



**Global Strategy**  
IMPROVING AG-STATISTICS



# Sixth Meeting of the Global Steering Committee (GSC)

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## Summary Record

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## DATE, TIME, VENUE

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**DATE:** 28 June 2013

**TIME:** 17:30-18:30 Hrs. (Rome Time)

**VENUE:** The meeting was carried out via teleconference

## GSC MEMBERS REPRESENTATIVES

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ADB: Douglas Brook  
 AfDB: Oliver Chinganya  
 Brazil: Marcia Quinstlr  
 DFID: Frances Harper  
 ERS-USDA: Mary Bohman – Co-Chair  
 Ethiopia: Samia Zekaria  
 Eurostat: Ceri Thompson  
 FAO: Naman Keita  
 Jordan: Fouad Irtiemeh  
 Mexico: Maurizio Rebolledo  
 UNESCAP: Marge Guerrero  
 UNECA: Joseph Ilboudo  
 WFP: Joyce Luma  
 World Bank: Shaida Badiie – Co-Chair

## AGENDA

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1. **AGENDA ITEM 1 – for endorsement:** Report of the Global Executive Board (GEB) on actions and decisions made on behalf of the GSC since its last meeting;
2. **AGENDA ITEM 2a – for information:** Overall progress of the implementation of the Global Strategy;
3. **AGENDA ITEM 2b – for information:** Implementation of the research plan;

## OUTCOMES

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1. **AGENDA ITEM 1 – for endorsement:** Report of the GEB on actions and decisions made on behalf of the GSC since its last meeting (introduced by GEB chair Mrs Samia Zekaria)

### Introduction:

- Since the 5<sup>th</sup> GSC meeting, held in New York in February 2013, one GEB meeting has been organised on 23 April 2013 to endorse 1) the workplans 2013 of four regions (Asia and the Pacific; CIS; Latin America and the Caribbean and the Near East) and 2) the revised reporting template. All the workplans and templates were endorsed and funds can be transferred to Participating Partners (PPs) to implement activities in 2013 accordingly.
- The workplan 2013 for Africa was approved by the Regional Steering Committee and was requested to be endorsed by GEB members electronically. Full endorsement should be confirmed soon.
- Discussion: Concern was raised regarding the situation of the implementation in Africa as the MoU with AfDB has not been signed yet, so the funds from the Global Trust Fund cannot be transferred yet. Information was provided by AfDB, stating that even though the funds have not been transferred, a significant amount of activities have been carried out in the region using AfDB's own statistical capacity building program funds. Hopefully the MoU pending issue will be solved during the AfDB Board meeting scheduled on 10 July, when the MoU will be signed

**DECISION 1: The report of the GEB was endorsed by the GSC.**

## 2. AGENDA ITEM 2a – for information: Overall progress of the implementation of the Global Strategy

Introduction: The Coordinator of the Global Office (GO) briefly presented the progress in the implementation of the outputs 1, 2 and 4 of the Global Strategy, highlighting the main achievements and the remaining issues as reflected into the report. The report follows the structure of the GO outputs as the implementation in regions has just started.

### Discussion:

- Question was raised by AfDB on the fact that the Regional Action Plan for Africa needed to be revised to be aligned with the Global Action Plan. Clarification was given stating that mainly the budget and the logical framework needed to be revised to be consistent with the Global Action Plan, not the whole content.
- DfID underlined again the importance of a robust monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework and expressed some concern about the fact that the recruitment process was taking much time. The GO is aware of the situation: everything is being put in place for solving the issue rapidly. Concerning M&E framework a proposal is to be made and submitted to the GSC.
- Concern about the delay in delivering Output 4 on training materials was also raised and it was clarified that at least the two core guidelines on Country Assessments and the SSPARS will be available by the end of the year as well as training material on Greenhouse gas emissions and Linkages between Agriculture and Population Censuses. Production of other material is depending on the availability of outputs from the research component.

## 3. AGENDA ITEM 2b – for information: Implementation of the research plan

Introduction: The Research Coordinator of the GO briefly introduced the report which was sent to the GSC prior to the meeting.

- At its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting in New York, the GSC had questioned the feasibility of the implementation of all planned activities of the research plan.
- The progress in the implementation has been assessed, for each research topic, against the work plan for 2013.
- For 10 research topics, significant progress has been made as mentioned in the report. Literature reviews reports will be discussed at the meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee on 18-19 July.
- For 8 research topics, the activities have started, but still require efforts for reaching the objectives. For one topic, the activities will have to be postponed to 2014.
- Issues which have delayed the implementation of several research topics:
  - the difficulty to identify the most qualified partners, possibly from developing countries, which can contribute to the implementation of the research plan;
  - the long and complex administrative work for establishing the partnerships.

Discussion: Question was raised about the timeline of the outputs for better understanding the overall progress in the implementation. It was answered that the original timeline for all research topics was to have the literature reviews ready by the end of June. For 3 research topics, the activities should be completed by the end of 2013, whilst for the others, by the end of 2014. A more precise schedule of activities and deliverables is requested by the GSC.

## 4. Next meeting of the GSC: an additional meeting is to be planned in September 2013 for covering the M&E aspects of the GS implementation at global and regional levels. The meeting initially planned in the margins of ICAS VI conference in October is maintained.

5. Since it was her last GSC, all members congratulated Mrs Shaida Badiee for her excellent job as Co-Chair and her continuous support to the Global Strategy from the beginning.

