



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
29 November 2022

Original: English

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## Statistical Commission

### Fifty-fourth session

28 February–3 March 2023

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

## Annotated provisional agenda

### Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Items for discussion and decision:
  - (a) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
  - (b) Social statistics;
  - (c) Household surveys;
  - (d) Economic statistics;
  - (e) National accounts;
  - (f) Business and trade statistics;
  - (g) Regional statistical development;
  - (h) Environmental-economic accounting;
  - (i) Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;
  - (j) International statistical classifications;
  - (k) Statistical capacity development;
  - (l) Working methods of the Statistical Commission;
  - (m) National quality assurance frameworks;
  - (n) Big data.
4. Items for decision:
  - (a) Price statistics;
  - (b) Integration of statistical and geospatial information;



- (c) Data stewardship;
  - (d) Crime and criminal justice statistics;
  - (e) Refugee, internally displaced persons and statelessness statistics.
5. Items for information:
- (a) Demographic statistics;
  - (b) Finance statistics;
  - (c) International Comparison Programme;
  - (d) Statistics on science, technology and innovation;
  - (e) Environment statistics;
  - (f) Disaster-related statistics;
  - (g) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata;
  - (h) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;
  - (i) Management and modernization of statistical systems.
6. Programme questions (Statistics Division).
7. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.
8. Report of the Commission on its fifty-fourth session.

## **Annotations**

### **1. Election of officers**

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and past practices, the Statistical Commission, at the commencement of its first meeting of a regular session, shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chair, three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur (the Bureau).

The Bureau is elected based on the principle of equitable geographical distribution – one member of the Bureau is elected from each of the regions represented on the Commission. The Bureau serves for two years, to the extent possible. This is achieved by electing the Bureau for a period of one year and re-electing those members of the Bureau who continue to be representatives to the Commission at the following session.

### **2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

The items on the provisional agenda and the corresponding documentation were proposed by the Commission at its fifty-third session, held virtually from 1 to 4 March 2022 (see [E/2022/24](#)) and were adopted by the Council in its decision 2022/324. Pursuant to that decision, the Bureau of the Commission was entrusted with streamlining and finalizing the agenda. The Bureau subsequently approved some changes. As part of the streamlining, the Bureau proposes to include three item categories: (a) for discussion and decision; (b) for decision; and (c) for information. The proposed provisional programme of work and timetable for the session is also before the Commission. The Commission is invited to adopt the agenda and provisional programme of work and timetable for its fifty-fourth session.

## **Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda ([E/CN.3/2023/1](#))

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional programme of work and timetable for the session ([E/CN.3/2023/L.1](#))

### **3. Items for discussion and decision**

#### **(a) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators on the ongoing work for the implementation of the global indicator framework for the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In its report, the Group describes the activities undertaken in 2022 pursuant to Statistical Commission decision 53/101, including: (a) a review of methodologies for the indicator framework and tier classification updates; (b) work on compiling capacity-building and training programmes and materials on Goal monitoring on a common platform; (c) revision of the terms of reference of the Group; and (d) work carried out by the working groups on statistical data and metadata exchange (SDMX) and geospatial information and the task team on sustainable tourism.

The Commission is invited: (a) to approve the annual indicator refinements; (b) to approve the work programme of the Group for 2023; and (c) to adopt the revised terms of reference of the Group.

In addition, the Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the work by the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, in cooperation with other entities of the United Nations system, in support of the 2030 Agenda. The report provides a description of the work carried out to prepare the annual report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/2022/55](#)), the work undertaken to update the Global SDG Indicators Database and related efforts.

The report also contains updates on the following topics: (a) the Data for Now initiative, jointly convened by the United Nations, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, the World Bank and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network; (b) the project of the Statistics Division funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to support countries in monitoring achievement of the Goals; (c) the collaborative on the use of administrative data for statistical purposes; (d) the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training; (e) the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians; and (f) the work on citizen-generated data.

