

**Unclassified**

**English - Or. English**

**3 September 2021**

**Development Co-operation Directorate  
Development Assistance Committee**

## **DAC Working Party on Development Finance Statistics**

### **Summary Record of the informal meeting of the Working Party on Development Finance Statistics (WP-STAT)**

**16-18 June 2021  
Virtual Meeting**

The Draft Summary Record [DCD/DAC/STAT/M(2021)2] was circulated to the WP-STAT for APPROVAL via the written procedure and is now issued as FINAL and UNCLASSIFIED.

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**JT03480460**

## Summary Record of the informal meeting of the Working Party on Development Finance Statistics (WP-STAT)

### Item 1. Introduction and welcome

1. The Chair, Mr. Jérôme Le Roy, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. He also welcomed the Vice-Chairs, Ms. Megumi Muto and Ms. Mirjam Rordorf Duvaux, and the DAC facilitators Ms. Hege Haaland and Ms. Maria Manuela Oliveira Fernandes.

2. Ms. Oliveira Fernandes informed members on the discussions held in the latest DAC meetings, in March, April and May 2021. She recalled that, following up on last year's HLM, the DAC had held three thematic discussions: on climate and environment, on the COVID response and recovery and on financing for sustainable development. These discussions were meant to help the Committee streamline the work foreseen in the PWB, adapt to the evolving context, and inform, and be informed of discussions in subsidiary bodies.

3. Ms. Oliveira Fernandes also recalled selected DAC activities, namely:

- The discussions and consultations of the dedicated Small Group on Climate (see Item 12).
- The approval of the OECD-UNDP Impact Standards for Financing Sustainable Development.
- The annual DAC-CSO Dialogue that had taken place at the beginning of June, and that had been an opportunity to exchange on the forthcoming DAC policy instrument on Enabling Civil Society as well as on other thematic areas of work of the DAC-CSO Reference Group in 2021.

4. Ms. Oliveira Fernandes expressed the Committee's appreciation for the excellent work done by the Secretariat, the Bureau, the co-chairs of the temporary working group on the ODA-eligibility of migration-related activities and all WP-STAT delegates.

### Item 2. Adoption of the agenda [DCD/DAC/STAT/A(2021)2/REV1]

5. Members adopted the meeting agenda.

### Item 3. Annual review of DAC statistical reporting [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)18]

6. The Secretariat (Ms. Yasmin Ahmad) presented the annual review of DAC and CRS statistical reporting. On the ranking table, one member requested the rating grid with the items that are being assessed to be shared with members. Another member pointed out that it provided descriptive data with maximum granularity, but for security reasons, had to remove details for some activities. A member pointed out that late reporting was often due to members reviewing the quality of the data in order to provide better data, and suggested that some countries be granted a later deadline due to the volume of data that needed to be checked.

7. The Secretariat responded that the reporting deadline for DAC and CRS data (and TOSSD Pillar 1 if reported in the same file) is 15 July. The Secretariat attempted in the past to advance this, but members did not agree. It pointed out that the 15 July must be maintained as the official reporting deadline, and large donors are encouraged to respect this deadline, as the processing of their data is more complex and takes more time. One member suggested the Secretariat to provide two levels of feedback, one addressing ODA-eligibility issues (for which answers sometimes take more time) and one addressing coding issues. The

Secretariat would look into this but explained that, when processing the data, multiple aspects were dealt with simultaneously, and it was not efficient for it to split the work in this manner.

8. The Chair encouraged members to report as early as possible and asked the Secretariat to assist members in doing so.

#### **Action Points**

- The Secretariat will share with members items used to rate members' reporting.

#### **Item 4. Review of the Forward Spending Survey (FSS) [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)19]**

9. The Secretariat (Mr. Mark Baldock) presented a note outlining the current reporting status of the Forward Spending Survey (FSS) and the Secretariat's assessment of responses to the 2020 Edition of the FSS questionnaire.

10. Members expressed their challenges obtaining and/or reporting FSS figures beyond 2-3 years at a granular/country-level, in particular due to the difficulty of foreseeing longer-term expenditures. Several members stated that a reduction in scope of the FSS to 2-3 years would yield better data. Two countries mentioned that they were unable to provide any data further than Y+1, due to government budget system limitations.

11. Given the difficulties of predictability at country-level, two members asked whether the FSS focus could shift to mid-level or thematic- /regional-level forecasts. They also questioned whether CPA was still a relevant metric.

