



Eleventh Meeting of the
Global Steering Committee (GSC)

22 June 2015, Rome

Summary Record

DATE, TIME, VENUE

DATE: 22 June 2015

TIME: 14:00-17:00 hrs (Rome Time)

VENUE: German Room – FAO Headquarters

GSC MEMBERS REPRESENTATIVES

AfDB: Oliver Chinganya
Brazil: Octavio Costa de Oliveira
DFID: Kenny Bambrick (via teleconference)
CISSTAT: Andrey Kosarev
Eurostat: Veronica Radermacher
FAO: Pietro Gennari
Ghana: Dr. Philomena Nyarko
IFAD: Hisham Zehni
Italy: Simonetta di Cori
Jordan: Bassam Daoud Mostafa Zain
Kazakhstan: Alikhan Smailov
Mexico: José Luis Hernandez Rodríguez
Philippines: Romeo Recide, **Co-chair**
UNECA: Issoufou Seidou
UNESCAP/SIAP: Margarita Guerrero
Tanzania: Dr. Albina Chuwa
World Bank: Haishan Fu, **Co-Chair**

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

AfDB: Vincent Ngendakumana
CISSTAT: Irina Goryacheva
Global Office: Christophe Duhamel (*GSC Secretary*), Carola Fabi, Consuelo Señoret, Michael Rahija, Leslie Lai, Norah de Falco, Flavio Bolliger
FAO: Veronica Boero, Mukesh Srivastava, Charlotta Oqvist, Velda Nylander
Tanzania: Titus Mwisomba
Regional Office in A&P: Allan Nicholls
USAID: Emily Hogue
USDA/ERS: William McBride
USDA/NASS: Michael Steiner, Sarah Hoffman, Mark Miller
Mid-term evaluation consultants: Michel Mouyelo-Katoula, Hubert Paulmer

AGENDA

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1. For endorsement: AGENDA ITEM 1 | Appointment of new GSC co-chair |
| 2. For endorsement: AGENDA ITEM 2 | Appointment of new GSC member |
| 3. For endorsement: AGENDA ITEM 3 | Ratification of new GEB member |
| 4. For endorsement : AGENDA ITEM 4 | Appointment of new GEB chair |
| 5. For endorsement: AGENDA ITEM 5 | Endorsement of new SAC members |
| 6. For endorsement: AGENDA ITEM 6 | Presentation of a new output of the GO: AGRIS |
| 7. For endorsement: AGENDA ITEM 7 | Revision of the integrated budget of the GO |
| 8. For information: AGENDA ITEM 8 | Funding gap |
| 9. For endorsement: AGENDA ITEM 9 | Regional Action Plan for CIS |
| 10. For endorsement : AGENDA ITEM 10 | Regional Action Plan for LAC |
| 11. For information: AGENDA ITEM 11 | Mid-term evaluation |
| 12. For information: AGENDA ITEM 12 | Mid-term Conference |

OUTCOMES

1. AGENDA ITEM 1 – for endorsement: Appointment of new GSC co-chair

The chair asked one of the GSC members to propose a new candidate for co-chairing the GSC. As a result, on behalf of the other members, Mr Oliver Chinganya, AfDB, proposed to appoint Mr Romeo Recide, Interim Deputy National Statistician, Sectoral Statistics Office in the Philippine Statistics Authority, as new co-chair of the GSC.

DECISION 1: The GSC endorsed the nomination of Mr Recide as new GSC co-chair

2. AGENDA ITEM 2 – for endorsement: Appointment of new GSC member

The chair asked members to endorse the nomination of Dr Albina Chuwa, Director General of the National Bureau of Statistics of Tanzania, as new member of the Global Steering Committee, to fill the vacant seat of former member Ms Samia Zekaria.

DECISION 2: The GSC endorsed the appointment of Dr Albina Chuwa as GSC member

3. AGENDA ITEM 3 – for endorsement: Ratification of new GEB member

The chair asked members to ratify the nomination of Dr Philomena Nyarko, Government Statistician of the Ghana Statistical Service, as new member of the Global Executive Board, to fill the vacant seat of former member Ms Samia Zekaria.

DECISION 3: The GSC ratified the nomination of Dr Philomena Nyarko as GEB member

4. AGENDA ITEM 4 – for endorsement: Appointment of new GEB chair

The chair asked one of the GEB members to propose a new candidate as chair of the GEB. As a result, Mr Oliver Chinganya (AfDB), member of both the GSC and the GEB, proposed to

appoint Dr Philomena Nyarko, Government Statistician of the Ghana Statistical Service, as new chair of the Global Executive Board, to fill the vacant seat of former chair Ms Samia Zekaria.

