



**Specialized Technical Committee on
Finance, Monetary Affairs, Economic
Planning and Integration
Experts Meeting
23-25 October 2017
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

Eco/STC/MAEPI/EXP/12

**SUMMARY REPORT OF THE
TENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMITTEE OF
DIRECTORS GENERALS OF THE NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICES
(CODG) AND 5TH SESSION OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION FOR
AFRICA (STATCOM - AFRICA)
Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire**

30 November to 2nd December 2016

I. Introduction

1. The Tenth Annual Session of the African Union Committee of Directors Generals of the National Statistics Offices (CoDGs) and 5th Session of the Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa) was held in Grand Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire, from 30 November to 2nd December 2016. The meeting was organized in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).
2. The meeting was preceded by the following meetings that were held from 28-29 November 2016:
 1. Forum on Statistical Development in Africa (FASDEV) (28 November 2016);
 2. Data-sharing by AUC/ECA/AfDB;
 3. African Group on Statistical Training and Human Resources (29 November);
 4. Governance , Peace and Security Statistics (28-29 November);
 5. Land Policy in Africa (29 November 2016);
 6. Health Statistics and the Campaign to End Child marriage (29 November 2016);
 7. Advisory Group of the Solution Exchange African Statistical Community (29 November 2016);
 8. Integration of GIS & Statistics;
 9. The African Gender Index and the UN Women's Regional Flagship Programme

II. Bureau

3. The Bureau of the meetings was elected as follows:

Chair:	West Africa – Cote d'Ivoire
First Vice-Chair:	Central Africa – Chad
Second Vice-Chair:	East Africa – Kenya
Rapporteur:	North Africa – Tunisia
Deputy Rapporteur:	Southern Africa – Malawi

III. Theme, objective and outcome documents of the meeting

4. The meeting was held under the theme: **"Strengthening economic statistics to support Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"**. The theme was chosen to highlight the role of economic statistics on the ongoing efforts towards the measurement framework and monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa Agenda 2063. The meeting also reviewed the status of the implementation of the various specialized working groups under the Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA). A key note speech on the theme of the meeting was followed by Seven sessions that focused on :

- a) Strengthening economic statistics to support Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ;

- b) Report on the implementation of the ninth session of the Committee of Directors General;
- c) Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA);
- d) Ongoing, new and emerging issues;
- e) Reports on side events;
- f) Coordination and partnerships; and
- g) Statutory issues.

5. The overall objective of the meeting was to discuss the status and challenges in the production of economic statistics in Africa and to take stock of the various efforts made towards the modernization of official statistics (i.e. harmonization, comparability and production processes, new data ecosystems, locational management of information, coordination efforts and new technologies) in the continent to support the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

6. The specific objectives of the Meeting were to:

- Discuss the status and the challenges of harmonization in the collection, production and dissemination of economic statistics in Africa;
- Discuss the improvement of economic statistics through the implementation of SNA 2008;
- Discuss the status of the operationalization of the Pan-African Institute of Statistics and the Pan-African Statistical Training Centre and activities undertaken under the Pan-African Statistics programme;
- Discuss country-level land monitoring in line with the AUC/AfDB/ECA Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa and the SDG monitoring frameworks;
- Review the reports of the working groups set up under the Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA);
- Review and discuss the revised SHaSA;
- Discuss the collection and harmonization of revenue statistics in Africa
- Discuss the status of the signature and ratification of the African Charter on Statistics;
- Discuss the role of Africa in the global partnership for data; and
- Discuss statutory issues specific to the Committee of Directors General and StatCom-Africa.

7. The outcome documents of the meeting included a Recommendation and the Report of the meeting, which are all annexed to this Summary.

Annex I

Conclusions and Recommendations of the 10th Annual Session of the African Union Committee of Director Generals (CoDGs) of National Statistics Offices and 5th Session of the Statistical Commission for Africa 28 November to 2 December 2016, Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire

Introduction

The 10th Annual Session of the African Union Committee of Director Generals (CoDGs) of National Statistics Offices and 5th Session of the Statistical Commission for Africa Stat-Com Africa was held in Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire from the 30 November to 2nd December 2016 under the theme "**Strengthening** economic Statistics to support Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ".

Preamble

Acknowledging that the theme was chosen to highlight the role of economic statistics on the ongoing efforts towards the measurement framework and monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa Agenda 2063.

