At least once every two years, the CODATA President convenes a General Assembly to review progress and plan for the future. Normally, the General Assembly immediately follows the CODATA Conference: in 2018 the General Assembly will be held at the University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana.

Participants include CODATA Officers, Executive Committee members, delegates from national and ICSU Union members, task and working group representatives, and spokespersons for other CODATA activities. Observers may be invited, for example, from ICSU and its bodies or from potential new member countries and organisations. Anyone wishing to be an observer should make the request to the Executive Director to ensure adequate seating is available.

In addition to overseeing the general governance of CODATA, and receiving financial and secretariat reports, the General Assembly provides a forum for national, union, and task group representatives to report on their data-related activities and requirements. Other activities include review of membership applications, voting for Officers and Executive Committee members, conference planning, and selection of task groups. Members also participate in strategic planning and direct the Executive Committee to achieve specific objectives.

Day One: Friday 9 November

09:00-11:00 Reporting Session 1

Executive Director’s Report - Simon Hodson, Executive Director

CODATA Initiatives (Data Integration, African Open Science Platform, Data Schools, Data Policy Committee, Data Science Journal): Geoffrey Boulton, CODATA President and Simon Hodson, Executive Director

Questions and discussion.

Financial Report: John Broome, Treasurer.

Questions and discussion.
11:00-11:30 Break

11:30-13:00 CODATA Governance: Revised CODATA Constitution

Presentation of the proposed revised constitution. Presentation and voting on formal amendments to the proposed revised constitution (the deadline for formal amendments was 24 September): from IUCr, from US National Committee. Voting on the full revised constitution, incorporating any accepted amendments.

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 Report and Strategy Session

President’s Report on State of CODATA and laying out introduction to the strategy for the future

Strategic Presentations and Discussion.

16:00-16:30 Break

16:30-17:30 National Committees and Unions – Activities and national priorities: Bonnie Carroll, Secretary General, and John Broome, Treasurer. Questions and discussion.

17:30 Adjourn Day One

Day Two: Saturday 10 November

08:30-10:30 CODATA Governance: Elections

Presentations by candidates for President (5 minutes + 3 questions each)
Vote

Presentations by candidates for Vice-President (3 minutes + 2 questions each)
Vote

Presentations by candidates for Ordinary Member (2 minutes)
Vote

10:30-11:00 Break
11:00-12:30  **Selection of Task Groups**

Short presentations by candidate Task Groups (3 minutes each plus 2 questions).
Voting

12:30-13:00  Special Resolutions
Passing the gavel
General Assembly closed by the new President

13:00-14:00  Lunch (Old and New Executive Committees)

14:00-16:00  First meeting of the new CODATA Executive Committee