

10th Session of the Committee of Director Generals of National Statistical Offices and
5th Session of Statistical Commission for Africa

7th Forum on Africa Statistical Development (FADEV VII)

Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire 28 November 2016

Communiqué

Representatives of African member States, Africa Union Commission (AUC), Africa Development Bank, bilateral and international institutions, United Nations Secretariat and agencies, African statistical training centers, and regional and sub regional organizations, attended the seventh meeting of the Forum for African Statistical Development (FASDEV-VII) on November 28, 2016 in Grand Bassam, Cote d'Ivoire. This meeting preceded the joint 10th Session of the Committee of Director Generals of National Statistical Offices and 5th Session of Statistical Commission for Africa.

Recalling the main objectives of FASDEV to: (i) have an overview of statistical activities, including assistance, and training in Africa; (ii) set up a permanent system for the monitoring of statistical development in Africa; and (iii) strengthen modalities for cooperation with a view to leveraging on each partner's comparative advantage;

The meeting:

a) Appreciated the efforts made by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to organize this seventh meeting of FASDEV;

b) Discussed the following issues relating to statistical development in Africa:

- Contribution of pan African institutions to statistical capacity-building in African countries
- Support to the efforts of pan-African institutions with regards to statistical capacity - building
- Role of development partners in support of the implementation of the 2030 of the 2030 agenda and agenda 2063
- Contribution from other multilateral and bilateral partners in support of the implementation of the agenda 2063

The participants:

1. Note the progress made in the operationalization of STATAFRIC and the pan African statistical training center ;
2. Appreciate the decision of conference of ministers of allocating 0.15% of the budget to statistics.
3. Commend the African Development Bank (AfDB) for its efforts in statistical capacity building and statistical production and request the Bank to continue and increase them;
4. Acknowledge the commitment of the AUC to implement its statistical mandate with the follow-up of the ratification by member states of the African Charter on statistics and the implementation of the pan African statistical programme.
5. Appreciate the commitment of the ECA to strengthen the statistical capacity of member states, Regional Economic Commissions in the areas of policy research, and knowledge delivery;
6. Commend PARIS21 Secretariat for its capacity building in the areas of coordination and monitoring, statistical advocacy, technical support, and technology awareness and invite the Secretariat to continue its activities;
7. Commend the World Bank for its statistical capacity building efforts, and invite to continue their support, including on-going projects with countries and pan African institutions;
8. Commend all partners, including INSEE, DFID and IRD for their continuous support to statistical development in Africa, including assistance to statistical training institutions;
9. Urge pan African institutions to implement better coordination of statistical capacity building activities on the continent, under the leadership of countries and giving priority to south-south cooperation.
10. Request the African Union Commission to conduct a study on the underlining problems with regards to the ratification of the African Charter on Statistics.
11. Encourage countries that have not yet ratified the African Charter on Statistics and submitted ratification instruments to AUC to do it as soon as possible.
12. Encourage all countries and partners to reflect on new approaches to capacity development (capacity building 4.0) and to reflect to align statistical capacity building efforts within the Agendas 2030 and 2063, and NSDS.
13. Call upon the African Union Commission, in collaboration with other pan African institutions to clarify the role and the position of STATAFRIC and other partners in the African Statistical System;
14. Call for leadership training on change management and soft skills for heads of national statistical offices.

15. Request pan African institutions to play the role of capacity identification and mapping.
16. Call upon all partners to increase their financial support to member states, in line with NSDS priorities.
17. Encourage partners to work with RECs in statistical capacity building.
18. Call upon partners to strengthen their support to the implementation and monitor the realization of 2030 and 2063 agendas.
19. Request the ECA, in close collaboration with the AfDB, the AUC, the PARIS21 Secretariat, the World Bank, and other partners to convene the next FASDEV meeting in 2018;
20. Propose to the Committee of Directors to review the format of FASDEV.
21. Call upon on all stakeholders to support FASDEV and implement the above recommendations.