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Item 4 (j) of the provisional agenda
Coordination of statistical programmes

Background document
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**CCSA Survey on the Implementation of the Principles Governing
International Statistical Activities**

Prepared by the CCSA Co-Chairs

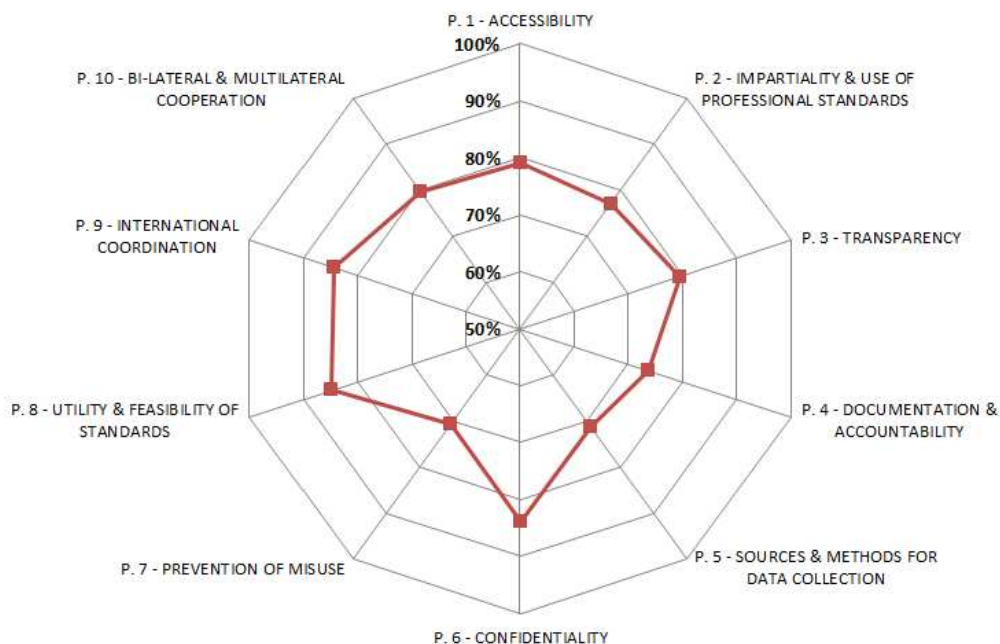
I. Introduction

1. The CCSA endorsed the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities (the Principles hereafter) at its sixth session in September 2005. These Principles are inspired by the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its Special Session in 1994, and provide a list of good practices to help International Agencies in their implementation. All CCSA members have officially subscribed to the Principles.
2. In 2012 the UNSC established a “Friends of the Chair” group in order to revise and update the preamble of the UN Fundamental Principles, and to assess how their implementation could be strengthened. Furthermore, a global review of the implementation of the UN Fundamental Principles among national statistical authorities was carried out in 2012 by the UN Statistics Division (UNSD), and the results were reported to the UNSC in February 2013.
3. Following this review, the CCSA agreed that its members should also undertake an in-depth assessment to provide a strong signal to the international statistical community regarding their commitment to implementing the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities within their own organizations. Therefore, at the twenty-second session of the CCSA, held in Ankara in September 2013, it was agreed that a survey on the implementation of the Principles would be conducted among its members. Moreover, the CCSA reaffirmed the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities with a new preamble at its twenty-third meeting in New York in March 2014.
4. The survey was designed to both assess the degree of implementation of the good practices and to identify the obstacles encountered by each organization in their implementation, as well as to suggest additional good practices to be included in the Principles. In addition, the survey also aimed at verifying the adoption of a practical framework, including tools and procedures, to support the implementation of the Principles by International Agencies. A further objective was to verify the possibility of an endorsement of the Principles at the highest level of the Organizations.

II. Overview of the main results

5. The participation in the survey, carried out in May-June 2014, has been relatively high, underlining the importance attached to this initiative by the CCSA members and their commitment to further improving the level of implementation of the Principles in the future. In total, 37 International Agencies out of 43 (86%) completed the survey. Many members also provided valuable contributions to the identification of obstacles to the implementation of the Principles, as well as additional good practices to complement the existing ones.
6. The overall results regarding the implementation of the Principles are very encouraging. Almost 80% of the 37 International Organisations that completed the survey assessed their level of implementation of the Principles as either ‘**high**’ or ‘**full**’. However, with regard to the practical framework in place to support the implementation of the Principles, about 55% of the organizations considered adoption of instruments to be ‘**low**’ or ‘**not implemented**’. The abstract nature of some good practices could explain the contrast between the positive perception of respondents undertaking the self-assessment, and the weakness of some of the current implementation tools and procedures.

