

**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COUNCIL**

Distr.  
LIMITED  
E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/10/Report  
6 June 2013  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

**REPORT****OF THE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE ON ITS TENTH SESSION  
CAIRO, 30-31 JANUARY 2013****Summary**

The Statistical Committee of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) held its tenth session at the headquarters of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in Cairo on 30 and 31 January 2013.

The agenda of this session contained several topics of priority, including: the implications of meetings held by global and regional agencies on the work programme of the Statistics Division, and capacity-building in the field of statistics for developing evidence-based policies. The agenda also included items related to the progress made in statistics-related activities since the ninth session of the Statistical Committee, and the proposed programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 in the field of statistics and the calendar of statistics-related activities for 2013.

The session also addressed several topics of priority in the region, including international cooperation and regional partnerships with relevant organizations, in addition to prospective projects and initiatives in the field of statistics.

This report contains an overview of the recommendations made by the Committee at the end of its session.

## CONTENTS

	<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Page</i>
Introduction .....	1-2	3
<i>Chapter</i>		
<b>I. RECOMMENDATIONS</b> .....	3-5	3
A. Recommendations addressed to member countries .....	4	3
B. Recommendations to ESCWA .....	5	3
<b>II. TOPICS OF DISCUSSION</b> .....	6-30	5
A. Implications of meetings of regional and international bodies on the work of the Statistical Committee .....	6-7	5
B. Capacity-building in the field of statistics for evidence-based policymaking .....	8-13	5
C. Progress made in the field of statistics since the ninth session of the Statistical Committee .....	14-15	6
D. Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 in the field of statistics .....	16-17	7
E. Programme of statistics-related activities for the year 2013 .....	18-19	7
F. Effective use of statistics in the development of evidence-based policymaking: A summary of the study .....	20-23	7
G. Upcoming projects and initiatives in the field of statistics .....	24-26	8
H. Date and venue of the eleventh session of the Statistical Committee .....	27	8
I. Other business .....	28-30	8
<b>III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE ON ITS TENTH SESSION</b> .....	31	9
<b>IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION</b> .....	32-41	9
A. Date and venue of the session .....	32	9
B. Opening .....	33-36	9
C. Attendance .....	37	10
D. Election of officers .....	38	10
E. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work .....	39-40	10
F. Documents .....	41	10

## ANNEXES

I. List of participants .....	11
II. List of documents .....	14

## **Introduction**

1. The Statistical Committee of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) held its tenth session at the headquarters of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in Cairo on 30 and 31 January 2013, pursuant to resolution 179 (XVI) of 2 September 1992, adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1993/2 dated 2 February 1993, concerning the establishment of a statistical committee in ESCWA, and in accordance with the recommendations issued at the closing of the ninth session of the Committee held in Beirut from 13 to 15 October 2010.
2. This report contains the main recommendations made by the Statistical Committee at its tenth session. The Committee adopted this report at its closing session held on 31 January 2013.

### **I. RECOMMENDATIONS**

3. At the closing of its tenth session, the Statistical Committee made the following recommendations addressed to ESCWA secretariat and member countries.

#### **A. RECOMMENDATIONS ADDRESSED TO MEMBER COUNTRIES**

4. The Statistical Committee addressed the following recommendations to member countries:
  - (a) To adapt global development goals and frameworks to the needs of the region, taking into account the capabilities and needs of the countries on both the national and local levels;
  - (b) To develop a programme for conducting a voluntary comprehensive assessment of national statistical systems in member countries, in collaboration with ESCWA;
  - (c) To establish a joint working group between member countries to assess the impact of the efforts undertaken by ESCWA in developing statistical capacities, and give the working group the authority to set out its own terms of reference;
  - (d) To ensure that ESCWA makes use of information technology in the provision of services, especially in the dissemination of publications, and to consider the possibility of providing technical advice using modern means of communication;
  - (e) To continue efforts to consolidate dialogue between data providers and bodies responsible for administrative records and national statistical offices, to review statistical concepts in line with technological developments in the field of statistics;
  - (f) To ensure prior coordination with national statistical offices in international statistical projects carried out in the region, since these offices are the authorities responsible for official statistics.

