

3 March 2016

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

**Workshop on Implementing Standards for Statistical Modernisation**

(Geneva, Switzerland 21–23 September 2016)

**INFORMATION NOTICE No. 1**

**I. PURPOSE AND TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE WORKSHOP**

1. This workshop will be organized as part of the Conference of European Statisticians' work programme for 2016, within the context of the High Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics, and led by the Modernisation Committee on Standards. It will be hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and will take place in the *Palais des Nations*, Geneva, Switzerland from 21 to 23 September 2016.

2. The objective of this workshop is to address the need for a maturity model to assist statistical organisations in assessing their level of modernisation, and to continue the development of a roadmap to assist them in their efforts to implement standards for modernisation. This workshop will allow participants to share experiences in implementing these standards, and to identify obstacles on their path toward modernisation.

3. The target audience for this workshop includes experts in statistical standards and metadata, and people responsible for developing and implementing changes in statistical business processes, and those whose work involves using standards for the modernisation of statistical production.

**II. AGENDA OF THE WORKSHOP**

4. The programme of the workshop will consist of the following substantive topics:

- (i) Implementing the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) and the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations (GAMSO)
- (ii) Implementing the Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM)
- (iii) Implementing the Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA)
- (iv) Developing a roadmap for statistical modernisation and a Modernisation Maturity Model
- (v) Updates on other standards relevant for modernising official statistics

5. Detailed explanatory notes on the nature and expected outcomes of these topics are provided in Section VI of this Information Notice.

**III. PARTICIPATION AND ACCREDITATION**

6. Representatives of all Member States of the United Nations and of interested intergovernmental organizations are welcome to participate in the workshop. Participants representing non-governmental organizations in a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may also attend. **All participants must be accredited by the competent authorities of their country or international organization.**

7. All participants attending the seminar are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas to Switzerland should be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of Switzerland in the country in which the participant resides, with a reference to the UNECE Workshop of the Modernisation Committee on Standards. A letter to facilitate obtaining a visa can be requested from the UNECE secretariat.

8. Statistical offices and international organizations should use the following procedure to inform the UNECE secretariat **by Friday 6 May 2016** if their organization intends to send participants to the workshop:

1. **Create user accounts for participants on our Confluence system** (for those who don't already have one). - User accounts can be created with either an activation link, or can be created upon request by the secretariat (contact details in section VIII, below).
2. Participants should then log in to the following site, and click the button **“Your Participation and Contribution to this event”** to inform us of their intention to participate, and to notify us of their planned contributions to this workshop. –  
<http://www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/ImpMod2016/Your+Participation+and+Contribution>

9. Participants should also separately register their security information online at the site <https://www2.unece.org/uncdb/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=uHW6YF> **by Friday 12 August 2016**, in order to be permitted access to the workshop venue. Please note that the registration process must be fully completed before a request is generated. (When this happens, a message will be displayed that says *“You successfully submitted your application. The application is pending approval.”*)

#### IV. TRAVEL AND ACCOMODATION

10. Participants and/or their offices are requested to make their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. The UNECE secretariat regrets not being able to offer any financial assistance regarding travel and accommodation arrangements.

#### V. DOCUMENTATION, METHODS OF WORK AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

11. The official language of the workshop is English. The workshop will comprise a mixture of presentations of participants' contributions, as well as interactive group-work.

12. We would encourage you to contribute to the event by submitting papers, case studies, presentations and/or demonstrations, etc. Such contributions should be in English. We ask you to use the **online process described in paragraph 8** to notify us of your intention to contribute, and to submit an abstract or description. This will help us to consider whether your contribution would be suitable for one of the sessions of this workshop.

13. *Full guidelines for contributions will be given following the acceptance of abstracts/proposals for contributions.* Due to the nature of the workshop, it may not be possible to allocate time to all proposed contributions.

14. The following deadlines and requirements apply:

- 1) A short abstract or description of the proposed contribution should be submitted online (using the process described in paragraph 8) as soon as possible and **by Friday 6 May 2016 at the latest**. – **Please don't email your abstracts.** Information about the selection of contributions for the workshop, and on guidelines on formatting will be sent to authors using the contact details they enter into the online tool.
- 2) Any written papers must be **uploaded**, using the process described in paragraph 8, **by Friday 8 July 2016 at the latest**. This can be done by editing the online entry that you made for your abstract.
- 3) Any presentation slides, videos or other electronic materials should be **uploaded** using the same process by **Friday 2 September 2016 at the latest**.

15. Papers will be made available on the UNECE website at the following location: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/09.2016.workshop.modernisation.html> Presentations will be added to this web site after the workshop. Presentations will not be made available to delegates before the workshop, unless requested by the presenters.

16. Participants are encouraged to download the papers from the website and, where feasible, to use electronic devices to read papers in order to minimise paper use. Documents posted on the website before the workshop will **not** be distributed in the conference room.