The Commission is invited to take note of the work carried out by the Statistics Division in cooperation with the United Nations system and its proposed programme of work and to express its views on: (a) the Data for Now initiative; (b) the work of the collaborative on the use of administrative data for statistical purposes; (c) the progress of work of the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training; (d) the work of the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians; and (e) the work on citizen-generated data.

The Commission will also have before it the report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which provides a summary of the recent activities of the Group, including: (a) preparations for the fourth United Nations World Data Forum, to be held from 24 to 27 April 2023, in Hangzhou, China; (b) work to realign the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data to support statistical and data capacity development efforts; (c) the global online survey by the Statistics Division, the World Bank Development Data Group and the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century, in coordination with the five regional

commissions, which feeds into the review of the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan; and (d) updates on global initiatives related to the financing of data and statistics.

The Commission is invited: (a) to express its views on the preparations for the next United Nations World Data Forum; (b) to endorse the strategy for updating the Cape Town Global Action Plan and for preparing an outcome document on the Action Plan for the 2023 Forum; (c) to express its views on and approval of the proposed workplan of the High-level Group for 2023; and (d) to approve the revised terms of reference of the Group.

### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators ([E/CN.3/2023/2](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on work on the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/CN.3/2023/3](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ([E/CN.3/2023/4](#))

### **(b) Social statistics**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on social statistics, containing a summary of work undertaken in 2022 to initiate a new Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics to launch the review of the social and demographic statistics pillar, pursuant to decision 53/105. Draft terms of reference, including the proposed initial scope of work, activities, deliverables and timeline for the group, based on consultations with Members States, regional commissions and partner agencies, will be available as a background document.

The report will also contain a summary of the work undertaken by the United Nations Expert Group on Migration Statistics to identify a set of core and additional indicators for international migration and temporary mobility, in response to decisions 49/101, 50/117 and 52/109. The list of indicators and supporting information will be available as a background document.

The Commission is invited: (a) to express its views on the newly established Friends of the Chair group, in particular on its work priorities and deliverables; and (b) to review and endorse the core and additional indicators for international migration and temporary mobility as an integral part of the upcoming second revision of the Recommendations on Statistics for International Migration.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General ([E/CN.3/2023/5](#))

### **(c) Household surveys**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys, which contains a summary of recent work of the Group, including: (a) its position paper, entitled “Positioning household surveys for the next decade”, which will guide the work of the Group and its support provided to countries; (b) the activities and outputs of the Group in three areas, coordination, methodological development and advocacy; and (c) the conclusions of the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Innovative Methods to Measure the Impact of COVID-19 on Mortality through Surveys and Censuses, a joint effort by the Statistics

Division and the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and New York University Abu Dhabi.

The Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the paper entitled “Positioning household surveys for the next decade”; (b) to review the progress made by the Group in its work; and (c) to provide guidance on its activities and outputs, with specific attention to testing methods and promoting data innovation in household surveys and data integration, including for the measurement of adult mortality and proposed future areas of work.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys ([E/CN.3/2023/6](#))

#### **(d) Economic statistics**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Network of Economic Statisticians. In the report, the Network describes its completed and ongoing sprints and the activities and deliverables of its work programme for 2023. The Commission is invited: (a) to express its views on the progress made by the Network and its sprints; and (b) to endorse the proposed activities and deliverables of the work programme of the Network for 2023, covering the organizational sprint, the data access sprint, the “beyond gross domestic product (GDP)” sprint and the prices sprint.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Network of Economic Statisticians ([E/CN.3/2023/7](#))

#### **(e) National accounts**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts. In the report, the Group provides information on the progress made on the three elements of the work programme for the update of the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA) namely, the development of guidance notes on the research issues identified for the 2008 SNA update; the outreach initiative to inform national accounts compilers and users about the update process and to collect feedback from them; and coordination with the update of other economic statistical standards, including balance of payments, classifications and international trade statistics.