#### **B. RECOMMENDATIONS ADDRESSED TO ESCWA**

5. The Statistical Committee addressed the following recommendations to ESCWA:
  - (a) To re-submit the proposal to hold the sessions of the Statistical Committee on an annual basis to the upcoming ESCWA session, in accordance with the procedures in force at the United Nations;
  - (b) To strengthen partnerships with other statistical bodies in the region, especially the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics, and with a number of specialized international bodies, such as the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat);

(c) To coordinate strategies and activities among international and regional organizations working in the field of statistics in the region, particularly the working group on statistics emanating from the Regional Coordination Mechanism of the United Nations (RCM), to avoid duplication in the provision of services and enhance support for member countries;

(d) To request the representative of ESCWA secretariat in the Friends of the Chair Group to coordinate statistical activities; highlight the importance of improving and strengthening coordination in statistical work; and seek to facilitate the preparation of reports by member countries;

(e) To assist countries wishing to conduct a pilot assessment of their national statistical systems to do so (Bahrain, Egypt, Morocco, the Sudan, and Yemen);

(f) To expand the scope of data collection and dissemination so as to include all Arab countries; and re-emphasize the need to adopt national sources of statistics, most notably those provided by national statistical offices, with a special focus on providing quality data and meeting the needs of the users;

(g) To implement the system of national accounts based on a conceptual and institutional framework;

(h) To facilitate technical cooperation and the exchange of expertise among Arab countries in the areas of adopted methodologies; the content of censuses; used technologies; data use, assessment, analysis, and use in policy formulation; and in areas related to regional planning;

(i) To provide technical support in the areas of economic statistics; national accounts; statistics on trade in services, environment, energy and environmental-economic accounting; social account matrices; in improving the quality of data and administrative records; and in developing an indicator to measure labour productivity;

(j) To revive the regional team concerned with the population censuses and benefit from its efficiency and effectiveness in building national capacities for carrying out successful cost-effective censuses; to request the ESCWA secretariat to prepare a preliminary report on the activities of the team and distribute it on the members of the Committee, while states wishing to finance it should notify the secretariat within one month of receipt of the report; and to seek to build a communication network between census experts in the Arab region for consultation on emerging issues;

(k) To request ESCWA and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to devise an action plan for implementing the global strategy to improve agricultural and rural statistics in the region, and present it to the Committee at its next meeting;

(l) To prepare a paper reflecting the positions of the region with regard to the main topics of the forty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, based on proposals submitted by Member States to the secretariat. The paper should include the one submitted by Kuwait on the item entitled Report of the Friends of the Chair on the Implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;

(m) To request the secretariat to follow up on progress made on the "ArabStat" project;

(n) To adopt the conceptual framework on the effective use of statistics in evidence-based policymaking, and to develop it through the development of activities aimed to build the capacities of ESCWA member countries in the effective use of statistics for developing, monitoring and assessing social, demographic, economic, and environmental policies, depending on the availability of financial resources.

## II. TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

### A. IMPLICATIONS OF THE MEETINGS OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL BODIES ON THE WORK OF THE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

6. Under this item, the Committee was presented with two documents, the first on the results of the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA in the field of statistics (E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/3(Part I)), and the second on Regional implications of global meetings (E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/3 (Part II)).

7. Under this item, discussions focused on the results of the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA in the field of statistics held in May 2012, which indicates the growing interest in joint statistical work by decision-makers and regional and global organizations. Participants stressed the need to resubmit to the coming ESCWA ministerial session the proposals which were formulated at previous sessions but not yet implemented. Discussions also touched on expanding the scope of the data collection and dissemination process so as to include all Arab countries. Participants in the discussions asked ESCWA to take the necessary measures to include the States which had recently joined it. Discussions also addressed the importance of strengthening partnerships with such other statistical bodies in the region as national statistical offices, regional organizations working in the Arab region and the Friends of the Chair group (in the field of statistics on disability), as well as the need to facilitate the submission of reports to member countries. In this context, Bahrain expressed interest in supporting policymaking through the provision of statistics. Egypt asked ESCWA for technical support in the area of national accounts. In addition, discussions addressed the importance of the participation of Member States in the activities of city groups to ensure their representation in these groups; the importance of continuing to implement ongoing activities and projects; and ensuring adequate resources through the mobilization of additional extrabudgetary resources and partnerships with international and regional organizations.