Considering the report on the implementation of the resolutions of the ninth session of the Committee of Director General;

Considering from Reports of Specialized Technical Groups on labour, migration and the informal sector; on science, technology and education statistics; on governance, peace and security statistics; on gender statistics; on national accounts; on trade statistics; and on statistical training and human resources and the draft revised version of the SHaSA;

Further considering ongoing, new and emerging issues as: (1) Revenue statistics (2) Roadmap for the Development of Labor Market Information Systems (3) Urbanization Data and Statistics (4) Call for expressions of interest of 18 Peer Review planning to be conducted in Africa under the Pan-African Statistics programme (5) Call for expression on Interest from NSO for E-Learning Program on Implementing African Agenda 2063/2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development (6) Statistical development in Africa (7) African Statistical Development Index (8) Use of mobile technology in Africa (9) Africa Programme for Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS) (10) The 2020 round of Population and Housing Censuses in Africa;

Having took note of the reports on the following side events and their subsequent recommendations: (1) Forum on Statistical Development in Africa (FASDEV) (2) Governance, Peace and Security Statistics (3) Health statistics and the campaign to end child marriage in Africa (4) Data Sharing by AUC/ ECA/AfDB and in particular the African Union Data Portal (5) Integration of geospatial and statistical information in Africa and

Establishment of data centres and data analysis centres for the African Geodetic Reference Frame (AFREF) (6) Challenge of land monitoring in the Framework and Guidelines on Land Policy in Africa and the SDGs (7) Labour migration statistics (8) Solution Exchange for African Statistical Community (9) The African Gender Index and the UNWomen's Regional Flagship Programme;

Having exchanged views on coordination and partnership on statistical activities related to: (1) The African Symposium for Statistical Development, (2) partnership with development partners and (3) The forty-eighth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission;

Having deliberated on statutory issued related to: (1) The AfDB statistical programme (2) The ECA statistical programme for the biennium 2018-2019 (3) The AUC statistical programme (4) Status of the signature and ratification of the African Charter on Statistics (5) Status of the operationalization of the Pan-African Institute of Statistics and the Pan-African Statistical Training Centre, and presentation of the activities undertaken under the Pan-African Statistics Programme.

General

1. **Calls upon** pan African institutions to submit documents ahead of time to give countries the time to read them and formulate relevant observations and recommendations;
2. Regarding the conduct of the meeting, **recommends** that all proceedings of the meeting should be managed by the elected bureau of the session;

On strengthening economic statistics to support Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Agenda 2063 and SDGs

3. The **meeting recommends** that all institutions working in statistics including National Statistics Offices, Ministries in charge of Planning be involved in the convergence process on Agenda 2063 First Ten Year Implementation Plan and Agenda 2030 on SDG Indicators in the interest of economy and efficiency in reporting:
4. Furthermore the **meeting calls upon** member states to streamline national indicators to agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030 for SDGs indicators
Status and Challenge of harmonization in the collection, production and dissemination of economic statistics in Africa
5. **Calls upon** on Pan African Organizations to intensify the capacity building effort in economic statistics.

6. **Invites Pan African Organisations** to take into account the existing harmonized tools developed by others institutions such as AFRISTAT

On the implementation of the resolutions of the ninths session of the Committee of Directors General

7. **Mandates** the Pan **African Organisations** in collaboration with the African Statistical System to follow up the implementation of the various CoDGs resolutions;

8. **Invites** pan-African **organizations** to advocate for the implementation of the ministerial decision to allocate 0.15% of the national budget to statistics and **call upon** countries to ensure implementation of the decision.

9. **Commends** ECA **for** the appointment of the Director of the African Centre for Statistics;

On the Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA)

Migration and Informal Sector

10. **Requests** the of **AUC** in collaboration with AfDB, ECA, Eurostat and other partners to finalize the first report on labour migration statistics and to finalize the harmonization of tools, modules, concepts, definitions and classifications on labour migration statistics.

11. **Requests** the AUC, in **collaboration** with AfDB, ECA, Eurostat and other partners, to work on the second report on labour migration statistics in Africa and to train countries on labour migration.

Governance, peace and security

12. **Calls upon** countries to include Governance, Peace **and** Security (GPS) modules in household surveys conducted by NSOs and to use GPS statistics in policy formulation.

Gender statistics

13. **Calls upon** member states to improve the production of gender statistics at national level and also the coordination and cooperation between NSOs and line ministries.

14. **Calls upon** national statistics offices to build Partnerships with other stakeholders including Civil Society Organization who plays a major role in generating gender related data;

15. **Calls upon** NSOs to fill the data gaps in gender statistics using time use survey.

National Accounts

16. **Invites** partners to conduct training and provide technical support to member states on SNA 2008

17. **Calls upon** all partners to help mobilize financial resources in support of economic statistics and to strengthen coordination of their activities;

Specialized Technical Group on Statistical Training (AGROST)

18. **Calls upon** ECA and partner organizations to continue to focus on training the human resources needed for the sustainability of the system for producing quality agricultural statistics

19. **Calls upon** Pan African Organisations to take measures to ensure that the training schools benefit from capacity building initiatives and activities.

On the revision of SHaSA

20. **Calls upon** the AUC in collaboration with AfDB and ECA to create a group of experts **representative** of all African regions including the two consultants to work with DGs to come up with a revised strategy that respond to African aspirations, articulate issues of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030, data revolution, big data and other emerging issues as per the TOR. This strategy should be validated by DGs of statistics before submission to the ministers.