In addition, the report contains the programme of work of the Group and of the regional commissions, as well as an update on the scope and timeliness of the implementation of SNA at the country level. The Commission is invited to express its views and to provide guidance on the elements of the work programme for updating the 2008 SNA and on the programme of work of the Group.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts ([E/CN.3/2023/8](#))

#### **(f) Business and trade statistics**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics. The report contains an update on the activities of the Committee in refining its work programme to improve the integration of business, trade and other statistical domains and to address new priority areas. In the report, the

Committee presents its new work programme, the progress made in the revision of the trade statistics manuals and the progress made in the development of a global initiative to improve the availability of unique identifiers for businesses. The Commission is invited to express its views on the progress of work and to provide guidance on the elements of the work programme.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics ([E/CN.3/2023/9](#))

#### **(g) Regional statistical development**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Economic Commission for Africa, which includes thematic highlights on progress made on statistical development in the African region, with a specific focus on significant activities carried out towards transforming and modernizing data and statistics value chain. The report contains an outline of activities undertaken to respond to the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the African statistical system and work done to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063 of the African Union. The Commission is requested to comment on the work undertaken in Africa and identify possible areas of collaboration with other regions and partners.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Economic Commission for Africa ([E/CN.3/2023/10](#))

#### **(h) Environmental-economic accounting**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. In the report, the Committee describes progress made with regard to its five workstreams: coordination and communication; methodological development for normative standards and other research; the development of databases; implementation and statistical capacity-building; and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and business accounting.

The Commission is invited to provide its views on the progress made by the Committee, in particular in: (a) scaling up the global implementation of both the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Ecosystem Accounting, including through partnerships between international organizations; (b) the engagement of national statistical offices in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the new Group of 20 Data Gaps Initiative; (c) the progress made on global data collection and databases; and (d) the engagement of the statistical community in the development of emerging business reporting and disclosure initiatives on the environment and ecosystems.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting ([E/CN.3/2023/11](#))

#### **(i) Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The report contains an overview of the process to be undertaken in preparation for the twentieth anniversary of the adoption

of the Principles, including options for consideration by the Commission. It also contains an outline of possible options to be considered for the creation of tools to enhance the applicability of the Principles and to prevent violations thereof.

The Commission is invited: (a) to take note of the report of the Secretary-General; and (b) to review and approve the options proposed for the work to be undertaken in advance of the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Principles, to be held in 2024.

#### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General ([E/CN.3/2023/12](#))

#### **(j) International statistical classifications**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications. In its report, the Committee describes its work on the development and implementation of international statistical classifications in various fields and its work on the coordination of classifications and the review of the international family of classifications. The Committee also provides an update on the work of its task teams, including the task team on the revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities and the task team on the revision of the Central Product Classification. The Commission is invited: (a) to express its views on the progress of work on international statistical classifications; (b) to provide guidance on the elements of the new work programme of the Committee; and (c) to adopt the revised structure of the International Standard Industrial Classification, the revised Classification of Statistical Activities developed by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) and the draft international classification of violence against children.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications ([E/CN.3/2023/13](#))

#### **(k) Statistical capacity development**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on statistical capacity development. The report contains an overview of the recent activities undertaken by the Statistics Division in support of countries' efforts to strengthen their national statistical capacity and to better respond to the data challenges in the context of the 2030 Agenda. It also contains information on changes enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a description of collaborative efforts for synchronizing initiatives and leveraging partnerships and an outline of the coordination undertaken in the area of statistical capacity development, as well as emerging strategic frameworks. The Commission is invited to express its view on the work carried out and the proposals on coordination outlined in the report.

#### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General ([E/CN.3/2023/14](#))

#### **(l) Working methods of the Statistical Commission**

The Commission will have before it the report of its Bureau on the working methods of the Commission. In the report, the Bureau describes ongoing work on the review of Council resolution [2022/3](#), by which the Council updated the terms of reference of the Commission, and its applications to existing workstreams, and highlights areas

for further work. The Bureau also highlights how the framework for groups adopted in 2020 is relevant to addressing the scope of the new terms of reference. The Bureau also provides a review of the multi-year programme of work in the light of the proposed revision to the Classification of Statistical Activities, originally developed by ECE (see agenda item 3 (j)) and presents a brief examination of the request to revisit issue of equitable geographic distribution, pursuant to paragraph (g) of decision 53/105. The report also contains updates on other initiatives undertaken by the Bureau during the intersessional period in 2022 and 2023. The report is accompanied by a background document, containing a summary table of the mapping of the terms of reference. The Commission is invited to reflect on the review and its application to the work of the Commission.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Bureau of the Statistical Commission on the working methods of the Commission ([E/CN.3/2023/15](#))

#### **(m) National quality assurance frameworks**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Expert Group on National Quality Assurance Frameworks. In the report, the Group presents its activities in support of the implementation of the *United Nations National Quality Assurance Frameworks Manual for Official Statistics*. The Group also presents the results of a global survey of countries on the implementation of quality assurance; a proposed road map for the implementation of a national quality assurance framework for official statistics; and an update on the Group's work on the issue of quality assurance for new and administrative data sources. In addition, the report contains the proposed programme of work of the Group for the next two years to support countries in the implementation of a national quality assurance framework.

The Commission is invited: (a) to express its views on the work of the Expert Group over the past two years; (b) to endorse the proposed road map; (c) to express its views on the results of the global survey; (d) to review and approve the proposed programme of work and updated terms of reference of the Group.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Expert Group on National Quality Assurance Frameworks ([E/CN.3/2023/16](#))

#### **(n) Big data**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics. The report contains a summary of achievements, recent developments and activities planned by the Committee's task teams and by its regional and sector hubs. Proposals are presented on systematic collaboration between the task teams and the hubs, on active collaboration between the Committee and the geospatial community, on the role of privacy-enhancing technologies in facilitating access to privately held data and on the terms of reference for the network of data science leaders. The Commission is invited to express its view on the progress made and the proposals outlined in the report.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics ([E/CN.3/2023/17](#))



#### 4. Items for decision

The following items are presented to the Commission for decision only. Limited time will be allocated for interventions under these items.

##### (a) Price statistics

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices. In the report, the Group provides an overview of the outcome of its most recent meeting, held in Rome in June 2022. At the meeting, the Group discussed key areas in CPI compilation, including the use of new data sources for measuring inflation, cost-of-living and housing. The report also includes a proposal for updated terms of reference for the Group. The terms of reference contain an outline of the objectives and activities of the Group, its organization of work and information on the membership of its steering committee.

The Commission is invited to take note of the work of the Ottawa Group and to endorse the proposed updated terms of reference.

##### Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices ([E/CN.3/2023/18](#))

##### (b) Integration of statistical and geospatial information

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information. In its report, the Group provides information on its recent activities to strengthen the integration of statistical and geospatial information, including: (a) the progress made in developing guidance for Member States to enable them to maximize the outputs of the 2020 round of population and housing censuses towards meeting the integrated data needs of the 2030 Agenda; (b) the outcomes of its seventh meeting, to be held in Santiago, including with regard to how the Group will refocus its direction towards geospatially integrated statistics onto new demands, such as statistics related to climate change, disasters and health (such as COVID-19), by expanding on the Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for the statistical domain; and (c) how the Group can support the implementation of Council resolution [2022/3](#), in particular with regard to how the Statistical Commission can respond to the growing demands for the integration of statistical and geospatial information.

The Commission is invited to take note of the work and agree upon the Group's future direction.

##### Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information ([E/CN.3/2023/19](#))

##### (c) Data stewardship

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship, which contains a summary of the recent activities of the Working Group, including highlights from the five workstreams and the workplan for 2023, as well as a proposed way forward to better define and focus the role of national statistical offices as data stewards within their national statistical and data systems.

