



Inter-agency and Expert Group Meeting on Gender and the Millennium Development Goals in the Arab Region

INFORMATION NOTE

Date and Venue

The Inter-agency and Expert Group Meeting on Gender and the Millennium Development Goals in the Arab Region (Cairo, 10-11 September 2007) is being organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Arab States (UNDP-RBAS), and in partnership with the following regional and international organizations: the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), International Labour Organization (ILO), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), United Nations Educational, Social and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), World Bank, and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Background Information

The meeting is convened under the umbrella of the project "Toward More Gender-responsive MDG Monitoring and Reporting in the Arab Region" that was endorsed by the Regional Coordination Group in its eleventh meeting (Beirut, 20-21 June 2006).

The project aims to achieve a common understanding among stakeholders in the Arab region on ways to engender monitoring and reporting on the Millennium Development Goals, particularly in the preparation of gender-sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated data.

The main output of the project is a 30-35 page booklet that would equip statisticians and gender experts in Governments, international development organizations and other stakeholders from civil society with a conceptual tool to facilitate more gender-responsive MDG monitoring and reporting. This will entail the identification of a core set of gender-sensitive indicators corresponding to priority gender issues in the region, in line with those identified at the global and regional levels, and methodologies for more gender-sensitive analysis, monitoring and reporting.

The cornerstone activity of the project is to convene an inter-agency and expert group meeting to review the background document, discuss modalities for engendering MDG monitoring and reporting, and agree to a list of goal-specific gender priorities and corresponding list of gender-sensitive indicators. The outcomes of the meeting, - including a list of priority gender issues and gender-sensitive indicators, and recommendations for improving data availability, monitoring and reporting from a gender perspective and establishing a common platform for knowledge management and information sharing in the Arab region, will be used towards the preparation of the final Booklet.

Objectives of the workshop

The objective of the meeting is to forge a common framework of priority gender issues and indicators needed for more gender-responsive monitoring and reporting on the MDGs. The outcome of the meeting is a recommended list of priority gender issues and gender-sensitive indicators, and recommendations for improving data availability, monitoring and reporting from a gender perspective and establishing a common platform for knowledge management and information sharing in the Arab region.

Participants

The meeting is directed at middle and high-level statisticians from selected Arab national statistical offices, gender experts and statisticians from specialized UN agencies, academia, research centres, and national women's machineries, and other relevant institutions who have the responsibility for gender statistics in their respective offices.

Working languages

The workshop will be conducted in English and Arabic with two-way interpretation.

Accommodation and Travel

The meeting will be held at the Cairo Sheraton.

Arrangements have been made with the hotel to accommodate participants. The rate is US\$ 85 on a B&B basis, all taxes included.

Participants that wish to book a hotel room are kindly requested to contact Ms. Nadine Shaar at shaar@un.org.

Please note that reservations are made on a request-basis only.

Contact information

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