Figure 1: Proportion of IOs with “Full” and “High” implementation by PRINCIPLES



7. Looking more closely at the results, Principle 8 (Utility and feasibility of standards) was reported to have the highest level of implementation (85% of respondents with high or full implementation), followed closely by Principle 9 (International coordination), and Principle 10 (Bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation). It seems, therefore, that the Principles which should shape/regulate the relationships with partners are the ones with the strongest commitment to implementation by IOs. Principle 1 (Accessibility), Principle 2 (Impartiality and use of professional standards) and Principle 3 (Transparency), which are meant to shape the relationships with users, are also quite well rated (around 79% of respondents with high or full implementation). The Principles with the lowest level of implementation are Principle 5 (Sources and methods for data collection) and Principle 7 (Prevention of misuse): only 71% of the IOs assessed their level of implementation of these Principles as high or full. The results concerning Principle 6 (Confidentiality) although rather high are not entirely significant, as about 70% of the IOs who responded to the survey do not collect/maintain micro-data.

8. The degree of implementation among individual good practices varies greatly, even within the same Principles, with a proportion of IOs with high or full implementation ranging from 50% to 97%. In particular, over 90% of the IOs rated:

- a. (g.p. 4.5.) Give credit, in the dissemination of international statistics, to the original source and use agreed quotation standards when re-using statistics originally collected by others;
- b. (g.p. 10.1.) Cooperate and share knowledge with international organisations and with countries and regions to further develop national and regional statistical systems;
- c. (g.p. 9.3.) Work systematically towards achieving international agreements about common concepts, classifications, standards and methods.

9. By contrast, IOs face greater difficulties in implementing Principles 4 (Documentation and accountability) and Principles 5 (Sources and methods for data collection), which should regulate the internal processes for the production of statistics. About 6 IOs out of 10 comply with the identified good practices under these Principles¹.

¹ a.(g.p. 4.4.) Documenting and publishing how data are collected, processed and disseminated by your organisation (including information about editing mechanisms applied to country data and aggregation methods to calculate regional and global estimates);

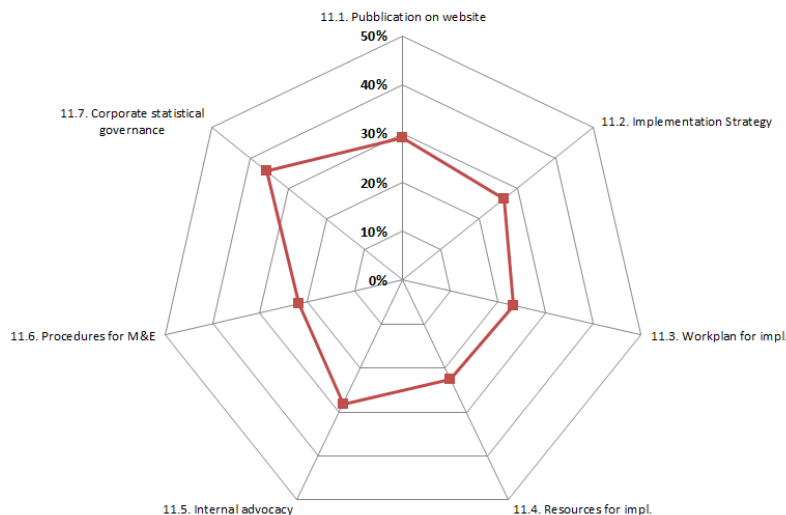
b. (g.p. 4.6. and 4.8.) Monitoring and regularly reporting the implementation of agreed standards by the organisation;

c. (g.p. 5.1.) Facilitating the provision of data by countries by offering different data collection modalities;

d. (g.p. 5.3.) Reviewing periodically statistical procedures in order to minimise the burden on data providers;

10. As noted above, the results show a significant contrast between the perceived high level of implementation of the Principles, and the not so widespread adoption of practical tools and procedures, which support them. A low level of implementation (a proportion of respondents with high or full implementation lower than 30%) applies both to rather straightforward instruments - such as the publication of the Principles on the Organisation’s website and the action to inform and sensitize staff on their importance – and to more demanding tools - such as the development of a strategy and work plan for the implementation of the Principles, the allocation of adequate resources and the establishment of procedures for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).

