

# Annex D

## CODI-II



Addis Ababa, 4-7 September 2001  
Resolution on statistical development in Africa  
(Sponsored by Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Senegal and South Africa)

The Conference of Ministers,

**Having** reviewed the recommendations of the Working Group on Strengthening Statistical Capacity for Poverty Monitoring as endorsed by CODI<sup>5</sup>, specifically the issues relating to the new millennium goals and their application to the New African Initiative, the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), poverty monitoring and reports of the regional meetings of PARIS21;

**Recalling** its resolution on the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s;

**Noting** the country reports presented CODI by: Algeria, Angola, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Tanzania, Togo, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Swaziland, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe;

**Having examined** the report of the Coordinating Committee on African Statistical Development (CASD) on the evaluation of the implementation of the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s (AAPA)<sup>6</sup>, the Way Forward<sup>7</sup> and the implementation of 1993 System of National Accounts (SNA)<sup>8</sup> in the region;

**Bearing in mind** of the role of sub-regional institutions such as SADC, ECOWAS, COMESA, EAC, CEMAC and IGAD in the development of statistics in Africa;

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5 ECA/DISD/STAT/WG/SSCPM/01

6 E/ECA/DISD/CODI.2/11, and Add.1

7 E/ECA/DISD/CODI.2/11, Add.2

8 E/ECA/DISD/CODI.2/12

**Aware** of the progress made by a number of countries in preparing strategic plans for statistics, and that many National Statistical Offices (NSOs) are constrained in their operations due to the traditional civil service practices;

**Appreciative** of the important role of PARIS21 in promoting the use of statistics at the worldwide level with advocacy tools;

**Recognizing** the various initiatives undertaken by National Statistical Offices in data collection;

**Recognizing further** the significant advancements in the information and communication technologies;

**Noting** the slow pace of adapting new statistical methodologies and the deficit in number of statisticians,

**Noting also** that the major constraints to the implementation of the AAPA included lack of advocacy, lack of ownership, inadequacy of financial resources, lack of institutional and human capacity;

**Concerned** that only a small proportion of member states have made progress in the implementation of 1993 SNA and that was largely made possible by the existence of technical capacity, local or external and the availability of appropriate tools;

**Convinced** that member states should take appropriate steps to address these issues;

#### I. Strengthening statistical capacity

1. **Calls** upon national statistical offices of member states to submit country reports to ECA on the previous year by end of June of each year;

2. **Urges** member states to put in place strategic plans to provide a holistic approach and optimize the utilization of resources available for statistical development;

3. **Further urges** NSOs to take all appropriate steps to sensitize political leaders on the fundamental importance of statistics for planning and decision making and requests ECA and all partners to assist them in this endeavor;

4. **Recommends that:**

- a. NSOs should become autonomous organizations with independent Boards of Directors;
- b. NSOs should establish integrated information management systems that bring together data on social benefits, censuses, GIS, and household budget surveys to better equip users with information necessary for planning, monitoring and evaluation;
- c. Sub-regional institutions such as SADC, ECOWAS, COMESA, EAC, CEMAS and IGAD should be the building blocks for the implementation of the various initiatives on African development;
- d. Human development in statistics should be accelerated through strengthening of Regional Training Institutions and the establishment of a fund for statistical training;
- e. The process of adopting the latest international standards should be speeded up;
- f. National capacities in the analysis of data on poverty at the national level should be enhanced and priority areas for action (education, health etc.) should be defined;
- g. The replication of AFISTAT type arrangements in other countries and in particular the Anglophone countries;

5. **Emphasizes** that statistical development plans should be an integral component of national development plans.

II. The Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s

6. **Acknowledges** that the principles and objectives of the AAPA were and still remain relevant to statistical development in Africa;

7. **Regrets** the slow level of implementation of the AAPA identified by CASD in the evaluation;

8. **Appreciates** the commendable work done by CASD and resolves that its mandate has come to an end;

9. **Resolves** that a new plan, as proposed in the evaluation report, will not be necessary. Instead, a new framework for statistical development in Africa be put in place that will take into account:

- a. full stakeholder participation at all levels;
- b. new demands for information (PRSPs, New African Initiative);
- c. strategies at national, sub-regional and regional levels for enhancing statistical capacity;
- d. the plight of countries emerging from war and other crises;
- e. mechanisms of continuous monitoring and evaluation;

10. **Approves** that

- a. full stakeholder participation at all levels;
- b. a broad based Advisory Board on African Statistical Development (ABASD) be constituted;
- c. in order to effect the proposed framework, the Advisory Board design the modalities of statistical advancement in the region;
- d. the Board works in close partnership with sub-regional, regional and international organizations.