12. The Secretariat invited members interested in helping shape the future scope of the FSS to share their views. The Secretariat will examine other possible options and will reduce the time scope of the survey to 3 years, with the aim of sending out the 2021 FSS edition within the coming weeks. The Secretariat will indicate that the survey will be voluntary this year.

13. Any additional feedback will be used to develop a proposal to reshape the FSS, which should be presented to the WP-STAT at the end of year.

#### **Action Points**

- The 2021 Edition of the FSS will be submitted to members in the coming weeks, with a reduced scope (i.e. 3 years) for reporting on a voluntary basis.

#### **Item 5. Annex 2 List of ODA-eligible International Organisations**

##### **Item 5.a. Revised ODA coefficient for UN Regular Budget [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)20]**

14. The Secretariat (Mr. Aussama Bejraoui) presented the proposal for revised ODA coefficients for the UNRB and related UN entities.

15. Five members expressed full support for the proposal. Other two members also supported the proposal but regretted the lack of detailed data for some UN entities. Two members expressed the need to have more time to consult with their capitals and send written comments. Finally, some members stated that they were not able to approve the proposed revised coefficients for a number of UN entities and that they would wish that another round of consultations be carried out with those entities. In particular:

- One member agreed on the ODA coefficient for the UNRB but not for the other UN entities and advocated another round of consultations with those UN entities.
- Two members expressed concerns on the decreased coefficient proposed for UNODC. One questioned the exclusion by the Secretariat of activities against terrorism and the other expressed concerns on its capacity to finance normative work of UNODC. The Secretariat responded that it had just followed the DAC Directives in excluding these activities from ODA.

- One member asked why the review of the Special Political Missions (SPMs) covered only those included in Cluster III while the coefficients of all other missions had been set to 0. The Secretariat clarified that the other missions had not been set to 0 but kept with the same ODA shares as in the June 2020 proposal (for example 100% and 95% shares for UNAMA and UNAMI).
- Some members proposed a two-step approach where the coefficient of the UNRB would be agreed this year and the coefficients for the other UN entities would be agreed after further consultations have been carried out with them. The Secretariat clarified that it had already extensively consulted with the UN entities and that not much more could be done. The reviews had been carried out jointly with the UN entities and the data and information used were considered generally reliable, although in a few cases the budget systems of the organisation did not allow a maximum level of accuracy. The Secretariat always made clear to those entities that once their systems can allow more accuracy in the expenditure tracking, their ODA coefficient could be reviewed again.

16. In response to members' comments, the Secretariat also clarified that agreeing only on the UNRB ODA coefficient would not be correct, since it was based on the ODA coefficients proposed for the other UN entities. In addition, as noted by two members, this would send a very bad signal to the international organisations being reviewed in the future, where upward adjustments are facilitated while downward adjustments are blocked.

17. Members generally supported the three-year review cycle of the UN Special Political Missions (SPMs). It was also suggested that in order to avoid unnecessary volatility of the ODA coefficients, a mechanism could be introduced by which the Secretariat would propose an updated ODA coefficient for the UNRB only if the change is substantial (e.g. plus or minus 5%).

18. In his concluding remarks on this item, the Chair proposed that members send their written comments, to which the Secretariat will respond. The Secretariat would then issue a revised proposal including the additional information provided by UN Women and possibly addressing the comments made by members. Members will then have until end of August to approve the revised proposal under the written procedure on a non-objection basis. If the revised proposal is not approved, the ODA coefficients of the UNRB and related UN entities would remain at the same level as before the review.

### **Action Points**

- Members will have two weeks to post comments on the community space. The Secretariat will then respond to members' comments.
- The Secretariat will prepare a revised proposal, which will include the additional information provided by UN Women and possibly addressing the comments made by members. Members will then have until end of August to approve the revised proposal under the written procedure on a non-objection basis.
- If the revised proposal is not approved, the ODA coefficients of the UNRB and related UN entities would remain unchanged.

### **Item 5.b. Feedback on information gathered so far on the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) and the Drugs for Neglected Diseases initiative (DNDi)**

19. The Secretariat (Ms. Yasmin Ahmad) presented further elements to assess the ODA-eligibility of ICMP. ICMP is a treaty-based international organisation with its own system of governance (Board of Commissioners). Its work is focussed around providing technical assistance to two programmes: good governance and rule of law strategies to address the issue of missing persons. Based on its governance and capacity building aspects, and that most activities occur in developing countries, the Secretariat's assessment was that it could be proposed to be included on Annex 2. However, ICMP still needs to clarify certain questions from the Secretariat linked to whether its budget expansion over the next 5 years will

result in activities that may not be considered ODA, and whether all costs at its Headquarters benefit developing countries only.

