

**PARIS21 Steering Committee Meeting
3 November 2004***Salons de la Maison des Arts et Métiers
9 bis avenue d'Iéna 75016 Paris***Record of the Proceedings****Chairs: Richard Manning & Kwaku A. Twum-Baah****I. Opening Statement**

Richard Manning (chair of the OECD/DAC and co-chair of PARIS21) and Kwaku A. Twum-Baah (from the Ghana Statistical Service and co-chair of PARIS21) welcomed participants, both new and old. Mr. Manning commented that the international development community is on the eve of an important 12 months in international cooperation. The 2005 UN Millennium Summit is an important test for the international statistical community, as data are essential for the monitoring of development interventions. Many of the assumptions we have made regarding progress toward development goals are very fragile due to the state of statistical development throughout the world. The international development community needs to assess the true situation, and PARIS21 is at the middle of this challenge. This meeting marks the fifth anniversary of PARIS21, and we need to build on the good progress that has been made.

Mr. Twum-Baah highlighted the importance of collaboration between policymakers and statisticians and the need to strengthen national statistical systems through strategic statistical plans. He affirmed that building a sustainable statistical system is essential to ensure the success of development programmes. He said that developing countries have the desire and capacity to satisfy the statistical needs of their countries and that donors must respond to countries' needs to fund their strategies in order to break the vicious cycle of statistical underproduction and underfunding. The NSDS is a process that can bring all stakeholders together to guide statistical development.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Richard Manning asked for comments on the draft agenda. The agenda was approved as proposed.

III. Introductory Statement

The Manager of the PARIS21 Secretariat mentioned that the month of June 2004 was difficult for the Secretariat as its resources at the time were very low. The financial situation is now much more stable. Since the last Steering Committee meeting, the Secretariat has continued to build PARIS21's tools and to organise its processes to reach the PARIS21 objective: the production and use of statistics to monitor development programmes and progress toward MDGs and PRSPs. The NSDS documentation has been fine-tuned during the past few months to take account of the comments received. We have begun working out the process of rolling it out to regions. The Secretariat has commissioned NSDS baseline assessments for Africa and has continued its work in Central America, building on the roadmaps designed at the Panama workshop in April 2004. The Secretariat has launched a new PARIS21 website, and he welcomed comments on it. The task team on training has made preparations for its meeting to be held in Bangkok in late November. The Intersect task team will soon begin to work on studying how to integrate sectoral statistics into the NSDS. PARIS21's challenge from now to June 2005 is to deliver as much of its agenda as possible: to help developing countries to strengthen their statistical systems.

IV. National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)***Guidelines and other documentation***

The Secretariat Manager reiterated that since the last Steering Committee meeting the Secretariat has incorporated Steering Committee members' comments on the NSDS documentation. These comments requested that PARIS21 separate the advocacy objective from the guide and separate guidelines on strategy design from those on strategy implementation. He thanked the IMF and World Bank, in particular, for their help in improving the documentation.



He requested that the Steering Committee approve and provide guidance on the documentation hierarchy, content, and review process as presented in document# P21-SC2-04-NSDS. After comments from the Steering Committee are received (requested by the end of November), we will freeze the 2004 version of the documents. PARIS21 will present this document to the UNSC and OECD/DAC for information. Dissemination will be rolled out through regional programmes. He mentioned that the documentation is currently being translated into Portuguese, Spanish, and French and that he will engage in discussions with the Arab States members of the Steering Committee to coordinate the translation in Arabic. A new version of the documents will be prepared before the end of 2005, taking account of comments and feedback.

The South East Asia representative commented that he would like to see a strong emphasis on monitoring of the strategy's implementation. The Central Asia representative commented that the documentation should recommend that national statistical offices have autonomy and a status no less than that of line ministries in order to ensure the integrity of statistics. The documentation should also emphasise the marketing aspect of statistical products. Some products should be free of charge, but others should generate income for the statistical office.

The Middle East representative recommended that PARIS21 focus more on implementation of the NSDS programme than on drafting the NSDS documentation, a point echoed by the World Bank representative who commented that PARIS21 now has a good set of materials, which should be endorsed in order to get them out to countries and regional organisations for comments and to start implementing the work. He said that we all need to do our part to help countries to design and implement the strategies. He also commented that civil society NGOs should be encouraged to participate in the process. They would be good advocates for statistics in the country.

The North Africa representative insisted on three points: (1) In order to have a successful NSDS, political commitment must be secured and statistical development must be integrated into overall development programmes/priorities; (2) The NSDS should emphasise user needs; and (3) Regional workshops are essential to assist countries in the design of their NSDS. The Southern Africa representative spoke of the need to go beyond words to action, aiming for five years of progress, especially in integrating statistics into PRS processes and improving social statistical from administrative sources.

The European Commission representative emphasised the importance of the Knowledge Base. He also said that the NSDS process will not work without support from both donors and developing countries. PARIS21 must show concrete results from the NSDS programme as soon as possible, particularly in light of the upcoming UN Millennium Summit in 2005. If we can demonstrate results, we can gain the all-important support of the international community.

