

Suriname

BIG DATA (3a-iii)

Thank you Chair,

Chair Suriname likes to align itself completely with St. Lucia

We are quite happy with the Statement by Australia that Big Data is not “Magic”.

In addition Chair, I read the document, but just to make sure that I didn't miss a thing I did a search with the term “Random” in the document. You know what the result was? “No matches were found”. “No matches were found” and that bothers me because randomness is at the heart of Statistics. How can we assure that “big data” we want to use are a random sample from a certain population or from a certain process.

Moreover, and mind you, I'm certainly not against using big data, but in the euphoria about big data it seems that only successes are recorded and disseminated. Yet right here in the USA there have been two Big Failures of big data. In the aftermath of 2012 Hurricane Sandy, when utilizing tweets to estimate Sandy's impact this was overstated. Also Google's Flu Trend exaggerated the extent of the 2013 Flu epidemic in the USA.

I want to put it more prudent and conservative than Denmark did yesterday: Let us all remain sensible and not lose our head when we marry (yes marry ...) the old and the new, the big and the small

Thank you Chair.