### B. CAPACITY-BUILDING IN THE FIELD OF STATISTICS FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING

8. Under this item, the Statistical Committee was presented with document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/4, which dealt with strategic issues related to statistical capacity-building, including: (a) assessment of the requirements for statistical capacity-building for national statistical offices; (b) measurement of the impact of statistical capacity-building activities; (c) improvement of the role of statistics in monitoring progress towards the Millennium Development Goals, and addressing discrepancies between national and international sources of statistics; and (d) a global assessment of national statistical systems.

9. Participants were informed of the results of the survey conducted to assess the needs of Member States in the field of statistical capacity-building included in document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.4. They stressed the need for the Committee to continue monitoring the progress made by countries towards implementing the fundamental principles of official statistics, and the best practices in this regard. Member States requested from ESCWA technical assistance by developing the capacities of national statistical offices in the Arab region to enable them to implement the fundamental principles of official statistics. The Committee confirmed the willingness of ESCWA to provide the required assistance, and asked member countries to address their requests to the secretariat through the appointed focal points. The delegations stressed the importance of setting national development indicators, performance indicators based on national development strategies and plans, and supporting their monitoring mechanisms.

10. Participants in the meeting emphasized the need for capacity-building to address a number of technical problems, strategic issues and issues related to the legal and institutional framework. The delegations welcomed the proposal to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the national statistical systems in collaboration with regional partners. A number of countries expressed their willingness to participate in the working group concerned with the assessment, notably Egypt, Oman, the Sudan, and Yemen. To this end, they requested the ESCWA secretariat to seek to forge partnerships with Eurostat, the United Nations

Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics. Countries wishing to participate in the working group are requested to inform the secretariat.

11. Participants welcomed the proposal made by ESCWA to develop a framework for measuring the impact of statistical capacity-building activities, as presented in document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.5. They recommended the formation of a voluntary working group to establish the voluntary membership, identify the criteria that must be set by ESCWA and its Member States to take full advantage of the national capacity-building process, particularly in light of the limited resources, and develop its own terms of reference. It was agreed that ESCWA would contact Member States for coordination on this matter.

12. The meeting discussed the document entitled Millennium Development Goals: data quality and quantity (E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.6). It emphasizes the importance of data communication, which is an advanced step in the data dissemination process, through the provision of metadata of high quality to produce a report on the Millennium Development Goals based on national data that comply with international official standards for the measurement of indicators.

13. The Statistical Committee expressed its appreciation for the efforts made to reconcile contradictions and differences between sources, and to ensure and assess the quality of data. Discussions focused on the need to give priority to national sources, namely data issued by national statistical offices, and to comply with international official standards in the measurement of indicators. The Committee requested the secretariat to support the activities of the working group within the Statistics Division by following up on the development of national capacities to determine the causes of these differences; to regularly address and assess the quality of data in ESCWA countries; and provide a report on statistical issues to the Committee at its next meeting, which will be held in the framework of the preparations for the 2015 Millennium Development Goals Summit.

#### C. PROGRESS MADE IN THE FIELD OF STATISTICS SINCE THE NINTH SESSION OF THE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

14. The Statistics Division at ESCWA presented the following three documents on the progress made in the field of statistics since the ninth session of the Statistical Committee: (a) Implementation of the recommendations made by the Statistical Committee at its ninth session (E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/5(Part I)), which contains a review of the measures taken to implement these recommendations; (b) Statistics-related activities under the programme of work (E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/5 (Part II)), which contains a review of statistics-related activities implemented by the secretariat since the ninth session of the Statistical Committee, as set out under the programme of work of ESCWA; and (c) Economic statistics, including energy and environment statistics (E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/5 (Part III)). It addresses key areas in the field of economic statistics, such as energy statistics and balances, environmental statistics and accounts, and highlights progress made in each priority area, particularly the system of national accounts for 1993 and 2008, the International Comparison Programme (ICP), price statistics, trade and industry statistics, and energy and environmental statistics and accounts, in addition to information and communications technology (ICT) indicators. The Statistics Division informed ESCWA of its plan to implement a project in the field of short-term statistical indicators (monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual indicators) in the coming years.