The South Asia/East Asia representative commented that the documentation has effectively brought together how the various statistical structures already in place are to be coordinated within the national statistical plan. From this framework, the country can easily identify the gaps specific to its own situation. He requested further emphasis in the guide on the business sector. This sector can be very politically influential and is a major user of statistics. If the business sector is engaged in the NSDS process, it can be very helpful in pushing it forward. The media must also be engaged in the process, as statistical literacy needs to be improved for better data and debate. Training in communication and management skills must be emphasised among statisticians, as they focus more on technical issues.

The IMF representative endorsed the NSDS documents and congratulated the Secretariat. He emphasised that given that we now have the new guide it is important that the documents be forwarded quickly to countries. It is also essential that we do not duplicate frameworks and that we act as one in this process.

In response to comments, the Secretariat Manager said the monitoring aspect of the NSDS is being considered. The Statistical Capacity Building Indicators, for example, have been implemented but must be reviewed. He reminded participants that the NSDS guide will be underpinned by the Knowledge Base, so many of these issues (e.g., monitoring) will be addressed there as well as in the implementation guide. Furthermore, one of the comments about the guide was that it should not be too long; it should be short and to the point. The Knowledge Base is where we will gather the large wealth of information. He agreed with the World Bank that we need to "just do it." It is time to implement this work. He commented that countries need two things: funding and technical assistance. He



asked if the overall statistical community is ready to provide this. We need to plan for these budgetary concerns now in order for them to be available when they are needed. Donors need to integrate statistical support into their programmes. He welcomed the South Asia/East Asia proposal of emphasising the business sector as an advocate for statistics. Regarding management and communication, the training task team will look at developing training materials on this topic and will put these materials on the website.

Kwaku Twum-Baah recommended that the Secretariat assemble the comments on NSDS from today's meeting and distribute them so recipients can select those that are relevant to their particular national situation. The guide and advocacy document should move forward as they stand, as PARIS21 cannot wait for universal consensus before moving forward.

Richard Manning commented that how donors will react in supporting countries with the NSDS is important. He will raise the concerns of the Steering Committee regarding NSDSs to the DAC Senior Level Meeting (SLM) this December. This will ensure donor awareness on this point.

Deployment through Regional Programmes

The Secretariat Manager mentioned that the deployment through regional programmes is the reality of the NSDS process. He then reported on the Central America regional programme to demonstrate how this deployment can work. The process began in 2002 at the Santa Cruz workshop then progressed to the 2003 San Salvador workshop where data users, data producers, journalists, and academicians met to discuss issues. At the 2004 Panama meeting, country delegations produced draft roadmaps to design NSDSs, without any international assistance. These roadmaps have now been finalised and approved by their national authorities. The countries have made a request to the World Bank Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB) to finance the design of their NSDSs. At a meeting last week in Honduras, Central American statistical office representatives discussed the TFSCB request as well as a second request to fund a regional programme for Central America. These countries have successfully built political commitment, but it is not an easy or quick process.

The Secretariat Manager commented that for the Africa programmes PARIS21 will divide the continent into Francophone, Anglophone, and Lusophone subregions. PARIS21 met with Afristat heads of statistical offices in Mauritania last month and the countries there expressed their excitement about taking NSDS forward. They endorsed the NSDS approach and seek support. There will be a meeting in Bamako and another in Addis Ababa early next year to present the NSDS approach in greater detail. We can expect that by April 2005 we will have NSDS design roadmaps for Francophone countries. The DFID-seconded staff member for Anglophone Africa will start with the Secretariat in January 2005. These countries are relatively well advanced in their strategic planning. PARIS21 will meet with Lusophone countries in Lisbon in December to discuss NSDS. PARIS21 have two good sponsors of NSDS among these countries: Brazil and Cape Verde. We have requested funding from the Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) to fund part of this work and were due to discuss this with them the following week.

The Secretariat Manager commented that the Arab States region has set up a programme but has little funding. However, thanks to EFTA we now have seed funding for the programme. PARIS21 will meet with regional representatives in Amman in November and maybe in Cairo in December to fine-tune the programme. In Tunisia in 2005, PARIS21 will co-organise a seminar on statistical analysis, as it is the link between the use and production of statistics. He thanked INSEE for lending Bahjat Achikbache to the Secretariat in supporting this programme.

For Asia, the regional programme will be partially funded thanks to Japan, UNDP, and the World Bank. We are now nearing the end of finalising the contractual talks for this funding. PARIS21 will need to review this programme with the Asian Development Bank, UNESCAP, and other regional partners. Europe is not on our radar screen since we do not have funding. Our main objective is low-income, IDA countries. Andean Community countries have sent a request to the TFSCB to fund their NSDSs, which has been accepted. Next week, there will be a meeting in Lima to review NSDS implementation plans. PARIS21 will participate in a UNECE-hosted meeting in Moscow in late November to discuss NSDS in Central Asia. In addition to the discussions to be held next week with the ACP Secretariat, the Sydney ISI meeting and a follow-up meeting in Nouméa will present excellent opportunities to discuss the Caribbean and Pacific Islands programmes.



