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Third Meeting of the Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom Africa - III)
18 – 23 January 2012
Cape Town, South Africa

Follow up activities Recommended by StatCom-Africa II

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Ref Para	Recommendation	Action taken
A-a-i	(ECA to) organize an expert group to undertake a comprehensive study of the major data management software tools to draw up a comparative table of their features to enable National Statistical Offices (NSOs) to select the appropriate ones for drawing up a composite optimum set of features for an African software system for data management and dissemination to be developed as an open source software under the auspices and full ownership of the African Statistics fraternity	AGSDaM to report on preliminary EGM of May 2011. Full EGM programmed in 2012 regular budget activity.
A-a-ii	(ECA to) undertake a survey of database systems and software tools available in countries to determine what databases and systems (if any) they are using with a view to identifying those that need assistance to implement databases	Online discussion among experts in preparation for EGM. AGSDaM to report.
A-a-iii	(ECA to) produce a handbook on data management including guidelines on data management policies and Software for analysis, dissemination, archiving, etc	Preliminary publication to be updated and finalized after 2012 EGM.
	(ECA to) involve its sub-regional offices in making requests/recommendations to member States because these sub-regional offices are closer to the countries and will have to harmonise information coming from those member States	ECA's enhanced delivery as one strategy.
A-a-v	involve and collaborate with the regional economic communities (RECs) and other regional institutions in the process of data collection and database updating	ACS updated partnership strategy with specific arrangements for working with RECs.

A-c	Recommends that the capacity of NSOs be enhanced in the use of geospatial tools to reinforce the combination of geographic and statistical data in development planning and monitoring	No action yet. Programmed for 2012/2013, funds permitting.
A-d	Encourages ECA to prepare a work programme, in collaboration with United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), that will lead to authoritative national databases, which will be consolidated into a continental database and feed into the global geographical names database	Roundtable during 26 th Session of UNGEGN, followed by consultative workshop in Gaborone. Gaborone Plan of Action to be tabled.
B-a-i	(Recommends that) a study be conducted to ascertain which African countries may not meet some MDG targets, and why they may not meet those MDG targets	The Africa MDG report prepared jointly by the UNECA, AfDB and the AU provides an analytical account of the issues and challenges faced by Africa in meeting the MDG targets. The Statistical Sections of all the organizations provide the statistical inputs to this report.
B-a-ii	(recommends that) countries, and regional and international organizations encourage and support research and study initiatives on methodologies that would allow to identify development objectives for African countries as well as indicators to measure them beyond 2015	A study on Newly Identified Indicators customized to the Realities, Needs and Priorities for Monitoring Human and Social Development beyond 2015 in Africa has been commissioned and a summary of the report is available.
B-b	Calls on ECA and its partners to develop a Handbook on the derivation of development indicators from population censuses and household surveys	The handbook has been finalized and is under print
B-c	Urges African countries to build national databases which include MDG indicators; set up national focal points and Coordination Committees on MDGs; and promote better involvement of national political authorities in MDG monitoring	Almost all the countries now separate focal points for MDGs and the majority of them have constituted MDG Committees
C-a-i	(Recommends) the preparation of an African handbook on gender statistics	The draft handbook was prepared and based on the inputs from the expert is now being revised

C-a-ii	(Recommends) the preparation of an training material on gender statistics	No funds in 2010/2011 biennium; now provided for in the project funded by the World Bank .
C-a-iii	Speedy completion of compendium on gender statistics	No funds in 2010/2011 biennium; now provided for in 2012/2013 now provided for in the project funded by the World Bank
C-a-iv	Regional strategy on gender statistics	A programme for the gender statistics in Africa prepared and to be presented in the StatCom III
C-b	Calls for the mainstreaming of gender into the themes of all working Groups, and the identification of gender-responsive indicators to monitor Poverty Reduction Strategy Programmes (PRSPs.)	The mainstreaming of gender has been attempted in one working group namely the Working Group on Development indicators. A handbook on collection, compilation and dissemination of the disaggregated data on social indicators including gender has been prepared. The ECA is working with the Inter-Agency and Working Group on Gender Statistics at the global level to finalize a set of core indicators to be monitored by the countries at the minimum. A number of these indicators can also be used to monitor PRSPs.
D-b	Re-affirms the importance of ECA collaborating with other UN regional commissions on the measurement of the informal economy and urges them to implement an inter-continental project on measuring the informal economy	Development Accounts project developed with ESCAP. Awaiting release of funds
D-c	Recommends that identified pilot countries finalize their project on informal sector surveys and conduct, in collaboration with AFRISTAT, ECA and ILO, regular employment surveys, preferably on an annual basis	Covered under DA project
F-a	Recommends that ECA coordinates the various initiatives and establish a programme on statistical training	Joseph – AGROST activities
F-c	Advocates for the establishment of a permanent secretariat for AGROST at ECA	Joseph

H-I-c	Supports the organization of a high-level Ministerial Conference on CRVS	Ministerial meeting organized in August 2010. Follow up activities agreed on being implemented include the institution of biennial meeting of Ministers with the next one being scheduled for South Africa in 2012; next series of African Symposium will be on the theme of civil registration; partners have agreed on areas they will work with member States.
H-II-c	Recommends that NSDS include provisions for producing agricultural statistics, with technical expertise and funding in the area of agriculture statistics being channelled through the appropriate country institutions that have the infrastructure for producing them	Support the 22nd AFCAS meeting in Nov 2011 in Addis in which the issues are discussed. Further intervention will be conducted within the framework of the Regional Implementation Plan for the Global Strategy for Agricultural Statistics
H-III-c-i	(call on ECA to) Streamline the core list of environmental indicators for Africa	Environment statistics workshop; handbook programmed for 2012/2013 biennium
H-III-c-ii	(call on ECA to) Prepare a work programme on environment statistics for the Africa region	
H-III-c-iii	(call on ECA to) Work closely with the Inter Sectoral Working Group on Environment Statistics	
H-III-d	Requests ECA to provide technical assistance to enable countries to develop their environment statistics and indicators and to continue organizing training workshops in the area of environment statistics and accounts	
H-III-e	Recommends the strengthening of Statistical Training Centres to ensure that they include environment statistics in their curricula	
H-V-a-	requests ECA, with technical support from UNSD and the two United Nations Cartographic Conferences to organize a parallel session for	UNSD working on developing GGIM; ACS will be guided by the outcome of that initiative

ii	cartographers and geoinformation practitioners	
H-VI-d	Endorses the view that Africa's input into the work of the sessions of the United Nations Statistical Commission should be coordinated during forthcoming sessions of StatCom-Africa	Africa Group met in NY before UN StatCom to agree on common opinion; to continue practice