

ADDENDUM

Report of the World Bank on improving household surveys in the post-2015 development era: issues and recommendations for a shared agenda for discussion at the UNSC session (document E/CN.3/2015/10)

The World Bank has submitted the *Report of the World Bank on improving household surveys in the post-2015 development era: issues and recommendations for a shared agenda* for discussion at the UNSC session (document E/CN.3/2015/10). Written in collaboration with multiple organizations, the report formulates recommendations for a coordinated effort to improve the availability, quality and use of survey data in the context of the post-2015 agenda.

The Report suggests, among other recommendations, that the Statistical Commission “(...) (c) *Express its views on the desirability of formalizing a new global institutional arrangement in the form of a technical standing group, possibly under the aegis of the United Nations, to foster the coordination of household survey activities across agencies and member countries, define and promote minimum standards and best practices and advocate for household surveys within the broader post-2015 data agenda; and (d) Endorse the interim role of the management group of the International Household Survey Network in respect of establishing a technical standing group (...)*” (item 59 of the Report).

Since the submission of this report, the consultation process has continued and has led to developing more specific recommendations in regards to the institutional framework. If approved by the Statistics Commission, the proposed technical standing group would be established as an Intersecretarial Working Group on Household Surveys (ISWGHS). The secretariat of the ISWGHS would be assured by the United Nations Statistics Division. The creation of the ISWGHS would eliminate the need for the Management Group of the International Household Survey Network to play an interim role, as currently proposed by the paper.

The ISWGHS would comprise agencies that could make significant technical contributions to defining minimal standards for household surveys, developing best practices, in the design and implementation of household survey programs. The institutions that collaborated with the World Bank on this document have already expressed their interest in participating on the ISWGHS.

The terms of reference of the ISWGHS would be developed by the Secretariat under the guidance of the Bureau of the Commission, and endorsed at its inaugural meeting. The mandate of the Group would involve:

- Developing a work program of methodological research, and promote the development of international statistical standards and other methodological documents related to all relevant phases of survey implementation (design, sampling, data collection, data editing, data processing and analysis, data curation and dissemination). Piloting the development and implementation of a survey code of practice would be a priority in the work program early phases.
- Fostering the coordination for the implementation of international survey programs in developing countries, including capacity building initiatives.
- Promoting the use of survey data in policy formulation.

Operating in a similar manner as the Inter-secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA), the ITWGHS would report to, and consult, national statistical agencies through the United Nations Statistics Commission.