

**Meeting of the UN entities on Statistical Programmes
Luxembourg, 7 September 2011, 10:00 - 12:30 h
Eurostat, Room Ampere**

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Meeting notes

Attendance:

1. The meeting was attended by representatives from ESCAP, UNSD, UNCTAD, UNEP, UNIDO, ITU, FAO and UNFPA. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Stefan Schweinfest, UNSD.

Global Geospatial Information Management:

2. UNSD briefed the meeting that on 27 July 2011 ECOSOC had formally established the Committee on Global Geospatial Information Management as the official UN consultative mechanism on GGIM. The Committee is convening its inaugural meeting on 26 October 2011 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The inaugural meeting will bring together experts from Member States and observers from international organizations to adopt the terms of reference of the Committee and to review its rules of procedure. The Committee will also discuss its contribution to Rio+20 Conference as well as an inventory of critical issues to be addressed by it in the future. Other meetings to be held in Korea are: a meeting with the private sector (23 October), the High Level Forum (24-26 October) and a session entitled “Statistics and Geospatial information” (27 October). More detailed information is posted on the UNSD website (<http://ggim.un.org/>). UNSD also reminded agencies that a letter had been sent from USG Sha to all organizations regarding GGIM last December.

South Sudan

3. UNSD circulated a letter that had been sent to all agencies regarding the status of South Sudan. UNSD further informed the meeting that a letter had been sent to the Permanent Mission of South Sudan to the UN requesting an official government focal point for official statistics in South Sudan. No answer has been received yet.
4. In this context, the treatment of various territories and economies by different agencies was brought up. Some agencies shared their current practice. M49 was referred to as the “agreed list” for statistical purposes.

Fundamental Principles

5. UNSD briefed the meeting on the status of the work of the Friends of the Chair. The Group will first discuss amendments to the preamble and then work on the assessment together with the regional commissions before turning to the question on whether and how the Fundamental Principles could be endorsed by ECOSOC.

World Statistics Day:

5. UNSD briefed the meeting that UNSD was preparing a note to the Statistical Commission 2012 suggesting a five year cycle. This would call for the next World Statistics Day to be celebrated in 2015. An exact is not yet suggested.

Global Pulse:

6. UNSD briefed the meeting that there were very few new developments in this area. A letter from Mr. Pali Lehohla, then Chair of the UNSC, was recalled. The group discussed the question on how best to deal with Global Pulse and how to keep one another informed on its initiatives. The group requested UNSD to keep them informed on any developments. In this context, the need for involvement in the post 2015 planning was brought up.

Busan Plan of Action on Statistics:

7. UNSD briefed the meeting on the Busan Plan of Action on Statistics and on the upcoming Beijing Meeting, which would work on making an input to the Busan Plan of Action. This topic would also be discussed in the CCSA Meeting.

China International Statistical Training Centre in collaboration with UN Statistics:

8. UNSD briefed the meeting about the newly established Training Centre in China, which would be officially launched this month.

Statistical Commission 2012:

9. UNSD briefed the meeting that UNSD was preparing a paper for the 2012 UNSC on the coordination of statistics within the UN system. This was based on the discussion at the 2011 UNSC and an OIOS report. Amongst other things, the document might suggest to give this “Meeting of the UN entities on Statistical Programmes” a more formal status.

Other business:

10. The group agreed to hold its next meeting in conjunction with the 2012 session of the UNSC in New York in 28 February - 2 March 2012.