



In the framework of the 47th session of the UN Statistical Commission

You are kindly invited to attend the Round Table Discussion on

Monitoring Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

11 March 2016

1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

United Nations Headquarters, Conference Room 8

In the presence of distinguished speakers

- *Mr Macharia Kamau*, Ambassador & Permanent Representative of Kenya to the UN
- *Mr Luc Soete*, co-author of the 2015 UNESCO Science Report
- *Mr Martin Schaaper*, UNESCO Institute for Statistics
- *Ms Joji Cariño*, member of the Secretary General's Scientific Advisory Board
- *Mr Eliot Harris*, co-chair of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism's Interagency Group on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Round Table will provide a platform for Member States, UN agencies, civil society, and academia to discuss key challenges and opportunities in monitoring science, technology and innovation as critical means of implementation for the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The discussion will be moderated by *Ms Marie Paule Roudil*, Director of the UNESCO Office in New York.

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Concept note

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda clearly recognize science, technology and innovation as critical means of implementation for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the desired sustainable development paths.

Both challenges and opportunities lie ahead of us to ensure that Member States can rely on appropriate integrated approaches to design and develop STI systems that will allow them to fully harness the game-changing power of STI in terms of increasing economic productivity and contributing to job creation, while promoting social cohesion and environmental sustainability.

Going forward, the issue of monitoring progress in STI and its contribution to SDGs will be increasingly important. In this context, robust STI monitoring systems providing reliable and comparable data at the national and international levels will need to be reinforced, or put in place where they don't exist.

Many STI monitoring tools already exist. Notable examples include the R&D and innovation databases of the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, WIPO's patent database and commercial publication databases, UNESCO Science Report, UNESCO Global Observatory of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Instruments, and others. The key question now is how should these and other relevant tools, be integrated, enhanced and further strengthened to measure and report on the progress in STI for the SDGs.

Issues for discussion at the Round Table will include:

- *What needs to be monitored to ensure STI's contribution to the implementation of the SDGs?*
- *Which STI monitoring tools are already available and how can they be strengthened and/or expanded to effectively reflect the progress of STI in the context of SDGs? Where are the major gaps?*
- *What needs to be done to ensure that STI monitoring fully reflects and supports the principle of leaving no one behind?*
- *What further developments are required to strengthen STI monitoring and reporting capacities at the national level?*

