

# Ninth Meeting of the Global Executive Board (GEB) Summary Record



14 December 2017

## DATE, TIME, VENUE

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**DATE:** 14 December 2017

**TIME:** 15:30 – 16:15 (Rome time)

**VENUE:** Tele-videoconference

## GEB MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING

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AfDB: Fessou Lawson

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation: Julianna Drinan

DFID: Ann Carol Munn

FAO: José Rosero Moncayo

Tanzania: Albina Chuwa – Chair

UNESCAP/SIAP: Ashish Kumar

UNESCWA: Jurai Riecan

## OTHER PARTICIPANTS

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AfDB: Vincent Ngendakumana

Global Office: Christophe Duhamel (GEB Secretary), Valerie Bizier, Norah de Falco and Weronika Forowicz

FAORAP: Anthony Burgard

UNESCAP/SIAP: Ian Smit

UNECA: Ibrahim Mamma

## AGENDA

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1. **AGENDA ITEM 1 – for endorsement:** Workplan Asia-Pacific 2018;
2. **AGENDA ITEM 2 – for endorsement:** Workplan Africa 2018;

## OUTCOMES

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### 1. **AGENDA ITEM 1 – for endorsement: Regional Workplan for Asia-Pacific 2018**

Anthony Burgard, Regional Office (RO), provided an overview of the 2018 workplan and budget for Asia-Pacific, presenting the activities by major areas of work. He pointed out that the workplan will focus on scaling up the delivery of Technical Assistance (TA) and training activities during the remaining 12 months of the programme. It was explained that the exact value of the funds carried forward from 2017 will be provided in early 2018, as this information is only available upon yearly financial closure. In order to provide the GSC with some indications on this value, the estimated costs carried forward were only presented at total level.

**DECISION 1: The GEB endorsed the 2018 workplan for Asia-Pacific.**

## **2. AGENDA ITEM 2 – for endorsement: Regional Workplan for Africa 2018**

Vincent Ngendakumana (RO) presented the 2018 workplan and budget for Africa, approved by the Regional Steering Committee in December. It was pointed out that the exact value of the funds carried forward from 2017 will be provided by June 2018, as this information is only available upon yearly financial closure. The presentation concluded with an overview of the major activities to be implemented in 2018 by the regional implementing partners (AfDB, UNECA and the Global Office) under the TA and Training components.

Discussion: Julianna Drinan (Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) welcomed the presentation delivered by the RO and appreciated the preparation work carried out by the three implementing partners in Africa. The Chair highlighted the progress made by the programme and suggested, in this respect, carrying out in-country assessments to share countries' successful experiences. She also recommended including communication and advocacy in the workshops planned to be organized in Africa in 2018. Finally, she shared her concerns regarding the work that still needs to be carried out on rural statistics. Christophe Duhamel (Global Office) clarified that work is currently underway, with the objective of providing an internationally recognized definition of rural areas. Guidelines will be issued by end of 2018 and plenty of material will be made available for a potential second phase of the programme. In conclusion, AfDB and UNECA agreed to include the Chair's first two recommendations in the activities planned for 2018.

**DECISION 2: The GEB endorsed the 2018 workplan for Africa.**