

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

For discussion and
recommendations

Meeting of the 2017/2018 Bureau
Helsinki (Finland), 14-15 February 2018

Item III (g) of the Provisional
Agenda

**HIGH-LEVEL SEMINAR ON STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS:
UPDATE ON PREPARATIONS**

Prepared by Canada and the Secretariat

In October 2017, the Bureau approved the work plan on strategic partnerships, including organizing a High-Level Seminar in spring 2018. The Bureau is invited to review and provide recommendations on the organization of the High-Level Seminar on Strategic Partnerships to be held on 11-12 April 2018 in Geneva.

I. BACKGROUND

1. Following an in-depth review of partnerships, an informal group co-led by Canada and the United Kingdom, and comprising Mexico, the Netherlands, Eurostat, PARIS21 and UNECE prepared a plan for future work, including the organisation of a High-Level Seminar. The work plan was approved by the Bureau in October 2017, and invitations for the High-Level Seminar were sent immediately after. This note provides an update on how the preparations are progressing.

II. THE SURVEY

2. The work plan approved by the Bureau included a survey of national and international statistical organisations, the results of which would inform the planning of the High-Level Seminar. The survey was sent to heads of statistical organisations that participate in CES in early November, with a deadline of mid-December. Twenty-eight responses were received by the end of 2017, and have been analysed by Statistics Canada.

3. The full results will be discussed further by the organising group, and presented at the High-Level Seminar, but many common issues are emerging, such as managing statistical confidentiality, identifying and engaging with potential partners, managing expectations, maintaining impartiality, and developing the necessary staff and organisational capabilities.

III. THE HIGH-LEVEL SEMINAR

4. The seminar will be held over two days, 11 and 12 April 2018. The first day will focus on the specific needs and experiences of the official statistics community, whilst the second day will be open to current and potential partners. Members of the international geospatial community have already expressed a strong interest. The Executive Committee of the UN initiative on Global Geospatial Information Management, Europe group (UN-GGIM: Europe) is planning to meet in Geneva on 13 April to make it easier for its members to attend the seminar.

5. The organising group plans to structure the seminar around the types of partnerships identified in previous work and used in the questionnaire. The format will include short introductory presentations of key points or interesting experiences, as well as panel and small-group discussions, to maximise the exchange of experiences.

6. The agenda is still under development, but an early draft is included in the Annex to illustrate the format of the seminar, and the proposed broad topics.

IV. POSSIBLE OUTCOMES

7. The seminar will aim to identify good practices and areas for possible future work. The work plan approved by the Bureau in October 2017 identified the development of on-line resources including case studies, lessons learned, guidelines and best practices as potential outcomes of the seminar. Following the seminar, a report will be prepared for the October 2018 Bureau meeting, including recommendations for future activities.

ANNEX. DRAFT AGENDA

High Level Seminar on Strategic Partnerships in Official Statistics

Palais des Nations, Geneva, 11-12 April 2018, Room XII

Wednesday, 11 April 2018	
Session 1 9:30-10:00	Opening Session Chair: Sylvie Michaud, Strategic Partnerships group
9:30 – 9:35	Welcome and introduction to the seminar -Sylvie Michaud, Assistant Chief Statistician, Statistics Canada
9:35 – 10:00	Key Note: Why are partnerships so important in the current context? -Anil Arora, Chief Statistician of Canada
Session 2 10:00-10:55	Partnerships with policy makers Session organizer: UK and/or Eurostat (tbc)
10:00 – 10:10	Context setting discussion (based upon results of questionnaire)
10:10 – 10:35	Small group discussions
10:35 – 10:55	Presentation of small group discussions back to whole group (2-3 min per group) Plenary discussion of any issues raised
10:55 – 11:15	Coffee
Session 3 11:15-12:30	Supplier/recipient partnerships Session organizer: PARIS21
11:15 – 11:40	Presentations or context setting discussion (based upon results of questionnaire)
11:40 – 12:05	Small group discussions
12:05 – 12:30	Presentation of small group discussions back to whole group (2-3 min per group) Plenary discussion of any issues raised
12:30 – 13:45	Lunch break
Session 4 13:45 – 17:30	Open innovation/strategic partnerships and co-creation partnerships Session organizer: Netherlands (tbc)
13:45 – 14:45	(4 - 15 minute) Presentations or context setting discussion (based upon results of questionnaire)
14:45 – 15:00	Panel discussion
15:00 – 15:40	Small group discussions
15:40 – 16:00	Coffee
16:00 – 16:50	Presentation of small group discussions back to whole group (2-3 min per group) Plenary discussion of any issues raised
16:50 – 17:20	Panel discussion -TBD – several Chief Statisticians
17:20-17:30	Summary, conclusions and the way forward Chair: Sylvie Michaud, Strategic Partnerships group

Thursday, 12 April 2018	
Session 1 9:00-10:00	Opening Session Chair: Sylvie Michaud, Strategic Partnerships group <i>Session organizer: Canada</i>
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome and introduction
9:10 – 9:25	Key Note: Why are partnerships so important in the current context? <i>-tailored to this new audience</i> <i>(?) John Pullinger, UK; (?)Dr T. Tjark B.P.M. Tjin-a-Tsoi, Netherlands</i>
9:25 – 10:25	Panel – invited participants – <i>Opportunities and benefits of strategic partnerships</i> 4x 15 minute presentations <i>-TBD, Heather Savoury?</i>
10:25 – 10:50	Question and answer period with the panel
10:50 – 11:10	Coffee
11:10 – 11:50	4x 10 minute presentations
11:50 – 12:20	Small group discussions
12:20 – 12:45	Presentation of small group discussions back to whole group (2-3 min per group) Plenary discussion of any issues raised
12:45 – 14:00	Lunch break
Session 3 14:00 – 15:20	Partnerships in the context of geospatial information <i>Session organizer: Mexico</i>
14:00 – 14:40	4x 10 minute presentations
14:40 – 14:55	Small group discussions
14:55 - 15:20	Presentation of small group discussions back to whole group (2-3 min per group) Plenary discussion of any issues raised
15:20 – 15:40	Coffee
Session 4 15:40 – 17:00	Supplier partnerships <i>Session organizer: tbc</i>
15:40 – 16:20	4x 10 minute presentations
16:20 – 16:45	Small group discussions
16:45 – 17:00	Presentation of small group discussions back to whole group (2-3 min per group) Plenary discussion of any issues raised
Session 5 17:00 – 17:30	The way forward Chair: Sylvie Michaud, Strategic Partnerships group
17:00 – 17:20	Discussion on future activities, priorities and opportunities
17:20 - 17:30	Summary, conclusions and next steps Chair: Sylvie Michaud, Strategic Partnerships group