Figure 2: Proportion of IOs with “Full” and “High” implementation by INSTRUMENTS



11. As concluding remark, it should be noted that a number of questions were left unanswered by some agencies as CCSA members, not involved in regular data collections, have not responded to a large number of questions that mainly refer to these activities. On the other hand, IOs with a thematic focus whose core business is not statistics, have an internal decision making process that makes it difficult for them to implement some of the good practices.

III. Obstacles to the implementation of the Principles

12. As anticipated in the Introduction, the CCSA survey was also designed to collect information on the main obstacles that IOs face in the implementation of the Principles. The information from this section of the survey is meant to be used by the CCSA to inform discussions on how the Principles can be strengthened, and which practical tools, procedures or support frameworks are needed to assist IOs to overcome these challenges.

13. On average 23% of respondents indicated that at least one major barrier to the implementation of the Principles exists. The highest proportion of responses (35%) was received for Principle 1 (Accessibility). In addition, over 25% of IOs provided details on obstacles for Principle 2 (Impartiality and use of professional standards), Principle 4 (Documentation and accountability), Principle 5 (Sources and methods for data collection) and Principle 9 (International coordination).

14. The complete list of obstacles provided by the CCSA members is presented in Annex 3. The most common and reoccurring barrier relates to the lack of human and financial resources to fully implement the Principles. This is consistently identified across Principles and organizations.

15. The lack of a formal internal governance system is also highlighted as a further common barrier

e. (g.p. 5.6.) Publishing data collection plans, questionnaires and organisational focal points for each data domain;

f. (g.p. 5.7.) Having mechanisms in place to promote the use of the most suitable methods and sources by national statistical offices and other national organisations.

across all of the Principles. Decentralized statistical systems are identified as creating obstacles to full implementation as organizations do not have the mechanisms in place to support the full implementation or the monitoring of the application of the Principles².

16. A very important challenge that was highlighted across more than one Principle by various IOs whose core business is not statistics, is that their statistical department does not take the final decisions on the data access and data dissemination policy of the agency, highlighting the possibility that these activities can be influenced by political pressure. The lack of a formal internal statistics governance mechanism and of a corporate quality assurance framework exposes these IOs to higher risks in this regard.

17. Another important challenge for some IOs is the overlapping mandates with other International and/or Regional Organizations, and the insufficient coordination between them. This challenge contributes to creating duplications in data collection, and consequently creates an unnecessary burden on country respondents, inconsistencies in data dissemination, and inefficient delivery of technical assistance to national statistical offices (NSOs).

18. Lastly, the obstacles linked to the lack of an open data policy and of a fully developed communication strategy, which prevents some IOs from fully implementing Principle 1 and 3 (Accessibility and Transparency) are worth mentioning. Moreover, the reluctance of many NSOs to make micro data and other data covered by confidentiality arrangements available, as well as quality metadata documentation, hamper IOs in adopting improved data dissemination practices and an open data policy.

IV. Improved formulation and additional good practices

Improved formulation of some good practices

19. At its twenty-second session in Ankara, the CCSA reaffirmed the Principles as still valid and decided to slightly revise the preamble to reflect the fact that the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics were recently endorsed by the Economic and Social Council and the UN General Assembly.

20. When designing the CCSA survey, however, the possible need to revise the formulation of some good practices was noted. For example, it may be noted that Principles 2 (Impartiality and use of professional standards), 4 (Documentation and accountability) and 8 (Utility and feasibility of standards), and to some extent 5 (Sources and methods for data collection) partially overlap in terms of content. Principle 2 is rather comprehensive in scope, whereas the other Principles listed above refer to elements of the application of the professional standards in specific stages of the production of statistics. The good practices listed under these Principles can therefore often be associated to more than one Principle.

21. Moreover, in various cases good practices are rather generic, involving multiple dimensions with different degrees of implementation by an International Agency. For this reason, in the CCSA questionnaire several amendments were introduced to the formulation of good practices, including their reallocation across Principles.

Additional good practices

22. Many IOs provided valuable input in identifying additional good practices to complement the existing ones: on average 17% of the respondents made at least one proposal. The highest proportion of responses (28%) was received for Principle 1 (Accessibility). In addition, over 20% of the respondents provided supplementary good practices for Principle 3 (Transparency) and Principle 5 (Sources and methods for data collection).

