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## PARIS21 Final Narrative Report for Grant Number DI270299

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the terms of the arrangement<sup>1</sup> between the World Bank and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) under grant number DI270299 (DGF file 401007-05), I have the pleasure to submit to you below a final report on progress made towards achieving the grant's overall objectives. The arrangement represents a contribution of 1.3 million U.S. dollars for PARIS21 (hosted by the OECD's Development Co-operation Directorate). The present report covers the entire grant period (1 January 2007 to 30 June 2008) and supplements the final expenditure report enclosed herein.

### Grant Objectives

According to the terms of the arrangements, the contributions are intended to finance components of the PARIS21 work programme, in particular those components concerned with support to national strategies for the development of statistics (NSDS). PARIS21's objective is to assist all low-income, International Development Association borrower countries, as appropriate, to design and implement an NSDS in order to have, *inter alia*, nationally owned and produced data for all Millennium Development Goals indicators. The NSDS component of the PARIS21 work programme includes elements such as advocacy, the development of NSDS methodology, the promotion of donor collaboration, and NSDS roll-out through regional programmes in conjunction with international and regional partners. The grant was intended to support all of these elements.

### Progress in Achieving Programme Goals

For the sake of simplicity, the progress that PARIS21 has made in achieving its programme objectives are hereafter grouped by the NSDS programme elements mentioned above: advocacy, NSDS methodology, donor collaboration, and regional programmes. The progress outlined below covers the full period of the grant.

#### *Advocacy*

PARIS21 developed a country-level advocacy toolkit, the Statistics Advocacy Resources Toolkit (START) whose objective is to help national statisticians to develop their own advocacy strategies and launch their own advocacy work. In addition, the Secretariat has helped countries develop national advocacy materials. At the expressed request of national statistical offices, the Secretariat has lent assistance in finalising advocacy booklets promoting increased support to statistics for Cameroon, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire,

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<sup>1</sup> FY2007 Development Grant Facility Window 1: PARIS21 Work Program – Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics



Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo as well as booklet summaries of NSDSs for Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, and Tanzania.

### *NSDS Methodology*

To assist developing countries with technical issues relating to statistical development, PARIS21 produces relevant documentation and guidance. Studies that have been produced over the period of this grant include: *A Review of Models of Technical Assistance to Statistics, Official Statistics and Monitoring and Evaluation Systems in Developing Countries: Friends or Foes?, Overview of Evaluations of Large-Scale Statistical Capacity Building Initiatives, A Note on Applying a System-wide Approach to Implementing National Strategies for the Development of Statistics, A Guide to Using a System-wide Approach to Implement National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), Mainstreaming sectoral statistical systems in Africa: A guide to planning a coordinated national statistical system* as well as a guide on disseminating data to intermediate and final users in developing and transition countries. As part of its overall programme of support to NSDS processes, the Secretariat has also produced a worldwide report on progress in designing and implementing NSDSs. The first such report was produced in April 2006 and an update in 2008.

### *Donor Collaboration*

The PARIS21 Secretariat convened an inter-agency task team whose function was to report on and analyse donor support to statistical capacity building. This team — now integrated into the Secretariat's regular work programme and bearing the name "Partner Report on Support to Statistics" (PRESS) — designed and submitted a questionnaire to technical and financial partners supporting statistical development (including representatives of development agencies and statistical offices of OECD member countries). The 2008 PRESS round has been completed, drawing on the activities of more than 40 partners supporting statistics. A two-volume report outlines the findings of this exercise and is available on the PARIS21 website. Parallel to this exercise, PARIS21 developed a contact directory of the global statistical community, including statisticians, policymakers, researchers, and other partners interested in statistical development. The overall objective of the directory is to facilitate information exchange and collaboration among members of the statistical community on support to statistical development.

PARIS21 also supported the organisation of a "Workshop on Scaling-up Support to Statistics" held in Oslo, in December 2007. It brought together all Norwegian actors providing support to statistical development in developing countries. The objective of the workshop was to gain insight into how to strengthen the capacity of developing and transition countries for analysis and use of statistics for evidence-based policy design and public dialogue.

### *Regional Programmes*

PARIS21's support to NSDS processes is increasingly focusing on country-based activities and includes various components such as the promotion of partnership, the mobilisation of technical and financial resources, and on-demand advisory services to countries. PARIS21 has facilitated peer reviews in Tanzania and Zambia and is preparing peer reviews in Burkina Faso, Malawi, Mozambique, and Niger. The Secretariat has also conducted missions to Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guatemala, Guinea, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Nicaragua, and Tanzania to help their statistical offices design their NSDSs and/or



prepare for donor roundtables on financing their NSDSs. In the Latin America region, PARIS21 financed and participated in a June 2008 regional workshop on NSDS implementation for Caribbean countries. The San Ignacio, Belize workshop — held in the margins of the CARICOM Advisory Group on Statistics — considered the status of NSDS preparation in the participating countries and explored how PARIS21 can help national efforts to design and implement their strategies.

### **Problems / Issues**

One potential issue for PARIS21 is the upcoming departure of the Secretariat Manager at the end of 2008. However, it is expected that the new manager will take up functions in early 2009.

The next reports to be submitted are a narrative and certified financial report covering the 2008 fiscal year (1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008) for the grant DI270715. These reports will be submitted to you by 15 February 2009 (i.e., 45 days after the end of FY2008).

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for the support that the World Bank has given to PARIS21 since its creation, and I am at your disposal for any further information.

Sincerely yours,

Antoine Simonpietri  
Manager, PARIS21 Secretariat