The Commission is invited: (a) to approve the draft consultation questionnaire to be circulated among national statistical offices to understand attitudes on the scope and

priorities of data stewardship; (b) to approve the reports on the progress made under the five workstreams defined by the Working Group; and (c) to approve the proposed workplan for 2023.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship ([E/CN.3/2023/20](#))

#### **(d) Crime and criminal justice statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for decision, a joint report prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI) on corruption measurement. In the report, UNODC and INEGI present the statistical framework to support Member States in their efforts to measure corruption, its impact and all relevant aspects of preventing and combating it, which has been the subject of a global consultation and will be available as a background document. The report follows the adoption of the political declaration by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption, held in 2021, in which the Assembly outlined the need to develop a comprehensive, scientifically sound and objective framework, grounded in methodological work and reliable data sources in coordination with the Statistical Commission.

The Commission is invited to welcome the statistical framework for corruption measurement and its indicators and to encourage its implementation by Member States.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico on corruption measurement ([E/CN.3/2023/21](#))

#### **(e) Refugee, internally displaced persons and statelessness statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics. The report is focused on progress related to the development of the international recommendations on statelessness statistics, which have been the subject of a global consultation and will be shared as a background document. The draft international recommendations on statelessness statistics are the result of a collaborative effort by Expert Group members and include a newly proposed statistical framework and a comprehensive set of recommendations for improving official statistics on statelessness, in line with commitments under the 2030 Agenda.

In addition, the report will serve to inform the Commission more broadly about the Group's progress in support of the implementation of the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics and the International Recommendations on Internally Displaced Persons Statistics.

The Commission is invited to review and endorse the draft international recommendations on statelessness statistics and to approve the future work of the Expert Group.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics ([E/CN.3/2023/22](#))

## 5. Items for information

The following items are presented to the Commission for information. Limited time will be allocated for interventions under this item.

### (a) Demographic statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on demographic statistics. In the report, the Secretary-General presents activities carried out by the Statistics Division in the area of demographic statistics. The report contains a summary of the implementation of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme during the past year, with a focus on: (a) the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of the Programme; (b) direct support for census-takers at the request of the Member States; (c) building national capacity for census-taking through regional workshops; and (d) assistance for countries in implementing the Commission's recommendations in terms of building national statistical population registers. It contains information on the implementation of the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda, including an outline of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the functioning of national civil registration systems and the production of accurate and reliable vital statistics, and on maintaining the momentum of implementing the Legal Identity Agenda in the African region. It also contains information on activities related to capacity-building for the implementation of the methodology for delineating urban and rural areas for international and regional statistical purposes. Lastly, it contains information on the collection of demographic statistics through the *Demographic Yearbook* questionnaires. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

#### Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General ([E/CN.3/2023/23](#))

### (b) Finance statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the International Monetary Fund on finance statistics. The report contains an outline of international efforts in the area of finance statistics, including a review of reporting and methodological efforts to address emerging data needs in the area of financial inclusion, financial technology (fintech) and digital money. The Commission is invited to take note of the report and the 2023–2024 workplan.

#### Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the International Monetary Fund ([E/CN.3/2023/24](#))

### (c) International Comparison Programme

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme. In the report, the World Bank outlines the activities undertaken in 2022 at the global, regional and national levels with regard to the International Comparison Programme 2021 cycle. It describes the governance, capacity-building, research, knowledge and advocacy activities carried out in that regard. The Commission is invited to take note of the progress made in carrying out the current cycle, the related risks, challenges and mitigation measures and the call to Programme stakeholders to ensure their timely completion of the Programme 2021 cycle activities and to continue to incorporate the Programme into their regular statistical work programmes. The Commission is also invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Bank ([E/CN.3/2023/25](#))

**(d) Statistics on science, technology and innovation**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in which the Institute describes its work on science, technology and innovation statistics. The report contains updated information on recent developments in the measurement of international science, technology and innovation statistics. In particular, it contains information on the current science, technology and innovation statistics programme strategies, directions and priorities of the Institute, covering the areas of data collection, methodological developments and capacity development activities and placing specific emphasis on current and future challenges. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization ([E/CN.3/2023/26](#))

