

# TOSSD



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## International Forum on TOSSD

### Meeting of the Steering Group of the International Forum on TOSSD (IFT)

10-12 March 2025, Paris, France

#### Agenda Item 10. Creation of the IFT Statistical Working Group: Composition and Practical Organisation of Meetings

For discussion

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## Creation of the IFT Statistical Working Group: Composition and Practical Organisation of Meetings

### I. Introduction

1. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> IFT Steering Group meeting held on 24-26 September 2024, the forming of the IFT Statistical Working Group (hereafter referred to as the SWG) was discussed. It was agreed that for the first year of the SWG's existence, the current IFT Terms of Reference (ToRs) would apply, meaning that members of the SWG would be statistical correspondents from the IFT Steering Group.<sup>1</sup> Any changes to promote inclusiveness, such as inviting all TOSSD reporters, could be considered following the first year of the SWG's existence. In this situation, the Secretariat would first consult with the co-Chairs of the SWG, and if they were to support such an approach, the question would be brought for discussion and decision in the IFT Steering Group.

2. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> IFT Steering Group meeting, it was also agreed that SWG meetings should be held immediately following the Steering Group meetings. Co-ordination with other relevant bodies, such as the Development Assistance Committee Working Party on Development Finance Statistics (WP-STAT) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) and the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), could take place in the form of virtual meetings or informal workshops. Moreover, there should be no formal co-ordination between the SWG and the WP-STAT.<sup>2</sup>

3. This paper **proposes creating the SWG in Q2 2025**. The steps forward are outlined below.

### II. Composition of the SWG

4. The IFT Secretariat will reach out to IFT Steering Group Members and Observers requesting that they each appoint at least one representative to the SWG.<sup>3</sup> It is important to have one main representative per IFT Steering Group Member and Observer to facilitate interactions with the Secretariat. However, SWG Members are welcome to invite other colleagues from their administrations to the SWG meetings to contribute to the discussions as relevant. For any written inputs required for the SWG, the Secretariat will liaise solely with the main representative.

5. In addition, the Chair of WP-STAT, the Chair of IATI and up to two TOSSD data Reporters who are not IFT Members or Observers will be invited to participate as Observers to the SWG.

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<sup>1</sup> See the [IFT ToRs](#), paragraph 71 for further details.

<sup>2</sup> See [Action points](#), paragraph 33.

<sup>3</sup> See the [IFT ToRs](#), paragraphs 71 and 12.

6. Regarding the data Reporters, it is proposed that the Secretariat extends the invitation to join the SWG based on expressions of interest, in consultation with the co-Chairs of the SWG.

### III. Frequency of the meetings

7. As per the ToRs<sup>4</sup>, the SWG will meet at least once per year in an annual meeting, with additional meetings to be held on an ad hoc basis as needed. During the annual meeting, the SWG will review the main outcomes of the TOSSD data collection of the previous year and prepare relevant documentation for the next data collection round.

8. Ideally, the SWG annual meeting would take place in Q1 each year, back-to-back to the Steering Group meeting (end of February or March), prior to the Secretariat sending out the data solicitation letters and emails (typically carried out in April-May of each year).

9. One of the main outcomes of the SWG annual meeting will be proposals for updates to the TOSSD Reporting Instructions, to be made to the IFT Steering Group.

10. The ideal time schedule can be implemented as from 2026. This year, any adjustments to the Reporting Instructions for data collection on 2024 activities should be discussed and agreed upon amongst the IFT Steering Group.<sup>5</sup>

### IV. Organisation of the first meeting

11. **The first SWG meeting is proposed to be held in May 2025.** During this kick-off meeting, the Secretariat will present the ToRs of the SWG and address any questions. The SWG will appoint two co-chairs during its first meeting. Regarding the topics for discussion, the Secretariat proposes that the first meeting focuses on the TOSSD data visualisation platform, the recipient review mechanism and the provider perspective.

12. **It is further proposed that the first SWG meeting be fully virtual.** Due to the preparations for the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) taking place in the first half of 2025, it would be difficult to organise an in-person SWG meeting during this same period. To accommodate different time zones, an online session will take place from 12:00 to 15:00 CET each day, with a maximum duration of three hours, for two or three days. The online format will also facilitate broad participation by colleagues involved in the collection and reporting of TOSSD data and will reduce costs and environmental impact.

### V. Appointment of the co-Chairs of the SWG

13. **The Steering Group Members are invited to express their interest in co-chairing the SWG.** As the ToRs do not specify the duration of the chairmanship, the Secretariat proposes a two-year term for the co-Chairs. However, for the first appointments, one co-

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<sup>4</sup> See the [IFT ToRs](#), paragraph 72.

<sup>5</sup> See [Agenda](#) item 9.

Chair may serve for three years to ensure only one co-chair changes each year, facilitating a smooth transition, similar to the Steering Group.

14. It is proposed that, in line with the rule on IFT co-Chairs, the two SWG co-Chairs represent different stakeholder groups (providers, dual providers/recipients, recipients and intergovernmental organisations).

15. The Secretariat will collect expressions of interest for co-chairing the SWG when reaching out to members regarding SWG appointments.

## Questions for discussion

- Do Steering Group Members agree with the proposal to organise the first SWG meeting in May 2025, held in an online format? Are there any preferred dates for that month?
- Do Steering Group Members have additional proposals for discussion items at the first SWG meeting?
- Does any Steering Group Member wish to express interest in co-chairing the SWG?