



63rd ESGAB meeting

Wednesday, 11 September 2019

Minutes

Doc ESGAB 2019/54

The Secretariat



Brussels, 11 September 2019

Minutes

63rd Meeting of the European Statistical Governance Advisory Board (ESGAB)

Expert Group *X02147*

11 September 2019

1 Place Madou, Brussels

1. Welcome and adoption of the agenda

The draft agenda (Doc. 2019/47) was presented and agreed.

2. Information from Eurostat on recent and future developments in the ESS

Eurostat presented the overall methodology for the next round of peer reviews, a document that will also be discussed in the October meeting of the European Statistical System Committee (ESSC). This methodology document describes the objectives of this third round of peer reviews, the scope, including the involvement of ONAs, as well as the self-assessment questionnaires, the composition of the peer review expert teams, the peer review visits, the expert recommendations and the peer review reports and improvement actions. The peer review exercise is scheduled to start in 2021-2022 for the Member States and will end in 2023.

The discussion focused on the role and involvement of the ‘Other national Authorities’ (ONAs) in the peer review process. In order to determine which ONAs should participate, the ESGAB members suggested that the peer review team could apply a set of criteria agreed before and included in the methodology.

Eurostat explained that the self-assessment questionnaires will cover all the principles of the Code of Practice and it will be up to the peer review team to select on which points to focus (based also on the previous two rounds of peer review exercise, their recommendations and follow-up actions).

Eurostat also added that the questionnaires will only be finalised in May 2020. For this reason, Eurostat will be able to complete them in October/November. The mandate of the current ESGAB members ends next year, which would make it very difficult for the current team to conduct the exercise. Consequently, the new ESGAB, which will be appointed in 2021, will prepare the visits and write the report.

3. Annual Report 2019

The Chair proposed that this year's Report has as "special topics": governance (covering ESGAB-like functions and national user councils) and the census.

ESGAB members discussed the chapter on the 'Overview of the implementation of the Code of Practice'. The Chair asked Eurostat to provide supporting documents detailing the actions taken by Eurostat.

4. Role of ESGAB in the appointments/dismissals of Heads of NSIs

ESGAB agreed that some more information is needed from the NSIs about how they follow the principles of the Code of Practice. For this reason, members will put together a table with the most important and relevant requirements and send it to the Secretariat, who will contact the NSIs.

5. Next meeting

The next ESGAB meeting is scheduled for 7 November, in Brussels.

§

List of participants

Members

Mr Enrico Giovannini (Chair)
Ms Mireille Elbaum
Ms Frances Ruane
Mr Algirdas Šemeta
Mr Kai Carstensen

Observer

Mr Gallo Gueye, (Eurostat)
Mr Eduardo Barredo Capelot (Eurostat)

Mr Priit Potisepp

Secretariat

Ms Delia Bistreanu