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## Statistical Commission

### Fifty-fifth session

New York, 27 February–1 March 2024

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) Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;
  - (b) Working methods of the Statistical Commission;
  - (c) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
  - (d) Data science;
  - (e) Governance statistics;
  - (f) National accounts;
  - (g) Economic statistics;
  - (h) Environmental-economic accounting;
  - (i) Agricultural and rural statistics;
  - (j) Social statistics;
  - (k) Gender statistics;
  - (l) Population and housing censuses;
  - (m) Regional statistical development.
4. Items for decision:
  - (a) Tourism statistics;
  - (b) Business and trade statistics;
  - (c) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
  - (d) Climate change statistics;



- (e) International statistical classifications;
  - (f) Open data.
5. Items for information:
- (a) Demographic statistics;
  - (b) Disability statistics;
  - (c) Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data;
  - (d) Health statistics;
  - (e) Service statistics;
  - (f) International Comparison Programme;
  - (g) Information and communications technology statistics;
  - (h) Business registers;
  - (i) Integration of statistical and geospatial information;
  - (j) Data stewardship;
  - (k) Coordination of statistical programmes;
  - (l) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.
6. Programme questions (Statistics Division).
7. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission.
8. Report of the Commission on its fifty-fifth 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-fourth session, held from 28 February to 3 March 2023 (see [E/2023/24](#)), and were adopted by the Council in its decision 2023/325. Pursuant to that decision, the Bureau of the Commission was entrusted with streamlining and finalizing the agenda. The Bureau subsequently approved some changes. As decided in its decision 54/114 (e), the Commission supported the inclusion of three agenda item types in order to streamline the Commission's discussions and decision-making using the limited time effectively. Consequently, three types of documentation are included in the provisional agenda: those for

discussion and decision, those for decision, and those 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 the programme of work and timetable for its fifty-fifth session.

### **Documentation**

Annotated provisional agenda (E/CN.3/2024/1)

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional programme of work and timetable (E/CN.3/2024/L.1)

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

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

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. In line with the decision of the Commission at its fifty-fourth session, in the report the Commission is requested to endorse the terms of reference for the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics Independent Advisory Board, developed through extensive and inclusive consultations and emphasizing the Board's advocacy and advisory role. As background documents, two sets of implementation guidelines and advocacy material on the Principles will be presented: one for producers of official statistics and the other for stakeholders, including decision makers, data providers and users.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (E/CN.3/2024/2)

### **(b) 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 intersessional work. The report sets out actions in response to decision 54/114 (c), in which the Bureau was requested to prepare a detailed background document to support the discussions on a more inclusive and representative Commission. The report also contains updates on other initiatives related to the mandate of the Bureau. The report is accompanied by a background note entitled "Statistical Commission: inclusion and representation to leave no one behind", in which the Bureau presents a detailed analysis of membership and representation in the Commission, as well as a draft resolution addressing equitable geographical distribution in representation in the Commission. The Commission is invited to further reflect on the application of Council resolution 2022/3, by which the Council updated the terms of reference of the Commission, and to adopt the draft resolution to be presented to the Council for its adoption.

### **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.3/2024/3)

### **(c) 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 to implement 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 2023 pursuant to decision 54/101, including: (a) tier classification updates based

on a review of data availability; (b) annual refinements of the indicators; (c) methodological review of the indicator framework; (d) timeline and plan for the comprehensive review of the indicator framework in 2025; and (e) activities and workplan of the working groups on the 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 2024; and (c) to approve the plan for the comprehensive review in 2025.

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 recent activities, including: (a) highlights from the fourth United Nations World Data Forum, held in Hangzhou, China, from 24 to 27 April 2023, and details of the outcome statement adopted by the Forum, entitled “Hangzhou Declaration: accelerating progress in the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data”; (b) plans for the next Forum, to be held in Medellín, Colombia, in November 2024; (c) launch of the High Impact Initiative on the Data Dividend and updates on related global financing of data and statistics initiatives; and (d) plans for the second phase to realign the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data.

The Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the Hangzhou Declaration, adopted at the most recent United Nations World Data Forum; (b) to take note of and express views on plans for the next Forum; (c) to take note of and express views on the launch of the High Impact Initiative on the Data Dividend; (d) to approve the timeline of the second phase for realigning the Cape Town Global Action Plan; and (e) to review and approve the proposed workplan of the Group for 2024.

### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators ([E/CN.3/2024/4](#))

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.3/2024/5](#))

### **(d) Data science**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics, in which the Committee reports on the results of its 10-year review of the use of big data and data science in official statistics. The report shows that innovation and data science have become part of the strategic vision of most statistical offices, which translates into initiatives to update statistical legislation (including access to private sector data) and setting up data science teams. It is therefore recommended that the existing mandate of the Committee be updated in line with the current focus and demands. Accordingly, the objectives and deliverables of the task teams, the regional and global hubs and the United Nations Global Platform should also be amended. The Commission is invited to support the recommendations as well as the achievements of the task teams and hubs.

### **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.3/2024/6](#))

**(e) Governance statistics**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics. In its report, the Group provides a review of activities and accomplishments since 2022, including the methodological work carried out by the task teams on non-discrimination and equality and on participation in political and public affairs, to develop internationally harmonized survey modules and guidance on the use of administrative data sources for producing internationally comparable statistics on these two dimensions of governance. The report also contains proposed priority areas of work for the Praia Group in the remaining two years before the end of its mandate, in 2025.

The Commission is invited to express its views on: (a) the ongoing work of the Praia Group; (b) priority areas of work identified for the remainder of the Group's current mandate (2024–2025); and (c) a proposed future direction of work in the field of governance statistics beyond 2025.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/7](#))

**(f) National accounts**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts, which is presented to the Commission for discussion and decision. In the report, the Working Group provides information on progress with the work programme for the update of the System of National Accounts (SNA) 2008. In addition, the report contains the programme of work of the Working Group and of the regional commissions and an update on the scope and timeliness of the implementation of SNA at the country level.

The Commission will also have before it the report of the Working Group on the recommendations for the update of the 2008 SNA, which is presented to the Commission for discussion and decision. In the report, the Working Group provides the consolidated list of recommendations, which is the result of extensive consultations of the statistical and user community on the recommendations contained in about 65 guidance notes related to the priority topics for the update of the 2008 SNA, namely globalization, digitalization, well-being and sustainability, financial issues, Islamic finance and the informal economy.

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 Working Group. The Commission is also invited to endorse the consolidated list of recommendation for the update of the 2008 SNA.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts ([E/CN.3/2024/8](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts on the recommendations for the update of the System of National Accounts 2008 ([E/CN.3/2024/9](#))

**(g) Economic statistics**

The Commission will have before it the third 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 2024. The Commission

is invited to express its views on the progress of the “beyond gross domestic product” 2023 sprint, the international statistical classifications sprint, and follow-up work from the data access sprint. In addition, the Commission is invited to endorse the proposed activities and deliverables of the work programme for 2024, comprising follow-up work including the proposed formation of a multidisciplinary group to take forward the recommendations of the “beyond gross domestic product” 2023 sprint and follow-up work on the priorities for the modernization of national statistical agencies in the global South arising from a discussion with the regional commissions.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Network of Economic Statisticians ([E/CN.3/2024/10](#))

#### **(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 presents the progress of work and planned activities according to its four workstreams: coordination and communication; methodological development for normative standards and other research; development of databases; and implementation and statistical capacity-building. The Commission is invited to provide its views on the Committee’s progress and future work, in particular related to: an update of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Central Framework; scaling up global implementation of both the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Ecosystem Accounting; the engagement of national statistical offices in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and Group of 20 Data Gaps Initiative; and progress on global data collection and databases.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting ([E/CN.3/2024/11](#))

#### **(i) Agricultural and rural statistics**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on recent developments in agricultural and rural statistics. With a focus on recent developments in agricultural and rural statistics, the report provides an update on the implementation of the FAO Strategy for the Modernization of Statistics and on key capacity-development programmes in the areas of agricultural and rural statistics. In the report, FAO also discusses the Committee on World Food Security policy recommendations on strengthening collection and use of food security and nutrition data and related analysis tools, the work of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Food Security, Agricultural and Rural Statistics, and the recommendations of the FAO regional commissions on agricultural statistics. The Commission is invited to express its views and to provide guidance on the elements of recent developments in agricultural and rural statistics, to endorse the guidelines on processing food data from household consumption and expenditure surveys and to approve the creation of a new data domain on food security and nutrition statistics under the Commission.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on agricultural and rural statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/12](#))

**(j) Social statistics**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics, which provides a summary of the work conducted so far in the review of the social and demographic statistics pillar, in accordance with decisions 53/105 (e) and 54/104 (b) to (d).