The Secretariat Manager emphasised that the Secretariat is not an implementation agency. We rely on the bilaterals and multilaterals to assist in the design and implementation of NSDSs. We need PARIS21 partners to be involved permanently and seriously. He urged donor participants to send the message from headquarters to national missions and to incorporate the design of national strategies into their own support to countries.

The Andean Community / Central America representative acknowledged the support that PARIS21 has shown to the Latin America region. The creation of the Central American Statistical Commission has been very instrumental in carrying the NSDS programme forward, and it is largely thanks to PARIS21's help. This is the first time that the region's countries are working in a regional way. The NSDS is an excellent framework to enable us to work together effectively. The countries have learned much from this process.

The African Development Bank representative announced that the AfDB has approved the financing of the International Comparison Programme to the amount of US\$20 million. By January, it will be involved in financing NSDS.

V. Advocacy Activities

The Secretariat Manager outlined ongoing advocacy efforts. He announced that the Secretariat interviewed the president of Mali for the Francophone advocacy video, which will be ready by the African Statistics Day in mid-November. He mentioned that PARIS21 needs help from all partners to identify the right people to interview and to whom we must advocate. PARIS21 plans to undergo a mapping exercise of key, potential partners in donor countries to ensure that our message is reaching the right people in their institutions (ministries, development agencies, statistical offices). He asked for donor representatives' help in this exercise. After the June 2004 Steering Committee meeting, the Secretariat presented a new proposal for the worldwide report. Following discussions with Steering Committee members, it was agreed that the main product will be a pamphlet and some input into the UN Secretary-General's report and "glossy" document being prepared for the UN Millennium Review. He expressed his thanks to the OECD representative for his help in securing PARIS21's participation in the MDG Interagency Group. He also announced that, thanks to DFID, PARIS21 has hired a consultant to prepare a report on good and bad examples of the use and non-use of statistics. The Secretariat will send the draft report to all participants. He asked that Steering Committee members provide further examples to feed into this work. From this report, the Secretariat will produce materials for different audiences. All this knowledge of the use of statistics will be made available on the website to assist advocacy efforts by all. There will also be a section in the NSDS Knowledge Base on advocacy at country level.

The UK representative supported the Secretariat's proposal that donors work more closely with PARIS21 to identify key audiences in donor institutions. He then asked to what degree PARIS21 is a campaign for changing the way in which governments operate. PARIS21 can be interpreted as a "governance campaign," seeking a fundamental change in how policy is made. He requested Steering Committee input on this. The UK also asked to what extent donors are the object of PARIS21's advocacy: on funding, donor behaviour, and the use of information.

In response to the UK question, the South East Asia representative commented that one of the reasons the IMF's SDDS is successful is the fact that it exerted political pressure on governments. It was advocated as an activity without which countries could not access international and financial markets, forcing governments to develop their statistical systems. PARIS21 needs to convince donor agencies to make it a policy that they help countries develop statistics through NSDS and that they lend in the context of the NSDS.

The World Bank representative also asserted that advocacy is a matter of governance. The advocacy materials in country should target the policymakers and the statisticians to explain that they cannot do their job as they have always done (not business as usual).

The South Asia / East Asia representative pointed out that advocacy is very culture-specific and local conditions-specific. Great attention must be therefore paid to the localisation of the advocacy pamphlets/materials. He



supported the idea of a governance campaign; with enough momentum it can become a trend and can really make a difference.

The OECD representative commented that PARIS21 should take every possible opportunity through the UN Millennium Review to show the importance of statistics. We need to reinforce understanding that the data for 2005 are not necessarily nationally owned and that we need nationally owned data by the 2010 MDG review.

The IMF representative commented that lending should be in the context of the PRSP rather than the NSDS, as the former is all-encompassing. It is important therefore that the strategic statistical development issues be fully mainstreamed into the PRSP.

The World Bank representative said that advocacy should be part of the NSDS roll out strategy and be aimed at both policymakers and statisticians in countries and in donor agencies. The Southern Africa representative added that apart from population censuses, statistics were not sufficiently in the public eye.

The Secretariat Manager commented that, relative to the governance campaign issue, we need to follow the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. Regarding the relationship between NSDS and PRSP, as the Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics has stated, we need to mainstream statistical development into overall development programmes; therefore, the NSDS should be part of the PRSP. The NSDS is a means to reach the objective of having nationally owned data for the 2010 round of MDG monitoring. For a country that has a political commitment to design an NSDS, donors need to use it as a coherence framework. Donor needs should be considered at the beginning of the design and not at the end. PARIS21 needs to advocate for donor use of nationally owned data. We also have to do some serious advocating toward statisticians (through statistical schools). We should incorporate into their curricula the importance of the management, use, quality, and governance of statistics: that is how we ensure sustainability.

Richard Manning pulled out two main messages from the discussions. Firstly, we would like donors to help in ensuring sustainable national capacity. Secondly, governance is an issue not just in developing countries as this has been an issue in OECD countries as well—perhaps our colleagues in OECD's Statistics Division could provide guidance here. The chair also highlighted the need to localise the advocacy materials and to link up with others to maximise synergies.

