

**Statistical Commission****Forty-sixth session**

3 – 6 March 2015

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Programme questions (United Nations Statistics Division)****Draft programme of work of the United Nations Statistics  
Division for the biennium 2016-2017****Note by the Secretariat**

1. The draft programme of work in the field of statistics for the biennium 2016-2017, which is contained in the Annex to the present note, is submitted for the consideration of the Statistical Commission in compliance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).
2. The General Assembly has approved, in its resolution 69/264 of 29 December 2014, the biennial proposed programme budget outline for the period 2016-2017, which includes the elements of the “programme narrative”, namely, the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of the statistics subprogramme.
3. The draft programme of work presented below includes, in addition to the programme narrative, a list of outputs formulated within the framework of subprogramme 4, Statistics, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, for the period 2016-2017.
4. The Commission is invited to take note of the programme narrative and to review the proposed outputs to be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017, which will be submitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the General Assembly at its seventieth session.
5. This note also contains in the Annex a listing of proposed adjustments for the 2014-2015 programme. The 2014-2015 list of outputs had been endorsed by the Commission in 2013. The Commission is invited to approve these adjustments in our current work programme and authorize the Commission’s Bureau to approve further adjustments, should they become necessary in the course of this year.

## Draft programme of work for the biennium 2016-2017 for the Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

**Objective of the Organization:** To advance the global statistical and geospatial information system in order to produce high quality, easily accessible comparable national statistics and geospatial information systems for policymakers and other users at the national and international levels.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Strengthened global statistical and geospatial information system, with more active participation by countries and increased collaboration among international organizations, including progress in the harmonization and rationalization of development indicators.	(i) Increase in the number of participants from countries and international organizations attending the sessions of the Statistical Commission and the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, high-level forums, workshops, expert group meetings and seminars.  (ii) Increase in the number of collaborative activities carried out with international organizations on the rationalization and harmonization of development indicators.
(b) Better and broader use by Governments, international organizations, research institutes, the private sector and the general public of statistical data and technical guidelines produced by the subprogramme.	(i) Increase in the number of requests for statistical data satisfied by the Statistics Division.  (ii) Increase in the number of visits to the Statistics Division website.
(c) Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to routinely collect, compile, store, analyse and disseminate official statistics and indicators in the economic, social, demographic and environmental fields, to produce high quality data, including data disaggregated by sex, for policymakers and the public in general.	(i) Increase in the number of national statistical staff who have been effectively utilizing knowledge and skills acquired at training and capacity development activities delivered by the subprogramme.  (ii) Increase in the number of countries that have received guidelines and capacity development support for developing and implementing sustainable national statistical systems.

### External factors

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that the national statistical offices will have the necessary national resources and capacity.

*Subprogramme 4*

**Statistics**

**Outputs**

During the biennium 2016-2017, the following final outputs will be delivered:

**(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):**

(i) General Assembly:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: Fifth Committee, scale of assessments (20);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports, background papers and conference room papers on the scale of assessments for the Fifth Committee (2).

(ii) Statistical Commission:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the forty-seventh and forty-eight sessions of the Statistical Commission (12);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports to the Statistical Commission (on the themes decided by the Commission in 2015) (32).

(iii) Committee on Contributions:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the Committee (70);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports, background papers and conference room papers on the scale of assessments for the Committee (2).

(iv) United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions and the eleventh Conference of the Group of experts (20);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions and the eleventh Conference of the Group of Experts (3).

(v) United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings of the eleventh Conference (8);

b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the eleventh Conference (1).

(vi) United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:

a. Substantive servicing of meetings at the sixth and seventh sessions of the Committee of Experts (12);

- b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the sixth and seventh sessions of the Committee of Experts (2).
- (vii) Ad hoc expert groups: 29 expert group meetings on: Expert group meeting on big data for official statistics (2); expert group meeting on extended international and global accounts (2); expert group meeting on environment statistics (2); expert group meeting on energy statistics (1); expert group meeting on international economic and social classifications (1); expert group meeting on industrial statistics (1); meeting of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (2); expert group meeting on national accounts (2); inter-agency and expert group meeting on development indicators (4); expert group meeting on the coordination and capacity building for monitoring development (2); inter-agency and expert group meeting on gender statistics (2); expert group meeting on population and housing censuses (2); inter-agency and expert group meeting on civil registration and vital statistics (2); expert group meeting on global geospatial information management (2); expert group meeting on the integration of statistical and geospatial information (2);
- (b) Other substantive activities (regular budget):**
- (i) Recurrent publications:
1. 2015 International Trade Statistics Yearbook Volume I and Volume II (2)
  2. 2016 International Trade Statistics Yearbook Volume I and Volume II (2)
  3. World Statistics Pocketbook 2016 and 2017 (2)
  4. Demographic Yearbook 2015 and 2016 (2)
  5. Electricity Profiles 2014 and 2015 (2)
  6. Energy Balances 2014 and 2015 (2)
  7. Energy Statistics Yearbook 2014 and 2015 (2)
  8. Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook 2014 Vol. I and Vol. II (2)
  9. Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook 2015 Vol. I and Vol. II (2)
  10. Monthly Bulletin of Statistics 2016 and 2017 (24)
  11. National Accounts Statistics: Analysis of Main Aggregates 2015 and 2016 (2)
  12. National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables 2015 Part I-V (5)
  13. National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables 2016 Part I-V (5)
  14. Population and Vital Statistics Report Vol. LXVIII and Vol. LXVIII (2)
  15. Post-2015 Development Goals Monitoring Report 2016 and 2017 (2)
  16. Statistical Yearbook 61<sup>st</sup> and 62<sup>nd</sup> issues (2)
- (ii) Non-recurrent publications:
1. Measuring Asset Ownership and Entrepreneurship from a Gender Perspective (1)
  2. Studies in Methods: Documenting Population and Housing Census Operations and Archiving Census Data (1)
  3. Studies in Methods: Managing Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems (1)
  4. Studies in Methods: Managing Population and Housing Censuses (1)
  5. Guidelines on Big Data for Official Statistics (1)
  6. Handbook on Land and Ecosystem Accounting (1)
  7. Operational Guide for a Programme of Integrated Surveys and Administrative Data (1)
  8. Handbook on Forest Accounting (1)
  9. Handbook on National Accounting Back-casting Methodology (1)