The report outlines the outcomes of the group's meetings in 2023 and presents preliminary results on the three areas of work prioritized by the group: (a) mapping existing regional and global groups working on social and demographic statistics to assess current statistical tools and solutions while identifying methodological and data gaps, as well as opportunities for mainstreaming and building synergies; (b) reviewing national practices in the production of high-quality, integrated, granular, timely and frequent social and demographic data; and (c) identifying strategies to enhance the significance of social and demographic statistics in the eyes of data users and producers. The report will also provide information on the proposed activities and deliverables of the group in 2024.

The Commission is invited: (a) to take note of and express its views on the activities undertaken by the Friends of the Chair group in 2023; and (b) to express its views on the proposed programme of work for 2024.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/13](#))

**(k) Gender statistics**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics, which provides a summary of recent activities undertaken under the Global Gender Statistics Programme by the Statistics Division and the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics to strengthen gender data in support of progress towards gender equality and Sustainable Development Goal monitoring. In particular, the report introduces the updated *Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use*, in its final format, in accordance with decision 53/111. The report also presents the main results of the 2022 global survey on gender statistics, in accordance with decision 53/111; the outcomes of the ninth Global Forum on Gender Statistics; and the conclusions of recent meetings of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group, including on mainstreaming a gender perspective into the work of the Commission in the two areas prioritized (see decision 53/111). Finally, the report introduces methodological developments on measuring technology-facilitated violence against women, in accordance with decision 54/104, jointly undertaken by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Population Fund, as well as plans for future work.

The Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the updated *Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use*, encourage countries to collect time-use data and request the Statistics Division and partners to support countries in the implementation of the *Guide*; (b) to review and approve the note on mainstreaming a gender perspective into trade statistics and take note of progress made on mainstreaming gender into climate change statistics; and (c) to express its views on current and future priority areas on gender statistics, including the ongoing methodological work on measuring technology-facilitated violence against women.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/14](#))

**(l) Population and housing censuses**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme, which encompasses the years 2015 to 2024. The report presents a final review of the Programme based on the information provided by countries in response to a survey administered by the Statistics Division. It contains a summary of the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and provides insight into potential directions for the 2030 World Census Programme. The report also contains information on the ongoing work to revise the Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses for the 2030 round.

The Commission is invited to take note of the status of implementation of the 2020 World Census Programme and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on census taking; to urge countries that postponed their censuses owing to COVID-19 to conduct a census or otherwise generate small area census statistics as soon as circumstances allow; and to request the Statistics Division to continue to monitor national census taking and to develop methodological guidelines to assist countries in planning and conducting population and housing censuses, including for the forthcoming 2030 round of censuses.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on population and housing censuses ([E/CN.3/2024/15](#))

**(m) Regional statistical development**

The Commission will have before it the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). The report highlights statistical development activities in the ESCAP region, which align with five action areas prioritized by countries to strengthen statistics capacity: engaging users and investing in statistics; assuring quality and instilling trust in statistics; integrated statistics for integrated analysis; modernizing statistical business processes; and developing the requisite skill set. The report provides updates on progress related to those action areas, highlights challenges faced by statistical systems in the region and showcases key initiatives aimed at their enhancement. The report provides emerging findings from research into more effective ways of working and provides recommendations for more inclusive ways to engage with ESCAP member States and regional and global groups. The report provides an update on plans and priorities for statistical development activities in Asia and the Pacific.

The Commission is invited: (a) to take note of the progress made in the Asia and the Pacific region on statistical development and to comment on the synergies and opportunities for the exchange of experiences across regions; (b) to support the call by ESCAP member States for development partners to provide coordinated technical, financial, technological and capacity-building assistance to countries that is aligned with countries' priorities, and to continue to develop and strengthen international statistical standards and provide technical support for their implementation; and (c) to support the call by ESCAP member States for the Commission to adopt more inclusive ways to engage with Member States and regional groups.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ([E/CN.3/2024/16](#))



#### 4. Items for decision

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

##### (a) Tourism statistics

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) on tourism statistics. The report provides an overview of the activities carried out by UNWTO in cooperation with countries and international organizations since its previous report to the Commission. In particular, the report describes the process for the development of the statistical framework for measuring the sustainability of tourism in response to requests from Member States and various stakeholders. The report presents the statistical framework as well as other key initiatives of UNWTO, including the modernization of its statistical database and capacity-building activities. The Commission is invited to endorse the statistical framework for measuring the sustainability of tourism.

##### Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Tourism Organization on tourism statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/17](#))

##### (b) Business and trade statistics

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics. The report describes the progress of work over the past year, as well as the future activities of the Committee to improve the integration of business, trade and other statistical domains, including gender and geospatial perspectives, and to address new priority areas. The report also presents updates to the mandate of the Committee to better reflect its priorities, the progress made in revising the trade statistics manuals, the handbook on integrating business and trade statistics and the second volume of the *Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics*, and the progress in developing a global initiative to improve the availability of unique identifiers for businesses.

The Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the amended terms of reference of the Committee; (b) to approve the summary of changes in the trade statistics manuals; (c) to welcome progress made by various task teams of the Committee; and (d) to encourage the implementation of global initiatives on unique identifiers for businesses.

##### Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/18](#))

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

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Secretary-General on the work carried out by the Statistics Division, in cooperation with other entities of the United Nations system, in support of the 2030 Agenda. The report describes the preparation of the annual report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([A/78/80-E/2023/64](#)), the work to update the Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database and related efforts. It also presents updates on: (a) the Data for Now initiative, jointly convened by the Statistics Division, the United Nations Development Programme, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, the World Bank and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network; (b) the collaborative on the use of administrative data for statistical

purposes; (c) the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training; (d) the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians; (e) the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys; 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, including: (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; (e) the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys; and (f) the work on citizen-generated data.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on the work on the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/CN.3/2024/19](#))

#### **(d) Climate change statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics. The report was prepared in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It contains an update on the work of the Statistics Division with regard to climate change statistics, in particular the development of implementation support tools for the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, which was adopted by the Commission at its fifty-third session. The report also presents updates on collaboration with key partner institutions and presents advances towards the coordination of activities on climate change statistics. Updates on the implementation of the Global Set include the outcomes of a pilot survey with several national responses that illustrate the development of national programmes of climate change statistics. Work in progress on methodology development and data collection is also presented, including on the prioritized topics of the integration of climate change and health statistics and integration of climate change and gender statistics. The above-mentioned updates were discussed at the tenth meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics, at which it was proposed that the Commission, at its fifty-fifth session, approve the renaming of the Group to the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics. This is based on the recommendation of the Commission at its forty-ninth session that the mandate of the Group be expanded to cover more aspects of climate change statistics and indicators, based on the expert group meetings increasingly addressing climate change statistics over the past years and on the close interrelationship between the two areas of statistics.

The Commission is invited: (a) to consider and approve the renaming of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics to the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics; (b) to promote streamlining of environment and climate change statistics by amending the work programme of the Commission and combine the environment statistics and climate change statistics into a single agenda item with annual reports on environment and climate change statistics; and (c) to encourage the implementation of the Global Set in countries.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/20](#))

#### **(e) International statistical classifications**

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications. In the 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 report also provides an update on the work of its task teams, including an update on the revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, the Central Product Classification and the Standard International Energy Product Classification.

The Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the amended mandate of the Committee; to adopt the Central Product Classification, version 3, and approve the timeline for the finalization of the explanatory note and the development of the correspondence; (b) to endorse: (i) the explanatory notes, introductory text and implementation plan of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 5; and (ii) the recommendation by the Committee on the revision cycle of activity and product classifications; (c) to adopt: (i) the Classification of Environmental Purposes as the international family of classification; and (ii) the Global Ecosystem Typology as the international family of classification; and (d) to welcome the progress in the work programme of the Committee.

### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications ([E/CN.3/2024/21](#))

#### **(f) Open data**

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Secretary-General on open data. The report provides an overview of the work on open data carried out by the Statistics Division in 2023, in collaboration with its partners, encompassing methodological advancements, data dissemination activities and capacity-building endeavours. In addition, the report outlines a proposed work programme on implementing open data practices, including data dissemination led by the Division and implementation support to countries led by the Division and its partners. The Commission is invited to review and approve the proposed work programme.