20. The Secretariat (Ms. Yasmin Ahmad) further explained that, given more granular data are required to do a thorough assessment of the ODA-eligibility of DNDi; the review of this organisation will be included in the regular review of potential Annex 2 candidates in the second semester.

#### **Action Points**

- The Secretariat will continue discussions with ICMP in the coming weeks and provide members with a revised assessment for consideration under the written procedure.
- The review of DNDi will be included in the regular review of potential Annex 2 candidates in the second semester of 2021.

#### **Item 5.c. ODA accounting of loans to INGOs listed on Annex 2 [DCD/DAC/STAT/RD(2021)3]**

21. The Secretariat (Ms. Valérie Gaveau) presented a room document on ODA accounting of loans to INGOs. With a view to ensuring consistency in the statistical system for the treatment of loans, it suggested counting loans to INGOs in ODA on a grant equivalent basis, using a 6% discount rate in the calculation of the grant element and applying a 10% eligibility threshold (similar parameters as for sub-regional multilateral organisations).

#### **Action Points**

- Members were invited to approve the proposal through a written procedure after the meeting (deadline for comment set to 25 June 2021). If approved, the rule would be integrated in the Reporting Directives at their next revision.

### **Item 6. Co-operation modalities**

#### **Item 6.a. Reporting and presentation of development co-operation modalities for Other Official Flows (OOF) [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)2/REV1]**

22. The Secretariat (Ms. Cécile Sangare and Mr. Tomas Hos) presented a revised version of its proposed guidance on the application of existing co-operation modalities to Other Official Flows (OOF) activities and proposed improvements to the tracking and presentation of OOF in the DAC statistics. The revised proposal took into account the comments and suggestions received from members at the informal meeting of the WP-STAT in March 2021.

23. Members generally supported the revised proposal as well as its implementation in 2022 for reporting on 2021 flows.

#### **Action Points**

- The Secretariat will circulate the revised proposal for members' approval through the written procedure on a non-objection basis by 2 July 2021.

#### **Item 6.b. Implementation of new development co-operation modalities for trust funds managed by multilateral institutions [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)12]**

24. The Secretariat (Ms. Marisa Berbegal) presented a note on the implementation of new development co-operation modalities for trust funds managed by multilateral institutions.

25. Members broadly appreciated the Secretariat's proposal, to take effect as of 1 January 2022 for the reporting of 2021 data. Representatives of the World Bank and the CEB Secretariat particularly appreciated the document, which introduces further granularity to the contributions provided by members to the multilateral system. The CEB Secretariat also confirmed that the proposal is fully aligned with the UN system and the UN data standards.

26. One member made a request to implement the proposal in 2023. A few small suggestions were made as follows:

- Add in the B02 description the words “and liabilities” after “its financial assets” to reflect the fact that loans to a multilateral institution affect the institution’s liabilities;
- Change the wording of B031 from “implemented by several multilateral agencies” to “from which several multilateral agencies may be allocated funds for implementation”; and
- Include language related to specific purpose or programmes of multilateral institutions, which is included under B03 but not under its subcategories.

27. The Secretariat accepted these suggestions. It clarified that the guidance document for reporting contributions to trust funds will be published on the website but is not exhaustive; members will still be able to report contributions to trust funds not included in the guidance document. The Secretariat will progressively add new trust funds in this guidance document.

#### **Action Points**

- The Secretariat will update the proposal as per the suggestions made during the meeting and will send it for approval under the written procedure.
- If the proposal is approved, it will take effect as of 1 January 2022 for the reporting of 2021 data for members that can implement (for those who cannot, they can implement them in 2023 instead). The Secretariat will then publish the guidance document for reporting contributions to trust funds in the [website](#) and the WP-STAT community space and will progressively include more trust funds in the document.
- The Secretariat will progressively review all channel codes included under the multilateral category to see whether any changes are needed (e.g. from B02 to B022 for trust funds classified as multilateral), particularly in category 47000.