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10. Handbook on National Accounting Cultural Accounts (1)
  11. Handbook on National Accounting Nonprofit Institutions (1)
  12. Handbook on National Accounting of the Household Sector based on Integrated System of Surveys (1)
  13. SEEA Implementation Guide (1)
  14. Handbook on Geospatial Information (1)
  15. Statistical Notes - Monograph (15 Topics) (1)
  16. Methodologies in selected areas of environment statistics (Volume 2) (1)
- (iii) Technical material (regular budget): CountryStats 2016 and 2017 (2); Progress Chart on the Post-2015 Development Indicators (2); Glossary of terms for the standardization of geographical names (1); Technical reference manual for the standardization of geographical names (1); Update of classification of activities for time use statistics (1); Handbook for setting up an environment statistics programme (1); Guidelines in industrial and energy statistics (2); Analytical tables for international merchandise trade statistics (2); analytical tables for statistics of international trade in services (2); analytical tables for tourism statistics (2); United Nations Commodity Trade Statistics Database (merchandise and service trade) (2); website on the Task Force on International Trade Statistics (2); website on the measurement of trade and economic globalization (2); website on tourism statistics (2); online compilation guidance for international merchandise trade statistics (2); online compilation guidance for statistics of international trade in services (2); online compilation guidance for tourism statistics (2); newsletter on the international trade and economic globalization statistics (4); newsletter of the Task Force on International Trade Statistics (2); website on environment statistics (4); environmental indicators (2); country environmental snapshots (2); environment statistics newsletter (4); website on industry statistics (semi-annual update) (4); website on classifications (semi-annual update) (4); website on energy statistics (semi-annual update) (4); classifications newsletter (4); energy statistics newsletter (4); website on environmental accounting (2); newsletter on environmental-economic accounting (4); economic statistics on-line knowledge base (2); environmental-economic accounting on-line knowledge base/archive (2); website on national accounts (2); newsletter on national accounts (4); statistical annex on Development Indicators for the Secretary-General's office (4); development indicators database update (2); development data, analysis and visualization platform (2); website on development indicators (2); website of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Development Indicators (techgroup) (2); website of the High-level Group on Development Indicators (techgroup) (2); gender indicators website (yearly update) (2); demographic and social statistics website (8); World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses website (8); Vital Statistics, Series A (biweekly website) (24); United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names Information Bulletin (semi-annual) (4); website on global geospatial information management (semi-annual updates) (4); website on the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names world geographical names database (semi-annual updates) (4); United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management - best practices case studies (8); website on Statistical Commission (2); Monthly Bulletin of Statistics Online (24); website of UNdata (12); World Statistics Pocketbook (electronic) (2); CountryStat app (2); website on city groups (2); website on standards and methods (2); website of the Statistics Division (8); website of the Statistics Division publication archive (2); website of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (4); website on national statistical systems (2); website on statistical capacity building (8); Responses to ad hoc requests from Member States and other users for information on concepts and methods, as well as national practices, in the various fields of statistics (information hotlines) (5); preparation of technical material for the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts (2); preparation of technical material for the meetings of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (4); preparation

of technical material for the meetings of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange ownership group on national accounts and its technical subgroup (4); preparation of technical material for the meetings of the interagency group on economic and financial statistics (4); preparation of technical material on the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange for development indicators (2); development indicator database technical development and maintenance (including documentation and training) (2); development data, analysis and visualization platform technical development and maintenance (2); UNdata database technical development and maintenance (including documentation and training) (2); preparation of technical material for the meetings of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (4); preparation of technical material for the meetings of entities of the United Nations system and cluster 10, statistics, Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (4).

## **Annex: Modifications to the work programme 2014-2015**

### Addition of outputs:

- Non-recurrent publications: Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses, Revision 3

### Termination of outputs:

- Non-recurrent publications: Manual on waste statistics