
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

among

**AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK,
INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK,
INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION
DEVELOPMENT,
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION,
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND,
ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK,
and
UNITED NATIONS**

on COOPERATION ON STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES

April 19, 2013

This Memorandum of Understanding (“Memorandum”) represents a statement of intent by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA) (IBRD and IDA, collectively, referred to as the “World Bank”), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), and the United Nations (UN), (each a “Party” and together, the “Parties”) to collaborate in the achievement of common objectives as described and on the basis outlined below.

WHEREAS:

- (A) The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have provided the development community with an important yardstick for measuring development outcomes. Currently global efforts are under way led by the UN to accelerate achievements of the MDG targets, as well as to define goals for the post-2015 development agenda.
- (B) The Parties are committed to reducing poverty, improving living conditions, and driving strong economic growth and sustainable development through, *inter alia*, strong international economic cooperation, and desire to strengthen collaboration among their institutions on issues related to data and statistical capacity building to support the monitoring of development outcomes, including post-2015 development agenda.

NOW THEREFORE the Parties, intend to cooperate on matters of common interest as follows:

A. Objective

Consistent with their respective mandates, rules, policies and procedures, resources and allocated budget, the Parties desire to enhance their collaboration in supporting the strengthening of the statistical capacity in member countries and facilitating inter-agency sharing of data, tools, standards, and analysis to improve statistics for monitoring development outcomes, including the post-2015 development goals.

B. Guiding Principles

In working with member countries, the Parties intend, subject to their respective mandates, rules, policies and procedures, including those regarding the disclosure of information, to:

1. Collaborate to explore effective ways to coordinate country level support to ensure maximum synergy and avoiding duplication and fragmented efforts.

2. Respect country ownership and leadership by supporting statistical development through national statistical plans that are comprehensive, realistic, prioritized, and costed. Such national statistical plans should respond to priority national data needs for the formulation and implementation of the country's national development strategies as well as those required to assess progress toward the post-2015 development goals.
3. Support data collection in coordination with nationally agreed statistical priorities.
4. Deliver statistical capacity building assistance in a harmonized and coordinated manner and utilizing country systems and procedures wherever possible.
5. Raise awareness of the role, and promote greater use, of statistical information through invigorating statistical advocacy at every level especially at the highest level of government.
6. Strive to increase data user satisfaction by enhancing the quality and usability of statistical information.
7. Encourage the countries to take the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics¹ into account, in particular to ensure that users have confidence in the quality and integrity of national statistics.
8. Encourage the use of clear results frameworks with well-defined output and outcome indicators for measuring improvements in statistics and statistical capacity.
9. Encourage the sharing of knowledge, the access to data and information and the development of tools, and promote good practices in the management of statistical offices.

C. Forms of Collaboration

To further the achievement of their common objectives, the Parties intend to collaborate in the following manner, subject to their respective mandates, rules, policies and procedures, including those regarding the disclosure of information:

1. Enhance collaboration at the institutional level by: (i) designating a representative from each of the Parties to serve as the primary contact for work to improve collaboration on statistics; and (ii) designating an institution/agency to facilitate the exchange of information and progress reporting, as and when required, for future meetings of the Parties.

¹ Available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/fundprinciples.aspx>

2. Share information on the Parties' statistical programs by reporting through the Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS) reporting system under Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21).
3. Collaborate to effectively share knowledge of lessons learned and evaluations in statistics capacity building, including sharing of information on conferences, seminars and workshops being organized or sponsored on statistics capacity building at the international, regional, or country, level by posting such information on the Parties' websites.
4. Enhance further collaboration with other relevant bodies, such as the United Nations Statistical Commission, PARIS21, interagency and expert groups and regional institutions.
5. Collaborate in any other statistics-related initiatives, as may be agreed upon between the Parties from time to time.

