

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Meeting of the 2015/2016 Bureau
Luxembourg, 9-10 February 2016

For discussion and
recommendations

Item 4 (a) of the Provisional
Agenda

**ORGANIZATION OF THE CES 2016 SEMINAR ON STRATEGIC
PARTNERSHIPS WITH STAKEHOLDERS IN THE INFORMATION INDUSTRY**

Prepared by Statistics Canada

*This paper presents the draft outline and progress that has been accomplished in the organization of the seminar on “Strategic Partnerships” to be held during the CES 2016 plenary session. **The Bureau discussed the seminar and provided recommendations on its organization.***

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its June 2015 plenary session, the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) selected the topic “Strategic Partnerships” for one of the 2016 CES seminars. The organization of the CES seminar is being coordinated by Statistics Canada.
2. At its October 2015 CES Bureau meeting, Canada presented a paper providing the main basis for an in-depth review of strategic partnerships with the information industry. A number of potential topics to be discussed in the 2016 CES seminar were submitted for further consideration.

II. THE SEMINAR: STRUCTURE AND CONTENT

3. The seminar will narrow the focus of partnerships to mutually beneficial relationships with members of the information industry that are formed to enable and further develop innovation in official statistics and other indicators used for strategic decision-making.
4. In order to generate more discussion around the seminar topics and increase the audience’s engagement while maintaining the informative aspect of the seminar, the following format for the seminar is proposed (please refer to ANNEX 1 for a more detailed preliminary timetable):

Morning session:

- Introduction from the chair (Canada);
- Presentation of a paper written by the United Kingdom in collaboration with Austria, Mexico, Turkey and Eurostat;
- Discussion on the main ideas of the paper;
- Presentation of examples of beneficial partnerships between a National Statistical Office and other actors in the information industry (three speakers).

Afternoon session:

- Interactive panel discussion with four or five participants with Canada as the moderator;
- Open discussion;
- Conclusion (way forward and recommendations).

III. PROGRESS IN ORGANIZING THE SEMINAR

5. The United Kingdom is leading the writing of the paper that will be presented in the morning. Partners include Austria, Mexico, Turkey and Eurostat. Contributors agreed on an outline and shared writing responsibilities. The paper is expected to be short and succinct with the goal to prompt and shape the discussion rather than claim to be the last word on the issues. The main sections of the paper (subject to change) are:

- a) Background;
- b) Requirements for information industry partnerships in innovative statistical production;
- c) Potential (international) information industry partners for innovative statistical production;
- d) Knowledge and information that might be shared in a partnership for innovation in statistical production;
- e) How such partnerships should be established and maintained;
- f) Benefits and hazards of partnerships;
- g) Discussion points.

6. Statistics Canada has contacted potential speakers for the morning and potential participants for the afternoon panel discussion. The objective is to bring together about eight speakers/participants. The following countries and organizations have been approached:

- a) Netherlands
- b) Mexico
- c) New-Zealand
- d) Italy
- e) United States
- f) Orange (telecommunication private company)
- g) Positium (mobile operators big data processing)

IV. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

7. The set-up of the room for the panel discussion is an important consideration. The panel should sit on comfortable chairs in a semi-circle so that they can see each other when they talk. There should not be a table between them and the audience. A low 'coffee' table could be used for the panellists' convenience. The moderator should sit in the middle of the panel.

8. Among the options to make the seminar more interactive, using Twitter (#ces2016modernization) to solicit live questions and comments on key discussion messages could be considered taking into account infrastructural capabilities available.

ANNEX 1 – PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Wednesday, 27 April 2016

Time	Topic	Presenter
09:30 – 09:50	CES Plenary opening	
09:50 – 10:10	Seminar opening remarks	Canada
10:10 – 10:40	Presentation of the paper	United Kingdom
10:40 – 11:00	Coffee and tea break	
11:00 – 11:30	Discussion on the paper	
11:30 – 11:50	First speaker	
11:50 – 12:10	Second speaker	
12:10 – 12:30	Third speaker	
12:30 – 14:30	Lunch break	
14:30 – 15:10	Interactive panel discussion involving four or five participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions from the audience based on the morning discussion • Questions to panellists 	
15:10 – 15:40	Open discussion	
15:40 – 16:10	Conclusions and recommendations for follow-up work	
16:10 – 16:30	Coffee and tea break	
16:30 – 17:30	CES Plenary agenda item (HLG-MOS)	

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