



Expert Consultation on the proposed “City Group on Governance Statistics”

Praia, Cape Verde, 9-10 October 2014





Concept Paper

1. Context

City Groups¹ are created by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) to address selected problems in statistical methods. They play a leadership role in defining international best practices and methodological guidelines in emerging areas of official statistics.

At the 45th Session of the UNSC, the national statistical office of Cape Verde (*Instituto Nacional de Estatística de Cabo Verde – INECV*) proposed that an item be added to the agenda of the 46th Session of the UNSC to discuss the establishment of a “City Group on Governance, Peace and Security Statistics”. Nearly 40 countries supported the proposal (due to time constraints, not all of them were able to express their support publicly in the Session), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) committed to assisting Cape Verde with the unfolding process towards the creation of the Group and the AUC to play the role at political level, doing advocacy across the continent, in view of their long-standing commitment to support national and regional efforts to assess governance, peace and security.

This proposal by Cape Verde was a response to the exponential proliferation in recent years of measurement initiatives in these areas (as recounted in detail in the Historical Background of the enclosed draft report), and to the escalation in user demands for methodological guidance, especially in view of the possible inclusion of these domains in the post-2015 development framework.

For reasons of practical feasibility, the proposed thematic scope of the City Group has since been narrowed down to governance only. The proposed “City Group on Governance Statistics” would therefore endeavor to address issues of conceptualization, methodology and instruments in the governance domain. It would aim to contribute to establishing international standards and methods for producing governance statistics, by reviewing existing advances and by enlisting expertise from national statistical offices as well as international, academic and non-profit institutions invested in this field.

¹ There are 8 City Groups currently active. The name of these Groups derive from the city where they first met: 1) the Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics, 2) the London Group on Environmental Accounting, 3) the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics, 4) the Ottawa Group on Price Indices, 5) the Ulaanbaatar Group on Statistics for Economies based on Natural Resources, 6) the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics, 7) the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, and 8) the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers.



As per the UNSC procedures, the Cape Verde statistical office needs to present a report outlining the rationale, mandate and activities for the proposed City Group at the next session of the Statistical Commission, in March 2015. The City Group will then be officially created if the United Nations Statistical Division and the United Nations Statistical Commission as well as AUC agree with the terms of reference presented, and if there is sufficient consensus on the need for such a Group amongst official statisticians participating in the 46th Session of the UNSC.

In preparation for the submission of this report to the UNSC Bureau in November 2014, Cape Verde is inviting statistical offices, AUC as the leader of the STG 1 on Governance, Peace and security statistics of SHaSA and partner institutions who have expressed interest in its proposal to take part in an expert consultation to be held in Praia, Cape Verde, on 18-19 September 2014. This two-day consultation will provide an opportunity for all interested institutions to engage in a collective reflection on the mandate and future activities of the City Group.

2. Objectives

The overall objective of this expert consultation will be to critically review and forge consensus around a draft Terms of Reference elaborated for the proposed “Praia Group on Governance Statistics”, with an emphasis on the following:

- A. Learn from the experience of an already established City Group, to draw insights and recommendations for the design of the proposed Praia Group;
- B. Take stock of the wide range of interests amongst various stakeholders for its establishment;
- C. Define the main objectives to be pursued;
- D. Delineate the main activities to be undertaken;
- E. Decide on the method of operation;
 - a. Coordinator bureau (International organizations and National Statistical Offices)
 - b. Secretary of the bureau (NSO and others)
- F. Outline a calendar of upcoming events and opportunities to inform various constituencies about the proposed Praia Group, in the run-up to the 46th Session of the Statistical Commission (March 2015).



Agenda

9 October 2014

08:30 – Registration

09:00 – Welcome Remarks

António Duarte – National Statistics Institute of Cabo Verde

Ulrika Richardson-Golinski - United Nations Development Programme

Dossina Yeo – African Union Commission

Stefan Schweinfest – United Nations Statistics Division

Jorge Carlos Fonseca – His Excellency, President of Cabo Verde

10:30 Coffee-Break

11:00 Session I: Contextualizing City Groups

Moderator – Marie Laberge (UNDP)

11:05 - SHaSA GPS Experience on measuring governance, peace and security in Africa - Dossina Yeo (AUC)

11:15 – Experience of an Established City Group, London Group - Edward Smithson (Dfid)

11:25 - Discussion

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch



14:00 Session II: The Praia Group (Presentation and Group Work)
Moderator – António Duarte (INECV)

14:00 – Presentation of the Proposed Praia Group on Governance Statistics - Mariana Neves (INECV)

14:30 Session III: Working group discussions on the Praia Group proposal

Group 1: Objectives of the Praia Group

Group 2: Activities

Group 3: Method of Operation

10 October 2014

09:00 Session IV: Feedback in plenary from working groups
Moderator – Dossina Yeo

09:00 – Presentation by Group 1 and discussion

09:45 – Presentation by Group 2 and discussion

10:30 Coffee-Break

11:00 – Presentation by Group 3 and discussion

12:00 Awareness-raising on the Praia Group until March 2015: Upcoming events and opportunities

12:30 Session IV: Conclusions and way forward (António Duarte)

13:00 Lunch

18:00 Cocktail