



Moldova

**Local Project Appraisal Committee**  
**Project: "Strengthening the National Statistical System"**  
**(as a part of Statistics Donors' Coordination Meeting)**

**Minutes**

Place: Protocol Room of the Ministry of Economy and Trade, Piața Marii Adunări Naționale, 1  
Time: August 3, 2007, 10:00

**Agenda:**

1. Introduction
2. Presentation of project document "Strengthening the National Statistical System" (LPAC)
3. Discussions
4. Conclusions and recommendations

**It was discussed:**

1. The meeting was opened by Igor Dodon, Minister of Economy and Trade, who informed the audience about the purpose of the meeting, as part of the regular information exchange between donors providing support to Moldova's National Statistical System. During the Local Project Appraisal Committee meeting, UNDP and the beneficiary consult with main stakeholders on the project document to ensure that it has been developed in a proper manner and that there are not overlaps with other donor-supported initiatives. Three questions were raised for discussions:

- (i) Are the activities identified in the project document necessary and adequate? Do they address the priority needs of the NBS and data users?
- (ii) Is the project relevant for participating agencies—UNDP, UNICEF, and UNFPA?
- (iii) The overall quality of project document in terms of scope, clarity etc.

2. Mihail Peleah, UNDP Programme Associate, presented briefly the project document, which has been circulated to all participants via email before the meeting. The project was prepared as a response to needs identified in the CCA/UNDAF and CPAP. The project aims at addressing the needs of the National Bureau of Statistics in Strengthening of the National Statistical System. The Project focuses on three sets of indicators: (i) MDG; (ii) EGPRS and NDP; and (iii) European Social Inclusion Indicators. It has three components (i) improvement of data production; (ii) strengthening data dissemination; and (iii) facilitation of data use. The Project document was formulated based on the Global assessment of the system of official statistics in the Republic of Moldova by Eurostat, as well as on the experience and lessons learned from previous activities in statistics, conducted by UN agencies, DFID, the World Bank, European Commission, and others. The proposed project represents a joint effort of the three UN Agencies—UNDP (as a lead agency), UNIFEM, and UNFPA. The foreseen duration of the project is three years, until mid-2010. The total cost of the project is estimated US\$1,145,400, with US\$493,300 secured by UNDP (including US\$45,000 from the Poverty Thematic Trust Fund), US\$218,100 to be provided by UNIFEM through pooled and parallel funding, and US\$41,000 to be provided by UNFPA through parallel funding. Unfunded budget amounts to US\$393,000.

3. Participants of the meeting discussed and agreed that the proposed project is timely and necessary. They welcomed the participatory process through which the project document was developed, which allowed taking into account lessons learned from previous activities in this area, in particular from DFID/ISAS project finishing in 2007. The audience also noted that project is focused more on social statistics, while economic statistics is less covered. Another area which is not addressed in the project is the creation and improvement of the digital infrastructure of the NBS. Representatives of UNDP informed that assistance in strengthening of information system of the

National Bureau of Statistics could be provided in the framework of the e-Governance project of UNDP.

4. It was also indicated during the meeting that the proposed project aims at building capacity in data production and use in NBS and line ministries. The project activities include revision of data sources and data flows, which help simplify the statistical system and improve quality of data. Mentioning the complexity of the project, the participants of the meeting called for better coordination of activities. In particular, they referred to Statistics9 project funded by the European Commission. Representatives of the NBS and UNDP informed that the proposed project document takes into account the recommendations provided in the Global assessment of the system of official statistics in the Republic of Moldova and explicitly describes responses in Annex 2. It was concluded that the role of the National Project Coordinator will be crucial in coordinating such a complex, multi-stakeholder project.

5. While discussing risks in project implementation, participants to the meeting expressed a common concern about the limited number of staff of the National Bureau of Statistics, for which the project activities could cause additional workload, thus undermining the capacity building efforts and shifting toward 'capacity substitution'. Participants voiced the necessity to support the National Bureau of Statistics in rationalization its organizational structure.

**It was agreed:**

6. A general consensus was reached on the usefulness and timeliness of the project activities, its necessity and relevance to the development needs of the country. The audience welcomed the inclusive process of project document development, which allowed taking into account lessons learned from previous activities in this area.

