

**Meeting of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the UN System (CCS-UN)**

**Muscat, 26 September 2017**

**GCC-Stat, Muscat, Oman**

**10:00 – 13:00**

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**Meeting Notes**

**A. Opening, adoption of agenda and participation**

1. The meeting was opened and chaired by Mr. Pietro Gennari (FAO), chair of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the UN System. The Meeting adopted the agenda with the following addition: “Work of the International Civil Service Commission” was added under as “Other business” after item 3.
2. The agenda, documents presented and a detailed list of participants are presented as annexes I, II and III, respectively.

**B. Data reporting and sharing for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda**

3. The agenda item encompassed three sub-items, namely the principles and practices of global data reporting, the mapping global data flows and pilot studies on specific SDG indicators and the role of UN Regional Commissions in global data reporting.
4. FAO introduced the document UNSYSTEM/2017/8 entitled “CCSA’s Contribution to the Guidelines on Global SDG Reporting” recalling the history of the document. The Committee extensively discussed possible amendments to the text. It is planned that the final text will be transmitted to the IAEG drafting group that currently works on guidelines on data flows.
5. UNSD provided a short overview on the “mapping global data flows and pilot studies on specific SDG indicators”, including planned pilot studies for seven indicators.
6. UNSD elaborated on the different roles of global entities and regional commissions in the area of methodology (more global), capacity building (more regional) and data collection (“in the middle”). UNSD and regional commission will work together to create a harmonized global database for the SDGs.

**Conclusions**

7. The Committee agreed that a small drafting group would work on improved wording, which would then be discussed at the CCSA meeting the following day.

**C. Principles Governing International Statistical Activities/Quality Assurance**

8. The agenda item included the commitment to the Principles by principals, quality assurance and international peer reviews.

9. UNSD introduced document UNSYSTEM/2017/6, “The Principles Governing International Statistical Activities: Commitment to the Principles by principals: Status quo and follow up”. Missing commitment letters seemed to be largely due to administrative issues; no member reported that their head/principal had refused to send a commitment letter.

10. UNCTAD informed the Committee that comments on the last draft had been received from FAO. These comments will be included together with any other comments that may be submitted over the next days. UNSD introduced document UNSYSTEM/2017/7 on “Quality assurance and brief update on the Working Group on SDMX” and briefed the Committee that the Expert Group on Quality Assurance had been reestablished and has started its work. Some Committee members are members of the Expert Group.

11. UNODC introduced document UNSYSTEM/2017/9 entitled “A proposal for a peer review system of statistical programmes” detailing their entity’s experience with a recently conducted peer review. This work has a strong link to the Committee’s work on quality assurance. Possible ways forward on a peer review system were discussed.

**Conclusions:**

12. Members will follow up with their heads/principals to ensure that commitment letters are being sent.

13. UNTAD will finalize the document on quality assurance over the coming weeks. Once finalized it will be posted on the CCS-UN website.

14. ODC will elaborate this document further taking into account the discussion. The Committee will consider the topic again at one of its next sessions.

**D. Other business**

15. UNCTAD informed the Committee on its current involvement in the work of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC).

**E. Date and venue of the next session**

16. The Committee will hold its next session on 4 March 2018 on the margins of the 49th session of the UN Statistical Commission (6-9 March 2018).

**F. Election**

17. In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Committee elected Angela Me, Chief of Research and Trend Analysis Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), as chair of the Committee of Chief Statisticians of the UN System for the next two years and nominated her to serve as co-chair of the CCSA (representing the UN System organizations).

**G. Actions to be taken**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead + participants</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Output</b>
B. Data reporting and sharing for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda	Chair and volunteers	27/09/17	Revised wording before CCSA Meeting on 27 Sept 2017
C. Principles Governing International Statistical Activities/Quality Assurance	Members that have not sent Commitment letters	March 2018	Increased number of commitments letters signed by principals
	UNCTAD	March 2018	UN Statistics Quality Assurance Framework published on website
	UNODC	Fall 2018	Updated document on peer reviews discussed at fall 2018 session of the CCS-UN

## **Annex I**

### **Agenda**

1. Opening/adoption of agenda
2. Data reporting and sharing for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda
  - Document on principles and practices of global data reporting
  - Mapping global data flows and pilot studies on specific SDG indicators
  - Role of UN Regional Commissions in global data reporting
3. Principles Governing International Statistical Activities/Quality
  - Commitment to the Principles by principals: Follow up [document by UNSD]
  - Quality Assurance [document by UNSD]
  - International peer reviews [document by UNSD/UNODC]
4. Other business
5. Election

## Annex II

### List of documents

- **UNSYSTEM/2017/5:** Agenda
- **UNSYSTEM/2017/6:** The Principles Governing International Statistical Activities: Commitment to the Principles by principals: Status quo and follow up
- **Background document:** Membership of CEB, CCSA and CCS-UN
- **UNSYSTEM/2017/7:** Quality assurance and brief update on the Working Group on SDMX
- **UNSYSTEM/2017/8:** CCSA's Contribution to the Guidelines on Global SDG Reporting
- **UNSYSTEM/2017/9:** A proposal for a peer review system of statistical programmes

## Annex III

### List of Participants

*(In alphabetical order of the organization)*

<b>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</b>	Pietro Gennari	Pietro.Gennari@fao.org
<b>United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)</b>	Mark Hereward Attila Hancioglu	<a href="mailto:mhereward@unicef.org">mhereward@unicef.org</a> ahancioglu@unicef.org
<b>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)</b>	Steve MacFeely	steve.macfeely@unctad.org
<b>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)</b>	Oliver Chinganya	chinganya@un.org
<b>United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)</b>	Yanhong Zhang	zhangy@un.org
<b>United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UNESCWA)</b>	Juraj Riecan	riecan@un.org
<b>United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)</b>	Robert Ndugwa	robert.ndugwa@unhabitat.org
<b>United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)</b>	Valentin Todorov	v.todorov@unido.org
<b>United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)</b>	Stefan Schweinfest Sabine Warschburger	schweinfest@un.org warschburger@un.org
<b>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)</b>	Angela Me	angela.me@unodc.org
<b>United Nations Population Division (UNPD/DESA)</b>	John Wilmoth	wilmoth@un.org
<b>United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)</b>	Ludgarde Coppens	ludgarde.coppens@un.org
<b>UNECE</b>	Lidia Bratanova	lidia.bratanova@un.org
<b>World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)</b>	Clara van der Pol	cvanderpol@unwto.org
<b><u>Joined the meeting by phone</u></b>		
<b>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</b>	Petra Nahmias	nahmias@unhcr.org