VI. Partnership Issues

The Secretariat Manager reminded participants that at the FASDev meeting in May 2004, 22 donor institutions reported on their activities in support of statistical development in Africa. This information sharing is a first step to donor collaboration in statistics. We have already received reporting examples from France and Norway, and AfDB. FASDev gave PARIS21 the mandate to propose a light reporting template for donors. The report generated from this information collection exercise will separate out who is doing what where. The advantages of this exercise include: (1) increased visibility of every institution's work; (2) improved synergies among donors; and (3) information delivered to recipient countries on what kinds of support they can expect from the donor community. He commented that this could help donors to be more efficient in support to countries. He invited institutions to help PARIS21 with this reporting. He said that this exercise is an opportunity for donors to identify the people who work in this area within their own institutions and to develop a strategy for statistical assistance. He commented that if donors see this exercise as an additional burden, it will not work. It must be seen as a way to communicate to partners what you as an institution intend to do. It could be implemented as a supplement to the DAC's Creditor Reporting System (CRS).

The OECD representative outlined the functions and objectives of the CRS. The CRS probably does not provide an extensive enough level of detail for the purposes of this light reporting exercise. CRS reporting also comes 12 months in arrears. He felt that this light reporting mechanism would be a temporary fix. We do indeed need better information, but this mechanism will by design never be terribly precise. As long as this is kept light, it will deliver only impressionistic evidence. For really good detail, the reporting system will necessarily not be light. He sees this as a mechanism separate from the CRS; it would not be integrated into the CRS but would be in parallel.



The European Commission representative highlighted the difficulty in getting an overview of technical assistance activities from a single institution, let alone all donors. He supported the idea of a light reporting mechanism and offered to coordinate his institution's efforts to help implement it.

The Swiss, IMF, World Bank, and German representatives all strongly supported the idea of a light reporting mechanism. The German Development Cooperation is already preparing a report that will probably be even more extensive than what PARIS21 will propose. The World Bank representative commented that it will be impossible for us to specify how much is allocated to statistical development when it is in the context of a larger project. It will therefore not accurately reflect what we are doing nor the scope of the work.

The USA representative remarked that his institution's systems do not currently have markers for statistical development. There is interest, but how this interest will be translated into useful statistics remains to be seen. He promised to discuss institutionalising this reporting with his colleagues, but suggested that it will have to be more along the lines of the Trade Capacity Building reporting system.

The UK representative encouraged other institutions to include a chapter on statistical capacity building in their department reports.

The Netherlands representative expressed his appreciation of the need for better information from donors but does not deny that it means an additional burden. He commented that although his institution's systems do not have a marker for statistical development, they could indeed provide a report using the CRS and word searches but it would certainly not catch all activities.

The EFTA representative fully supported the reporting system. He asked who in the donor country would be responsible for reporting: the development agency or the central statistical office? Some assistance is actually delivered in collaboration with other donors (EFTA with EC funds Norway projects, so who reports this?).

The UNSD representative said that his institution has tried to report on activities but was not successful. It was incomplete and not useful (this was the origin of the CRS Purpose Code for Statistical Capacity Building). He expressed scepticism but recognised that something needs to be done. He said that he often wants to know who among his donor colleagues have been in a certain country during a certain period of time. He commented that what we really want is to avoid the big accidents (overlaps and gaps).

The Japanese representative highlighted her general support for this reporting. She emphasised the need for a more detailed consultation with donors, with those who actually do this work, in order to design the template.

The French representative felt that the main objective of this exercise is to avoid duplication and to ensure coordination and partnership. We need to identify what kind of technical assistance is provided in each country.

Richard Manning retained the UNSD comment that this exercise is "impossible but necessary." He emphasised that the CRS does not provide a detailed or complete enough picture for what PARIS21 wants. He concluded that participants were questioning what the information gathered would be specifically used for. Obtaining the dollar amount of donor assistance is not the most important objective: it is to identify the gaps and overlaps. He invited the Secretariat and OECD and European Commission representatives to put together a small group to test possible mechanisms by the early part of next year and to define what we will do with this information.

VII. Metagora Progress Report

In introducing the Metagora Progress Report, the Secretariat Manager emphasised that Metagora is fully integrated into the PARIS21 Secretariat and that the Metagora Coordination Team (MCT) is working at full speed. Metagora will gather knowledge on methods and tools for measuring and assessing human rights and governance, which will be fed into the NSDS Knowledge Base. For reporting reasons, Metagora activities and funding is at times reported as part of PARIS21 and at times is excluded from PARIS21. The general co-ordinator of Metagora then presented the Progress Report, outlining in particular the project's goals and focus, its expected products, its bottom-up approach, implementing actors, process, and priorities for the first and the second year of activity. He commented



on the involvement of stakeholders in large participatory processes that characterised the preparation of the activities in the pilot countries, on the strong commitment of the Metagora Community (Partner Implementing Organizations and associated experts) that owns and effectively conducts the project. He pointed out that during the first nine months of activity, the Metagora pilot actions were implemented following the planned schedule and announced that first results and preliminary analysis will be presented at the Metagora Forum that will take place in Spring 2005.