D. Contacts

1. Each Party hereby designates and appoints below its representative with overall responsibility for implementing this Memorandum. The Parties may, by written notice to the other Parties, designate additional or different persons as points of contact but the Parties expect to have only one person at a time designated as the person with overall responsibility for all activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum.

For the World Bank:

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Director, Development Economics Data Group
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For the African Development Bank (AfDB):

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Director, Statistics Department (ESTA)
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For the Asian Development Bank (ADB):

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For the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB):

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Chief, Institutional Capacity of the State Division
Institutions for Development Department
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Email: csantiso@iadb.org

For the International Monetary Fund (IMF):

Mr. Alfredo M. Leone
Acting Director, Statistics Department
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Email: aleone@imf.org

For the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB)

Mr. Abdullateef Bello (Ph.D)
Director, Economic Research and Policy Department
Islamic Development Bank
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Jeddah 22332-2444
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
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Email: abello@isdb.org

For the United Nations (UN):

Mr. Stefan Schweinfest
Acting Director, UN Statistics Division
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United States of America
Phone: +1-212-963-4849
Email: schweinfest@un.org

2. Any notice, request or other communication under this Memorandum shall be in writing and shall be deemed to have been duly given when it has been delivered by hand, mail, fax, as the case may be, by any Party to the others at the address specified in the Agreement or such other address as any Party may notify to the other Parties.

E. General Provisions

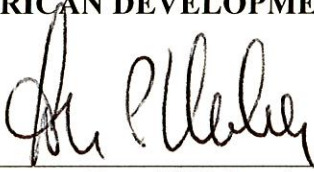
1. This Memorandum does not constitute an agreement or commitment by any Party to enter into, carry out or provide support for any specific activity or project. Any Party may discontinue any collaboration envisaged under this Memorandum by notifying in writing the other Parties.

2. Each Party may disclose this Memorandum, and information with respect to the collaborative activities contemplated herein, in accordance with its respective policies and procedures with respect to the disclosure of information in effect at the time of such disclosure. For the avoidance of doubt, any information shared by any Party in connection with this Memorandum that is identified as confidential at the time of disclosure will be treated by the Parties as confidential, and no Party shall reveal such confidential information to third parties without the prior written consent of the disclosing Party. The Parties plan to consult with each other concerning the manner and form of any public acknowledgement of the other Parties support regarding the activities.

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In witness whereof, the Parties have caused this Memorandum to be executed as of the day and date written in the cover page.

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



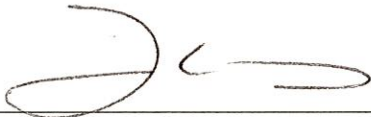
Name: Donald Kaberuka
Title: President

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



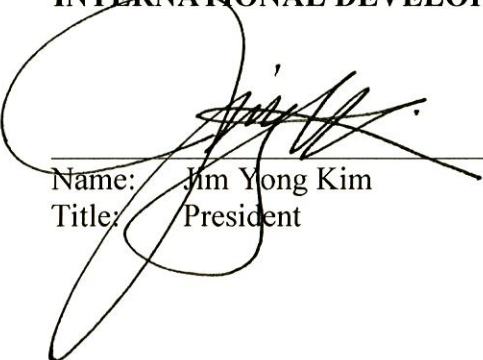
Name: Bindu Lohani
Title: Ranking Vice-President and Acting Chair of the Board of Directors

INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK



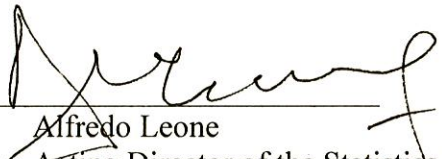
Name: Luis Alberto Moreno
Title: President

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**




Name: Jim Yong Kim
Title: President

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND



Name: Alfredo Leone
Title: Acting Director of the Statistics Department

ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK



Name: Abdulaziz Al-Hinai
Title: Vice President Finance

UNITED NATIONS



Name: Ban Ki-moon
Title: Secretary-General