

**Minutes: Executive Council Meeting**  
**December 2, 2020**  
**(Time 1, 2am GMT) (Time 2, 11am GMT)**

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Attendees:

At-large: [Ron Lee](#), [Andy Mason](#)  
Africa: [Eugenia Amporfu](#), [Latif Dramani](#), [Lanre Olaniyan](#)  
Europe: [Alexia Fürnkranz-Prskawetz](#), [Róbert Gál](#), [Ció Patxot](#)  
Asia-Pacific: [Christopher Gee](#), [Sang Hyop Lee](#)  
LAC: [Piedad Urdinola](#), [Marisa Bucheli](#)  
North America: Gretchen Donehower (both meetings)

Minutes recorded by Gretchen Donehower and Eugenia Amporfu.

Speakers are generally referred to by initials.

Notes are color coded by meeting the discussion is from, [Time1](#), and [Time 2](#).

Notes in black are from GD's original agenda.

**Specific follow up items are highlighted in yellow.**

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**Agenda items:**

- A. Next global workshop, NTA 14, 2022 (open discussion)**
  - B. Regional reports (from regional members)**
  - C. NTA newsletter (Gretchen)**
  - D. Recruiting instructors for CREG's MA in Generational Economics and Public Policy (Latif)**
  - E. Revisions to bylaws? (Gretchen)**
  - F. Online workshop/seminar/training series (open discussion)**
  - G. Publications**
  - H. Vote on Israel membership (via private chat)**
  - I. UN plans for NTA manuals, trainings**
  - J. New business (open discussion)**
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**A. NTA 14, 2022**

When, where, how funded, should it be only in-person or hybrid? For reference, here are the last meetings, so the next would make sense to be in Europe or Asia:

NTA 13 – August 2020, Virtual hosted by East West Center, Honolulu, USA  
NTA 12 – July 2018, Mexico City, Mexico  
NTA 11 – July 2016, Dakar and Saly, Senegal  
NTA 10 – November 2014, Beijing, China  
NTA 9 – June 2013, Barcelona, Spain  
NTA 8 – December 2011, Belo Horizonte and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
NTA 7 – June 2010, East West Center, Honolulu, USA

- Issues with Europe that it is expensive, with Asia that it is long travel for many.
- Will have some funding from CEDA/Berkeley
- Possible funding from UNFPA APRO that they committed for NTA13 when it was going to be face to face but then withdrew when it turned into virtual; they will only support f2f
- If hybrid is not desirable, we could instead record talks for later viewing, have pre-conference meetings that are virtual, other ideas?
- The general consensus was that we prefer recordings available after instead of concurrent f2f/online.
- CG: Singapore possible but expensive? What about dorm housing? Not great.
- Malaysia is a possibility... could combine having 1 day in Singapore and other days in Malaysia, but could be visa issues with that.
- Christopher will reach out to Malaysia team to discuss possibilities.
- G will follow up with CG in early January.
- Ron: Europe? Vienna best positioned to host, institutional support could be great. Paris? INED there.
- Andy: other Asia? Thailand, India? UNFPA support might be more available for a meeting in Asia
- SH: also other country possibilities?
- Alexia wants to know what the total cost is. Do we have a template/guidance for hosting? (Gretchen will follow up.)
- EA: expense could be greater with two countries, is it worth it?
- LD: Visa issues are big, expense is issue, for example travel to Mexico city was \$6k each person; Malaysia has an embassy in Senegal but not Singapore so that would be a big hardship for people to get a visa for Singapore
- LO: Think the same is true in Nigeria? Malaysia has embassy but not Singapore.
- GD: Even if we end up having the next conference in Malaysia, we could plan now for the one after that to be in Europe, so planning by European region group will be helpful down the line no matter what.