**(e) Environment statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on Environment Statistics. The report contains a summary of activities carried out during the period 2020–2022, including on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics; advancements in methodological work (Manual on the Basic Set of Environment Statistics); and the seventh, eighth and ninth meetings of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics. Major developments in climate change statistics were fully documented in the reports of the Secretary-General to the Commission at its fifty-second and fifty-third sessions. Those developments led to the adoption of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators as the statistical framework to be used by countries in their efforts to implement the enhanced transparency framework for action and support referred to in article 13 of the Paris Agreement. The report also contains the workplan for the biennium 2023–2024. As the workplan includes the global collection, compilation and dissemination of environmental statistics and indicators, the report provides a summary of the results of the international collections of environment statistics carried out by the Statistics Division from 1999 to 2020, as well as conclusions with relevance for future work, especially with regard to several environment-related Sustainable Development Goals. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General ([E/CN.3/2023/27](#))

**(f) Disaster-related statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for information, a report on disaster-related statistics prepared by the core group (Statistics Division, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic Commission for Europe, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Economic Commission for Africa and United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction) of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related

Statistics. In the report, the core group informs the Commission about the progress made since March 2021 in implementing decision 50/116 to advance a common statistical framework on disaster-related statistics and outlines the planned work of the Expert Group during the period 2023–2024. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the core group of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics ([E/CN.3/2023/28](#))

#### **(g) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange sponsors. The report contains a summary of achievements, recent developments and planned activities by the initiative, including the release of a new version of the standard, SDMX 3.0, the development of software tools and platforms in support of statistical data and metadata exchange and dissemination and the implementation of data and metadata exchange in various subject matter areas. An overview of capacity-building activities in the area is also included. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange sponsors ([E/CN.3/2023/29](#))

#### **(h) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General containing extracts from resolutions, decisions and agreed conclusions, adopted by the General Assembly and the Council and its functional commissions, that are relevant to the work of the Commission. The report also contains a description of the actions taken to date by the Commission and the Statistics Division and those suggested to be taken in response to the decisions and mandates of the parent bodies. The Commission may wish to take those actions into account in its discussions under relevant agenda items. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

#### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission ([E/CN.3/2023/30](#))

#### **(i) Management and modernization of statistical systems**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on the management and modernization of statistical systems. The *Handbook on Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems* was endorsed by the Commission at its fifty-second session, in March 2021, as a non-prescriptive web compendium to be regularly updated and revised under the guidance of an advisory group. Targeting chief statisticians, senior managers and staff members of statistical organizations, the *Handbook* provides guidance on how to develop and maintain national statistical capacity that is fit for purpose and takes into account critical issues and topics, including those that are new and emerging. In the report, the Secretary-General informs the Commission of achievements, recent developments and updates and proposes topics and chapters to be further elaborated on or streamlined. The

report will be accompanied by a background document on the conclusions and outcomes of the thematic conference for the Arab States and the upcoming Project Rosling event, both to be held in 2023. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General ([E/CN.3/2023/31](#))

**6. Programme questions (Statistics Division)**

The Commission will receive an oral report from the Director of the Statistics Division concerning current activities, plans and priorities.

**7. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission**

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each item. The Commission will also have before it a proposal for the dates of the session. In accordance with a request of the Council (see Council resolution 1999/51), the Commission will have before it a draft multi-year programme of work for 2023–2027. The Commission is invited to approve the date, provisional agenda and documentation of its fifty-fifth session, as well as to approve the multi-year programme.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission ([E/CN.3/2023/L.2](#))

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Statistical Commission 2023–2027 ([E/CN.3/2023/32](#))

**8. Report of the Commission on its fifty-fourth session**

The Commission will have before it the procedural report of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission covering organizational matters relating to the Commission's work. The Commission will also have before it an informal paper containing the draft decisions submitted by the Rapporteur.

The Commission is invited to adopt the draft report on its fifty-fourth session, including the draft decisions, which will be submitted to the Council, and to entrust the Rapporteur with streamlining and finalizing it.

**Documentation**

Draft report of the Commission on its fifty-fourth session

Informal paper with draft decisions

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