#### **Item 7. Update on the ODA-eligibility of COVID-19 activities [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)21]**

28. The Secretariat (Ms. Valérie Gaveau) presented its assessment of the ACT-A Health Systems Connector (HSC) Pillar, its recommendation for valuing donors’ donations of vaccine doses to developing countries and an update on discussions held in the workshop on eligibility.

29. Members supported counting contributions to the HSC Pillar in full in ODA given its focus on support to the health systems of developing countries.

30. As regards the valuation of donors’ donations of vaccine doses, the majority of members that spoke supported the general approach proposed by the Secretariat of all members valuing the vaccine doses in their ODA using the same methodology, to ensure comparability of reporting across the membership. Two members could support applying a unique price, as proposed by the Secretariat, but one of them warned that the value of USD 3 was no longer up-to-date and that the Secretariat would need to collect additional information in this regard (as the COVAX ceiling price would differ depending on the vaccine, and averaged around USD 7 per dose at the moment). Most other members were of the view that differentiated prices should be used instead of a unique price, to distinguish between the two types of existing vaccines: prices mentioned during the meeting were of USD 3 for vector vaccines and USD 15 for mRNA vaccines. To avoid duplicating discussions, members suggested that the Secretariat connect with appropriate multilateral agencies (ACT-A, COVAX and the World Bank group) which are also discussing a method for valuing in-kind donations of vaccine doses.

31. In response to one member’s comment, the Secretariat clarified that the Reporting Directives instructed to use preferably the prevailing international or national market prices to value in-kind donations, and not the costs incurred by donors in purchasing the goods. In next steps of this work, it would look into three issues raised by one member: i) the elements included in the proposed price of USD 3 for

one vaccine dose (only the vaccine itself or also additional costs such as syringes for administering the vaccine or transport) and the potential risk of double-counting costs (through the vaccine dose price and contribution to COVAX); ii) definition of “one” vaccine dose (one or both shots for vaccines that require multiple doses); and iii) frequency of updates of the price used in the ODA calculation (annually, or more often).

32. A few members explicitly highlighted the importance of giving sufficient recognition to vaccine donations in ODA in order to avoid possible negative incentives for provider countries selling, instead of donating, their left-over vaccines. However, one member warned against a reputational risk if these costs are over counted in ODA, pointing out that:

- The vaccines were originally ordered by developed countries in their sole interest and they are being donated not only with a developmental intent, but also with an objective to curb the pandemic at the global level.
- In these circumstances, special care should be taken when accounting related costs in ODA. Donors should make sure the vaccines meet the special needs of developing countries in terms of storage, expiration date, etc. The costs counted in ODA should be additional to other ODA needs.
- If the donations are counted in ODA, the price should not be more than the one used by COVAX.

33. One member suggested that when reporting donations in the CRS, sufficient information be included such as the type of vaccine and other relevant information.

34. The Chair concluded in recalling the Secretariat’s role in interpreting the Directives and providing guidance to the membership on the appropriate price to apply for the valuation of vaccine donations. He noted the broad support for the general approach proposed by the Secretariat, with the need for further work by the Secretariat, and for a follow-up discussion after summer, looking into the possibility of applying differentiated prices. Meanwhile, the USD 3 price will apply in case members need to record donations in their 2020 ODA figures (donations will generally occur in 2021-22).

#### **Action Points**

- Members will provide written comments on the topics at hand by 25 June (deadline subsequently extended to 2 July).
- The Secretariat will add the case of the HSC pillar to the FAQs on ODA-eligibility of COVID-19 related activities.
- The Secretariat will undertake further research on vaccine prices, and consult with appropriate multilateral agencies on the relevant price to apply in ODA reporting. It will produce a revised proposal in time for the WP-STAT meeting in November 2021.

#### **Item 8. Monitoring the Implementation of the Grant Equivalent system [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)22]**

35. The Secretariat (Mr. Hirofumi Kyunai) presented the analysis of the impact of the grant equivalent system on the composition and allocation of ODA in 2019. The analysis confirmed that the conclusion drawn last year remained valid i.e. the grant equivalent system had little impact on ODA figures, and there had been no significant changes in members’ lending practices. The Secretariat also presented its assessment on the Adherents’ (currently all DAC members) status of the implementation of the 1978 DAC Recommendation in 2019. Members broadly appreciated the Secretariat’s analysis.