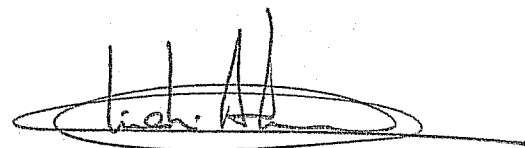
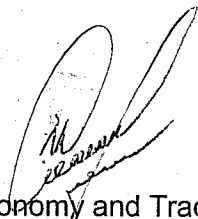
7. It was agreed that joint project "Strengthening the National Statistical System" could start immediately. The project will start with the UNDP, UNIFEM, and UNFPA funds which are available. Meantime, funds mobilization efforts will be undertaken to cover existing financing gap.

Prepared by  
Mihail Peleah,  
UNDP Programme Associate



Agreed

Igor Dodon,  
Minister of Economy and Trade,  
UNDP National Project Coordinator



Ignacio Artaza  
Deputy Resident Representative  
UNDP Moldova

Thursday, August 9, 2007

## **Annex 1. List of participants**

### **Government Ministries**

1. Igor Dodon – Minister of Economy and Trade, UNDP National Coordinator
2. Natalia Catrinescu – Head of department of macroeconomic policies and development programmes, Ministry of Economy and Trade, [n\\_catrinescu@mec.gov.md](mailto:n_catrinescu@mec.gov.md)
3. Rodica Nicoara – Department of macroeconomic policies and development programmes, Ministry of Economy and Trade, [r\\_nicoara@mec.gov.md](mailto:r_nicoara@mec.gov.md)
4. Iurii Torcunov – Department of macroeconomic policies and development programmes, Ministry of Economy and Trade, [torcunov@mec.gov.md](mailto:torcunov@mec.gov.md)
5. Tatiana Udrea – Department of macroeconomic policies and development programmes, Ministry of Economy and Trade,
6. Diana Doroş – Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Children Head of department of macroeconomic policies and development programmes, [diana\\_damian@mail.ru](mailto:diana_damian@mail.ru), [mpsfc\\_egalgen@yahoo.com](mailto:mpsfc_egalgen@yahoo.com)

### **National Bureau of Statistics**

7. Oleg Cara – Deputy director of the National Bureau of Statistics
8. Lilian Galler – Head of sampling section, [lilian.galer@statistica.md](mailto:lilian.galer@statistica.md)
9. Ala Negruța – Head of social statistics section, [ala.negruta@statistica.md](mailto:ala.negruta@statistica.md)
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### **UNDP and UN Agencies**

11. Maya Sandu – head of Programme Section, UNDP Moldova, [maya.sandu@undp.org](mailto:maya.sandu@undp.org)
12. Mihail Peleah – Programme Associate UNDP Moldova, [mihail.peleah@undp.org](mailto:mihail.peleah@undp.org)
13. Mihaela Darii – UNIFEM, [mihaela.darii@unifem.org](mailto:mihaela.darii@unifem.org)
14. Olga Poalelungi – UNFPA, [olga.poalelungi@un.md](mailto:olga.poalelungi@un.md)

### **The World Bank**

15. Melanie Marlett – Moldova Country Director, [mmarlett@worldbank.org](mailto:mmarlett@worldbank.org)

### **European Commission**

16. Speranța Olaru – Project Manager, European Commission Delegation to Moldova, [speranta.olaru@ec.europa.eu](mailto:speranta.olaru@ec.europa.eu)
17. Liudmila Caziuc – Economist, EC FSP Moldova, [lcaziuc.fsp@mdl.net](mailto:lcaziuc.fsp@mdl.net)

### **DFID**

18. Ala Skvortova – Head of DFID Section, British Embassy Moldova, [a-skvortova@dfid.gov.uk](mailto:a-skvortova@dfid.gov.uk)
19. Daniela Preașca – DFID/ISAS Project, [isas@moldovacc.md](mailto:isas@moldovacc.md)

### **SIDA**

20. Andreas Johansson – Programme Officer, [a.johansson@asdi.md](mailto:a.johansson@asdi.md)

### **International Organization for Migration**

21. Ghenadie Crețu – Programme Officer, [gcretu@iom.int](mailto:gcretu@iom.int)
22. Irina Baraliuc – Programme Officer, [ibaraliuc@iom.int](mailto:ibaraliuc@iom.int)