

Closing remarks and announcement of Young Statistician Award

Muhammad Ibrahim, IFC Chairman

Dear participants

We have come to the end of our meeting.

I would like to thank everyone present today for contributing to the seventh IFC Biennial Conference. We are also very thankful to the BIS and to the IFC Secretariat, which has worked so diligently to make this conference a success.

I am very impressed with the level of participation of delegates over the last two days. I hope the networking among us has increased as a result and I hope it will serve each of us well in our respective areas of responsibility.

All the papers and presentation materials are now available on eBIS. The Secretariat will be drafting a summary of key insights from all these materials and will share it with you.

It is now time to announce the winner of this year's Young Statistician Award. Nine papers were submitted to the IFC Secretariat. They were carefully assessed by the members of the Executive and were also presented to you during the conference. You will certainly agree with me that all the papers were excellent and particularly topical. I would like to thank all the participants, and also their respective institutions, for having entered the competition.

I am pleased to announce that the winners of the IFC 2014 Young Statistician Award are Ms Zlatina Balabanova from the European Central Bank and Mr Ruben Peter van der Helm from the Netherlands Bank, for their paper "Enhancing euro area capital stock estimates". The paper presents interesting insights on a new approach to filling gaps in euro area-wide balance sheet data, including major breakdowns, and thus, provides practical guidance for countries who are not publishing these data yet.

Dear colleagues

It has been an honour and pleasure for me to chair the IFC Executive for almost three years. Now that I have almost completed my term, I would like to emphasise the great opportunity I have had to work with the group of dedicated members of the Executive and to benefit from the professional and dedicated support of the BIS, which is hosting the IFC. This teamwork has enabled us to further strengthen the sense of community among central bank statisticians, and beyond.

Before closing I would like to say again that I look forward to welcoming you to the next IFC events, the IFC Satellite Seminar and the ISI Regional Statistics Conference, which will take place in November in Kuala Lumpur.

Thank you.