36. With regard to the monitoring exercise, a few members proposed improvements for the next iteration of the report:

- Include an explanation of how the introduction of the grant equivalent has increased ODA by 3% and will continue to have such an effect going forward (i.e. the fact that reflows on loans are no longer deducted, also for older loans).
- Measure the increase caused by the new system against the volume of non-grant ODA rather than total ODA.
- Make a differentiated analysis by type of channel of delivery (sovereign, multilateral, private sector) as only looking at overall figures does not allow to grasp the details of trends and possible impacts of the new methodology.

37. While the report did not mention significant negative impact of introducing the grant equivalent, a number of members highlighted that the grant equivalent system was expected to incentivise higher concessionality to LDCs and greater provision of highly concessional loans to these countries and that such trends were not observed so far. One member urged the ODA modernisation be completed by implementing the grant equivalent system to the flows that are still measured on a cash-flow basis (PSI).

38. Regarding the 1978 DAC Recommendation, members had diverging views on the need to revise the concessionality targets, with one member in favour of maintaining the targets for both all developing countries and LDCs and two members expressing concerns in doing so: targets that combine grants and loans disincentivise the provision of loans; the target for concessionality of overall ODA is no longer relevant, as the discount rates and eligibility thresholds are now differentiated by income group (the target specific to LDCs should be maintained to encourage the provision of highly concessional loans to LDCs).

39. The Secretariat thanked members for their comments and suggestions and announced that the need to update the 1978 DAC Recommendation would be discussed at the DAC meeting in July 2021.

40. The Chair closed the item by noting with satisfaction that the ODA modernisation and the grant equivalent system had not led to ODA inflation so far. The Secretariat would continue to monitor the trends going forward.

#### **Action Points**

- The Secretariat will take into account members' suggestions on the way to improve the report in the next iteration.
- The Secretariat will organise another discussion on the issue of whether or not the DAC Recommendation needs to be updated at the DAC meeting in July.

#### **Item 9. Update on the review of the Provisional Reporting Methods for private sector instruments (PSI) [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)17]**

41. The Secretariat (Ms Julia Benn, Ms. Valérie Gaveau and Mr. Tomas Hos) updated members on the state of art of the draft work plan for the 2021 review of the Provisional Reporting Methods for PSI, including members' written comments, and provided them with first insights from the simulations of grant equivalent calculations for loans to the private sector, guarantees and equities, using existing CRS data. In addition, the OECD Chief Statistician (Mr. Paul Schreyer) provided his perspective on the PSI matter, underlying the need for substituting the current provisional arrangement with a permanent solution to safeguard the credibility of the DAC statistics, also bringing members' reporting more in line with the OECD Council Recommendation on Good Statistical Practice.

42. As regards the *draft work plan*, members generally appreciated the suggested two-phase approach (key stakeholder consultations followed by members' deliberations on PSI), but considered the review timeline overly ambitious. It was argued that an extended timeline would benefit the transparency, inclusiveness and thoroughness of the review process. Furthermore, members stressed the necessity to also involve the export credit community. A few members maintained that looking at one instrument at a time could prove helpful in disentangling the complexity of the PSI matter. The discussions should not only focus on loans, but also guarantees, and mezzanine/hybrid finance. While one member had opined in

writing prior to the meeting that the review should strictly concern a technical assessment of the provisional arrangement, a few others suggested the review should rather aim at finding a permanent solution (i.e. measurement on a grant equivalent basis) that would strengthen the credibility of ODA and members' mutual accountability, foster aid effectiveness, improve the comparability of the two reporting approaches (instrument and institutional) and, more generally, fill in the gaps in the current arrangement. Moreover, two members requested the draft work plan to be transformed in formal ToRs to be approved by the DAC. Finally, one member found that the Secretariat had misinterpreted certain elements of the Provisional Reporting Methods in the draft work plan and requested corrections to the document.

43. Concerning the simulations of grant equivalent calculations carried out by the Secretariat, many members appreciated the informative and demonstrative nature of the exercise, although some requested clarifications about the underlying method (e.g. discount rate architecture and calculation method) and the resulting values per member/PSI vehicle. A few members also called for simple measurement methods going forward.

44. Overall, members' reactions suggested a broad consensus to continue the discussion on PSI in 2021, but a more political discussion at the DAC may clarify the next steps of the review process and its timeline and scope in particular.

#### **Action Points**

- The Secretariat will respond to members' questions on the technical aspects of the simulations at the WP-STAT Collaborative Space and will seek guidance on the next steps of the review process at the July 2021 DAC meeting. Moreover, the Secretariat remains at members' disposal for clarifying any pending reporting and interpretation issues pertaining to PSI.