The Netherlands representative expressed strong interest in the work carried out and asked if Metagora has met with resistance from governments regarding its work, as human rights can be a sensitive issue in some countries. The Middle East representative recalled that countries of his region were actively committed to the preparation and follow-up of the Montreux Conference from which Metagora emerged. He stressed that measuring human rights and governance is a new promising domain for official statistical agencies and requested that Jordan be part of the project as a pilot country. The Central Asia representative also expressed strong support for the Metagora work but regretted that no country of Eastern Europe or Central Asia is part of the implementing plan and proposed that the Kyrgyz Republic be included in it as a pilot country. The South East Asia representative commented on the successful commitment of the official statistical agencies of the Philippines in the implementation of the Metagora activity in this country. This experience enabled statistical agencies to collaborate and co-ordinate with other government agencies with whom they would normally not be able to work. When they were considering participating in this project, the statistical agencies decided that their role was not to take the lead of the project implementation, but to provide expertise, technical assistance, data collection, and proper statistical analysis to the National Commission on Human Rights that leads the inter-agency group in charge of the implementation of Metagora.

The OECD representative said that Metagora is a very innovative operation that substantially and timely fits with the current agendas of the DAC and its institutional partners within the international community. He mentioned in particular that the UN Economic Commission for Africa produced an African governance report, which will come out in February 2005. This report scores countries on a long list of areas and was very well received by African politicians and NGOs. It shows the power of measuring governance performance. Therefore the climate into which Metagora will be feeding is a very propitious one.

Kwaku Twum-Baah commented that Metagora's bottom-up approach is a very relevant and practical way of developing statistics and evidence-based assessment of governance at the grassroots level and asked how Metagora fits into the peer review mechanism of NEPAD.

In response, the general co-ordinator of Metagora said that MCT was involved in exchanges between OECD/DAC and UNECA experts on the preparation of the peer review process and that those working within NEPAD will be invited to the Metagora Forum in Spring 2005. He stressed that this is an inherent part of the role of Metagora as catalyst of a process that enhances synergies and interaction between experts and institutions committed in providing proper evidence-based assessment of democracy, human rights, and governance. In addition Metagora not only tries to collaborate with existing networks such as GOVNET, but also searches, identifies, and makes contact with many specific initiatives, such as the HOM - Human Rights Impact Assessment project (HRIA). In response to the question from the Netherlands representative, he said that Metagora has not met with resistance from governments; on the contrary, political authorities have been sympathetic and supportive in the countries conducting pilot surveys on human rights issues, and the household surveys on governance and democratic participation are conducted with no obstacles by official statistical agencies of 13 countries (8 in francophone Africa and 5 in the countries of the Andean Community). Even in the sensitive cases of Sri Lanka and Palestine, the project is advancing without any restriction or resistance from governmental authorities. Commenting on the interventions of representatives from the Middle East and Central Asia, the general co-ordinator recalled that during Metagora's preparatory phase many countries volunteered to conduct Metagora activities but, as the resources provided by donors for the pilot phase cover a period of 24 months, it became obvious that Metagora pilot work had to be limited to a small number of selected actions conducted in countries and by organisations that already had some experience and capacities – and thus would be able to produce tangible results within very short deadlines. At this stage, although MCT would be happy to welcome Jordan and the Kyrgyz Republic in the Metagora pioneering community, the MCT has a closed budget; however, these countries are invited to provide the MCT with concrete proposals.



VIII. Resources and Work Programme Issues

The Secretariat Manager announced that the PARIS21 work programme has been updated from the programme approved in 2003. This document (# P21-SC2-04-WP) covers the period 2005–2006. Of course, the main activity for 2005–2006 remains NSDS development. Advocacy will also play a large role in this period. He outlined the funding received in 2004 and what is expected in 2005 and 2006. He reminded Steering Committee members that we had postponed the Consortium meeting this year due to lack of funds and that it is up to them to decide if it will be held in the future. The Secretariat has reduced funding for the task teams. He mentioned that in 2005 it would be useful to have an overall report on the use of statistics and asked the Steering Committee to reflect once again on the production of a report every 2–3 years on what the international community does in statistical development. He then presented the budget, which follows the lines of the Joint Funding Proposal with the TFSCB. This budget outlines what PARIS21 can do if it has the money. PARIS21 is in the unfortunate situation of having strong moral support for its objectives but insufficient funds to carry out the activities necessary to achieve those objectives. He then asked for guidance on the scope of the evaluation in 2006. For the regional programmes, PARIS21 can find funding through specific institutions (Regional Development Banks, TFSCB, ACP, etc.). Thanks to the current donors, we have enough funding to continue toward our 2006 NSDS objective. That said, according to our available funding, there are decisions to be made and priorities to be set. He said that within its overall programme PARIS21's current priority is to work in PRSP (IDA) countries and requested guidance in the definition of specific priorities. PARIS21 can certainly limit itself to a group of countries, but every country ought to be able to count on our support. This work programme is a list of possibilities, for which the Steering Committee must provide guidance. The Secretariat will translate this guidance into activities.

