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Coordination of statistical activities in the United Nations system

Proposal for a Data Exchange Hub

<u>Prepared by Mexican National Institute for Statistics and Geography (INEGI)</u>
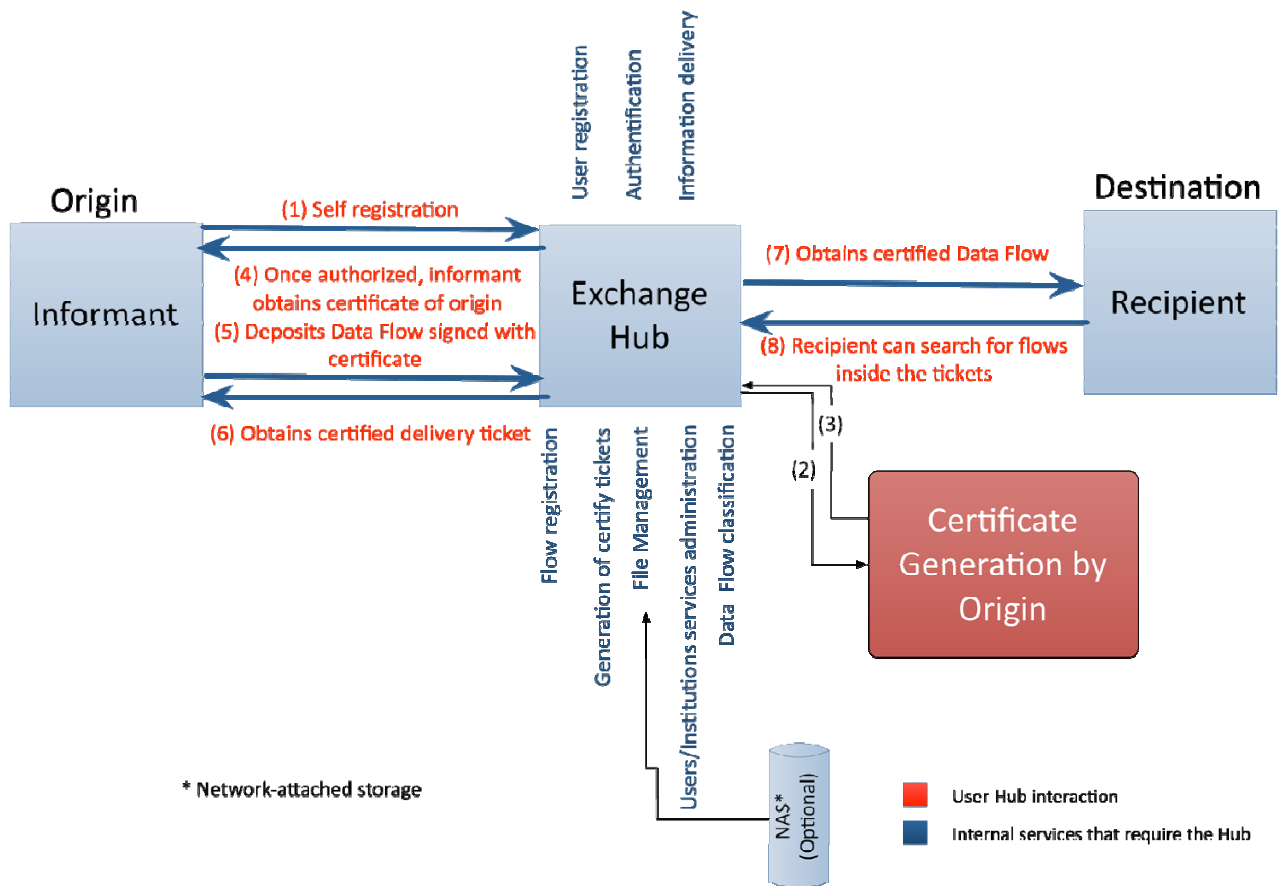
General Description

As result of the concerns of the UNSC to have an effective coordination on Statistical Programmes within the United Nations System, it was established the Friends of the Chair Group during the 43th Session of the UN Statistical Commission.

Objective

Propose mechanisms on how to improve the coordination among the UN agencies taking into account current institutional arrangements in issues such as: data collection, data dissemination, international standards, technical cooperation, work programming, information technology, etc.

CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN CONCEPTUAL MODEL

Planned Activities & Outputs

This process will be divided in two stages:

STAGE 1 UN Agencies will provide an inventory of the most important information requested to the Member States by the UN Agencies; this will allow all parts to have a complete register of the information shared.

STAGE 2 To have a full record of the information transferred by Member States a **Data Certificate of Origin** will be requested by the UN Agencies and provided by the Information Producers with copy to the Registration Entity.

Among other, some of the main characteristics of this Certificate will be:

- This mechanism will clearly identify the recipient and destination information and not the content or the veracity itself.

- The members of the statistical community shall define which are the priority indicators to be includes in the process, perhaps to choose the top ten used indicators to narrow the system to make it viable.

- A HUB or recipient should be defined so that the information packages with their certificate of origin can be deposited and traceable for UN Agencies and member countries for any further clarification.

For the UN Statistical System, this model will be the first step towards a reliable information flow system that allows the different UN Agencies and the Country Member Agencies´ to detect specifically, how the information flows.

This Certification Process will be fast, secure and reliable, using IT Infrastructure to track and validate data flows between UN Agencies and Member States.

In order to improve the coordination of the UN Statistical System, **other mechanisms** may be discussed as part of **the road map:**

1. Integrate medium and long term actions and annual working programs of the UN Statistical Programmes that allow reaching the objectives planned.

2. Define application rules to guarantee standardization of statistical products among the members of the Statistical Programmes.

3. Define indicators that can be generated by all member countries that allow to have information for international comparison.

4. Develop a global human resources program that considers the strengths of the Statistical Programs.

5. Define quality standards shared by UN and the methodologies that should be integrated by all Statistical Programmes of the UN.

6. Establish working groups on different information topics to guarantee quality, opportunity and convenience of the information produced.

7. Define a space where innovations and new software products can be available for Statistical Programmes´ consideration.

8. Define and apply standards for registering the data exchanged and set a calendar for its appliance in all Statistical Programmes of the UN, such as SDMX and DDI.

9. Integrate an auditor´s working group to examine and elaborate a report on the projects and actions that Statistical Programmes carry on in accordance with the program agreed.

10. Define the institutional arrangement that will supervise the information flow mechanism (CCSA/UNSD?)