

Statistical Commission

Fifty-first session

3 - 6 March 2020

Item 3 (O) Governance, peace and security statistics

Document: Report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics ([E/CN.3/2020/19](#))

Oral introduction

Introducer: Osvaldo Borges, Praia City Group on Governance Statistics Secretariat Chair

Thank you Madam Chair,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and gentlemen,

As Chair of the Praia City Group on Governance Statistics Secretariat, it is my pleasure to introduce the report of the Praia Group as well as the corresponding background document, the Handbook on Governance Statistics.

Before doing so, I would like to thank all the Steering Committee members (AfDB, INEGI, IRD, PARIS21, PRIO, OHCHR and UNDP), all the member countries and international organizations of the Praia Group, and – in particular – the advisory role of UNDP during this process over the last five years.

The report starts with an overview of the progress made in the implementation of the activities in the 2016-2020 road-map, presents the elaboration process of the Handbook on Governance Statistics and also proposes the continuation of the Group as it has successfully delivered the core long-term task assigned to it for the period 2016-2020.

The production of the handbook was a collaborative effort of national statistical offices, international organizations and civil society organizations. The handbook provides key insights about the current state of play and a call for action on the way forward in the field of governance statistics, in particular with regard to methodological development, data production and use, engaging new actors and exploring new data sources.

The handbook has two main parts. Cross-cutting issues applicable to all or most dimensions of governance statistics are addressed in part A, which provides an overarching framework with

common analytical underpinnings informed by international human rights norms and principles that are applicable to all the dimensions. In part B, details are provided on each of the eight dimensions of governance, including a conceptualization of the dimension, a discussion of its relevance, a presentation of data and best practices that currently exist, recommended key indicators (including but not limited to indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals) and a suggested way forward to achieve international statistical standards in the context of the dimension.

The Handbook went through a global consultation process with the NSOs members of the United Nations and also other international institutions. We have received more than 50 responses with positive feedback, supporting this achievement in the field of governance statistics. The final version of the Handbook is now published in our website.

With the submission of the Handbook, the Praia Group achieved its main goal proposed for the last 5 years. However, ample challenges and work remain on the topic of governance statistics. The international statistical community is still far from achieving the overarching aims identified at the first meeting of the Praia Group, namely, harmonization and universality in measuring governance and full integration of governance statistics into official statistical systems. To this end, the Group also recommends that its work should continue over the next five years (2020-2025), on the basis of the proposed terms of reference set out in the annex to the report.

The Commission is invited to endorse the handbook and to support the continuation of the Praia Group as recommended in our report and its work under the proposed terms of reference.

Thank you.