

WORKSHOP ON THE MODERNISATION OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS

19-20 November 2019, Geneva, Switzerland

21 August 2019

Information Notice No. 1

The 2019 workshop will be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland. It will take place on 19-20 November 2019, starting at 09.30 on 19 November, and ending by 16.00 on 20 November.

I. PURPOSE AND TARGET AUDIENCE OF THE WORKSHOP

1. The High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics (HLG-MOS) was created by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in 2010. The vision and strategy for the modernisation of official statistics was renewed and endorsed by the CES (June 2018). The HLG-MOS would like to invite those people and organisations engaged in statistical modernisation activities to a workshop to discuss progress during 2019, and to determine the key priorities for international collaboration in 2020.

2. The purpose of the workshop is to ensure that the work is community driven and that activities and initiatives are aligned with the implementation of the HLG-MOS vision, avoiding duplication and maximising efficiency. The expected outputs are a set of agreed and prioritised implementation actions.

3. The target audience are statisticians with technical knowledge of modernisation of statistics combined with a broader understanding of the statistical process and its modernisation, including some knowledge about international developments in this area. This includes chief statisticians and representatives of expert groups, projects and initiatives on statistical modernisation. Members of the following groups are invited: The Statistical Modernisation Community, the CES Bureau, the HLG-MOS, the Executive Board, Modernisation Groups and task teams under the auspices of the HLG-MOS. Other staff working in areas related to modernisation of official statistics or interested in the work of the HLG-MOS are also welcome to participate.

II. AGENDA OF THE WORKSHOP

Day 1: Overview of the HLG-MOS projects and activities during 2019

4. This session will review progress on the key priorities and activities agreed at the 2018 workshop. The activities of the Modernisation Groups: Supporting Standards, Developing Organisational Capability, Sharing Tools and Blue Skies Thinking will be presented during the morning session. The results of the projects on strategic communication and machine learning will be presented during the afternoon session. Participants will discuss the extent to which these projects have met expectations, and delivered useful outputs.

Day 2: Identifying key priorities for the implementation of the strategy during 2020

5. The meeting will consider proposals for international collaboration projects and other activities. Discussions in small groups and in plenary will identify the key priorities on which the HLG-MOS should focus its activities during 2019.

Side Events

6. Various side meetings will also take place on the dates before or after the main workshop:

18 November - Meetings of the Modernisation Groups

19 and 20 November - Main workshop

20 November 16.00 – 17.00 – Meeting of the Executive Board and HLG-MOS members

Please note that meetings of the Modernisation Groups and Executive Board/HLG-MOS are restricted **just to the members of the respective groups**.

III. ORGANISATIONAL ASPECTS

A. Participation and Accreditation

7. To limit numbers and help focus discussions, participation to the workshop is strictly by invitation only.

8. All participants attending the workshop are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas should be made as soon as possible to the Swiss Embassy in the country in which the participant resides, with a reference to the UNECE Workshop on the Modernisation of Official Statistics. A letter to facilitate obtaining a visa can be requested from the UNECE secretariat.

9. Participants should register by **15 October** by completing the on-line registration form at <https://uncdb.unece.org/app/ext/meeting-registration?id=abpRrO>

B. Travel and Accommodation

10. Participants and/or their offices are requested to make their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. Neither the HLG-MOS nor the UNECE secretariat can provide any financial support for travel or accommodation.

C. Documentation, Methods of Work and Official Languages

The working language of the workshop is English. All documents will be provided in English only, and will be made available on the website of the UNECE secretariat at the following location: <https://statswiki.unece.org/x/ERBRDw>

11. Participants are encouraged to download the papers from the website and bring their own copies to the workshop. Documents posted on the website before the workshop will not be distributed in the conference room.

IV. FURTHER INFORMATION

13. For further information, please contact:

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