The European Commission representative commented that it is difficult to assess priorities because the work programme assigns no deadlines or hierarchy to activities. He said that he would like to see progress so PARIS21 can show to countries that the work is going forward and toward results. The emphasis should be on implementing NSDS and showing results in countries.

The UNSD representative asked how we define success at the end of 2006 with respect to national strategies. Is it a high number of countries with strategies or the quality of the strategies? If we emphasise quality, we could tell stories about how it made a difference in certain countries. He favoured quality over quantity.

The UK representative supported the UNSD recommendation that we generate success stories rather than a high number of strategies. Perhaps a small number of advanced systems with experiences of designing an NSDS could be used to provide technical assistance to less advanced countries; this could reduce costs. He then expressed his opinion that a new evaluation would not be necessary considering one was conducted as recently as 2003. Perhaps a mere afternoon seminar with donor and developing countries discussing PARIS21's impact would be sufficient. He then asked what the "NSDS Development," "Partnership," and "Advocacy" line items in the work programme covered, to which the Secretariat Manager replied that the Secretariat has precise activities linked to the budget items if anyone would like to consult them. The UK representative also recommended placing priority in the region of greatest need, specifically sub-Saharan Africa and South Africa.

The Netherlands representative requested that the issue of attracting donor funds and involvement be placed on the agenda of this year's OECD SLM.

The Middle East representative expressed his concern that the budget numbers in the work programme were too low, too conservative.

The Netherlands representative supported the UK idea of a light evaluation in a small session as well as the idea of organising a Consortium meeting for policymakers and statisticians to meet and discuss issues.

The World Bank representative commented that assisting countries with their NSDSs and organising regional meetings is already a heavy workload. We should stop at that. On task teams, he supported the idea that institutions should take up this work. He questioned the need for a worldwide report, asking who is the audience and why do we need to do it? He supported the UNSD suggestion of focusing on quality. He highlighted the uncertainties and



unevenness of funding but cautioned against suggestions that PARIS21 be funded through the TFSCB, as the Bank and PARIS21 already have a Joint Funding Proposal as the mechanism to ensure our common funding. He supported the UK idea of a light evaluation and suggested that it be carried out at the same time as the TFSCB evaluation.

The Secretariat Manager fully agreed with the UNSD comments on the selection of countries and quality of work. He took the point on the light evaluation and agreed. Regarding a Consortium meeting, he said that the Secretariat can organise one in November 2005, if given the green light in June. On South–South co-operation, this is efficient but not so easy to organise, and efforts are being made to bring potential consultants from the South. Parachuting consultants in does not work. Building consensus and political commitment takes time: fast-tracking will not work on NSDSs.

Richard Manning expressed his pleasure in seeing that the budget figures are matching PARIS21's evolution. PARIS21 is now focusing less of its resources on management and more on implementation of activities. He observed that it is important to broaden donor support and pledged to outline PARIS21 needs at the SLM, particularly targeting those DAC donors who have not yet contributed to PARIS21. He noted the suggestion for a joint, light evaluation with the TFSCB.

IX. Other Issues

No additional issues were raised.

X. Concluding Remarks

Chairman Twum-Baah thanked participants for their frank and open discussions. He said that we all have a collective and individual responsibility to carry out the PARIS21 mandate in our countries and institutions. Chairman Manning closed with a call to broaden the basis of support to PARIS21.

Summary of Decisions by the Steering Committee

| # | Steering Committee Decisions |
|---|---|
| 1 | <p>Does the Committee endorse the updated hierarchy of NSDS documents as outlined in document# P21-SC2-04-NSDS?</p> <p>There was universal agreement with the hierarchy of the documentation. It was agreed that this work must be carried forward and delivered to countries as quickly as possible. The Knowledge Base must be structured appropriately.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Does the Committee approve the content of the NSDS documents prepared so far and agree on parallel processes to present, review, and start to use them?</p> <p>There was universal support for the content of the NSDS documentation. It was agreed that there will be a parallel process for moving forward with the documents and incorporating comments as they come in. There was a strong focus on involving development partners and incorporating NSDS support into their aid programmes. The comments received at today's meeting, even if they are not incorporated into the official documentation, should be made available to NSDS design teams.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Does the Committee agree to the creation of the light reporting mechanism as outlined in document# P21-SC2-04-PART?</p> <p>Yes, with provisions. The PARIS21 Secretariat, European Commission, and OECD will work with a small group to design a light template by the early part of 2005 and to more explicitly define the objectives of the system.</p> |
| 4 | <p>In light of the budgetary situation presented in document P21-SC2-04-BUDG, what priorities does the Committee assign to the activities in the 2005–2006 work programme?</p> <p>It may be impossible for PARIS21 to get everything it wants and to implement everything it wants to do. It needs to defray costs through south–south cooperation and targeting the most needy countries. There was a consensus that the NSDS programme is the Partnership's top priority. The NSDS should be implemented in as many countries as are ready and willing to do so. It might be more useful to draw attention to a smaller number of countries and the positive results they have seen through the NSDS development process. The Steering Committee welcomed the idea of a light evaluation in line with the TFSCB, but this issue will have to be revisited some time before 2006.</p> |

