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22 June 2015

## **Invitation**

**to the NSOs and ISOs Lunchtime Event  
on Wednesday 29 July 2015, 12.40 - 14.00  
Conference Room 211**

To: Heads of National and International Statistical Offices and Statistical Agencies

Dear Colleague:

I am writing on behalf of the President and the Executive Committee of the International Statistical Institute (ISI) to invite you to a panel discussion entitled:

**Are NSO and ISO top managers ready to lead the change process requested by the data revolution?**

This meeting will be held as a Lunchtime Event during the World Statistics Congress in Rio de Janeiro on Wednesday 29 July 2015 from 12.40 - 14.00, Conference Room 211.

The panel will consist of:

**Panellists:**

**Mr. Walter Rademacher, Director-General of Eurostat and Chief Statistician of the European Union**

**Mr. João Dias Loureiro, Presidente, Instituto Nacional de Estatística, República de Moçambique**

**Moderator: Irena Križman, ISI Vice-President; Former Director General of Slovenia National Statistics Office.**

The Post-2015 Development Agenda and the Data Revolution raises many opportunities and challenges, such as the innovative use of modern technologies in data collection and data presentation and the use of new data sources, with the aim of producing good quality and timely statistical information. In particular, this revolution calls for innovative, accountable and forward-looking leaders in official statistics.

The ISI has a long tradition in organising governance workshops. At the last one, held in Tanzania, there were more than 40 participants, mostly top managers of NSOs from Africa. The workshop focused on 'Building a Strong Community of Innovative and Forward-Looking Leaders in Official Statistics.' You can find more information at <http://isi.cbs.nl/events/2015Tanzania/indexTanzania.htm>.

One of the conclusions of the workshop was that the role of leadership is crucial and that there is a strong need to provide appropriate training to top and middle NSO managers. Aside from the management and

leadership training courses, the exchange of good practice presents an important part of management capacity development. The results from the panel discussion will help to better shape the future governance workshops.

The workshop also agreed that the appropriate legal backing of the position of the NSO Heads and its implementation is very important. The European Parliament and the Council on 29 April 2015 adopted amendments to Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics, the so-called Statistical Law, which inter alia now clarify the role and position of the Heads of the National Statistical Institutes and give better protection to the independence of national statistical authorities.

The challenges in adopting and implementing above-mentioned piece of legislation as the legal foundation for safeguarding the professional independence and integrity of statistical authorities will be discussed.

I do hope you will accept our invitation to join the meeting and contribute to the discussion. There will be ample time for open discussions from the floor.

The ISI's motto is "Statistical Science for a Better World". It would be wonderful if we can partner with you to accomplish the goal of building a better world through Statistics.

The meeting will take place during lunch time and will start 10 minutes after the lunch break begins. Participants may wish to bring their lunch to the meeting room. For organisational purposes, may I kindly ask you to confirm your participation [here](#).

With my best regards,



Irena Križman,  
Vice-President, ISI

**Appendix I: Some of the discussion topics for the meeting**

**Appendix II: Information on the ISI**

## **Appendix I: Some of the discussion topics for the meeting**

- 1. What are the main challenges for effective leadership?**
- 2. What are the changes in leadership roles and which skills are needed to lead the changes?**
- 3. Which skills of top management are needed to engage with politicians, the media and the private sector?**
- 4. What are the activities and plans of NSOs and ISOs in developing the capacity and safeguarding the professional independence and integrity of their management?**
- 5. What should be offered within the educational systems?**
- 6. How to recruit, retain and develop leaders of the future (especially given the competition from the private sector)?**
- 7. What can the ISI offer?**



# THE INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

*Statistical Science for a Better World*

[www.isi-web.org](http://www.isi-web.org)

Join the International Statistical Institute as an Institutional Member

The International Statistical Institute (ISI) welcomes national, regional and international statistical agencies (or institutes) in official statistics to become institutional members. Institutional membership in the ISI provides many benefits as described below.

