United Nations E/ECA/FASDEV/12/2026/3/Rev.1

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
16 October 2026

Original: English

Economic Commission for Africa
Forum on African Statistical Development
Twelfth meeting
Addis Ababa (hybrid), 20 October 2026

Item 1 of the provisional agenda*
Opening ceremony and adoption of the agenda and programme of work

Annotated provisional agenda

1. Opening ceremony and adoption of the agenda and programme of work

The Chair of the session will welcome participants. The Director of the African Centre for Statistics of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Samuel Annim, will then deliver opening remarks. Representatives of the major partners in the organization of the Forum on African Statistical Development, namely the World Bank, the Statistics Department of the African Development Bank, the African Union Institute for Statistics of the African Union Commission and the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century, will make statements. Participants will be invited to review and adopt the agenda and programme of work.

Documentation

Draft programme of work (E/ECA/FASDEV/12/2026/2/Rev.1)

Annotated provisional agenda (E/ECA/FASDEV/12/2026/3/Rev.1)

Concept note on the twelfth meeting of the Forum (E/ECA/FASDEV/12/2026/4)

2. From commitments to delivery: stocktaking of progress and gaps

Under this agenda item, ECA will begin by sharing the results of the implementation of the recommendations from the eleventh meeting of the Forum. There will be an opportunity for participants to request clarifications and offer their initial reactions.

Building on this stocktaking, a representative of Seychelles, speaking on behalf of all African countries, will present their needs, priority areas of demand and experience with regard to partner support, based on their implementation of the recommendations of the eleventh meeting and a preliminary analysis of national strategies for the development of statistics of African countries. This will be followed by a panel discussion chaired by a representative of Burkina Faso and featuring contributions from representatives of Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, the World Bank, the African Development Bank,

* E/ECA/FASDEV/12/2026/1.

A.26-00852 (E)

the African Union Commission and the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century. Participants will then discuss how to close the gaps identified, before seeking to agree on renewed measurable commitments for the next two years and on ways of strengthening accountability for delivery. Lastly, the Chair will summarize the session.

3. Partnerships to advance the African Statistical System: financing, coordination and emerging priorities

Under this agenda item, on behalf of partners, ECA will present a summary of partners' support for statistical development in Africa. This will be followed by a panel discussion chaired by a representative of ECA and featuring contributions from representatives of Equatorial Guinea, Malawi, ECA, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank, Eurostat and the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century. Panellists will discuss:

(a) Coordination, including vehicles for cooperation;

(b) Strengthening of data use, modernization and integration, along with the responsible adoption of alternative and emerging data sources, including artificial intelligence;

(c) Sustainable financing of statistical operations and mechanisms to ensure that resources reaching national statistical offices translate into country-level results.

The panel discussion will be followed by contributions from participants and a general discussion on maximizing the effectiveness of partners' support for the transformation and modernization of national statistical systems in Africa. Lastly, the Chair will summarize the session.

Documentation

Summary of partners' support for statistical development in Africa

1. Recommendations, communiqué and closing

Under this agenda item, ECA will present the main recommendations and the draft communiqué from the twelfth meeting for participants' consideration and adoption. The communiqué, which will contain the main recommendations made at the meeting, will be submitted for endorsement by the Statistical Commission for Africa at its tenth session, to be held from 21 to 23 October 2026 in Addis Ababa.

The Director of the African Centre for Statistics will deliver closing remarks.

Documentation

Draft communiqué of the twelfth meeting of the Forum