

**SPECIAL SESSION ON**

**“Closing Data Gap for Monitoring the SDGs and  
the Post-2015 Development Agenda”**

<p><i>Brief Note</i></p>	<p>Although MDGs process has strengthened the role of the national statistics office, resulting in improved reporting of development indicators, reliable statistics for monitoring development remain inadequate in many countries (UN, 2014). In 2003 PARIS21 team, concluded that “the national statistical systems are characterized by under-funding, reliance on donor support, particularly for household surveys, and very weak administrative data systems.” The task team’s recommendations, published in 2004, also resonate today. In the initial input report of the UN Secretary General to the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, the need for strengthening capacities to collect and analyze disaggregated data was highlighted in 2012. In the 2nd session of the Open Working Group (OWG) under the conceptual issues monitoring, quality data and accountability were mentioned as weakness of the MDGs process, and needs for quality and disaggregated data were defined as possible implications for SDGs.</p> <p>The SDGs would be tracked in every country and reported periodically at the global level and by each country. However, large number of indicators would be required to comprehensively track progress towards all aspects of the 169 targets proposed by the OWG. Besides this, the importance of disaggregated data has also been stressed in order to adequately address inequality and exclusion. Therefore, the requirements for extensive high quality data sources will in turn require strong statistical systems in the countries. All these concerns are mentioned under Goal 17 by two targets. The target 17.18 states that “By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts” and the target 17.19 envisages that “By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries”.</p>
<p><i>Objective of the Panel</i></p>	<p>The main objective of this panel is to discuss the need for quality and disaggregated data and to create awareness in the OIC member countries.</p>

<i>Issues and Topics</i>	<p>Possible points of discussion include but not limited to the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the current situation in the availability of data for the OIC member countries related to the SDGs?</li> <li>• What will be the role of the government bodies, civil society, academia and private sector on producing quality and disaggregated data?</li> <li>• What type of contribution can international institutions make for monitoring SDGs in the OIC member countries?</li> <li>• What might be the possible extent of financial needs for meeting the data requirements of the SDGs, and what are the possible ways to fulfill these needs?</li> <li>• What is the road map of UN on data, monitoring and accountability?</li> <li>• What might be the role of the OIC institutions on supporting the member countries in developing needed data and monitoring systems?</li> </ul>
<i>Participation</i>	<p>All delegations of the OIC Member States attending the 31<sup>st</sup> COMCEC Ministerial Session are invited to participate in the special session. The representatives of the OIC Institutions, various International Organizations, civil society, businessmen, academicians and other relevant stakeholders are also invited to attend this Session.</p>
<i>Venue &amp; Date</i>	<p>Istanbul Congress Center, İstanbul, Turkey, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015  For more information, please contact:  Mehmet Akif ALANBAY, Expert,  COMCEC Coordination Office, Necatibey cd. No:110 CANKAYA- ANKARA  Ph: +90 312 294 57 18 E-mail: <a href="mailto:malanbay@comcec.org">malanbay@comcec.org</a></p>