Second Expert Meeting on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals

Geneva, 18-19 April 2018, Room VII

Welcome and Opening of the Expert Meeting

Lidia Bratanova, Chief Statistician UNECE
Session 1: Purpose and Objectives of the Meeting

Co-chairs: Renata Bielak and Benjamin Rothen

Latest developments at the global level

- 49th Session of the UN Statistical Commission;
- Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs);
- High-level Group on Partnership, Cooperation and Capacity Building (HLG-PCCB);
49th UN Statistical Commission

- 6 to 9 March 2018, UN HQ, New York;
- 2 March: Friday Seminar on Emerging Issues - The Data Revolution in Action: Building a Federated System of SDG Data Hubs and Collaborative Platforms for Innovation:
  - National reporting that is country owned and country led is central to the overall system of SDG follow-up and review. In this context, a federated system-of-systems approach recognizes and strengthens country ownership of each national hub, as well as the role of National Statistical Offices in coordinating the production, sharing and dissemination of data and statistics at the national level;
  - The Cape Town Global Action Plan provides a good blueprint for the development of the Federated System, while the UN World Data Forum will provide the space to review the status of implementation of a system of interconnected SDG data hubs and to further strengthen collaboration across different data communities;
- 5 March: High Level Forum on Official Statistics – Communicating data and statistics: Bringing trusted and actionable data to the public, the media and policy-makers:
  - The first session highlighted ways to effectively communicate data to the public and the importance of data stories in communicating and using data. Effective communication of data is essential to media portrayals of statistics and data. This session also included examples of how statistical offices use data to communicate with the public, and how bringing data literacy into journalism trainings help to ensure statistics are not only incorporated into the narrative, but are done in the appropriate manner;
  - The Vice-President of the ECOSOC Bureau emphasized that statisticians should participate fully in the political discussion at the global level and intergovernmental process to ensure that strong statistical systems and proper use of data are integrated as a top priority for development and for the full realization of the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda.

49th UN Statistical Commission

- Key decisions related to the work of the UNECE Steering Group:
  - 49/101: Global indicator framework for the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:
    - Welcomed the recognition of the importance of data as a basis for evidence-based policies in the zero draft of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and proposed continuous engagement of the Bureau and UNSD to advise on the statistical aspects of the proposed draft;
  - Other decisions related to the IAEG-SDGs;
  - 49/103: High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development;
High-level Group on Partnership, Cooperation and Capacity Building (HLG-PCCB)

- Mandate based on the ToR and the decision of the 49th Session of the UNSC;
- 11th meeting of the HLG-PCCB in Rabat, Morocco, 8 to 10 May 2018:
  - 8 May: Financing mechanisms for statistics, together with issue partners (PARIS21, GPSDD and World Bank);
  - 9 May:
    - Joint subgroup / PARIS21 survey;
    - Document on the implementation and financing of the CTGAP;
    - Update on preparations for the second UNWDF (22-24 October 2018 in Dubai);
    - Update on the status of the call for host country for the 3rd UNWDF;
  - 10 May:
    - Next steps on the UN chief statistician;
    - Contribution to the HLPF;
    - Work plan

Working Methods of the Steering Group and Goals of the Meeting