Session 4: 2014 Progress Report for the 20th RCM

Thematic Working Group on MDGs

Chair: UNESCWA

I. 2013 – 2014 Achievements: Highlights of Key Activities since 19th RCM

- Following the launch of the regional MDG report 2013:
 - All information and resources related to Arab MDGs Report and data sets, media articles, press clips and launches are accessible at a dedicated ESCWA website http://www.escwa.un.org/sites/arabmdg13/
- Online application of the Arab MDG Report for IOS and Android systems (launched in November 2014) for wider and easier open access.
- RCM members contributed to "Sustainable Development Goals...An Arab Regional Perspective", which was presented in the HLF on Sustainable Development in Amman during 1-4 April 2014 (http://www.escwa.un.org/information/meetingdetails.asp?referenceNUM=3315e).

II. Summary of Key Challenges Faced: Substantive and Procedural

Lack of latest data for all indicators, particularly for the countries in conflict, such as Syria.
Solution was to use estimated data and projections where relevant, and use available sources.

III. Main Activities and Outputs Planned for 2015

- Update of MDG database for Arab countries;
- New Workplan as part of revised ToRs.

IV. Decisions Requested from the Members of the RCM

 Expanding the scope of the TWG to include SDGs/post-2015 work. Revised draft ToRs are included as Annex.