

1 Background and Objectives

Principle 1 of the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (UNFPOS) states that “*Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the Government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation. To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens’ entitlement to public information*”. From the perspective of UNFPOS Principle 1, official statistics can be considered as a *de facto* public good which are produced by not only the National Statistical Offices (NSOs) but also the other public institutions that constitute the National Statistical Systems (NSSs) and consequently are to be produced in coordination with the participation of relevant constituents of the NSS.

However, the wide variation in the composition, structure, and governance modalities of NSSs among the countries emerge as one of the challenges for the coordination within NSSs. Once achieved, effective coordination within the NSSs enables the national implementation of integrated statistical systems for data collection, processing, and dissemination.

Moreover, given the timely reporting of adequately disaggregated SDGs indicators requires higher levels of coordination and collaboration among the constituents of the NSSs, the tendency towards data stewardship as a collection of data management methods covering acquisition, storage, aggregation, de-identification, and procedures for data release and use gains significance in the statistical community. Additionally, as countries impose lockdowns and other containment measures during the COVID-19 pandemic, NSSs face dual effects of increased data demand and limited survey implementation. In this regard, a well-coordinated NSSs is a pre-requisite to meet the emerging data needs to inform COVID-19 response and recovery policies.

At the OIC level, the Strategic Vision of the Statistical Commission of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC-StatCom) for 2030 recognised “*inadequate coordination mechanisms within NSSs*” as a challenge posing risks to the quality and flow of data for decision-making due to several deficiencies linked to lack of relevant legislation defining the constituents of inter-institutional coordination and their respective responsibilities, lack of a strong institution to act as the coordinator within the NSS, and lack of strategy formulation and implementation to sustain the inter-institutional coordination mechanism. Correspondingly, Strategic Area 1 “Coordination of Statistical Cooperation and Collaboration” of the OIC-StatCom Strategic Vision for 2030 includes “strengthening the coordination role of NSOs within the NSSs” as an objective.

Against this background and in line with the Programme of Action 2021-2025 of the OIC-StatCom Strategic Vision for 2030, SESRIC – in its capacity as the Secretariat of OIC-StatCom – will organise a Workshop on ‘Coordination within the National Statistical Systems’ in collaboration with the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21), and United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) with an objective to provide a platform to share good practices among the

OIC countries and learn from the potential challenges that have to be taken into consideration for an efficient and effective coordination within the NSSs of OIC countries.

The Workshop will cover the following topics:

- Official Statistics and NSS: Main Concepts and Principles
- Leadership and Coordination within the NSS
- Coordination within the NSSs: Why and How?
- Data Stewardship: Data Governance beyond the NSSs
- Country Experiences on Coordination within the NSSs and Data Stewardship

2 Target Audience

The NSOs of the OIC member countries are invited to participate in the Workshop.

3 Logistical Details

The Workshop will be held virtually through the Zoom platform on 15-17 June 2021 with around 3 hours each day with presentations. Simultaneous translation will be provided among English, Arabic, and French. There will be Q&A at the end of each session. The break-out sessions during the Workshop will enable participants in smaller groups to discuss a specific topic related to the coordination of NSSs. The NSOs of the OIC member countries that would like to share their experiences related to the coordination within their respective NSSs during the Workshop are kindly requested to inform the Secretariat about their intentions to make a presentation at their earliest convenience and send their presentations to statistics@sesric.org before 1 June 2021.

4 Work Programme

Day 1: 15 June 2021	
12:00 – 12:15	Opening Remarks by: - Mr. Nyakassi M. B. SANYANG, Statistician General, Gambia Bureau of Statistics (GBOS), and Chair of the 9th Session of the OIC-StatCom - Dr. Atilla Karaman, Director of Statistics and Information Department, SESRIC - Mr. Gabriel GAMEZ, Inter-Regional Adviser, UNSD
12:15 – 13:10	Official Statistics and NSS: Main Concepts and Principles Presenter: Mr. Gabriel GAMEZ, Inter-Regional Advisor, UNSD
13:10 – 13:40	Leadership and Coordination within the NSS Presenter: Mr. Johannes JÜTTING, Executive Head, PARIS21
13:40 – 14:00	Break
14:00 – 15:00	Coordination within the NSS: Why and How? Presenter: Mr. Gabriel GAMEZ, Inter-Regional Advisor, UNSD
Day 2: 16 June 2021	
12:00 – 13:10	Data Stewardship: Data Governance Beyond the NSS Presenters: - Mr. Gabriel GAMEZ, Inter-Regional Adviser, UNSD - Ms. Neda JAFAR, Head of Statistical Policies and Coordination Unit, UNESCWA - Ms. Tiina LUIGE, Head of Environment and Multi-domain Statistics Section, UNECE
13:10 – 13:20	Break
13:20 – 15:00	Country Experiences on Coordination within the NSSs and Data Stewardship Presenter(s): - Mrs. Hayam Mohamed ABD ELAZIZ, International Cooperation Department, Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics of Egypt - Dr. Imam MACHDI, Deputy Chief Statistician for Methodology and Statistical Information, BPS-Statistics Indonesia - Ms. Siti Salwani ISMAIL, Principal Assistant Director from the Data Management & Integration Division, Department of Statistics Malaysia - Ms. Ashiyath SHAZNA, Statistician, Statistics Coordination & Standards, National Bureau of Statistics of Maldives - Mr. Issam M. K. KHATIB, Director of Administrative Records Department, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics - Mr. Hajjej MOHSEN, Deputy Director in Charge of Statistical Coordination and International Cooperation, National Institute of Statistics of Tunisia - Mr. Osman ORHANLI, Head of International Cooperation and EU Coordination Group, Turkish Statistical Institute
Day 3: 17 June 2021	
12:00 – 13:40	Break-out Session
13:40 – 14:00	Break
14:00 – 14:45	Presentations by Representatives of the Break-out Groups Facilitator: Mr. Gabriel GAMEZ, Inter-Regional Adviser, UNSD
14:45 – 15:00	Way Forward and Wrap-Up Session Facilitator: UNSD and SESRIC

* All times are indicated in Ankara (GMT +3) time. Please refer to: https://time.is/compare/1200_15_Jun_2021_in_Ankara for time difference information.