² In this regard it is worth noting that only 58% of respondents were able to answer the survey on behalf of their whole organization, whilst the remaining 42% were only able to provide input on behalf of their respective unit. It is possible that those who responded on behalf of their unit may lack a functional corporate governance system that would have enabled consolidation of answers for the whole organization. The lack of effective internal coordination mechanisms is apparent in the fact that only 70% of respondents can implement good practice 2.6 (“Ensuring that all data published by the Organisation are endorsed by the internal statistics governance”) fully or to a high degree.

23. A list of the main additional good practices provided by the CCSA members is presented in Annex 4. Regarding Principle 1 (Accessibility), the most common suggestions included alternative modalities for the publication of new data, the adoption of an open data policy, the adoption of new technologies to facilitate user access (including corporate data warehouse), the establishment of peer review mechanisms of data by statistical committees or dedicated technical working groups.

24. The use of new technologies and social media is also suggested for ensuring more effective implementation of Principles 3 (Transparency) and 7 (Prevention of misuse).

25. Moreover, statistical governance mechanisms, when present, are also used to discuss/endorse the statistical work plan and budget of the IOs (Principle 3), to discuss/endorse new statistical standards (Principle 3), to facilitate international coordination with other Agencies (Principle 9) and bilateral cooperation with countries (Principle 10).

26. Lastly, the adoption of internal audit mechanisms (corporate quality assurance framework) for monitoring the implementation of agreed standards is identified as essential for the effective functioning of Principle 4 (Documentation and accountability).

V. Strengthening the implementation of the Principles

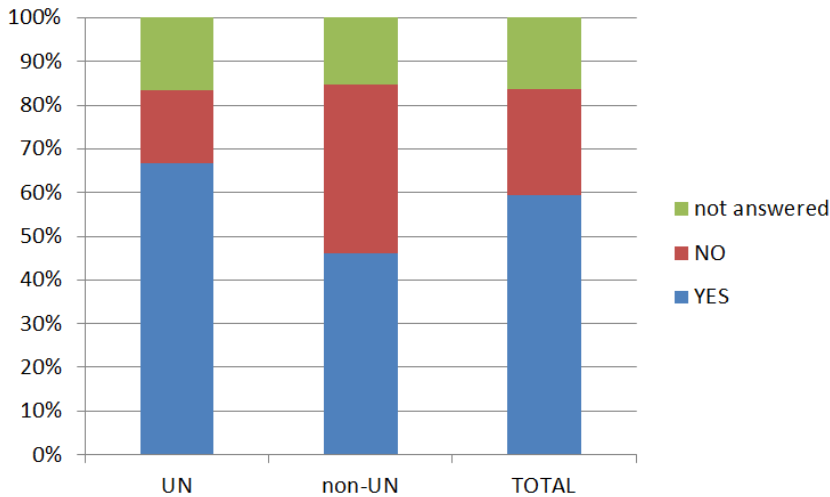
27. As already stated, the results show that while self-perceptions of the degree of implementation are positive, the concrete tools and procedures needed to ensure the successful implementation of the Principles are generally not well developed. Organizations underline difficulties with the development of strategies and work plans which focus on practical implementation, as well as the absence of monitoring and evaluation procedures. In several cases the need for a better internal governance mechanism to support the implementation of the Principles is also made clear. These findings highlight the need for the CCSA to act as a forum for International Agencies to discuss the key challenges faced and to showcase good practices.

28. Another area of particular interest relates to the question on whether respondents were in favour of endorsing the Principles at the highest level of the organization. It is well known that the Fundamental Principles were recently endorsed by the Economic and Social Council on 24 July 2013 (Resolution 2013/21) and by the United Nations General Assembly on 29 January 2014 (Resolution A/RES/68/261) providing strong support to the independence of national statistical institutions and to the credibility of the statistics published by them. A similar endorsement at executive level by the IOs, especially the ones whose core business is not statistics, would help the Statistical Departments to strengthen their authority and influence as well as to avoid possible political interference in data dissemination.

29. In the CCSA survey the majority of the respondents (61%) were in favour of this approach, while 22% objected and 17% did not reply, probably judging the question as not applicable to their organizational context. A key distinction in this regard is notable between respondents from UN and non UN Organizations, which suggests that adoption of the Principles at the highest level is more difficult in several of the non UN agencies.

1.

Figure 2: Proportion of IOs which support a high level endorsement of the PRINCIPLES



2.