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

PARIS21 Steering Committee Meeting – 3 November 2004



Chairmen

Mr. Richard MANNING
DAC Chairman
OECD
2, rue André Pascal
75016 Paris
France

Tel: + 33 (0)1 45 24 90 70
Fax: +33 (0)1 44 30 61 41
e-mail:
Richard.MANNING@OECD.ORG

Dr. Kwaku A. TWUM-BAAH
Government Statistician
Ghana Statistical Service
PO Box 1098 Accra
Ghana

Tel: +233 21 671 732
Fax: +233 21 671 731
e-mail: twum_baah@yahoo.com



Partner Countries

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Africa Francophone | Mr. Martin BALEPA Director General Afristat B.P. E 1600 Bamako Mali | Tel: +223 221 55 00 Fax: +223 221 11 40 e-mail: martin.balepa@afriostat.org |
| Middle East | Mr. Hussein SHAKHATREH Director General Department of Statistics, Jordan P.O. Box 2015 11181 Amman Jordan | Tel: +962 6 5300715 Fax: +962-6-5300710 e-mail: hshakhatreh@dos.gov.jo |
| Northern Africa | Mr. Ridha FERCHIOU President National Council of Statistics 17 rue de Tolède El Manar I 2092 Tunis Tunisia | Tel: +216 71 887 271 Fax: +216 71 886 499 e-mail: president.CNS@Email.ati.tn |
| Central Asia | Mr. Zarylbek KUDABAEV Chairman National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic 374 Frunze Street 720033 Bishkek Kyrgyzstan | Tel: +996 312 225035 Fax: +996 312 660138 e-mail: nsc_mail@nsc.bishkek.su |
| Andean Community/Central America | Maria Magdalena GARCIA UGARTE Director, INE Edificio Gomez - Cisneros Boulevard Suyapa Col Florencia Sur Tegucigalpa M.D.C. Apdo Postal 9412 Tegucigalpa Honduras | Tel: +504 239 0068 Fax: +504 239 8612 e-mail: mmgarcia50@hotmail.com |
| South East Asia | Dr. Romulo VIROLA Secretary General Profession: Statistician National Statistical Coordination Board, NSCB 2/F Midland Buendia Building 403 Sen. Gil. Puyat Ave. 1200 Makati City Philippines | Tel: +632 895 2395 Fax: +632 896 1778 e-mail: ra.virola@nscb.gov.ph |



South Asia/East Asia

Mr. Frederick HO
Census and Statistics
Department (Hong Kong)
21/F Wanchai Tower,
12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai
Hong Kong
Hong Kong, China

Tel: +852 25824848
Fax: +852 28241003
e-mail: fwhho@censtatd.gov.hk

Bilateral Partners

France

Mr. Jean-François DIVAY
Chargé de mission
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
DGCID, DCT/H
20, rue Monsieur
75700 Paris 07 SP
France

Tel: + 33 1 53 69 41 97
Fax: + 33 1 53 69 43 97
e-mail: jean-francois.divay@diplomatie.gouv.fr

United Kingdom

Rachel TURNER
Head, International Division
Advisory Dept
Department for International
Development (DFID)
1 Palace Street
SW1E 5HE London
United Kingdom

Tel: +44-020 7023 0131
Fax: +44 020 7023 1768
e-mail: r-turner@dfid.gov.uk

Mr. Richard LLEWELLYN-
DAVIES
Statistics Advisor, International
Division
DFID
1 Palace Street
SW1E 5HE London
United Kingdom

Tel: + 44 (0) 20 7023 0636
e-mail: r-llewellyn-davies@dfid.gov.uk

Switzerland

Mme Catherine GRAF
Swiss Agency for
Development and Cooperation
(SDC) Freiburgstrasse 130
CH-3003 Berne
Switzerland

Tel: 41 31 322 34 87
Fax: 41 31 32 41 692
e-mail: catherine.graf@deza.admin.ch

Mr. Reto GRÜNINGER
Swiss agency for Development
and Co-operation
Freiburgstrasse 130
3003 Bern
Switzerland

Tel: +41313223665
Fax: +41313241692
e-mail: Reto.Grueninger@deza.admin.ch

Japan

Ms. Masayo TERAKADO
Third Secretary
Permanent Delegation
11, avenue Hoche
75008 Paris
France

Tel: + 33 (0) 1 53 76 61 33
Fax: + 33 (0) 1 45 63 05 44
e-mail: terakado@deljp-ocde.fr



Germany

Mr. Frank TIBITANZL
Planning Officer
Gesellschaft für Technische
Zusammenarbeit (gtz)
Dag Hammerskjöld-Weg 1-5
65726 Eschborn
Germany

Tel: +49-6196-791211
Fax: +49-6196-796157
e-mail: Frank.Tibitanzl@gtz.de

Netherlands

M. Coert SMIT
Policy Advisor
Information Management
Division
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
P.O. Box 20061
2500 EB The Hague
Netherlands