### **Item 10. Development Finance for Africa**

#### **Item 10.a. Outcomes of the Summit on the Financing African Economies [oral presentation]**

45. The representative of France (Mr. Thomas Garreau) summarised the main outcomes of the Summit on the Financing of African Economies that had been held in Paris on the 18 May. Mr. Garreau illustrated the main themes of the conference, which had been assessing African financing needs, announcing response measures, and a discussion on the increased debt vulnerabilities of African economies.

#### **Item 10.b. Hybrid Finance to the AfDB [oral presentation]**

46. The African Development Bank (Ms. Hassatou N'sele) gave a presentation on innovative hybrid capital contributions to the AfDB that incorporate elements of both bonds and equity. Ms. N'sele described the main characteristics of this hybrid finance and commented on the ODA eligibility.

### **Item 11. Presentation of the semantic tool to review and verify descriptive information in the CRS [oral presentation]**

47. The Secretariat (Mr. Shashwat Koirala, Mr. Pedro Asti and Mr. Jan-Anno Schuur) presented work carried out so far on the development of a semantic tool to improve the quality of CRS data. A user-friendly interface is being built and the tool will be thoroughly tested on 2020 data. Once this is over and pending funding, the Secretariat will examine how to expand it to other fields in the CRS and develop it in French.

48. Members welcomed this work and the Chair requested that an update on the development be made at the next meeting of the WP-STAT. Several members indicated their interest in testing the tool.

#### **Action Points**

- Once the user interface is developed, the Secretariat will follow up with interested members in testing the tool.

## Item 12. Climate Change

### Item 12.a. Update on the discussions on the alignment of ODA with international climate agreements [oral presentation]

49. The DAC facilitator, Ms. Oliveira Fernandes, updated WP-STAT delegates on the DAC discussions on the alignment of ODA with international climate agreements. She recalled that the Committee had had a broad discussion on this topic in March. The two main outcomes of that discussion had been the creation of a Climate and Environment Small group to steer the work and to bring together inputs from WP-STAT, ENVIRONET and other work streams, and a matrix of different options for future work and possible decisions or commitments by the Committee.

50. The Small Group, chaired by the UK, the EU, the US, Australia and France, had started working in April and decided from the onset that it would be important to broaden the scope of the discussion so that no relevant topic would be left out and ensure an inclusive process to take into consideration the views of all members.

51. A matrix with detailed options for each policy area had been prepared and circulated for comments, including on the treatment of fossil fuels in ODA that had been first discussed at the WP-STAT meeting in March. Based on the consultations that had been conducted on the matrix, the Group had requested the Secretariat to prepare a note to support the DAC Chair during the Tidewater discussions and to organise deep dive sessions on some options under the different thematic areas. Several deep dive sessions had already taken place and proved to be very useful, while others had been planned for the weeks following the WP-STAT.

52. Ms. Oliveira Fernandes noted that the DAC meeting in June will discuss the feedback from the Tidewater meeting, and based on the informal discussions and the responses of members to the matrix of policy options, decisions on a possible way forward are expected. This could include the possibility to have an external mediator, and the identification of the modalities of consultation with developing countries and relevant international organisations. Ms Oliveira Fernandes thanked the Secretariat for its work in support of members in framing this debate.

### Item 12.b. Revision of the definition of the Rio markers on climate change [DCD/DAC/STAT(2020)42/REV2] and [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)14].

53. The Secretariat (Mr. Giorgio Gualberti) presented the revised note on the proposed amendments to the Climate Change Mitigation marker (for approval after the meeting with the written procedure on a non-objection basis) and an initial proposal of amendments to the Climate Change Adaptation marker (for discussion).

54. Members expressed support for the amendments to the mitigation marker. One member suggested a factual correction in a footnote to the definition of the marker.

55. Members also expressed support for a revision of the definition of the climate change adaptation marker. One member suggested that the definition takes into account not only article 7 of the Paris Agreement but also article 8 on loss and damage. One member noted that the proposed definition might lead to some restrictions in the use of the marker. Several members expressed their intention to send detailed written comments to the Secretariat.

### Action Points

- The Secretariat will submit the note on the Rio marker on climate change with the written procedure on a non-objection basis, edited with the clarification discussed in the meeting, with a deadline of 2 July.
- The Secretariat will open a page to collect comments on the proposed edits to the Rio marker on climate change adaptation.

