

## **Information Note**

for the Joint ESCWA and COSIT

### **FIRST NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON GENDER STATISTICS AMMAN, 11-13 DECEMBER 2006**

#### **I. Background**

Under the umbrella of the UNDG-funded project for "the Development of National Gender Statistics in Iraq," ESCWA, in cooperation with COSIT, is organizing the first training workshop to support the production, dissemination and use of quality and policy-relevant gender statistics and indicators in the country. The meeting will lay the foundations for future training workshops and other project activities, including an assessment of data availability and quality, and the preparation of a statistical report on the status of women and men in Iraq.

#### **II. Objectives:**

The two-day meeting aims to gender-sensitize users and producers of statistics in Iraq to be able to produce and use quality statistics and indicators to monitor progress toward gender equality and women's empowerment in Iraq by:

- (a) Familiarizing stakeholders with gender issues in relevant policy areas;
- (b) Identifying critical gender issues in relation to priority policy areas;
- (c) Specifying statistics and indicators needed to assess and monitor the status and conditions of women and men in relation to various policy areas;
- (d) Selecting effective ways to present and disseminate data.

#### **III. Agenda of the Meeting**

The meeting will consist of six sessions each composed of a plenary part in which resource persons will deliver presentations, followed by working group discussions. The following topics will be discussed.

- Session I: Gender issues, development and policy
- Session II: Statistics and indicators on gender issues
- Session III: Analysis and presentation of gender statistics
- Session IV: Statistical publications on gender issues

#### **IV. Expected outputs**

It is expected that the working group and floor discussions will result with the following outputs:

- (a) List of priority gender issues;
- (b) Corresponding minimum/core set of gender-sensitive indicators;

The outputs of the meeting will in turn serve as the basis for planning future activities – namely, the database on gender statistics and the preparation of a number of statistical-based documents (e.g. publication, wall chart, pamphlet) on the status of women and men in Iraq to reflect the priority gender issues and corresponding core set of gender statistics and indicators identified in the meeting.

## **V. Methodology of implementation**

The workshop will be led by a number of resource persons/trainers from ESCWA, UNSD, UNDP, and UNIFEM. The meeting will consist of plenary sessions in which resource persons/trainers will deliver presentations on general or specific issues, followed by working group exercises and floor discussions. Each working group will appoint a facilitator and rapporteur. The facilitator will moderate discussions and the rapporteur will take minutes and present the group's findings in the floor discussions.

## **VI. Participation**

Establishing a dialogue between users and producers of statistics is essential for the identification of policy-relevant quality statistics and indicators. Therefore, the workshop will include both users and producers of statistics from various national statistical offices, key ministries, academia, NGOs and members of the media.

## **VII. Documentation and working language**

The workshop will be conducted in English and Arabic, with two-way translation. Documentation will be available in both languages.

## **VIII. Contact information**

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