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Statistical Commission
Forty-seventh session
8-11 March 2016
Item 3 (f) International Comparison Programme
Submitted by Lithuania

Lithuania has considered the Final report of the Friends of the Chair group on the evaluation of the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme and Report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme Interim Activities.

Lithuania took note of both reports and supports the main recommendations provided in the Final report of the Friends of the Chair group on the evaluation of the 2011 round of the International Comparison Programme.

Lithuania supports the proposal to move to shorter intervals between benchmark years using a rolling benchmark approach and taking into account experience of Eurostat and OECD on execution of the PPP programme that could make ICP results more relevant to users.

In order to ensure more secure, transparent and timely results, the procedures which describe cooperation, arrangements of data exchange and the agreed methodology before the start of activities by all actors of the ICP is an important issue. Establishing a stable methodology to maintain comparability over time is also supported.

As regards the governance issue, Lithuania supports Eurostat's participation in the Inter-Agency Coordination Group as the regional coordinator of the work as well as Eurostat's membership in the Governing Board.