### III. Information and Communication Technologies

11. **Strongly recommends** that member states be proactive in adapting the new technologies in information capturing, processing and dissemination for timely and effective policy decisions;

### IV. Implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts (1993 SNA)

12. **Urges** member States strive to speed up the implementation of the 1993 SNA by strengthening technical capacity in national accounts and accessing and using available tools.

# Annex E

## Yaoundé Declaration on Statistical Development In Africa



Directors of the national statistical offices from 51 African countries, having taken part in the meeting of the Regional Governing Board of the International Comparison Programme for Africa (ICP-Africa) on 26 April, 2004, in Yaoundé, and having deliberated on the urgent and increasingly critical demand for reliable, timely and relevant data necessary for formulating, managing, monitoring and evaluating development policies and programs at the meeting of the Directors of the national statistical offices, April 26–30, 2004,

Considering the importance of information as a basis for informing poverty reduction policy, monitoring progress towards meeting the Millennium Development Goals, and supporting region-wide initiatives such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD),

Considering that the indicators proposed within the framework of ICP-Africa will be of a great contribution to supporting the development and monitoring of the Poverty Reduction Strategies as well as supporting the optimal allocation of national resources, the follow-up of the implementation of national policies and programs for the attainment of the MDGs,

Emphasizing that most statistical programs lack effective mechanisms to ensure their sustainability and ownership by the countries,

Acknowledging the importance of having sound and effective partnerships, identifying synergies, coordinating efforts and pooling resources to advance a common goal,

Highlighting that the most critical challenges facing statistical systems in Africa remain the need to create greater awareness among policymakers about the importance of statistics and emphasizing the critical importance of securing financial and political commitment from government leaders,

Acknowledging that actions to strengthen national statistical agencies are likely to occur in the short to medium term only with external input that complements government's effort,

Recognizing and supporting the resolution of the Second International Roundtable, held in Marrakech, on managing for development results that call upon international and national policymakers to step up their support for statistical capacity building,

Acknowledging the great strides that have been made in the last two years under the initiative of ICP-Africa and recognizing the importance of the program both as a source of reliable and policy relevant data, and as a comprehensive and coherent regional capacity building framework,

Note with satisfaction the recommendations of the second meeting of the Governing Board of ICP-Africa and emphasize the need to prepare strategy papers on advocacy and building partnerships,

Adopt ICP-Africa as a flagship capacity building initiative in the area of economic statistics, with particular emphasis on price statistics and national accounts,

Recommend to:

A. African governments

1. To put ICP-Africa, a program covering the entire Africa continent, at the core of statistical capacity building programs for member countries
2. To support statistical activities by making statistics a priority and allocating adequate resources
3. To pursue the efforts of statistical harmonization and integration of activities by their national statistical offices, as well as regional and sub-regional organizations
4. To ensure capacity building in the development of statistical master plans; in the coordination of national statistical systems; in human resource development (training, attraction and retention); and in analysis, report writing and dissemination.

B. Bilateral agencies and international institutions

5. To continue working in the area of statistical capacity building by allocating more financial and material resources to statistical activities

6. To improve their partnership collaboration to facilitate synergy so as to ensure effective and coordinated support to the countries

7. To engage in advocacy work so as to give statistics a high profile and to secure financial and political commitment from African governments.

C. African Development Bank as the coordinating agency for ICP-Africa

8. To enhance priority given to statistics and provide optimal resources, both financial and technical, for supporting statistical activities in African countries, given the importance of statistics in formulating, monitoring and evaluating poverty reduction strategies, in monitoring the MDGs and in managing for development results.

Adopted this 30th day of April, 2004, at Yaoundé, Cameroon.

