



EFTA/UNECE Workshop on the Generic Law of Official Statistics
4-5 July 2023, Yerevan, Armenia

INF.1
25 May 2023

CONCEPT NOTE

The EFTA/UNECE Workshop on the Generic Law of Official Statistics will take place on 4-5 July 2023 in Yerevan, Armenia in Ani Grand Hotel.

Simultaneous interpretation in English and Russian will be provided during the meeting. All meeting documents, including the workshop timetable will be made available at the workshop website as they become available: <https://unece.org/statistics/events/GLOSWorkshop2023>

I. Background

Improving the governance of statistical production and the legal framework is fundamental to producing high-quality statistics. The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) has been supporting its members in this area by developing and endorsing together with EFTA and Eurostat the [Generic Law on Official Statistics](#) (2016) and the [Guidance on Modernizing Statistical Legislation](#) (2019). Aligning with the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, the documents provide guidance on developing the statistical legislation needed to support the modernization of statistical systems and unleash the full value of official statistics.

The Generic Law on Official Statistics (GLOS) has since been used by countries around the world and adapted to regional needs by UN-ECLAC and UN-ESCWA. In 2021, the Expert Meeting on Modernizing Statistical Legislation concluded that the GLOS should be reviewed, taking into account the experiences of countries that used or implemented it and new developments in institutional standards relating to ethics, principles, values and quality; data stewardship function of NSOs; access to secondary data sources; and the data privacy and confidentiality laws.

The workshop is organized jointly by EFTA and UNECE in close collaboration with the Statistical Committee of the Republic of Armenia (Armstat) and overseen by the Conference of European Statisticians' Steering Group on Statistical Legislation, which includes Albania, Ireland, Latvia, Poland, United Kingdom, Eurostat, the Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development and the United Nations Statistics Division.

II. Target audience and main objectives

The workshop will bring together representatives of national statistical offices who have used or implemented GLOS to:

- Share the national experiences of using GLOS
- Collect inputs regarding needed updates or extensions to existing guidance and
- Initiate the review process.



III. Content of the workshop

The workshop will include presentations from countries and international organizations and as well as interactive discussions addressing the following questions:

- What are the main deviations between the new national statistical laws of the invited countries and the Generic Law on Official Statistics and/or the *CES Guidance on Modernizing Statistical Legislation*?
- Were any elements of the GLOS and/or the *CES Guidance on Modernizing Statistical Legislation* difficult to implement in the national law and why?
- Was there anything missing in the GLOS or the *CES Guidance on Modernizing Statistical Legislation* for the revision of statistical legislation in the invited countries' context? What additional guidance would be needed in the future?
- What other materials or resources would be useful to further support modernizing statistical legislation?

IV. Format and language

The workshop is taking place in person. Simultaneous interpretation in English and Russian will be provided during the meeting.

V. Nomination and accreditation of participants

Nominated participants will be expected to share the national experiences of using GLOS and provide inputs into the review process. **Each participant is required to complete the [online registration form](#) no later than 8 June.**

The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) will provide financial support for up to two participants from the invited countries. If financial support is requested, an official request signed by the Director of your National Statistical Office to the attention of Mr Michel Di Pietro, Director of the EFTA Statistical Office, should be attached to your registration form or sent by e-mail to EFTA (Jenni.JUVONEN@ext.ec.europa.eu).

All participants attending the workshop are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. A letter to facilitate obtaining a visa can be requested from Armstat by contacting Ms. Anahit Safyan (safyan@armstat.am). To verify whether a visa is required in their case, the participants are invited to consult the web pages of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia: <https://www.mfa.am/en/visa/> and <https://www.mfa.am/en/whoneedvisa>.

VI. Venue

The workshop will take place in the following location:

Ani Grand Hotel

65, Hanrapetutyan Street, Yerevan 0010, Armenia

Email: reservation@anigrandhotelyerevan.com

Phone: +374 12 770000; +374 12 880088

Website: <https://anigrandhotelyerevan.com/>



VII. Further information

All meeting documents, including the workshop timetable will be made available at the workshop website: <https://unece.org/statistics/events/GLOSWorkshop2023>

VIII. Contact

UNECE

Ms. Malgorzata Cwiek
Statistician
UNECE Statistical Division
E-mail: cwiek@un.org

EFTA

Ms. Jenni Juvonen
Administrative Coordinator
EFTA Statistical Office
Email: Jenni.JUVONEN@ext.ec.europa.eu

Armstat

Ms. Anahit Safyan
Member of the State Council on Statistics
Armstat
E-mail: safyan@armstat.am

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