DECISION 4: The GSC endorsed the appointment of Dr Philomena Nyarko as the new GEB chair

5. AGENDA ITEM 5 – for endorsement: Endorsement of new SAC members

Members were asked to endorse the new composition of the SAC, as follows: i) Dr Vijay Bhatia (India); ii) Seghir Bouzaffour (Morocco); iii) Dr Ray Chambers¹ (University of Wollongong, Australia); iv) Jacques Delincé (Belgium); v) Cristiano Ferraz (University of Pernambuco, Brazil); vi) Dr Eva Laczka (Statistical Office, Hungary); vii) Bakary Sacko (UEMOA); viii) Edwin St. Catherine (Statistical Office, St. Lucia); ix) Michael Steiner (USDA-NASS); x) Dr ZhengYuan Zhu (Iowa State University, USA). The last 5 members were newly appointed.

Discussion: During the meeting, it was clarified that the appointment of SAC members is subject to geographical balance.

DECISION 5: The GSC endorsed the appointment of new SAC members

6. AGENDA ITEM 6 – for endorsement: Presentation of a new output of the GO: AGRIS

The Global Office introduced the new output “Countries supported in the Design and Implementation of an integrated agricultural survey programme”.

Discussion: Members welcomed the new output and acknowledged the need for preparing the transition from statistical capacity building work to data collection activities at country level. They also recognized that this output will serve as a tool for helping countries put the methods developed by the Global Office in place. During the meeting, it was clarified that the purpose of the new output is to develop the AGRIS methodology and test some modules in real situations but it will not support data collection activities at country level. Members also suggested that the output could be integrated under the research component, however it was clarified that it has been kept separate to serve the purpose of leading into a possible second phase of the Global Strategy, which is more focused on data production and use than on research.

DECISION 6: The GSC endorsed the creation of a new output in the work programme of the Global Office

7. AGENDA ITEM 7 – for endorsement: Revision of the integrated budget of the GO

As a result of the endorsement of the new output of the Global Strategy, the budget implemented by the Global Office in 2015 was amended. In this respect, the Global Office presented the new Global Office budget for 2015 and the revision of the integrated budget.

¹ Mr Chambers membership is pending to be confirmed

It was also announced that the FAO-Statistics division will contribute directly to this new output with 385.000 USD.

Discussion: Members did not object to the revision of the integrated budget as it was clarified that the total budget will remain the same. Their questions were mainly related to understanding the ways in which it affected the funding gap at Global Office level. It was clarified that the funding of this output resulted from savings generated under the research agenda and through the contribution made by the FAO Statistics division. Members also suggested giving priority to the development of the research activities, particularly the research on forestry and fisheries as it is among the area of emphasis in many developing countries.

DECISION 7: The GSC endorsed the proposed revision of the integrated budget

AGENDA ITEM 8 - for information: Funding gap

At the midpoint of implementation of the Global Strategy, the Global Office presented the funding gaps by regions and outputs, and their possible impact towards the achievement of GS objectives and outputs.

Discussion: Members acknowledged the impact of the funding gap on the sustainability of the programme, the under-funded regions (LAC, CIS and Near East) and the delivery of the Technical Assistance and Training components of the Global Office. In order to fill this funding gap, members recommended mobilizing funds at national level, particularly in LAC region. This will also enhance national ownership in the development of agricultural and rural statistics in the region. Members also expressed their concern on the definition of the implementation period for the underfunded regions, as the current end date of the programme is December 2017. It was agreed that this issue will be discussed in further detail once funds have been mobilized for the under-funded regions.

8. AGENDA ITEM 9- for endorsement: [Regional Action Plan for CIS](#)

The regional action plan for CIS was presented by CISSAT. CISSTAT will host the Regional Office and will be in charge of implementing the activities in the region.

Discussion: During the discussion, it was clarified that the region has received a 500,000 USD grant from the World Bank to strengthen the statistical capacity in the region. It was clarified that this grant is an example of the catalytic role the Global Strategy.

DECISION 8: The GSC endorsed the regional action plan for CIS

9. AGENDA ITEM 10 - for endorsement: [Regional Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean](#)

The regional action plan for LAC was presented by the FAO regional statistician in LAC. The FAO regional office in Santiago/Chile was designated to host the Regional Office, which will be responsible for the delivery of technical assistance activities in the region, carried out in close collaboration with the FAO Subregional Office for the Caribbean. The training

component will be delivered by the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in joint collaboration with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

Discussion: Members endorsed the regional action plan without any further comments.

DECISION 9: The GSC endorsed the regional action plan for LAC

10. AGENDA ITEM 11 - for information: Mid-term evaluation

The evaluation team informed members about the purpose and timeline of the mid-term evaluation

Discussion: Members inquired about the selection process of target countries for the mid-term evaluation. It was clarified that a consultation process had been organized with the regional implementing partners, and as a result, it was agreed that the following countries will be visited during August 2015: Rwanda, Tanzania, Bangladesh and Indonesia have been selected as target countries. In addition, the evaluation team will visit the regional offices in Africa and in Asia and the Pacific

11. AGENDA ITEM 12- for information: Mid-term Conference

Members were informed about the mid-term conference planned for the following two and a half days.