21. **Calls upon** the **technical** team in charge of SHaSA revision to develop an action plan to implement the revised SHaSA, funding plan and monitoring framework with a core set of indicators and look at the governance structure.

22. **Calls upon** AUC to avail the revised SHaSA in all AUC working languages.

23. **Calls upon** AUC in **collaboration** with AfDB and ECA to develop an abridged version of the SHaSA

24. **Requests** the Pan African **Organisations** to organise a meeting for CoDGs before the next Conference of Ministers to consider and approve the revised version of SHaSA, including the action, Africa Transformative Agenda issues and funding plans;

On ongoing, new and emerging issues

Revenue statistics:

25. **Calls upon** countries to **consider** the production of harmonized statistics on public finances;

26. **Calls upon** AUC and **OECD** to involve IMF technical assistance in the process of coordination in order to avoid duplication and inconsistencies;

27. **Calls upon** National **statistical** Offices to work closely with central banks and revenue offices to create synergy to ensure better production of revenue statistics.

Roadmap for the implementation of Labour market information system

28. **Calls upon** countries to improve the LMIS by taking **into** account the informal sector and the constraints of organizing labor market surveys; and by strengthening the registration and monitoring system of enterprises.

Urbanisation data and statistics in Africa

29. The meeting endorsed the **proposal** of the establishment of the African Programme on Urbanization Data and Statistics based on the assessment report on urbanization data and statistics in Africa and **Recommends** that the definition of the concept of urbanization be harmonized and adapted to the context of African countries

Peer Review

30. **Calls upon** AUC to compile the outcomes of the peer reviews reports and share the reports with high level decisions makers such as the Ministers for further recommendations;

31. **Calls upon** AUC to conduct peer reviews **regularly** and for **all** countries.

32. **Calls upon** member states to take part on **the** peer review exercise in order to share best practices and make necessary amendments if need be.

Mobile Technology for Statistical Data collection in Africa

33. **Calls upon** African countries to allocate the necessary resources for the use of mobile technologies and to establish a cost-sharing mechanism at the continental level.

34. **Calls upon** countries to give priority **to** south/south cooperation for capacity building in data collection using mobile devices.

African Statistical Development Index

35. The meeting endorsed the **methodology** and call **upon** pan African organizations and countries to put in place institutional mechanisms at continental level in order to support the implementation of the index developed by ECA.

36. **Calls upon** ECA to ensure a mechanism for **periodic** data collection for the computation of the index.

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

37. **Invites** pan African organisations and partners to **reinforce** the support to the APAI CRVS programme, in particular the training of experts.

2020 round of PHC

38. **Invites** all African countries to participate **to** the 2020 round of PHC
39. **Invites** UNFPA to increase support for the 2020 round of PHC.
40. **Invites** countries to use more mobile technologies during the 2020 round of PHS.
41. **Calls upon** the Pan African Organisations to assist fragile countries to conduct a Population and Housing Census before 2020

On the reports on side events

42. **Endorses** all the recommendations of all the side events as presented

On the exchange of views of the Statistical activities: Coordination and partnerships

43. **Calls upon** all partners to continue their support to statistical development in Africa

On statutory issues

On statistical programmes of AUC, AfDB and ECA

44. **Requests** AUC, AfDB and ECA to improve their coordination mechanisms
45. **Requests** clear guidance from AfDB on the implementation of its the statistical programme including the administrative processes
46. **Endorses** the ECA 2018-2019 biennium statistical work program and the 5 thematic areas of the Africa Transformative Agenda **Requests** AUC to officially to remind countries to ratify the African Charter on Statistics.
47. **Requests** more support from the AfDB, AUC and ECA to statistical training through sponsoring studies and assistance in the organisation of entry exams, and reinforce the human resources capacity.
48. **Recommends** that the AUC invite a CoDG representative to ministerial meetings to strengthen advocacy.
49. **Requests** AfDB, AUC and ECA to **assist** countries in strengthening their statistical capacity.

On the Status of operationalization of the Pan-African institute of Statistics and the Pan-African Statistical Training Centre, and presentation of the activities undertaken under the Pan-African Statistics programme

50. **Calls upon** AUC to ensure that Pan African training Centre fills the missing gaps and avoid competing with the existing training centres.

51. **Calls upon** AUC to draw on the experiences of other regions in defining the position and the role of the new pan African Institute on Statistics.

52. **Recommends** that in the next CoDG meeting should focus on SHaSA, Pan African institution of statistics and Pan African statistical training centre.

On proposed date, venue and theme for the eleventh CoDG

53. **Decides** that Sudan will host 2017 CoDG and Zambia will host the joint StatCom-CoDG 2018.