

Statistical Commission
Forty-seventh session
8-11 March 2016
Item 4 (d): Household surveys
Submitted by Sweden

On behalf of Mr Stefan Lundgren, director general of Statistics Sweden, please find below a written statement on the **item 4(d) on Household surveys**.

Sweden strongly supports the creation of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys. The mandate is large and covers all different aspects of advancing the agenda for household surveys. It is of utmost importance to allow for improved quality of the surveys, serving both international and national needs and not least to promote an enhanced ownership by the national statistical institutes in planning, implementation and follow-up.

Sweden would like to make the following proposals as regards the governance structure of the group:

- The work in the management group as well as the technical group would benefit strongly by the structured integration of national perspectives and experiences. Household surveys are serving both national and international needs and the joint work on strategic vision as well as policy&methods development is therefore crucial.
- In order to emphasize the importance of the national level, Sweden proposes an even participation between international agencies and organisations and representatives of national statistical offices in both the management and technical groups. The work would also benefit from a clearly defined way of selecting the members from the national level by as even a geographical representation as possible. The number of members in the management group, as it is a management group, could benefit by being reduced to 12 members (not including the Statistics Division); with 50/50 from the international organisations and national statistical institutes. The technical working group would on the other hand, as it is a technical group, allow for more representation with a maximum of 16 members; also here with a balanced representation from the international and national level.