## VI. EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE AGENDA

### **Topic (i): Implementing the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) and the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations (GAMSO)**

**Session Organisers:** Ms Alice Born, Statistics Canada & Ms Jenny Linnerud, Statistics Norway

17. This session focuses on those standards which are most relevant to an organisation at the start of their journey towards modernisation:

- The [Generic Statistical Business Process Model](#) (GSBPM)
- The [Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations](#) (GAMSO)

18. The GSBPM and the GAMSO aim to provide a common vocabulary and framework to support international collaboration activities in the field of modernisation. The GSBPM is a model that describes the processes involved in producing statistics, while the GAMSO also describes and defines the activities that take place within a typical statistical organization. The GAMSO extends and complements the GSBPM by adding activities needed to support statistical production (such as corporate support, strategy and leadership).

19. The aims of this session are i) to share experiences of using the GSBPM and the GAMSO, including lessons learned, challenges, and how they have been overcome; ii) to inform about the latest developments related to the GSBPM and the GAMSO, including a set of quality indicators for GSBPM sub-processes, and the emerging results of a review of the GAMSO, which is being conducted during 2016; iii) to determine priorities for future work to support GSBPM and GAMSO implementation.

20. Contributions to this session should address the following topics:

- A [case study](#) of your organisation's experiences of implementing the GSBPM.
- Your organisation's experiences of using the GAMSO, including lessons learnt. (You can also add comments to the [GAMSO review forum](#) by end-April 2016, to feed into the forthcoming review of GAMSO.)
- Latest developments related to the implementation of the GSBPM and the GAMSO.

### **Topic (ii): Implementing the Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM)**

**Session Organisers:** Mr Klas Blomqvist, Statistics Sweden

21. The [Generic Statistical Information Model](#) (GSIM) is a reference framework of internationally agreed definitions, attributes and relationships that describe the pieces of information (information objects) that are used in the production of official statistics. The GSIM enables generic descriptions of the definition, management and use of data and metadata throughout the statistical production process.

22. As well as providing a common language for describing the information in statistical production processes, it facilitates information exchange, and provides a basis for sharing of components under the Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA).

23. The aims of this session are i) to share experiences of using the GSIM, including lessons learned, challenges, and how they have been overcome; ii) to determine priorities for future work to support GSIM implementation.

24. Contributions to this session could address the following topics:

- A [case study](#) of your organisation's experiences of implementing the GSIM
- Latest developments related to the implementation of the GSIM

### **Topic (iii): Implementing the Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA)**

**Session Organisers:** Mr David Barraclough, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) & Mr Alistair Hamilton, Australian Bureau of Statistics

25. The [Common Statistical Production Architecture](#) (CSPA) is a reference architecture for the statistical

industry, which refers to the statistical production processes described by the Generic Statistical Business Production Model (GSBPM), and the information objects described by the Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM).

26. The CSPA allows the collaborative development of software components, which can be used by multiple organisations because they refer to the same architecture. This opens up opportunities to take full advantage of the collaborative power of the international modernisation community.

27. The aims of this session are i) to share experiences of using the CSPA, including lessons learned, challenges, and how they have been overcome; ii) to discuss progress on developing and applying the CSPA Logical Information Model; and iii) to determine priorities for future work to support CSPA implementation.

28. Contributions to this session could address the following topics:

- Your experiences of using the CSPA
- Areas of development for the CSPA Logical Information Model

**Topic (iv): Developing a roadmap for statistical modernisation and a Modernisation Maturity Model.**

**Session Organisers:** Ms Alice Born, Statistics Canada & Ms Jenny Linnerud, Statistics Norway

29. This session will inform about progress in the UNECE-led project to develop a roadmap for statistical modernisation, in the context of a Modernisation Maturity Model (MMM). Participants will be strongly encouraged to give feedback on how to improve the draft roadmap and MMM

30. This work includes developing a maturity model to act as a means of assessing the current state of maturity of statistical organisations regarding their level of modernisation. Such a maturity model allows an organisation to assess its processes and methods against a set of external benchmarks.

31. The maturity model will in turn help to inform a roadmap to help organisations to identify the most appropriate next steps for their modernisation activities. The participants will be given the opportunity in this session to try out the MMM and to give valuable input to the roadmap. The GSBPM and GSIM case studies presented in Topics (i) and (ii) will also be valuable input to the roadmap

**Topic (v): Updates on other standards relevant for modernising official statistics**

**Session Organiser:** Mr Juan Muñoz López, INEGI, Mexico

32. The modernisation of official statistics has sparked a revolution in concepts, methodologies, data sources and technologies, which continue to evolve. This session will explore the latest developments which are relevant to the statistical modernisation community. Topics covered will include Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX), the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI), and the growing area of geospatial standards.

33. The session will take an interactive format involving invited presentations from experts in the relevant standards, and open discussions. While papers or posters are not sought for this session, your suggestions for topics to be covered are welcome.

## **VII. VENUE**

34. The workshop will be held at:

Palais des Nations  
Avenue de la Paix  
1211 Geneva 10  
Switzerland.

A second information notice will be issued and made available on the workshop website nearer to the dates of this workshop, giving details about the location of the workshop, along with additional logistical information.

## **VIII. FURTHER INFORMATION**

35. For further information, please submit queries using the online form described in paragraph 8 of this information note.

Alternatively, you may also contact us using these details:

Mr Christopher Jones,  
Statistical Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Tel: +41 22 917 2413, email: [christopher.jones@unece.org](mailto:christopher.jones@unece.org)

Mr Steven Vale  
Statistical Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Tel: +41 22 917 1271, email: [steven.vale@unece.org](mailto:steven.vale@unece.org).