Speech of His Excellency Mr. Muhammad Abdulaziz Al-Nuaimi - Assistant to the President of Planning and Statistics Authority

In Opening the Webinar on Building Central Statistical Data Warehouse

Distinguished Guests and Dear Colleagues

Peace be upon you,

At the outset, I would like to welcome all of you to this webinar, which sheds light on an important project related to building a central statistical data warehouse in the State of Qatar, and studying the best ways to provide data to users at the national and international levels. Further, I would like to thank you very much for accepting our invitation to participate in this webinar that is of great importance to us. In fact, we count on the results of the webinar, which are expected to enrich our knowledge related to the process of disseminating data and statistics and delivering them to users as quickly as possible through a smart and innovative application.

Dear Guests,

The "Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics" issued by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) and approved by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), emphasized that official statistics are a "public good" access to them must be provided simultaneously to all users. Means of access to statistical data must take into account the diverse needs of users. Such statistics should be sufficiently comprehensive, so that they are made available to the public in an easy and transparent manner without them having advanced or specialized technical knowledge. They also enshrine the confidentiality of personal data related to individuals and establishments, which the Planning and Statistics Authority attaches great importance to.

Nowadays, as you all know, we have seen a data revolution that resulted in advanced technology, digital transformation and artificial intelligence, etc. This revolution was not only about large amount of data produced, but also about the increasing demand for it. This, in turn, requires the improvement of users' access to what they need; including the standard data, indicators and evidence that are used to measure progress towards achieving the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is anticipated that the results of this workshop will contribute to developing a clear vision of the statistical and technical aspects of the data

warehouse, enabling users who are not specialized in statistics and data to reach what they need in their work, and at the forefront of these are decision makers, policy makers, researchers, academics and workers in civil society organizations. Moreover, the aforementioned data warehouse will also be helpful to us in preparing the Third National Development Strategy (NDS-3).

Dear Guests,

I welcome you once again and I am looking forward to the results of your webinar, which will undoubtedly help us in drawing a roadmap for building the desired data warehouse. This can only be achieved if the ministries, government agencies, the private sector and households provide the Planning and Statistics Authority with the necessary data supported by the relevant definitions and methodology.

In conclusion, I cannot fail to welcome and thank the presenters for their presentations, which will undoubtedly help us in achieving our aspirations. Besides, let me warmly thank the interpreters, for helping us understand each other. In particular, I would like to thank Dr. Ahmad Hussein and my colleagues in the Planning and Statistics Authority for their efforts in preparing and organizing this webinar. May God bless you in your efforts.

Peace be upon you,