



مركز الإحصاء  
STATISTICS CENTRE

**Press release**

Date: 22 November 2016

From December 6 to 8 at ADNEC Exhibition Centre

SCAD: All Set for IAOS 2016

Over 500 Delegates from 40+ Countries to Review 100+ Papers through  
20+ Sessions

Al Qubaisi: Abu Dhabi is the First GCC Capital to Host this World-Class  
Event

IAOS 2016 to support Abu Dhabi's Bid for the World Statistics Congress  
in 2021

H.E. Butti Ahmed Mohammed Bin Butti Al Qubaisi , Director General of Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi, Chairman of the Higher Organising Committee of the 15th Conference of the International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS 2016), announced today in a press conference at SCAD's office the completion of all preparations for the organisation of the IAOS 2016, under the theme: “The Spirit of Official Statistics: Partnership and Continuous Innovation” at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre “ADNEC” from 6–8 December, 2016.

H.E. Al Qubaisi expressed his deepest thanks to the wise leadership, whose wisdom and insight provided the perfect climate for hosting major world events in the UAE, pointing out that Abu Dhabi is the first Arab capital in the region to organise a statistical event on this scale. “The IAOS 2016 represents a valuable forum for reviewing the best practices in the field of statistical data management and enhancing cooperation amongst key stakeholders in the official statistical community locally and internationally” remarked Al Qubaisi.



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## 100+ Working Papers

According to H.E. the Chairman of the IAOS 2016 Higher Organizing Committee, the conference provides a forum for some 500 participants, including senior officials, policy-makers and experts. The conference programme features four plenary sessions and 20+ parallel session chaired by speakers representing leading statistical institutions from over 40 countries. In excess of 100 papers will be discussed in the conference sessions.

Al Qubaisi said the conference would help to raise statistical awareness and develop statistical work in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in particular and the UAE in general, as well as at the regional level. It would also contribute to the promotion of Abu Dhabi's tourism strategy for hosting international events. In addition, the IAOS 2016 would support the Emirate's bid to host the World Statistics Congress WSC-ISI in 2021.

## Themes and Schedule

H.E. Al Qubaisi explained that the IAOS 2016 agenda will revolve around four core themes, namely, "Strengthening the value of official statistics in the rapidly expanding information society", "Partnerships in action for results", "Innovation and modernisation of national statistical systems" and "Fundamental principles in practice".

Furthermore, the conference will see a meeting of the IAOS members and the award presentation for two statistical competitions: the International Young Statisticians Prize and the UAE Young Statistician Prize.





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## Keynote speakers

According to H.E., the IAOS 2016 Higher Organising Committee Chairman, the conference contributors and keynote speakers include a galaxy of prominent personalities, e.g. H.E. Reem Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation, Director General of Dubai Expo 2020, H.E. Noura Al Kaabi, Emirati Minister of State for Federal National Council Affairs and Chairwoman of the Media Zone Authority – Abu Dhabi (MZA) and twofour54, H.E. Ola Awad, President of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and President of the International Association for Official Statistics, H.E. Dr. Fahad Al Tekhaifi President of the Saudi General Authority for Statistics, Abdullah Lootah, Director General of the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority, H.E. Sabir bin Said Al Harbi, Director General of the Statistical Centre of the Gulf cooperation Council (GCC-Stat), Mr. Ola Rosling, Chairman, Director and Co-founder of the Gapminder Foundation, Sweden, and Dr. Johannes Jütting, Head of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century – PARIS21, in addition to a number of other world renowned experts and directors of statistical agencies.

## The conference programme

The conference begins with an address by the host Organisation, followed by a speech by H.E. Reem Al Hashimy, Minister of State for International Cooperation, entitled “Statistics: National Vision and International Competitiveness” and an address by H.E. Ola Awad, President of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and President of the International Association for Official Statistics.