## B. Regional reports

### Africa (Lanre, Latif, Eugenia)

- LO: In Nigeria, working on DD roadmaps state by state in Nigeria, and state by state NTA; 1-week workshop manual has been completed and is in review;
- LD: with UNFPA WCARO and ECA, working on national DD observatories, next NTA Africa conference, profiles of DRC and Liberia, so total of 24 countries in the region with NTA estimates in progress or done, then all W and Centra Afr countries will have NTA and DD profiles; MOU with ECA and ECOWAS to adopt NTA as the method for monitoring DDD framework (dem div and development framework), they are using NTA to monitor all DD related development efforts and implement AU DD agenda; DD national observatories are in 10 countries to push agenda of DD roadmap and analyze links between DD, policy, and outcomes
- LD: Planning book on NTA in Africa with Morne, and other NTA African teams; LO: put in proposal, currently in revision (Germano, Doyin will be editors?)
- LD: Next NTA Africa meeting, big issue is the budget. Where to have?
- LD: Work also with ECA in Addis, develop gender DD index and experiment with 3-5 countries for pilot studies (Senegal, ZA, Nigeria, Niger, Benin)

- EA: Ghana had a training for Gambia and Sierra Leone, next step is follow up with those two countries; met with Ghana development council and UNFPA to create final document that will be incorporated into national development plan; they were very positive about including Counting Women's Work.

\*\*\*GD CAN WE GET A GLOBAL NTA CHECK ON IF NTA IS INCLUDED IN GOV'T PLANNING DOCUMENTS/PROCESSES/STATISTICS... maybe include request in future newsletter \*\*\*

#### Asia (Sang-Hyop, Christopher)

- AM and SHL working on new datasets for Asian countries, KR 2017 updated soon, several other Asian countries are in process of updating their NTA
  - Maldives working hard but can't release to NTA community yet
  - Japan also has issues with data security
  - Asian issues with sharing data because of security/privacy/rules on restricting sharing?
- CG: about to release Singapore update also by gender and SES, by end of next year
- SHL: working on consumption profiles for KR spanning the pandemic. Very cool!

#### Europe (Alexia, Róbert, Ció)

- AFP: Bernhard got \$ from Aust natl bank on distributional national account
  - Vienna Institute of Demography wants to establish NTA as one of their main projects with continuous support for researcher time to update accounts in Europe
  - How to enhance long term stability of NTA in Europe with no fixed funding source to support, Tanja and Bernhard are working on ideas?
  - Work with David and James to have wealth accounts, looking for funding
  - Wants to have regular workshops on distributional and wealth accounts
  - BIG GOAL: To get NTA included as permanent part of Eurostat
- RG: central asia has been very active
  - Russia conducting research and training in Russian language, team has ambitious plans in central Asia
  - NTA Azerbaijan completed, Tajikistan started and UNFPA will finance new in Serbia and Kosovo
- CP: Portugal and Spain doing historical NTA, past repeated cross sections
  - Microsimulation model is almost done, will be possible for any European or other countries, by family type and education,
  - They also have a funded project in review right now.

#### Latin American and the Caribbean

- PU: Everything is on hold, communication and organizing is hard, but possibility of having virtual meeting in 2021.
  - Replicating DDI (Latif's demog div indicator) in LAC countries,
  - Book on NTA by SES, to be published by CELADE also on hold
- Andy: database entries from South America updated well, upload is in process; can also upload by SES or other characteristics
- MB: New countries were funded over last two years, but big question is how to retain those countries with no funding
  - They didn't have papers to present at NTA13
  - Want a f2f workshop to retain interest and work of those countries

#### North America (Ron, Andy, Gretchen)

- Ron: Canadian team doing NTA by province, longitudinal, 30-40 years.
- Gretchen will ask Julien if he is interested in having another longitudinal workshop.

- US is working on NTA microdata from 1981 to 2018, which will enable profiles by sub-group (gender, SES/Education, distributional NTA)

### C. NTA Newsletter (Gretchen)

Comments? ideas for future? Things to go in December issue?

- SHL: newsletter is not just for NTA focus, can be for general interest related to things NTA is interested in
- AM: can we have some way that people are responsible for taking one newsletter per year/quarter/whatever
- RL: could we come up with something that is shareable outside of the network? Like bringing back the bulletins? (but that's a much higher production values)
- AM: google alerts on NTA, aging, etc. can use these to fill out a bulletin. Also he will send GD a copy of the old newsletters they used to create.
- GD will see if something is possible.

### D. Recruiting instructors for CREG's MA in Generational Economics and Public Policy (Latif)

Describe the need, how to publicize... through the network? Newsletter, other?

