



## ADVISORY GROUP ON GENDER INDICATORS

### Terms of Reference

#### I. Background

In 2006, the first Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) was convened by the United Nations in New York to review and identify key initiatives and programmes that support and enhance national statistical offices' capacity to identify, produce and disseminate relevant gender statistics. Since its establishment, the IAEG-GS has helped foster the development of gender statistics in countries and globally, by developing technical guidelines, documenting the best practices and encouraging their use, promoting training activities, data compilation and dissemination, and by improving international coordination and a dialogue with countries in all activities related to gender statistics.

In 2011, following the request of the United Nations Statistical Commission (decision 42/102), the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS) through its Advisory Group on Global Gender Statistics and Indicators Database identified a **Minimum Set of Gender Indicators** composed of 52 quantitative indicators covering the following areas: (1) economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources; (2) education; (3) health and related services; (4) public life and decision-making; and (5) human rights of women and girl children. The group of experts from national and international statistical agencies also identified 11 qualitative indicators to monitor the existence of selected national norms and laws on gender equality in various areas.

The selection of the 52 quantitative indicators was guided by the primary criterion that indicators should address key policy concerns as identified in the Beijing Platform for Action and other more recent international commitments. The selection of indicators took into account existing lists of indicators agreed at the international level.

In its decision 44/109, the Statistical Commission in 2013 agreed on the use of the minimum set of gender indicators as a guide for the national production and international compilation of gender statistics.

The adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the General Assembly in September 2015 and related indicators to monitor their implementation by the Statistical Commission in March 2016, will result in an increased demand of gender statistics not only in areas where methodological developments and production of statistics are well established, but also in several new areas of concern. In order to reconcile and reflect SDG priorities in the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators, the IAEG-GS agreed to establish a new Advisory Group on Gender Indicators at its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting (Bangkok, 29-30 October 2015).

#### II. Objectives and Tasks

The primary objective of the Advisory Group is to review the SDG indicator framework and identify potential modifications to the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators to take account of the SDG priorities related to gender.

Specific tasks will include:



1. Identify gender-relevant SDG indicators;
2. Propose modifications in the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators to align the Set with the SDG framework still maintaining consistency with the Beijing Platform for Action;

### **III. Membership**

- Chair: Jordan
- Secretariat: UNSD
- Members:
  - Brazil
  - Egypt
  - Finland
  - Italy
  - Philippines
  - UN Women
  - UNEP
  - UNESCO
  - UNESCWA
  - UNHCR
  - UNICEF
  - UNODC
  - World Bank
- The Advisory Group may invite other experts to contribute to its work programme, when needed.

### **IV. Organization of Work**

The Advisory Group will work through electronic exchanges, using e-mail correspondence or teleconferencing. Face-to-face meetings may be convened on the basis of need, specific tasks to be accomplished and available resources.

The Advisory Group will report on its activities and work accomplished to the IAEG-GS, annually.

The chairperson(s) will work closely with UNSD, the Programme Secretariat, and report on work progress, problems identified, solutions recommended and decisions to be made.

### **V. Expected duration**

The Advisory Group is established to provide IAEG-GS with technical advice on gender indicators. An initial duration of 1 year is expected (January 2017 to December 2017).

### **VI. Outputs**

The Advisory Group is expected to provide the following outputs:

1. Work plan for 2017
2. Review of SDGs indicator framework against the Minimum Set of Gender Indicators
3. Proposal for Modified Minimum Set of Gender Indicators, with explanation of proposed changes.