15. The discussions addressed a number of such issues as the wish of countries to continue the implementation of ongoing projects in the field of international comparisons, population and environmental statistics, gender statistics, and evidence-based policies; the need to ensure adequate funding through the provision of additional extrabudgetary resources; and the need to strengthen partnerships with international and regional organizations. Participants agreed on the recommendations included in the reports related to this item, underlining that capacity-building and advisory services should not be affected by any change in the programme of work.

D. PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2014-2015  
IN THE FIELD OF STATISTICS

16. Under this item, the Statistical Committee was presented with document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/6 on the expected activities of the secretariat in the field of statistics, based on the proposed strategic framework for the work of ESCWA for the biennium 2014-2015, which was adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-seventh ministerial session.

17. Participants in the meeting agreed on implementing the planned activities for the biennium 2014-2015 following the introduction of amendments thereon, and taking into account the required increase in resources allocated to support national statistical offices. Discussions focused on the strengthening of quality frameworks under the programme of work. Participants requested that ESCWA coordinate the exchange of expertise between statistical offices, noting the importance of flexibility in the implementation of the programme of work, as unexpected developments may arise and necessitate the amendment of the programme. The delegations also requested that the secretariat be more flexible in relation to the reduction of overhead and logistics costs, and welcomed the transition to electronic data publication.

E. PROGRAMME OF STATISTICS-RELATED ACTIVITIES FOR 2013

18. Under this item, ESCWA secretariat presented document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/7 on the planned activities for 2013 in the field of statistics, as contained in the programme of work of ESCWA for the biennium 2012-2013.

19. Participants took note of the programme of work and the amendments proposed by the Member States. The discussions addressed the various statistical activities scheduled for 2013, including the population and housing censuses, and ways to achieve a gradual transition from traditional to modern methods of implementation. Participants stressed the importance of developing statistics on trade in services, national accounts, population statistics, labour force statistics, labour migration statistics, and social accounting matrices. They stressed the need for an optimal use of resources, and the importance of partnership and coordination in Arab and regional work.

F. EFFECTIVE USE OF STATISTICS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING:  
A SUMMARY OF THE STUDY

20. Under this item, ESCWA secretariat presented document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/8, which proposes a conceptual framework to promote the effective use of statistics in the development of evidence-based policies.

21. Participants discussed good practices that should be adopted for the use of statistics in policymaking. They focused on the proposed framework, which was reviewed by a number of experts and tested at an ad hoc workshop held in Jordan in 2012 through its application on statistical stories presented by a number of participating countries. They also touched on actions taken by data producers and users of data, particularly policymakers. Participants stressed the need to raise statistical awareness in communities, and the importance of adopting indicators to measure the results of national development programmes that were developed based on official, consistent, reliable, and high-quality data that is consistent with international approaches and definitions.

22. Discussions addressed a number of such strategic issues as the need to focus on national statistical systems; and mechanisms adopted within statistical systems in the production of statistics to ensure the credibility of these systems and avoid contradictions and discrepancies between data sources. They also focused on the need to adopt the official national source for each indicator. Participants stressed that the importance of statistics, whether produced by official authorities or non-governmental organizations and

research centres, lies in the service they render to users and society at large, their quality and value, ease of access, and awareness about their uses, calling for a harmonization of concepts.

23. States welcomed the proposals contained in the document, adopted the framework as suggested by ESCWA, and requested its development through a number of activities aimed to build national capacities in various fields.

