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Economic Commission for Africa**Statistical Commission for Africa**

Tenth session

Addis Ababa (hybrid), 21–23 October 2026

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

Organizational matters**Draft programme of work****Tenth session of the Statistical Commission for Africa****Wednesday, 21 October**

8.30–9 a.m. Registration

Joint opening of the tenth session of the Statistical Commission for Africa and the twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa (agenda item 1)

9–10.20 a.m. Welcoming remarks

- Director, African Centre for Statistics, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Samuel Annim

Opening statements

- Chair, Statistical Commission for Africa, Richard Ngafuan
- Chair, Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa, Kamal Outghouliast
- Executive Secretary, ECA, Claver Gatete

Statements by special guests

- Acting Director, Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Secretariat, United Nations, Shantanu Mukherjee
- Director of Statistics, African Development Bank Group, Babatunde Omotosho
- Acting Executive Director, African Union Institute for Statistics, Botho Bayendi

Official opening

- Representative, Government of Ethiopia [*to be confirmed*]

* E/ECA/STATCOM/10/2026/1.



Group photo

Keynote address: Unleashing the value of data in Africa: making official statistics a true mirror of the continent

- Yusuf Murangwa, Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Rwanda

Statements by panellists:

- Panellist 1 [*to be confirmed*]
- Panellist 2 [*to be confirmed*]
- Panellist 3 [*to be confirmed*]

10.20–10.55 a.m. Break [*twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa continues in another room*]

Session I

Organizational matters (agenda item 2)

10.55–11.20 a.m. Election of the Bureau

Adoption of the agenda and programme of work and other organizational matters

Session II

Statistical programme of the Economic Commission for Africa: statutory issues (agenda item 3)

11.20 a.m.–1.20 p.m. Presentation of statutory reports, followed by discussion of each report

1.20–2.30 p.m. Lunch break

Session III

Strengthening the role of statistics in reflecting African development realities (agenda item 4)

2.30–3 p.m. Presentation of report

Technical response to the document from the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century

3–3.30 p.m. Break

3.30–4.30 p.m. Panel discussion on the ways in which countries and partners (such as regional economic communities, statistical training centres, the African Development Bank, the World Bank and the European Union and Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century) can strengthen the role of statistics in reflecting African development realities

Session IV

Other initiatives led by the Economic Commission for Africa (agenda item 5)

4.30–5.10 p.m. Presentation of report by ECA, followed by discussion and recommendations

Thursday, 22 October

Session V

Joint session with the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa (agenda item 6)

- 9–10.30 a.m. Keynote address: Second edition of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework
- Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, Claudio Stenner
- National experiences in developing and implementing the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework
- Representatives of selected African countries
- Interactive discussion
- 10.30–11 a.m. Break
- 11 a.m.–12.30 p.m. Leveraging of geospatial data for the production of high-quality and accurate national statistics
- Co-Chair, Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, Claudio Stenner
- Interactive discussion
- Modern census approaches: integrating the geographic information system, administrative data and registers
- Business Development Manager, Official Statistics, Esri, Kate Hess
- National experiences
- [*Speakers to be confirmed*]
- Interactive discussion
- Modern field operations with ArcGIS: efficient, and connected data collection
- Business Development Manager, Official Statistics, Esri, Kate Hess
- National experiences
- [*Speakers to be confirmed*]
- Interactive discussion
- Geospatial information, statistics and artificial intelligence: promise and possibilities
- Director, Executive Program and Geo Experience Center, Esri, Linda Peters
- [*End of the joint session*]
- 12.30–2 p.m. Lunch break
- 2–3.30 p.m. **Special topics** (raised under agenda item 7 of the twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa)
- Shared vision for geospatial information management

- [Speaker to be confirmed]

Looking towards the future of geospatial information management in Africa

- Acting Director-General, South African Department of Land Reform and Rural Development, Clinton Heimann

Next-generation sustainability: advancing the future with geospatial intelligence

- Representative of the secretariat of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, Guillaume Le Sourd

From geospatial frameworks to strategic leveraging: call for an African resource intelligence and strategic engagement network

- Research Group Leader in Spatial Information Systems, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa, Sives Govender

Presentations by countries, partners and other stakeholders

- [Speakers to be confirmed]

3.30–4 p.m.

Break

4–5 p.m.

Special session on policy and statistical convergence of the geographies of multidimensional poverty and the Beyond GDP initiative

Keynote address: Does Africa need global, regional, subregional and national well-being measures?

- Director, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford, Sabina Alkire

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ECA response

Panel discussion: African policies and progress: well-being and perspectives on gross domestic product

- Two representatives of national statistical offices [to be confirmed]
- Director, Socioeconomic Development Division, ECA, Zuzana Schwidrowski
- Director, African Centre for Statistics, ECA, Samuel Annim
- Representative of a development partner [to be confirmed]

Open discussion

7–9 p.m.

Gala dinner

Friday, 23 October

8.30–9.30 a.m.

Session VI**Reports on preliminary and side events and related meetings** (agenda item 7)

Twelfth meeting of the Forum on African Statistical Development

- [*Speaker to be confirmed*]

Combined presentation for all remaining side events

- [*Speaker to be confirmed*]

Discussion and recommendations

Session VII**Statistical capacity-building programmes of partner entities** (agenda item 8)

9.30–11.20 a.m.

Presentations

- Representative of the Statistics Division, United Nations [*to be confirmed*]
- Representative of the United Nations resident coordinator system [*to be confirmed*]
- Representative of the African Union Commission [*to be confirmed*]
- Representative of the African Development Bank [*to be confirmed*]
- Representative of the World Bank [*to be confirmed*]
- Representative of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century [*to be confirmed*]
- Representative of the Economic and Statistical Observatory for Sub-Saharan Africa [*to be confirmed*]
- Representative of the combined programme of the regional economic communities [*to be confirmed*]
- Representatives of other bilateral and multilateral partners [*to be confirmed*]

Discussion and recommendations

11.20–11.30 a.m.

Break

Session VIII**Preparation for the fifty-eighth session of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations** (agenda item 9)

11.30 a.m.–noon

Presentation of provisional agenda items

- Contribution of Africa: regional positions on key subjects [*speakers to be confirmed*]

Discussion and recommendations

Noon–1 p.m.

Lunch break

1–4 p.m.

Session IX

Joint closing of the tenth session of the Statistical Commission for Africa and the twelfth meeting of the Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa
(agenda item 10)

Date and venue of the eleventh session of the Statistical Commission for Africa

Main conclusions and recommendations

Closing remarks

- Deputy Executive Secretary (Programme) and Chief Economist, ECA, Hanan Morsy
- Chair, Statistical Commission for Africa