3.

VI. Conclusions and next steps

30. The Committee reviewed the results of the survey at its 24th session in Rome in September 2014. The discussion focused on the following four aspects: 1) How the obstacles to the implementation of the Principles can be addressed; 2) Whether the Principles should be endorsed at the highest level of the CCSA organizations; 3) Whether the survey results should be communicated to various international forums, including the UN Statistical Commission; and 4) Whether the formulation of some good practices should be revised and additional good practices be included in the Principles.

31. Based on the results of the survey and the discussion at the 24th session, Committee members agreed that they will intensify their efforts to overcome existing obstacles through stronger governance, improved dialogue with users and open data policies, common corporate dissemination platforms, use of SDMX and improved coordination between regional and international organizations. Committee members will also use simple mechanisms, such as the publication of the Principles on the website and advocacy campaigns among staff, to spread the knowledge of the Principles and facilitate their implementation.

32. The Committee encouraged members, which had not done so yet, to bring the Principles to the attention of their own governing bodies and welcomed the initiative of the UN agencies to seek endorsement of the Principles at the highest level of their organizations.

33. The Committee established a task team to come up with a more comprehensive list of good practices that will enable members to better implement the Principles and committed to repeat such a survey at regular intervals, for example every 3-5 years.

34. The Committee agreed to communicate the results of this survey to the Statistical Commission at its next session, not only through the regular CCSA report but also through a Statistical Commission side event.

Annex 1 - Main results

Table 1 (part 1 of 2): Distribution of responses by Principle and good practices

	distrib of responses by modality	n. valid responses [1-5]	Not applicable	n. total responses [1-5; NA]	% FULL and HIGH over valid responses	% LOW and NOT IMPL over valid responses	% Not applicable over total responses	% with barriers over total responses	% with add. good practices over total responses
P. 1 - ACCESSIBILITY		33.5	2.8	36.3	79%	7%	8%	44%	33%
1.1. Regular consultations		35	2	37	77%	6%	5%		
1.2. Reviews of programmes		34	2	36	74%	9%	6%		
1.3. Equal access to detailed stats.		32	4	36	78%	3%	11%		
1.4. Free public access to key stats.		33	3	36	88%	9%	8%		
P. 2 - IMPARTIALITY & USE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS		33.5	3.5	37.0	77%	11%	9%	38%	16%
2.1. Prof. codes of conduct		32	5	37	63%	25%	14%		
2.2. Prof. consid. on method. & terminol.		36	1	37	89%	6%	3%		
2.3. Prof. consid. on dissem. & present.		36	1	37	81%	8%	3%		
2.4. Advocacy vs analysis		33	4	37	79%	6%	11%		
2.5. Impartiality in compil. & dissem.		34	3	37	88%	6%	8%		
2.6. Internal governance for data publication		30	7	37	60%	17%	19%		
P. 3 - TRANSPARENCY		34.0	3.0	37.0	79%	6%	8%	32%	24%
3.1. Workprogrammes are public		35	2	37	80%	3%	5%		
3.2. Documents on meetings are public		35	2	37	74%	11%	5%		
3.3. Country reports on Stat Cap are public		32	5	37	84%	3%	14%		
P. 4 - DOCUMENTATION & ACCOUNTABILITY		33.6	3.1	36.7	74%	9%	9%	38%	14%
4.1. Innovations for Qual. & Transpar.		35	2	37	89%	6%	5%		
4.2. Training for staff prof. competency		36	1	37	83%	6%	3%		
4.3. Publication of definitions/classif.		35	2	37	80%	3%	5%		
4.4. Publication of how data collected & processed		34	3	37	56%	9%	8%		
4.5. Crediting of orig. sources in dissem.		32	5	37	97%	3%	14%		
4.6. Monitoring agreed standards		33	3	36	58%	15%	8%		
4.7. Reporting on agreed standards		30	6	36	50%	23%	17%		
P. 5 - SOURCES & METHODS FOR DATA COLLECTION		29.9	7.0	36.9	71%	13%	19%	38%	24%
5.1. Different data collection modalities		29	8	37	62%	14%	22%		
5.2. Minimize time-lag		31	6	37	74%	13%	16%		
5.3. Minimize burden		30	7	37	70%	17%	19%		
5.4. Data sharing		33	4	37	82%	12%	11%		
5.5. Peer-review by countries		29	8	37	76%	10%	22%		
5.6. Publication of data collection info		28	8	36	68%	11%	22%		
5.7. Promot. for suit. methods & sources		29	8	37	66%	17%	22%		

