Summary

WDS International Programme Office (WDS-IPO) Hosting
- A response has been received from the organization selected as the possible next host of the WDS-IPO, answering several queries on areas not fully addressed in its initial response to questions raised by the WDS-SC and ISC.
- The WDS-SC did not see any major issues coming from the new response, and with no further comments forthcoming, ISC will be asked to move forward with putting together a concrete Memorandum of Understanding.
- WDS has set up a transition team, and the new host will also establish its own transition team. More calls will be required in the New Year that set in place the procedures for the actual transfer.

WDS Strategy
- A strategic report has been developed based on the WDS-SC inputs at its 23rd Meeting. The report gives a coherent overview of the options that are available to WDS in respect of its future direction.
- Each WDS-SC member was asked in turn to share their thoughts on the report and its recommendations to gain some understanding of the Committee consensus on how WDS might move forward both in the short and longer term. After hearing everyone’s viewpoints, the WDS-SC moved onto a more general discussion.
- It was agreed that WDS does not necessarily need many additional, large activities, but should instead take advantage of actions that are already ongoing. For example, being part of Data Together is helping WDS to address several of the important issues that have been brought up in the report. As a result, WDS does not need to adopt every detail in every recommendation. However, the key foci need to be identified without time constraint considerations.
- The WDS Executive Committee will have a separate meeting to think about the best approach for how to proceed and to decide on which of the recommendations can be taken forward. An exceptional WDS-SC teleconference may then be scheduled to develop the text further such that it makes clear what the WDS-SC believes should be included in the next WDS Strategic Plan. A document should be handed over to the next WDS-IPO that summarizes what the WDS-SC sees as the most viable strategy and with inputs from stakeholders. There are still some interesting details to iron out, and these will be taken up by the WDS-SC in subsequent calls.