysis of the national statistics laws against the charter.
- k) Request AUC, ECA and AfDB to schedule joint mission to South Sudan to build the capacity of National Statistics System (NSS).
- l) Request AUC with the support of PARIS21 to undertake self-assessment and peer exercises in all African countries as recommended by the 5<sup>th</sup> Committee of DG in Yaoundé, Cameroon and request other partners to provide financial support to this initiative.

#### **E. Implementation of Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa**

- a) Request AUC to work closely with PARIS21 for the development and finalization of the new generation of NSDS based on SHaSA;
- b) Request countries to use the methodological guidelines to align their NSDS into SHaSA;
- c) Request AGSHa to examine the status report before its submission to PAP and Conference of Ministers;

##### **(i) Group on Governance, Peace and Security Statistics**

- a) Endorse the approach of STG1 to GPS data collection as described and motivated in the STG1 Report and recommended the followings
- b) Request the AUC, UNDP and other partners to undertake pilots of the four instruments by five suitably selected volunteer NSOs;
- c) Request UNDP and partners to support the equipping, start-up and capacity-building for GPS Units in the respective NSOs, RECs and the AUC Statistics Division.

##### **(ii) African Group on Statistical Harmonisation**

- a) Endorse the recommendations of the AGSHa Meeting in Pretoria, South Africa.

##### **(iii) Trade and Balance of Payments**

- b) Invite AUC in collaboration with ECA, AfDB, RECs and other partners to finalize the African methodology of trade statistics of merchandises and services.
- a) Invite AUC in collaboration with ECA, AfDB, RECs and other partners to continue the training of statisticians and customs of the software Eurotrace and ASYCUDA ++.

**(iv) African Group on National Account (AGNA)**

- a) Invite development partners to finance the project of implementation of System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA2008) in Africa;
- b) Invite AUC, ECA, AfDB and Afristat to organize regular meetings of the Working Group AGNA to assess the status of implementation of the 2008 SNA in African countries;
- c) Welcome Afristat to efforts to use the software ERETES by African countries;
- d) Create a group of DGs on the use of software ERETES. This group will be composed two francophone countries, two Anglophone countries and two Lusophone countries. African Union Commission should serve as a technical secretariat for this group;
- e) Encourage African countries in the use of software ERETES for compiling national accounts;
- f) Invite the AUC in collaboration with Afristat, ECA, AfDB, INSEE, EUROSTAT and others partners, to organize training sessions to the attention of national accounting software ERETES.

**(v) Labour Market information System**

- g) Request AUC with Partners to continue regional trainings on the basis of the action plan, the minimum list of indicators and harmonized questionnaires closely with RECs
- h) Request AUC, ECA and AfDB to effectively merger the Group on employment and the Group on the informal economy;
- i) Request AUC to finalize the questionnaire surveys harmonizes on employment in the informal economy;
- j) Engage DGs of NSO in the conduct of employment surveys on an annual basis in accordance with the Declaration of 2011 Malabo Heads of State and Government of the African Union;
- k) Engage development partners to Press again their technical and financial support to the AUC of the African Union, in the framework of the implementation

of the framework for harmonization and coordination of information on the labor market in Africa.

- l) Invite development partners to support Member States to conduct at least an annual basis, employment surveys from 2013;
- m) Engage as soon as possible discussions to develop indicators to measure social cohesion in collaboration with UNDP, ILO, Afristat, ECA, AfDB, OECD and other partners;
- n) Integrate indicators of social cohesion in the list of indicators of the development agenda post 2015 and also in the minimum list of indicators statistics Governance, Peace and Security;
- o) The African Union, in collaboration with the AfDB and ECA to establish an African Centre on the informal economy;
- p) Take into account the minimum list of indicators on employment and vocational training in current research on the definition of an index of national analysis of youth development.

**(vi) Data collection Strategy in Africa and Open Data**

- a) Request AUC, AfDB and ECA to avail the hardware and software of open Data to all NSOs to facilitate the dissemination of the data;
- b) Encourage Member states to use SDMX to enable exchange between databases;
- c) Request AUC, AfDB and ECA undertake a study on ICT architecture to enable data flow between NSO and Panafrican Organisations.

**(vii) Geographic Names**

- a) Endorse the Gaborone Action Plan on geographical names;
- b) Call upon ECA, AUC, AfDB and other partners to support the work of the Task Team for Africa in particular and geographical names activities in general

**F. Governance Structure for African Groups of SHaSA**

- a) Endorse the TOR of the Committee of DG, AGSHa and different African Groups and fast-track the composition of membership of the groups;

- b) Request AGSHa to undertake consultations to come out with the composition of the memberships of the different groups before the end of 2013.

**G. Establishment of an African Training Center**

- a) Create a small group under the leadership of AGSHa and AGROST to develop criteria for the choice of host country and develop terms of reference of the centre; the group should avail the document before the end of March 2013;

**H. Resolution of the 2nd Conference of African Ministers Responsible for CRVS**

- a) Take note of the recommendations of the second conference of ministers responsible for civil registration and committed ourselves to implement them

**I. Resolution of the 8th ASSD**

- b) Take note of the recommendations of the 8th ASSD and committed ourselves to implement them

**J. Other Initiatives**

**(i) AU Youth initiatives**

- a) Adopt the five priority areas of youth Decade Plan of Action as bases of data collection at National Statistical Offices (NSOs)
- b) Decide to Assign a focal point at NSOs to report data on youth data at member state level
- c) Adopt a framework and construct to report annually on the National Youth Development Index at country level.
- d) Establish a working group on youth employment and social cohesion

**(ii) Outcome of consultative meeting on the strengthening the role of statistics in PRSPs**

- a) Strengthen the dialogue between the National Statistical Systems and cells PRSP.
- b) Request PARIS 21 to translate the conclusions of the workshop into English to be widely disseminated and organize workshops on the same topic are provided for English speaking countries.

**(iii)Preparation for UN statistical Commission.**

- c) Request Panafrican Institutions to work closely with Countries in the preparation of the UN Statistics Commission.

**(iv) Wiki progress**

d) Take note the work done by OECD on wiki progress.

**IV. VOTE OF THANK**

5. In conclusion, we are grateful to the President and the Government of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, its people for hosting the meeting, their generosity and warm hospitality accorded us during our stay in the friendly and beautiful city of Yamoussoukro. We are especially grateful to the Director-General of National Statistics Office of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire and his staff for the facilities provided to us for the success of the meeting. We would like to thank AUC, AfDB, and UNECA for organizing this Meeting.