#### G. UPCOMING PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES IN THE FIELD OF STATISTICS

24. Under item 10, participants in the meeting reviewed document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/9 on future projects and initiatives in the field of statistics. They agreed on the importance of implementing the system of national accounts as the main reference for all economic statistics, and as the starting point in the development of tools and mechanisms used in economic and social modelling and analysis, including social accounting matrices, input-output tables and tourism and environmental accounts. The improvement of this system will favourably impact the rest of the statistics and will enhance their consistency, which would ameliorate national accounts and allow states to establish an institutional system that would ensure the sustainability of statistical capacity-building. The delegates pointed to the remarkable progress in the implementation of ICP, and acknowledged the great efforts made in collecting the required data and the high ensuing costs. They expressed their interest in the joint international initiative launched by the World Bank, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and ESCWA on increasing access to microdata, noting that achieving concrete results in the region may take over a year.

25. Participants agreed to revive the regional team for population censuses, and intensify efforts in the field of vital statistics. They requested that the secretariat submit to members of the Committee a preliminary report on the activities of the team, noting that countries wishing to finance its activities should notify the secretariat thereof within one month of receipt of the report. Participants also supported the initiative of coordination and partnership in the collection and dissemination of labour force statistics according to international classifications, with a focus on informal employment and labour migration. They called for continuing capacity-building activities of Member States in the field of labour force statistics, through coordination with the ILO, the Arab Labour Organization, MEDSTAT, and the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics. The delegations welcomed the joint work undertaken with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Committee in the implementation of the global strategy to improve agricultural and rural statistics in the region, stressing the need to provide Arabic documents on agricultural and rural statistics.

26. The Committee approved the plans proposed by the secretariat under this item. It encouraged ESCWA to implement them, and to continue its partnership with relevant regional and international organizations such as the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics, and the Department of Statistics and Databases in the League of Arab States.

#### H. DATE AND VENUE OF THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE

27. The eleventh session of the Statistical Committee will be held, in principle, at the United Nations House in Beirut, in January 2014.

#### I. OTHER BUSINESS

28. The Committee discussed other statistics-related issues, including:

29. The forty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations: The participants took note of the agenda of the forty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, which will be held in February 2013, and the Commission called on Member States to actively participate in its activities. It was agreed to hold a coordination meeting ahead of the Statistical Commission to be hosted by



the Mission of Egypt to the United Nations in New York on 25 February 2013. The secretariat will prepare a brief paper on the positions of the region regarding the main items of the session, based on the proposals which Member States shall submit to the secretariat, including the paper submitted by Kuwait on the item Report of the Friends of the Chair on the application of the fundamental principles of official statistics.

30. The initiative to create a Statistical Committee for Arab States which was put forward by the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF): The participants in the meetings addressed meetings held to seek feedback on the initiative and to which national statistical offices, a number of Arab countries and the International Monetary Fund were not invited. While some viewed that the initiative was not sufficiently mature to discuss it, others welcomed it, considering that it supported and promoted the development of statistics in the region. The Committee stressed the need for the coordination with national statistical offices in implementing international statistical projects in the region, as these offices are the main actors responsible for official statistics. Initiatives must be complementary to efforts and programmes of such regional organizations concerned with statistics as the League of Arab States, the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics and ESCWA.

### **III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE STATISTICAL COMMITTEE ON ITS TENTH SESSION**

31. The Statistical Committee, at its closing meeting held on 31 January 2013, adopted the draft report submitted on its tenth session, included in document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/10/Report.

### **IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION**

#### **A. DATE AND VENUE OF THE SESSION**

32. The Statistical Committee held its tenth session at the headquarters of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in Cairo, on 30 and 31 January 2013.

#### **B. OPENING**

33. The session was opened by Mr. Mahdi el-Allak, Deputy Minister of Planning and Head of the Central Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Iraq, in his capacity as the Chairman of the ninth session of the Statistical Committee. At the outset of his speech, Mr. El-Allak welcomed the participants, commending ESCWA for its efforts aimed at supporting statistical capacities in member countries and promoting joint action among them in the field of statistics. He also expressed his gratitude for the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in Egypt for hosting the meeting.

34. Mr. Karim Khalil, the acting secretary of the Commission, delivered a speech on behalf of Ms. Rima Khalaf, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCWA. Having welcomed the participants, he underlined the importance of ensuring statistics that are consistent and of high quality, considering their key role in policymaking. He also stressed the need for coordination between the various entities concerned with statistics.

