

ISI WSC 2019 Short Course Programme

COURSE TITLE :	SC10 - Integrity of official statistics. Independence of official statisticians
DURATION :	1 Day
DATE :	17 August 2019
VENUE :	Sasana Kijang
REGISTRATION FEES :	Developed Country MYR 1,140 (Approximately EUR 240) Developing Country / Student* MYR 710 (Approximately EUR 150) <i>* For student, proof of enrolment is required</i>

INSTRUCTOR 1

Mr. Jean-Louis Bodin

ISI, IAOS
France

- Retired from INSEE, the French National Statistical Institute
- International Consultant (Organization of Official Statistical Systems)
- Former President of the ISI (1999 – 2001)
- Former President of the IAOS (1989 – 1991)
- Vice-chairman of the Drafting Committee of the UN Resolution on Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (1991 – 1994)
- Member of the Drafting Committee of the African Charter on Statistics
- “Founding Father” of AFRISTAT and first chair of its Scientific Advisory Council ((1996 – 2008)
- Former Adviser to the President of the Agency for Cooperation with the developing and transition countries of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (2000 – 2010)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course consists of three conferences on the integrity of official statistics and independence of official statisticians.

Why it is important to deal with this matter?

Political authorities are often tempted to intervene in statistical activities by interfering or even

manipulating the technical choices of statisticians, or by limiting the role and missions of official statistical bodies.

Outsiders often make inaccurate use of statistical data or they may organize a media campaign to discredit the statistical service, its outputs, methods, or staff.

Sometimes, a wrong or inappropriate use of a statistically-driven formula may, in the eyes of the public impose on statisticians a responsibility for political decision-making.

Data may be censored or their publication is delayed for good or bad reasons.

International resolutions and codes may provide solutions. But responses may also be organized by the profession itself.

SYLLABUS

1. Independence statisticians and integrity of official statistics: challenges and threats; answers.
 - The new statistical environment in the early 21st century
 - Legitimacy and credibility of statistical information: impartiality, reliability, relevance, transparency
 - Independence of statisticians? What is it about?
 - Some historical milestones
 - Laws, ethics and good practices:
 - Ways in which the statistical integrity may be threatened. Examples
2. Factors contributing to maintain statistical integrity
 - Institutional responses
 - Responses by the profession
3. Good practice: presentation of some tools
 - Institutional responses when independence is attacked: historical development of statistical law at national and international
 - Responses organized by the profession itself
 - Historical evolution of the statistical legislation: 1945 - 1965; 1965 - 1989; after 1989
 - UN Resolution on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, European statistics code of Practice, African Charter on Statistics, ISI Declaration on Professional Ethics, etc.
 - Institutional environment: professional independence, mandate for data collection, adequacy of resources, quality, statistical confidentiality, impartiality and objectivity

TARGET AUDIENCE

Junior statisticians from developing countries working in Statistical National Systems (National Statistical Offices, Statistical Bureaus of “in-line” ministries, Official Agencies, Central Banks,). This course may be therefore of interest for young statisticians working in the Asian region, for instance ASEAN countries or in transition countries of Central Asia or Mongolia.

