



30th Meeting
Monday, 9 September 2013 at 8:30 – 13:00

European Commission
54, rue Joseph II, Brussels
Meeting Room J-54 2/186

Minutes

Doc ESGAB/2013/174
The Secretariat
Internal

Minutes from the 30th ESGAB meeting held on 9 September 2013

Participants:

Mr Wieser (Chair)

Mr Charpin, Ms Epler, Mr Kopsch, Ms Martín-Guzmán, Ms O'Hara, Mr Outrata (members)

Mr Radermacher, Ms Bohatá, (observers)

Ms Pereira de Sá, Ms Lehtimäki (secretary)

1. Welcome and adoption of the agenda

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Recent developments

DGINS/ESSC 25-27 September 2013

In 2013 the 99th Directors General of the National Statistical Institutes (DGINS) Conference and the meeting of the European Statistical System Committee (ESSC) take place in Scheveningen – The Hague¹. The topics of this year's DGINS Conference are the 'New round of Peer reviews' and 'Big Data'. Moreover, a special session 'ESS Future and how we get there' in view of reassessing the current way ESS co-operates and modernises the system is organised.

Co-operation with the central banks

Collaboration with the European Central Bank and European System of Central Banks (ESCB) was formalised in the Memorandum of Understanding signed in April. The first meeting of the newly created Forum is scheduled for 15 November and the Bureau to prepare it is planned for 18 September. Both parties should agree on the interpretation of the European law when European statistics are produced under Regulation 223/09.

59th ISI World Statistics Congress

ISI congress took place in Hong-Kong² in August where also side meetings such as "Special Seminar on Professional Ethics in Statistical Practice³" and "Open meeting on Intrusion of the judiciary in the course of the statistical production of official statistics"⁴ took place.

Regulation 223/09

The compromise text elaborated during the first half of the year is going to be further strengthened and balanced under the Lithuanian presidency.

3. Draft annual report

First draft of the annual report was discussed and to be revised for the next meeting.

4. Orientations for ESGAB future work

In 2014 ESGAB plans to continue exchanges of views with the Heads of NSIs and ESGAB like bodies. While peer-reviews are ongoing amongst the ESS national members, ESGAB will examine Eurostat's replies to the self-assessment questionnaire and hold talks with management and stakeholders.

¹ <http://www.cbs-events.nl/dgins2013/information/>

² <http://www.isi2013.hk/en/index.php>

³ <http://www.isi-web.org/news/711-asspe>

⁴ <http://www.isi-web.org/news/712-iotjtcotspoos>

5. Progress with GPAC report

According to the Art. 4 of the law establishing "Good Practice Advisory Board" (GPAC) "The committee shall submit its report to the Parliament having informed the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board accordingly.

Mr O'Hanlon in his capacity as the GPAC Chairperson informed ESGAB about the first annual report via a conference call. In order to prepare the report GPAC had met twice and undertaken discussions with stakeholder. The working language of the Committee is English, the report is translated into Greek. The annual report⁵ was set to be finalised in the third meeting and sent to the Parliament towards mid-September.

6. Update on peer reviews

Pilots of the peer-reviews with Slovakia and Iceland have been carried out. The peer review methodology will be revised according to these experiences and discussed in the upcoming DGINS meetings in view of adopting the final approach in the ESSC November meeting.

The ESCB is participating in the peer reviews in their role of user. As the ESCB Public commitment and European Statistics Code of Practice are to a large extent aligned, both systems could envisage carrying out peer reviews in parallel according to their quality frameworks.

7. Time and place of the next meeting

The next meeting takes place on Monday 7 October 2013.

⁵ The report was sent to members 19 September, available on line at http://www.statistics.gr/portal/page/portal/ESYE/BUCKET/General/ELSTAT_report_adv_2013_EN.pdf