



49th ESGAB meeting

Thursday 2 February 2017

Minutes

Doc ESGAB 2017/9

The Secretariat



Brussels, 2 March 2017

Minutes

49th Meeting of the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board (ESGAB)

Expert Group X02147

2 February 2017

1 Place Madou, Brussels

1. Approval of the agenda and of the minutes of previous meeting

The draft agenda (Doc. 2017/1) was approved. The minutes of the previous meeting were discussed and after a minor change was agreed the minutes were approved for publication

2. Nature of the meeting

The meeting was a non-public meeting of six members of ESGAB, two observers from Eurostat and the Secretariat.

3. Next round of ESGAB appointments

The Chair informed the Board that Mr Giovannini would like to renew his mandate for the next ESGAB term and that Mr Profiroiu is not seeking a second term. The Chair had already informed members that he will not stand for a second term. In addition, three current members have served two terms and are not eligible for a third term and Mr Lyberg has to be replaced, following his resignation in 2016. As a result, six new ESGAB members will be required for the next ESGAB term starting on 1 February 2018.

4. Recent developments

Forthcoming meetings

Eurostat updated ESGAB on issues to be discussed at the ESS Committee, ESAC, the High Level Group on Quality (HLGQ) and the UN Statistical Commission. Particular points of relevance to ESGAB are:

- There will be a progress report to the February ESS Committee on 9 February on the ADMIN project (use of administrative sources in statistical production).
- A workshop on the impact of globalisation on statistical production will also take place on 9 February involving Heads of NSIs.



- The HLGQ will meet on 8 February and will discuss possible changes to the Code of Practice in line with ESGAB’s recommendations on multi-source data and ethical issues.
- The UN Statistical Commission is setting up a ‘Friends of the Chair’ group to examine the UN Fundamental Principles; Eurostat will volunteer to be involved in this group.

Extension to the European Statistical Programme 2018-2020

Eurostat informed ESGAB that the extension to the European Statistical Programme 2018-2020 is now under discussion in the EMPL and ECON Committees of the European Parliament. Inter-institutional agreement between the European Commission, the Council and the Parliament is expected in September 2017.

In addition, Eurostat, in cooperation with the Maltese Presidency, is organising a seminar for Heads of NSIs to discuss the ESS priorities beyond 2020, in Valetta on 23 and 24 March.

Other issues raised:

- In response to a question raised by an ESGAB member, Eurostat informed the Board that Commission data centres are being centralised in Luxembourg. Eurostat is one of the first Directorates-General to move into the secured centre.
- Eurostat has developed the first draft list of EU Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators and is consulting relevant Directorates-General, prior to discussions with Member States and an ESS Committee presentation in May. A publication based on the agreed indicators is planned by the end of the year.

5. Good Practice Advisory Committee

The Board discussed the third report of the Good Practice Advisory Committee (GPAC), which had been adopted by the Greek Parliament on 13 January 2017 (Doc. 2017/3).

6. 2017 ESGAB Work Programme

Members discussed the ESGAB work programme for 2017 (Doc. 2017/4) including the content of the Annual Report, proposed dialogues with Heads of National Statistical Institutes and a possible meeting with the High Level Group on Quality.

The activities and schedule for the annual work programme 2017 were approved.

The contributions of Members to the Annual report 2017 were agreed and the first drafts of Members’ contributions to the Annual Report should be sent to the Secretariat by 22 May 2017.



7. Next meetings

To avoid a conflict with activities planned in relation to European Statistics Day on 20 October 2017, it was agreed to move the meeting of Thursday 19 October to Tuesday 7 November 2017.

In addition, the meeting of 14 December 2017 was replaced with a longer meeting in January 2018, possibly in Rome. This meeting would include a discussion with ESGAB-like bodies on the first afternoon, an evening dinner and the formal handover to the next group of ESGAB members on the second day

8. List of participants

Mr Martti Hetemäki	(Chair)
Ms Patricia O'Hara	(Member)
Ms Pilar Martín-Guzman	(Member)
Mr Günter Kopsch	(Member)
Mr Marius Profiroiu	(Member)
Mr Enrico Giovannini	(Member)
Ms Mariana Kotzeva	(Observer)
Mr Pieter Everaers	(Observer)
Mr Stephen Clarke	(Secretary)
Ms Cristina Pereira de Sá	(Secretariat)