Table 1 (part 2 of 2): Distribution of responses by Principle and good practices

	distrib of responses by modality	n. valid responses [1-5]	Not applicable	n. total responses [1-5; NA]	% FULL and HIGH over valid responses	% LOW and NOT IMPL over valid responses	% Not applicable over total responses	% with barriers over total responses	% with add. good practices over total responses
P. 7 - PREVENTION OF MISUSE		34.0	3.0	37.0	71%	16%	8%	22%	22%
7.1. Response to misuse & erroneous interpret.		33.0	4	37	76%	9%	11%		
7.2. Stat.literacy for key users		35	2	37	66%	23%	5%		
P. 8 - UTILITY & FEASIBILITY OF STANDARDS		31.0	6.0	37.0	85%	6%	16%	32%	19%
8.1. Development of int. standards with NSOs		30	7	37	83%	7%	19%		
8.2. Independence of int.standards		28	9	37	86%	4%	24%		
8.3. Support implementation of int.standards		35	2	37	86%	9%	5%		
P. 9 - INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION		34.6	2.2	36.8	84%	3%	6%	33%	14%
9.1. Roles for programme, work and int.representation		35.0	1	36	80%	3%	3%		
9.2. Participation in int. meetings		37	-	37	89%	0%	0%		
9.3. Int.agreements on definitions/standards		34	3	37	91%	3%	8%		
9.4. Int.agreements on authoritative sources		33	4	37	88%	3%	11%		
9.5. Coordination of TC		34	3	37	74%	6%	8%		
P. 10 - BI-LATERAL & MULTILATERAL COOPERATION		34.6	2.4	37.0	80%	9%	6%	24%	22%
10.1. Knowledge Sharing		37	-	37	95%	5%	0%		
10.2a User needs in TC projects		33	4	37	85%	9%	11%		
10.2b. TC projects in line with statistical capacity		33	4	37	82%	3%	11%		
10.3. Institutional CapDev for empowering NSS/GOVs		34	3	37	76%	9%	8%		
10.4. Advocate Fundamental Principles of Off. Stats		36	1	37	61%	19%	3%		
IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUMENTS		30.6	6.4	37.0	27%	54%	17%		
11.1. Publication on website		31	6	37	29%	71%	16%		
11.2. Implementation Strategy		30	7	37	27%	53%	19%		
11.3. Workplan for impl.		30	7	37	23%	50%	19%		
11.4. Resources for impl.		31	6	37	23%	55%	16%		
11.5. Internal advocacy		32	5	37	28%	47%	14%		
11.6. Procedures for M&E		32	5	37	22%	53%	14%		
11.7. Corporate statistical governance		28	9	37	36%	50%	24%		

Annex 2 - Principles Governing International Statistical Activities (with keywords)

1. **Accessibility:** High quality international statistics, accessible for all, are a fundamental element of global information systems.
- 4.
2. **Impartiality and use of professional standards:** To maintain the trust in international statistics, their production is to be impartial and strictly based on the highest professional standards.
3. **Transparency:** The public has a right to be informed about the mandates for the statistical work of the organizations.
4. **Documentation and accountability:** Concepts, definitions, classifications, sources, methods and procedures employed in the production of international statistics are chosen to meet professional scientific standards and are made transparent for the users.
5. **Sources and methods for data collection:** Sources and methods for data collection are appropriately chosen to ensure timeliness and other aspects of quality, to be cost-efficient and to minimize the reporting burden for data providers.
6. **Confidentiality:** Individual data collected about natural persons and legal entities, or about small aggregates that are subject to national confidentiality rules, are to be kept strictly confidential and are to be used exclusively for statistical purposes or for purposes mandated by legislation.
7. **Prevention of misuse:** Erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics are to be immediately appropriately addressed.
8. **Utility and feasibility of standards:** Standards for national and international statistics are to be developed on the basis of sound professional criteria, while also meeting the test of practical utility and feasibility.
9. **International coordination:** Coordination of international statistical programmes is essential to strengthen the quality, coherence and governance of international statistics, and avoiding duplication of work.
10. **Bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation:** Bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contribute to the professional growth of the statisticians involved and to the improvement of statistics in the organizations and in countries.

Annex 3 - Obstacles to the implementation of the Principles

The obstacles to the implementation of the Principles indicated by the survey respondents are summarized below by Principle.

