

**The 13th Meeting of the Steering
Committee of the Arab Statistics
Initiative (ARABSTAT)**

**“Official Statistics in a Changing World:
Navigating Challenges and Driving
Transformation”**

Agenda

**25-26 November 2026
Abu Dhabi - United Arab Emirates**

Wednesday, 25 November 2026

ARAB MONETARY FUND

Registration	08:00 - 08:30
Opening Session	08:30 - 9:30
Mokhtar Benlamine, Executive Director, Surveillance and Financing Department, Arab Monetary Fund	
H.E. Dr. Fahad M. Alturki, Director General Chairman of the Board, Arab Monetary Fund	
Chairman of The 13th ARABSTAT Meeting	
Jamel Jouini, Manager, Regional Surveillance and Research Division	
Group Photo	
Session 1: The Role of Official Statistics in Addressing Global Transformations	09:30- 11:30
Objective: This session aims to examine ongoing global transformations, with a particular focus on the adoption of the latest international standards for compiling macroeconomic statistics. It will highlight the importance of transitioning to updated international manuals and classifications through well-structured, practical, and actionable implementation plans.	
New changes in the updated 2025 SNA: implications on Arab countries	Arab Monetary Fund
New standards and its implications: BPM7, GFS, Monetary Statistics and new Financial instruments	International Monetary Fund / Member country
Evolving statistical classifications and their impact on statistics	International organization / Member country
Best practices for adopting the revised standards (GFS, Debt manual, FMSM,)	Member countries
Beyond traditional statistics: Alternative data in times of crises	International organization
Interactive Discussion	
Coffee break - 11:30- 12:00	

Session 2: Leveraging Digitalization and Emerging Technologies in Official Statistics	12:00- 14:30
Objective: This session aims to address compliance with emerging requirements related to digitalization and digital trade, while exploring the integration of artificial intelligence and big data in statistical production. It will also highlight strategies to improve efficiency, quality, and relevance through these technologies.	
Using new technologies to fill gaps in capturing trade in statistics	Member country
The role of big data in enhancing official statistics	International Monetary Fund / Member countries
Artificial intelligence in official statistics	International organization
Digitalization in Financial sector	International Monetary Fund
Data sharing and shared platforms: leverage technology	Member country
Interactive Discussion	
Lunch - 14:30- 15:30	

Thursday, 26 November 2026

Session 3: Integration of Statistical Data	09:00- 11:30
Objective: This session explores the integration of statistical data within the national statistical system, emphasizing coordination and coherence among statistical offices, ministries of finance, and central banks. The focus is on enhancing consistency in outputs and harmonizing methodologies across institutions.	
Why Institutional Coordination Matters in Statistics	AMF
Coordination across the main components of the statistical system	Member country
Quality frameworks for data quality management	IMF
Institutional Building capacities to improve data sharing	International organization
From national to regional data: Building an integrated statistical system in the Arab countries	Member country
Role of the statistical business register in building an integrated statistical system	International organization
Discussion	
Coffee break - 11:30- 12:00	

Session 4: ArabStat Initiative: Shaping the Future	12:00- 13:30
Objective: This session aims to facilitate a strategic discussion on the future of the ArabStat initiative, reflecting on its achievements and the evolving challenges facing Arab statistical systems. It will assess the initiative's current positioning, explore its future role in supporting evidence-based policymaking, and foster a participatory approach with members. The session will also gather inputs on the development of Task Forces to promote the exchange of expertise and strengthen coordination mechanisms among member countries.	
ArabStat Strategic Roadmap 2027-2028	AMF
Role of Task Forces in advancing ArabStat	AMF
Interactive Discussion	

Closing Session: Recommendations and Suggestions	13:30- 14:30
Summary of the main outcomes of the meeting	AMF
Recommendations and proposals for the 14th ArabStat meeting	Chairman of the 13th ARABSTAT Meeting
Lunch - 14:30	

صندوق النقد العربي

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