

Arab Forum on Building Statistical Capacity for a Data Revolution

Opening remarks – Dr. Johannes Jütting

Excellencies,

Honorable guests,

Distinguished participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of PARIS21, I would like to join his H.E. Dr Saleh Al-Nabit, Minister of Development Planning and Statistics of the State of Qatar in very warmly welcoming you all to Doha to this important forum in partnership with the GCC-STAT. PARIS21 is very honoured to be the co-organizer of a Forum that will cover three main topics: Sustainable Goal Implementation, the data revolution and statistical capacity building.

The timing is excellent. We are one year after the endorsement of the SDGs and 3 months after the HLPF where this topic has been started to discuss.

- I am personally very excited to be here; 3rd time in Doha, appreciated the hospitality, hope you will enjoy your stay here

- We have representatives from some 20 countries – NSO, experts on SDG development data, experts on data revolution and capacity building

PARIS21 – global partnership, 50 institutions – capacity building...MDG => now different time – universal agenda and leave no one behind; BAU will not work – we need a substantively different approach; we need a data revolution – Sustainable Development Goals

What is the context of our event:

- all countries SDG implementation now: HLPF 20 countries – challenges on data gaps – process how to do it –

- Data revolution – country led – country workshop are taking place, NSS – proud of being part of the Global Partnership in implementing – tool box.

- Arab region - varies quite a lot; higher income and low income – not one size fits all but tailor-made solutions

We have developed hopefully a very interesting program – and you all play a role today we have 3 sessions - context, challenges and solutions; tomorrow we dive deeper

Input from world class experts; open discussions and frank exchange and group work to listen and learn what is already today happening in countries; learning from successes and failures and presenting of tools like the ADAPT;

Objective: outcome document with specific recommendations for country implementation

At the end, I would like to thank once more the Minister, you for coming and wishing us productive two days.