- We can publicize the need and if Latif wants to consult with anyone on the EC about possible candidates, that is fine.
- LD: They have an MOU with IDEP to train people, capacity building in planning and development with generational economy; online masters will be available from some African universities and they need instructors; positions will be paid, February or March will be launch; language will be in English, LD will send notes to GD for inclusion in next NTA newsletter

### E. Revision to bylaws? (Gretchen)

Do we want to alter rules about who can be a member of the Executive Council? This is mainly in reference to the nominations of Tim and Nicole as members of the EC that had to be rescinded because they are not "voting members from country teams."

- AM: bylaws exist as is to keep diversity across region, tenure of NTA membership. Possible to have another region that was international agencies? GD will think of some particular proposals to get feedback on.
- SHL: Another issue about whether people can serve multiple terms. But careful about being too specific.
- AM: Issue of T & N being members but not voting members... can people who are not voting members be on EC also as at large.
- Other general issues... review bylaws for these specific issues and others.
- RL: Watch out for rules that narrow the leadership base.
- AM: Issue sometimes that country leader isn't the one who might be most engaged and active in an executive council. Can we figure out some way to widen base?

- CG: Can we allow big teams to select representatives for themselves? Leave it to country team discretion?
- MD: Difficulties in Latin America with who is going to be country representative for each country, will they do the work?
- LO: Issue of variability of country team size, issue is if we end up with “politician researchers”?

## F. Online workshop/seminar/training series

This was discussed at NTA13, the idea of having regular online workshops. Do we want to pursue? How to structure? Some ideas for topics that came up were:

- Working group meetings (time use & gender, longitudinal NTA, micro NTA, capital accounts, others)
- Regional workshops (could focus on results from that region, or each region picks a focus topic to have the online workshop about)
- Training (a general training for newbies, or shorter focused workshops on specific topics like macro controls, public sector, intrahousehold transfers, quality control/evaluation)
- New topics of interest that came up during NTA13 (age-period-cohort models with NTA, bootstrapping/uncertainty/sampling error, bequests, NTA vs. NDA, Long-term care)
- LO: Latif has done some online workshops, what’s his feeling?
- APF: Bootstrapping topic... invite an external expert; similar idea about APC models... can we have keynote from experts then have a workshop
- GD: Put list and people’s names, and request for coordinators, in next newsletter

## G. Publications

How can we replicate success of Science article? New comparative volume? How to recruit posting of working papers? Other ideas?

- AM: R & A were working on something, now maybe will be submitted to PDR.
- RL: What about PNAS? Science advantage? Maybe not.
- GD: Need to think about doing one for CWW

## H. Vote on Israel membership

Gretchen received no comments from the membership about this application. Please type your vote in private chat to Gretchen.

Enough yes votes to be approved. GD will notify network in next newsletter.

## I. UN plans for NTA manuals, trainings

From Tim, and Nicole, they are planning on several NTA projects and have gotten approval for most of this. Some of this was discussed at NTA13, plans have moved forward.

- Planned UN Manuals.
  - NNTA, we have started working on for 2021
  - National Inequality Accounts (or NTA by SES) for 2022 or 2023
- Trainings using the new manuals
  - Possible financial (and some technical) support in 2021 and 2022 for global, regional, or national training using the UN manuals (either NTA or NNTA).
  - An important UN constraint: support must be to governments, so if an NTA team is academic-based, they would have to partner with a government office.
  - Develop an e-learning course? Big shift to online resources such as courses and projection tools and remote technical assistance.
- Technical support for production of "National Report on the Generational Economy: 2020-2050"
  - Looking for volunteer countries (again, where NTA team is either government-based or could partner with government)
  - Inspired by Australia's Generational Report -- except we would use NTA data.
  - Assessing likely impact of changing age structure on economy (growth in labor force, economic growth, fiscal and familial impacts) using NTA data.
  - Very basic approach! Just multiplying two numbers together! Looking for volunteer countries to help develop pilot studies.

Should we schedule an EC meeting with Tim and Nicole? Or just ask them for a newsletter entry and ask interested individuals to contact them directly?

## **J. New business?**