Sixth Session of OIC-StatCom

5 – 6 November 2016, Konya-Turkey

Session on
"Implemented Activities of the OIC-StatCom"

Progress Report on "Peer Reviews for National Statistical Offices (NSOs) in the OIC Member Countries (OIC-Peer)"

1 Background

The Fifth Session of OIC-StatCom, held on 12-14 May 2015 in Ankara-Turkey, expressed the importance of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Systems to better plan and to coordinate the future strategies of National Statistical Offices (NSOs). The OIC-StatCom requested the OIC-StatCom secretariat to initiate a project entitled "Peer Review for National Statistical Offices in the OIC Member Countries (OIC-Peer)." This project aims to facilitate south-south cooperation in statistical development through a peer review mechanism to enhance the capacity and credibility of the National Statistical Systems (NSS), to strengthen the system's capacity to produce high-quality statistics and to reassure stakeholders about the quality of statistics produced by the NSOs and the trustworthiness of the system. Sound high-quality data and statistical analysis play important role for policy-making at national and international level.

2 Some Examples of Statistical System Peer Review Mechanisms

- ***Peer Reviews (PRs) by Eurostat:*** Peer-Reviews (PRs) is one of the reviews facilitated by Eurostat based on the structure and procedures of the ESS (European Statistical System) peer reviews and are designed for candidate countries and countries with a developed statistical system. The objectives of these reviews are, in particular, to assess compliance of the reviewed National Statistical Institute (NSI) with principles 1-6 and 15 of the European Statistics Code of Practices (CoP), to evaluate the coordination role of the NSI within the statistical system, to highlight transferable practices suitable to foster compliance with the CoP and to recommend improvement actions needed in view of fully complying with the Code.

- ***Adapted Global Assessments (AGA) by Eurostat:*** Adapted Global Assessments (AGAs) are based on traditional global reviews of statistical systems but specifically adapted to the potential candidates aiming at aligning their statistical production with European standards. The objectives of AGAs are to assess the administrative and technical capacity of the reviewed statistical systems, to assess the statistical law and other legal acts and its respect of the European and international recommendations and principles, to assess the

mechanisms used by the National Statistical Institute to coordinate the statistical system, to review the medium and long-term planning mechanisms in place, to propose a list of actions to be undertaken in order to improve and strengthen the statistical system, and to assess the statistical production against the acquis in statistics.

- ***Peer Reviews on African National Statistical Systems by Paris21:*** The African peer review of NSSs was launched by the Economic Commission for Africa's Committee on Development Information (CODI) meeting in 2003. CODI recommended that African countries, supported by Paris21, carry out peer reviews to ensure that good practice passes from country to country, based on the firsthand experience of peers, to help accelerate the change processes in reforming statistical systems.

- ***Global Assessment of the NSOs by UNECE:*** The Global Assessment of the NSOs is jointly undertaken by the United Nations Economic Commision for Europe (UNECE), the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and the European Commision (Eurostat). The assessment was initiated in response to country request to UNECE. This assessment is based on an extensive review performed during the assessment missions with the objective to describe and analyse institutional and organisational aspects of the NSS including the compliance of the official statistics with international Eurpean standards, norms and recommendation.

3 OIC Member Countries that Have Conducted Peer Reviews (PRs)

There are 15 member countries which have been reviewed in coordination with international organisations such as Eurostat, Paris21, and UNECE as follows.

No	Country	Year of Review	Peer Review Coordination	Reviewed By	Type of Review
1	Albania	2013	Eurostat		Peer Review
2	Azerbaijan	2009	UNECE, Eurostat and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA)		Adapted Global Assessment
3	Benin	2010	Paris21	Burundi and Guinea	Peer Review of African National Statistical Systems
4	Burkina Faso	2009	Paris21	Cameroon and Niger	Peer Review of African National Statistical Systems
5	Cameroon	2015	Paris21	Chad and Senegal	Peer Review of African National Statistical Systems
6	Kazakhstan	2008	UNECE and UNESCAP		Global Assessment

7	Kyrgyzstan	2010	UNECE, Eurostat and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA)		Global Assessment
8	Mauritania	2014	Paris21	Djibouti and Mali	Peer Review of African National Statistical Systems
9	Mozambique	2009	Paris21	Malawi and Tanzania	Peer Review of African National Statistical Systems
10	Niger	2009	Paris21	Mauritania	Peer Review of African National Statistical Systems
11	Palestine	2012	Eurostat		Peer Review
12	Senegal	2011	Paris21	Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea	Peer Review of African National Statistical Systems
13	Tajikistan	2013	UNECE, Eurostat and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA)		Global Assessment
14	Tunisia	2013/2014	Eurostat		Adapted Global Assessment
15	Turkey	2011 2015	Eurostat		Peer Review

4 Project Purpose

- Enhancing the credibility of the NSOs of OIC Member Countries.
- Strengthening the capacity of National Statistical Systems of OIC Member Countries to produce high-quality statistics.
- Reassuring stakeholders about the quality of data that the NSS produces and the trustworthiness of the NSS.
- Encouraging OIC Member Countries to benefit from the Peer Review mechanism to objectively learn the strengths (including the identification of innovative practices) and weaknesses of their NSOs and to get effective recommendations to improve their systems.

5 Proposed Activities to be Carried Out

- **Activity 1: Organisation of Virtual Meetings:** The meetings had been conducted in March and April 2016 participated by the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat),

Eurostat, and SESRIC to identify the Peer Review mechanism including the roadmap, snapshot tools, and the way forward.

- **Activity 2: Organisation of the Expert Group Meeting (EGM)**: to introduce the Peer Reviews including the methodology, and to receive some recommendations and inputs on the Peer Review mechanism including the roadmap and tools from the invited experts. This meeting also give a chance to the countries to voluntary engage in the Peer Review process. Conducted on 3 November 2016 in Konya, Turkey.
- **Activity 3: Organisation of a Roundtable Meeting (RM)**: The meeting was participated by the TurkStat, Eurostat, PARIS21, and SESRIC to discuss the way forward including the roadmap, timeline, and other international organisations to be engaged in the OIC-Peer Project. Conducted on 4 November 2016 in Konya, Turkey.
- **Activity 4: OIC-Peer Review Inclination Survey (OPRIS) Design and Circulation**: Questionnaire on the current situation about the implementation of Peer Reviews in the OIC Member Countries. The questionnaires will be designed and circulated in three official languages of the OIC.
- **Activity 5: Collection and Collation of OPRIS:** The responses of OIC member countries will be collected and collated and a summary report analysing the responses will be prepared.
- **Future Activities: Determination of the Fundamental Principles for the OIC-Peer Mechanisms, Selection of the Volunteer Countries, and Launch of the Peer Reviews Procedure.**