### Item 13. Follow-up to the fundamental review of the policy markers

#### Item 13.a. PD/GG [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)15]

56. The Secretariat (Mr. Giorgio Gualberti and Mr. Marc de Tollenaere) presented a note with proposed amendments to the PD/GG marker, following up on the review of the marker and the subsequent discussion within the DAC Network on Governance (GovNet).

57. Members agreed on the need to revise the PD/GG marker and on the proposed changes overall, including renaming it to ‘Democratic and Inclusive Governance Marker’. Two members suggested different wording for the eligibility criteria, suggesting the use of “democratic” or “inclusive” governance that would better reflect the changes in the name of the marker. Members commented favourably on the removal of automatic attribution criteria, although two members noted that it could become more challenging to produce the data. Four members welcomed the proposal of developing further guidance on the use of the marker.

#### Action Points

- The Secretariat will open a discussion page on the community space to collect comments on the proposal.

#### Item 13.b. Trade development [DCD/DAC/STAT(2021)16]

58. The Secretariat (Mr. Giorgio Gualberti) presented a note to follow up on the review of the Trade Development Marker, proposing the suppression of the marker and the archiving of the data submitted so far. A representative of the World Trade Organization (WTO) (Mr. Théo Mbise) confirmed that the trade development policy marker is not used at the WTO for the production of data or analysis and that its removal would not impact in any way on the Aid for Trade initiative.

59. Members agreed with the proposal to suppress the marker and noted that this would simplify the reporting. Two members noted that they use the trade development policy marker internally, and that they could continue to do so. One member suggested that for members that intend to continue to produce and disclose the trade development information, the use of the keywords could be a practical solution. One member noted that the trade development policy marker is mentioned in the metadata of the SDG indicator 8.a.1 and asked if the removal of the marker would impact the production of the data for this indicator. The Secretariat stated that, as noted in the paper, the methodology to produce the “Aid for Trade commitments and disbursements” data for the indicator 8.a.1 does not make use of the trade development marker.

#### Action Points

- The Secretariat will check the metadata of the SDG indicator 8.a.1. It will submit the paper for approval under the written procedure after this verification.

### Item 14. Update on Statistical Peer Reviews [oral presentation]

60. The Secretariat (Mr. Hirofumi Kyunai) presented the detailed findings from the Statistical Peer Review of Iceland, which had been carried out in virtual format on 2-6 November 2020 with Slovenia and Luxembourg as examiners and Poland as an observer. The Secretariat informed members that the report for the review of Iceland had been finalised and was to be issued. The Secretariat presented a recommendation from each of the seven dimensions determined for the statistical peer reviews. The Secretariat thanked Iceland for organising the review. Slovenia also shared its appreciation for the Icelandic openness and frank discussions, and commented that it had been a great learning experience for the reviewers, too. Iceland appreciated the Secretariat for its diligent work and explained that the review had been a positive learning experience.

61. The Secretariat also presented the plan for 2021 and 2022, emphasised the usefulness of the reviews and encouraged members to participate. As the next steps, the Secretariat announced its plan to work on the concept of commitments, administrative costs and other requests to the Secretariat in parallel with the Reviews that had already been scheduled for 2021 and 2022 (Finland, Luxembourg and Austria). The

Secretariat will prepare a mapping of members' interpretations of the concept of commitment, conduct a survey on how different institutions assess administrative costs, and review all requests to the Secretariat and share the implementation progress with WP-STAT members.

**Action Points**

- The Secretariat will circulate the plan of the reviews for 2021 and 2022.

**Item 15. AOB**

**Item 15.a. DCR profiles.**

62. The Secretariat (Ms. Eleanor Carey, Mr. Jonas Thyregod Wilks and Ms. Elena Bernaldo de Quiros) provided an update on the DCR profiles of official providers and of private philanthropic providers.

**Item 15.b. Any other issues**

63. France recalled that the Secretariat had the duty to provide translation of the official documents in French, in particular the most important ones such as the Statistical Directives.

64. The Secretariat (Mr. Giorgio Gualberti) acknowledged the request and reaffirmed the Secretariat's commitment to provide French translations. The Statistical Directives had been sent for translation but had not yet been completed, while several shorter documents, such as the summary records of previous meetings, had been translated and will be posted on ONE after a final check by the Secretariat in the coming weeks.