



ADVISORY GROUP ON THE GLOBAL GENDER STATISTICS AND INDICATORS DATABASE

Terms of Reference
Updated 1 July 2009 (membership only)

I. Background

The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the World Bank, convened an Inter-Agency and Expert Group Meeting in New York, 12-14 December 2006 to take stock and assess potential strategies to promote the development of gender statistics. Experts recommended the creation of a Global Gender Statistics Programme (GGSP) to advance gender statistics at the global, regional and national levels. They further recommended the creation of a global database to improve the dissemination of key gender statistics and indicators.

An initial version of the database, named Gender Info 2007, was developed by UNSD and launched in CD-ROM format at the Global Gender Statistics Forum in December 2007. During the second meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics, held in conjunction with the Forum, the Group agreed to set up an Advisory Group to review the global database and provide guidance to UNSD in order to ensure its long-term sustainability.

II. Objectives and Tasks

The primary objective of the Advisory Group is to review and provide guidance to the Secretariat of the GGSP on the following components of the global gender statistics and indicators database:

- Conceptual framework for the dissemination of gender statistics and indicators at the international level
- List of gender statistics and indicators to be disseminated
- Associated metadata
- Linkages with comparable databases at global, regional and national levels
- Technology and media to be used for dissemination
- Data exchange agreements and protocols
- Database update modalities and frequency
- Work-plan to promote the use of the database

III. Membership

- Chair: Mexico
- Secretariat: UNSD
- Members:
 - Canada
 - Ghana
 - Malawi



- Philippines
- South Africa
- Zimbabwe
- ECA
- ECLAC
- ESCWA
- UNIFEM
- World Bank
- World Bank Institute
- OECD Development Center
- UNECE
- UNHCR
- ESCAP

When appropriate a regional team will be constituted to conduct region-specific reviews and make recommendations to the parent Advisory Group.

IV. Organization of Work

The Advisory Group will work through electronic exchanges and regular meetings. Where feasible, one of the meetings will be conducted in conjunction with the annual meetings of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics. Other meetings will be convened on the basis of need and specific tasks to be accomplished.

The chairperson will report to UNSD, the Programme Secretariat, on work progress, problems identified, solutions recommended and decisions to be made

V. Expected duration

The Advisory Group will conduct its activities starting December 2007 and until completion of its tasks. An initial duration of 2 years (December 2007-December 2009) is expected.

VI. Outputs

For 2008 the Advisory Group is expected to provide to the Secretariat of the GGSP the following outputs:

- 1) Detailed work plan for 2008
- 2) Review of conceptual framework, gender statistics and indicators and associated metadata disseminated through Gender Info 2007, including suggestions for:
 - a) Modifications to be implemented in 2008 and 2009
 - b) Establishment of data exchange agreements and protocols between UNSD and compiling agencies
 - c) Alternative technologies for the implementation of the database
 - d) Database update mechanisms and frequency (continuous, annual, biennial, etcetera)
 - e) Database linkages with comparable regional databases



- 3) Review identifying key areas of concern for gender equality for which gender statistics and indicators are not available at the international level, including suggestions for the compilation of new indicators to fill the gaps
- 4) Work-plan to promote the use of the database including suggestions for:
 - a) Dissemination strategy
 - b) Products to be generated (ie, booklets, posters, short analytical reports) and potential collaborating partners.

The work plan and outputs for 2009 will be discussed by the Group at the end of 2008.