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The keynote address for Day 1 will be presented by Mr. Ola Rosling, Chairman, Director and Co-founder of the Gapminder Foundation, who will tackle the topic “Global Statistics for Factfulness”.

## Day 2

For the first time in the history of the conference the agenda of the day starts with a special session, entitled "Measuring Progress for Arab Women". The session will be chaired by H.E. Ola Awad, President of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and President of the International Association for Official Statistics, with the participation of leading female figures from all over the Arab world, including H.E. Noura Al Kaabi, Emirati Minister of State for Federal National Council Affairs, Chairwoman of the Media Zone Authority - Abu Dhabi (MZA) and twofour54, H.E. Mona Khalaf Al Daas, Assistant Undersecretary, Central Statistical Bureau, Kuwait and H.E. Zahira Kamal, Director General, Palestine Women Research and Documentation Centre.

## Day 3

On the third and final day of the Conference, the keynote speaker will be Dr. Johannes Jütting, Head of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – PARIS21. His topic is entitled “*Public-Private Partnerships for Big Data*”

The keynote address will be followed by an award presentation for the International Young Statisticians Prizes by H.E. the IAOS President, Ola Awad and the UAE Young Statistician Prize by H.E. Butti Al Qubaisi, Director General of SCAD.

Dr. Mohamed Taamouti, the delegate of the High Commission for Planning of the Kingdom of Morocco will deliver in a special presentation

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session on Morocco's preparations to host the World Statistics Congress next year.

Mr. Mario Palma, President Elect of the International Association for Official Statistics, and Mr. Marco Mira d'Ercole of the OECD will deliver a "Presentation on the next International Association for Official Statistics Conference (IAOS 2018).

Finally, H.E. the IAOS President, Ola Awad will deliver a closing address, followed by an invitation to the next edition of the conference (IAOS 2018), to be presented by Mr. Mario Palma, President Elect of the International Association for Official Statistics, and Mr. Marco d'Ercole of the OECD. The conference concludes with a closing address by H.E. Butti Ahmed Mohammed bin Butti Al Qubaisi, Director General of SCAD.

H.E. Al Qubaisi emphasised the importance the Emirate of Abu Dhabi accords to official statistics as indispensable inputs in decision and policy making. Abu Dhabi therefore intends to expand statistical knowledge and build statistical capacity across the Emirate. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi supports all international efforts for measuring the United Nations development goals that seek to improve the lives of people, realising the growing role of official statistics in the development of our economy and society.

At the conclusion of the press conference, the Organising Committee Chairman stressed the importance of this major conference, commending Abu Dhabi's initiative to host it. He expressed his appreciation for the favourable response by the government agencies in the UAE and the region, local, regional and international statistical offices, especially the Statistics Division of the Nations United, universities and other educational institutions and the print and broadcast media from all over the world.

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## مركز الإحصاء STATISTICS CENTRE

The International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) is an international non-governmental organization founded in 1985 as a specialized division of the International Statistical Institute. Its membership consists of 400+ experts from all over the world. The IAOS holds its international conference every two years. Since its inception the IAOS has organized 14 conferences in different countries around the world.

### **About Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi (SCAD)**

Statistics Centre – Abu Dhabi (SCAD) was established in 2008 in accordance with Law No. (7), to develop and organize statistical work in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi in particular and the United Arab Emirates in general. SCAD's purpose is to produce statistical information that is consistent with the Emirate's orientation towards sustainable development and strategic plans under the supervision and with full support of the Executive Council of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

Being the official statistical data collection agency in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi, the centre assumes the functions of preparing the statistical plans and programs that serve the emirate's wider development programs, conducting statistical surveys across the emirate. SCAD is also responsible for the collection, classification, storage, analysis and dissemination of official statistics and the release of the results of social, demographic, economic, environmental and cultural surveys.





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The activities of the centre will encompass all areas relating to social conditions in accordance with relevant international standards and ethics, such as independence, professionalism, impartiality, objectivity, confidentiality, cost effectiveness and quality of statistics.

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