Principle 1 - Accessibility

1. Insufficient quality of data/documentation provided by countries
2. Political pressure to share data with some important stakeholders before their publication (lack of equal access)
3. Statistics Department not responsible for data dissemination
4. Quality affected by pressure to produce and disseminate data quickly
5. Lack of resources for undertaking regular consultation
6. Difficulty in identifying key users
7. Lack of open data policy
8. Confidentiality issues

Principle 2 - Impartiality and use of professional standards

1. Lack of internal coordination/governance within organizations prevents adoption of corporate standards
2. High/senior level policy endorsement of statistical monitoring reports makes application of professional standards and impartiality difficult
3. Political pressure: compilation of data done according to statistical standards, but publishing and final dissemination is out of the control of the statistical department

Principle 3 - Transparency

5. Lack of visibility of the IO at national level
6. Communication strategy not fully developed
7. Communication policy hinders access to the public at large
8. Discrepancy in practices between statistical unit and other units
9. Lack of resources

Principle 4 - Documentation and accountability

1. Lack of a statistical quality assurance framework
2. Decentralized statistical system and lack of internal coordination/governance
3. Lack of regular monitoring/documentation
4. Lack of financial and human resources

Principle 5 - Sources and methods for data collection

10. Different data publication calendars
11. Inefficient technologies used for data collection
12. Limited support to countries available
13. Lack of resources

Principle 6 - Confidentiality

14. Reluctance of NSOs to make micro data available
15. Micro data is only used internally
16. Lack of resources

Principle 7 - Prevention of misuse

17. Lack of resources, especially for capacity development activities
18. Lack of knowledge of how data are used at local level
19. Lack of coordination/governance
20. Volume of data published

Principle 8 - Utility and feasibility of standards

21. High/senior level policy endorsement of statistical outputs does not necessarily mean standards applied by statistical department are upheld

22. Overlapping mandate with other International Organizations
23. Lack of resources
24. Organization concerned is not a standard-setting entity

Principle 9 - International coordination

25. Lack of coordination between International Organizations and Regional Organizations in data collection
26. Lack of resources

Principle 10 - Bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation

27. Lack of coordination between International Organizations and Regional Organizations
28. Lack of resources

Annex 4 - Additional good practices

The additional good practices proposed by the survey respondents are summarized below by Principle.

Principle 1 Accessibility

29. Publication of data release calendar (could be added to good practice 5.6)
30. Press releases for new data
31. Communication of new data through new publications
32. Protocol for impartial/equal access in place
33. Open data policy
34. Establishment of a users committee
35. Procedures in place for identifying demands for new data
36. Use of new technologies for increased accessibility
37. Providing different modalities and formats for data downloads
38. Establishment of a corporate data warehouse (consolidation of all statistical databases within the organization)
39. Peer review of data by dedicated statistical committee/technical group. Peer review by all official stakeholders, not only reporting national authorities (could be added to good practice 5.5)

Principle 2 - Impartiality and use of professional standards

40. Independence of statistical functions from political interventions established by law
41. Public commitment to impartiality and use of professional standards by organization to be made

Principle 3 - Transparency

42. Discussion and endorsement of statistical work plan and budget by governing bodies
43. Use of various media channels to target different audiences (blogs, social media etc.)

Principle 4 - Documentation and accountability

44. Use of internal audit to monitor the implementation of agreed standards

Principle 5 - Sources and methods for data collection

45. Publication of data release calendar
46. Undertaking new surveys in collaboration with national statistical institutions (could be added to good practices under Principle 10)
47. List of focal points/data coordinators for each country

Principle 6 - Confidentiality

None.

Principle 7 - Prevention of misuse

48. Setting up a help desk to answer external user queries
49. Establishment of a users forum for discussion
50. Use of social media
51. Dedicated group established to focus on statistical literacy

Principle 8 - Utility and feasibility of standards

52. Establishment of global working groups on standards for member countries
53. Discussion of standards through internal statistics governance mechanisms
54. Close coordination with other international agencies to ensure information shared with countries is coherent and reflects agreed standards
55. Establishment of dedicated working groups and task forces on new standards

Principle 9 - International coordination

56. Establishment of internal coordination mechanisms, which permit the discussion of responsibilities, methodologies, concepts and common standards at both senior and technical levels

Principle 10 - Bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation

57. Regular reviews of the implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics by member countries