Tel: +31 70 3486 194
e-mail: cd.smit@minbuza.nl

Regional Banks

AFDB

Mr. A. PORTELLA
Chief Statistician
African Development Bank
BP 323, 1002 Tunis
Belvedere,
Tunis
Tunisia

Tel: 00 216 7110 2620
Fax: 00 216 718 34436
e-mail: a.portella@afdb.org

Multilateral Partners

EC

Pieter EVERAERS
Director
EUROSTAT,
European Commission
Bech Building B4/303
L-2920 LUXEMBOURG
Luxembourg

Tel: +352.4301.36847
Fax: +352.4301.35409
e-mail: Pieter.EVERAERS@cec.eu.int

IMF

M. Robin KIBUKA
Advisor
Statistics Department, IMF
700 19th Street, Washington
DC 20431
USA

Tel: +1 202 623 6941
Fax: +1 202 623 6460
e-mail: rkibuka@imf.org

OECD

Mr. Brian HAMMOND
Head of Division, DCD/STAT
OECD
2, rue André Pascal
75016 Paris
France

Tel: + 33 (0) 1 45 24 90 34
Fax: +33 1 44 30 61 46
e-mail: Brian.HAMMOND@oecd.org



Mr. Richard CAREY
Deputy Director
DEVELOPMENT CO-
OPERATION DIRECTORATE
OECD
2, rue André Pascal
75016 Paris
France

Tel: + 33 1 (0)1 45 24 89 83
e-mail: Richard.CAREY@oecd.org

UNSD

Mr. Stefan SCHWEINFEST
Chief Statistical Development
Section
United Nations
Two UN-Plaza,
Office DC2-1652
10017 NEW YORK

Tel: +1 (212) 963 4849
Fax: +1 (212) 963 9851
e-mail: schweinfest@un.org

World Bank

Mr. Misha BELKINDAS
Manager, Development Data
Group
The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW
20433 Washington D.C.
United States

Tel: +1 (202) 473-7611
Fax: +1 (202) 522-3669
e-mail: Mbelkindas@worldbank.org

Other Invitees

Ex-Officio

Mr. Guest CHARUMBIRA
Chief Technical Advisor
UNDP
P. O Box 438
Zanzibar
Tanzania

Tel: +225 741 250506
e-mail: gcharumbira@botsnet.bw

ACBF

Mr. Coffi Rémy NOUMON
Program Officer
African Capacity Building
Foundation
Box 1562, Harare, Zimbabwe

Tel: + 263 4702931/2
Fax: +263 4702915
e-mail: c.noumon@acbf-pact.org

EFTA

M. Gabriel GAMEZ
Statistical Adviser
EFTA
Batiment Bech
Ave Alphonse Weicker
Luxembourg

Tel: + 352 4301 33521
Fax: + 352 4301 32145
e-mail: gabriel.gamez@cec.eu.int

Norway

Ms. Siri HALLE
Higher executive Officer
NORAD
PO Box 8034
0030 Oslo

Tel: + 47 22 24 02 84
Fax: +47 99 23 96 50
e-mail: siri.halle@norad.no



Finland

Mrs. Hilikka VIHAVAINEN
Director, International Affairs
Statistics Finland
Työpajakatu 13
00022 Statistics Finland
Finland

Tel: +358 9 1734 3495
Fax: +358 9 1734 2291
e-mail: hilkka.vihavainen@stat.fi

Belgium

M. Michel TIERENS
Service public fédéral Affaires
Etrangères, Commerce
Extérieur et Coopération au
Développement
6 rue Bréderode
B-1000 Bruxelles
Belgium

Tel: +32 2 519 0779
Fax: +32 2 519 05 85
e-mail: michel.tierens@diplobel.fed.be

USAID

Mr. William MCCORMICK
Financial Economist
U.S. Agency for International
Development (USAID)
1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
20523-6802 Washington D.C.
United States

Tel: 1 202-712-03 41
Fax: 1 202-712-00 77
e-mail: wmccormick@usaid.gov

PARIS21 Secretariat Manager

Mr. Antoine SIMONPIETRI
OECD - DCD/PARIS21
2, rue André Pascal
75016 Paris
France

Tel: +33 1 45 24 14 64
Fax: +33 1 45 24 94 06
e-mail:
Antoine.SIMONPIETRI@oecd.org

PARIS21 Secretariat Staff

Mr. Bahjat ACHIKBACHE
Mr. Andre BELLON
Mr. Eric BENSEL
Mr. Samuel BLAZYK
Mr. Gérard CHENAIS
Mrs. Jenny GALLELLI
Mrs. Amanda GAUTHERIN
Mr. Thomas HEIMGARTNER (Metagora)
Mrs. Brigitte JULE-DEMARNE
Ms. Monica LAWRENCE (Metagora)
Mr. Gilles RAMBAUD-CHANOZ
Mr. Raul SUAREZ (Metagora)
Mr. Jean-Paul VASQUEZ
Ms. Sylvie WALTER (Metagora)
Mr. Tony WILLIAMS