## ISI: A Brief Profile

The ISI is a non-governmental organization with a long history and consultative status in the United Nations. It provides a platform for official statisticians at all levels and from across the world to get together and discuss issues of mutual interest in a constructive and supportive environment. These include state-of-the-art practices and innovations as well as issues dealing with professional ethics. Our professional meetings and virtual networks provide an opportunity for free discussion of challenges, problems, and constraints faced by organizations.

In addition to official statistics, the ISI family includes seven other international Associations, covering survey statistics, statistical education, business and industrial statistics, environmetrics, statistical computing, statistical theory, and probability. The ISI family has around 5,000 individual members from over 140 countries, and provides international linkages with statistical professional societies nationally and worldwide.

The ISI organizes many different activities to benefit members and promote the statistics profession worldwide. Examples of these activities are given below:

### Conferences:

Our flagship event is the biennial ISI World Statistics Congress (WSC), attended by more than 2,000 participants from all over the world. The scientific program is designed to appeal to the general audience. It includes numerous sessions and panel discussions related to official statistics.

The ISI and its Associations also organize many regional and specialized conferences around the world. Examples include the conferences organized by the International Association for Official Statistics (2014 in Vietnam; the next one in 2016 will be in Abu Dhabi), and the ISI Regional Statistics Conference in November 2014 (hosted by the Central Bank of Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur).

### Statistical Capacity Building:

The ISI has been involved in statistical capacity building in developing regions through various initiatives such as: a) Regional workshops for high-level official statisticians in Ethiopia, Senegal, South Korea and Tanzania; b) Workshops in applied statistics and environmetrics in Benin, South Africa and India; c) A virtual mentoring program for young statisticians; and d) Securing funding from the Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building (TFSCB) administered by World Bank and other sources to support participation of statisticians from developing countries at ISI and Association Conferences.

### Professional Ethics:

In 2010, the ISI Council adopted a 'Declaration of Professional Ethics' aimed at disseminating shared values and practices that can help statisticians in making ethical judgments and decisions. These have been very helpful to official statisticians as well as other practitioners. The ISI also provides support or makes interventions in specific cases of professional ethics as appropriate.

### Publications:

The ISI and its Associations publish a variety of publications that are available free of charge or at reduced prices to members, including *International Statistical Review* (an expository journal) and the *Journal of the International Association of Official Statistics*. On-line proceedings from the WSCs and other conferences are also available.

### Value and Benefits of ISI Institutional Membership

- ✓ Enjoy all the benefits of an ISI elected member: The Head of an organization with ISI institutional membership (such as the President, Director General, Director, or Chief Statistician) or his/her representative is entitled to the benefits of individual membership.
- ✓ Get reduced rate (50% discount) for all staff members from your organization joining the ISI as regular members.
- ✓ Network with statisticians, statistics organizations and anyone interested in Statistics from across the World.
- ✓ Participate in a variety of conferences, workshops and meetings dedicated to Statistics and its applications, and enjoy reduced registration fees; receive reduced rates for two participants for the ISI WSCs.
- ✓ Contribute to, and benefit from, statistical capacity building initiatives for developing regions. Collaborate with a community of statisticians who support, advocate, and promote ethical practice in Statistics.
- ✓ Get access to ISI family's journals and other publications that disseminate state-of-the-art developments in the field, at reduced subscription rates. Receive a free hard copy of the *International Statistical Review*.
- ✓ Enjoy the prestige of belonging to a vibrant, yet traditional Statistical Society and contribute to activities such as the highly successful International Year of Statistics that was celebrated in 2013.

We hope you will join the ISI and partner with us in promoting the Statistics Profession worldwide!

Currently, the ISI has around 100 institutional members from national statistical offices (also called ex officio members). These members are an indispensable part of the ISI and play a crucial role in the ISI's mission 'to promote the understanding, development, and good practice of statistics worldwide'. We invite you to join us today!

You can join by filling in the [membership form](#) or you can send an email expressing your interest in ISI membership to Ms. Ada van Krimpen, ISI Director, at [an.vankrimpen@cbs.nl](mailto:an.vankrimpen@cbs.nl).

We look forward to welcoming you to the ISI family. We will be happy to give you more information by email or in person.

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For more information about the ISI please visit our website at [www.isi-web.org](http://www.isi-web.org)