35. Ms. Huda Abul-Lail, Director of the Department of Statistics and Databases in the League of Arab States, delivered a speech in which she referred to cooperation between the League of Arab States and ESCWA to support regional efforts in the field of statistics. She also thanked Mr. Allwa Abu Bakr al-Jundi, head of the Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics in Egypt and all those involved in hosting the meeting.

36. Finally, Mr. Al-Jundi took the floor to welcome the participants who came to Egypt for the meeting despite the bad security circumstances. He stressed the importance of statistics, which he said are the first step on the path to development.

### C. ATTENDANCE

37. The session was attended by representatives of eleven ESCWA member countries, specialized United Nations organizations, in addition to governmental, regional and international organizations and their subsidiary bodies. The list of participants is contained in annex I to this report.

### D. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

38. In accordance with the Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure of ESCWA, rule 18, “Member countries shall assume the chairmanship of the subsidiary agencies of the Commission on a rotating basis in the Arabic alphabetical order employed by the United Nations”.<sup>\*</sup> Under this rule, Oman assumed the chair of the session. Participants elected the representatives of Libya and Palestine as vice-chairs, and of Palestine as rapporteur.

### E. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

39. At its first meeting, the Statistical Committee adopted the provisional agenda of its tenth session, as contained in document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/L.1. under the item Other Business. It included the request of Kuwait on holding a coordination meeting prior to the forty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, and also the request of Oman on the discussion of the position of the AMF on the ArabStates initiative.

40. At the same meeting, the Committee approved the organization of work of the session as contained in document E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/L.2.

### F. DOCUMENTS

41. A list of the documents that were presented to the Statistical Committee at its tenth session can be found in annex II to this report.

---

<sup>\*</sup> The Arabic alphabetical order of ESCWA member countries is as follows: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and Yemen.

## Annex I

### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

#### A. ESCWA MEMBER COUNTRIES

##### Bahrain

Mr. Nabil Mohammed bin Shams  
Director General, Central Informatics Organization  
Administration for Statistics

##### Egypt

Mr. Abobakr el-Gendy  
President, Central Agency for Public Mobilization  
and Statistics

Ms. Ghada Mustafa Abdallah  
Under-Secretary  
Head, Central Department for the Head of the  
Agency  
Central Agency for Public Mobilization and  
Statistics

Ms. Ayaat Mohammed Ismail  
Director General, Planning and Training  
Programmes Section  
Central Agency for Public Mobilization and  
Statistics

##### Iraq

Mr. Mehdi Mohssen Ismail al Allak  
Head, Central Organization of Statistics  
Ministry of Planning

Mr. Ahmed Salman Tohme  
Director, Population Statistics  
Central Organization of Statistics  
Ministry of Planning

##### Kuwait

Ms. Mona Khalaf al-Daas  
Assistant Under-Secretary, Statistical Affairs  
Central Statistical Bureau

Ms. Adian Abdul Rahim Maarefee  
Head, Internal Trade and Non-Financial Services  
Statistics

##### Libya

Mr. Nabil Mohammed Aleghanqa  
Head, Methodologies and Data Collection Section  
Bureau of Statistics and Census

Mr. Hadi Mohammed Aizha  
Economic Researcher  
Bureau of Statistics and Census

##### Morocco

Mr. Moulay Abdallah al-Sakrati  
Head of Department  
High Commission for Planning

##### Oman

Mr. Khalifa ben Abdullah al Barawni  
Director General, Social Statistics  
Ministry of National Economy

Mr. Mohammed bin Hamad al Salimi  
Acting Head, Foreign Investment Statistics Section  
Directorate General of Economic Statistics

##### Palestine

Mr. Khalid Abu-Khalid  
Director, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics

##### The Sudan

Mr. Yaseen el-Hajj Aabdeen  
Director General  
Central Bureau of Statistics  
Cabinet of the Sudan

##### Yemen

Mr. Hasan Thabet Farhan  
Head  
Central Statistical Organization

## B. UNITED NATIONS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

### United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Mr. Adel Fareed Abdel-Kader  
Regional Coordinator  
Early Warning and Assessment  
Chair, Regional Office for West Asia

### Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Mr. Christophe Duhamel  
Global Office Coordinator  
Statistics Division  
Rome, Italy

Mr. Mohamed Bar  
Regional Statistical Expert  
Cairo, Egypt

## C. INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### League of Arab States

Ms. Huda Abu el-Lail  
Director  
Department of Statistics and Databases

Mr. Adel Bushra Mustafa  
Economic Affairs  
Department of Statistics and Databases

Ms. Nadia el-Shtaiwee Jaffal  
Advisor  
Head of Databases and Statistical Information  
Department of Statistics and Databases

Mr. Karim Mohammed Abdel-Hay  
Statistician

### Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Mr. Karim Khalil  
Secretary of the Commission

Mr. Juraj Riecan  
Director of the Statistics Division

Mr. Marwan Khawaja  
Chief, Social and Demographic Statistics Section

Ms. Wafa Aboul Hosn  
Chief, Economic Statistics Section  
Statistics Division

Ms. Neda Jafar  
Chief, Statistical Policy Coordination Unit  
Statistics Division

Mr. Ismail Lubbad  
Statistician  
Statistics Division

Mr. Omar Hakouz  
Consultant  
Statistics Division

Mr. Majed Soukaini  
Statistician  
Statistics Division

Ms. Shadia Abdullah  
Administrative Assistant  
Office of the Executive Secretary

Ms. Zeina el-Hajj  
Research Assistant  
Office of the Executive Secretary

Ms. Zeina Sinno  
Statistical Assistant  
Statistics Division

Ms. Dina Karanouh  
Statistical Assistant  
Statistics Division

### Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics (AITRS) - Amman

Mr. Abdelaziz Maalami  
Director General

### Arab Economic Unity Council - Cairo

Mr. Sabah Nuri Abdelwahab  
Advisor

National Planning Institute - Cairo

Ms. Zeenat Mohammed Tabbala  
Lecturer in Human Development and Applied  
Statistics

Arab Academy for Science, Technology and  
Maritime Transport - Alexandria

Productivity and Quality Institute  
Mr. Mohamed Hassan Abdrabbu

Pan-Arab Project for Family Health

Ms. Mona Arara  
Data and analysis treatment specialist

Statistical, Economic and Social Research and  
Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC)

Monavr Ajman  
Researcher

Mr. Ahmed Hussein  
Advisor  
Doha

Annex II

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

Title	Item	Symbol
Provisional agenda and annotations	3	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/L.1
Organization of work	3	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/L.2
Implications for the Statistical Committee of meetings of regional and international bodies	4	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/3
Outcome of the twenty-seventh session of ESCWA in the field of statistics	4 (a)	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/3(Part I)
<i>Implementation of statistics-related resolutions of the twenty-sixth session of ESCWA</i>		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.1
Regional implications of global events	4 (b)	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/3(Part II)
Capacity-building in statistics for evidence-based policymaking	5	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/4
<i>Assessment of capacity-building needs of national statistical offices</i>		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.4
<i>A conceptual framework for measuring the impact of statistical capacity-building activities</i>		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.5
<i>Millennium Development Goals: data quality and quantity</i>		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.6
<i>Global assessments of national statistical systems</i>		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.7
Progress achieved in the field of statistics since the ninth session of the Statistical Committee	6	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/5
Implementation of recommendations made by the Statistical Committee at its ninth session	6 (a)	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/5(Part I)
Statistics-related activities under the programme of work	6 (b)	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/5(Part II)
<i>Projects in progress in the field of statistics</i>		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.2
Economic statistics, including energy and environment statistics	6 (c)	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/5(Part III)
<i>Draft concept note for a study on short-term economic indicators for the Arab region</i>		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.3
Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 in the field of statistics	7	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/6
Programme of statistical activities for 2013	8	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/7
Effective use of statistics for evidence-based policymaking: study summary	9	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/8
<i>Effective use of statistics for evidence-based policymaking: proposed conceptual framework</i>		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/CRP.8
Future projects and initiatives in the field of statistics	10	E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/9
Report of the Statistical Committee on its tenth session		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/10/Report
Information note		E/ESCWA/SD/2012/IG.1/INF.1