### **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on open data ([E/CN.3/2024/22](#))

## **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, which presents activities carried out by the Statistics Division in this area. It provides information on the implementation of the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda, including the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the functioning of national civil registration systems. The report also presents updated information on the collection of demographic statistics through the Demographic Yearbook questionnaires and on activities related to capacity-building for the implementation of the methodology for delineating urban and rural areas for international and regional statistical purposes. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on demographic statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/23](#))

**(b) Disability statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the joint report of the Secretary-General, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and international agencies on disability statistics. The report presents current and planned activities on strengthening the national capacity of statistical systems to produce quality statistics on disability for evidence-based policies and programmes being undertaken by the Washington Group and by the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, ESCAP, the United Nations Children's Fund and WHO. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Joint report of the Secretary-General, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and international agencies on disability statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/24](#))

**(c) Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data. It provides an update on the progress of work. Collaborative work continues as planned, with good engagement from national statistical offices, United Nations bodies and other organizations concerned with specific aspects of ageing and ageing-related statistics. The Titchfield Group, which is scheduled to conclude in 2025, conducted a five-year review of the substantive work and its methods of work. The Commission is invited to take note of the report, which contains details of the review and an update on work in the final two years of the Group.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data ([E/CN.3/2024/25](#))

**(d) Health statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of WHO on health statistics: strengthening statistical systems to track the health-related Sustainable Development Goals. The report provides updates with regard to health equity, the WHO Geographic Information System Centre for Health, analytics (including global excess mortality, global health estimates and universal health coverage), the World Health Data Hub and the Health Data Collaborative. The report also outlines plans to repeat the SCORE (survey, count, optimize, review, enable) assessment and launch a new international health data and statistics conference in 2024. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Health Organization on health statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/26](#))

**(e) Service statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics. The report describes the progress of the Group since its

previous report to the Commission in 2021, pertaining to such topics as the update of sector papers for specific industries, the development of a practical guide for using consumer price indices in service producer price index calculation, and a checklist for evaluating fitness for use of alternative data. The deliverables from the work of the Group are available on the Group's website ([www.voorburggroup.org/](http://www.voorburggroup.org/)). The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/27](http://www.un.org/doc/repertoire/2024/27))

#### **(f) International Comparison Programme**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme. The report provides an outline of the activities undertaken in 2023 at the global, regional and national levels with regard to the 2021 and 2024 comparison cycles of the Programme, pursuant to the Commission's decision to institute the Programme as a permanent element of the global statistical programme, conducted at three-year intervals, at its forty-seventh session, in 2016. In the report, the World Bank describes the governance, capacity-building, research, knowledge and advocacy activities carried out. The Commission is invited to take note of the progress made in completing the 2021 cycle of the Programme, with the scheduled 2024 release of results, and launching the 2024 comparison cycle, and to call upon the stakeholders of the Programme to ensure its timely implementation. The Commission is also invited to take note of the report.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme ([E/CN.3/2024/28](http://www.un.org/doc/repertoire/2024/28))

#### **(g) Information and communications technology statistics**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development. The Partnership reports on its progress in information and communications technology (ICT) statistics and presents an overview of the recent work undertaken by the Partnership, including methodological developments to improve the production and availability of such statistics. The report also addresses current needs and plans for capacity-building for ICT statistics, particularly in national statistical offices of developing countries. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

#### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development ([E/CN.3/2024/29](http://www.un.org/doc/repertoire/2024/29))

#### **(h) Business registers**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers, in which the results of its twenty-eighth meeting, held in The Hague in October 2023, are summarized. The report describes the progress of the Group since its previous report to the Commission in 2021. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers ([E/CN.3/2024/30](#))

**(i) Integration of statistical and geospatial information**

The Commission will have before it, for information, 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 development of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework assessment tool; (c) the progress made to develop a discussion paper on implementing the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for the statistical domain; and (d) how the Expert Group is strengthening coordination and coherence across the Commission's areas of work, in particular with regard to identifying how to respond to the growing demands for the integration of statistical and geospatial information. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information ([E/CN.3/2024/31](#))

**(j) Data stewardship**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship, which provides a summary of the recent activities of the Group delivered through its different workstreams, including the implementation of a global consultation questionnaire. During the global consultation, the opinions of national statistical offices on the scope and priorities of data stewardship were collected to assist with developing the Group's plan for a conceptual framework on data stewardship and the role of national statistical offices. 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 Working Group on Data Stewardship ([E/CN.3/2024/32](#))

**(k) Coordination of statistical programmes**

The Commission will have before it, for information, the joint report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities. The report contains a summary of the progress made in the area of coordination within the United Nations system (Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System) and beyond (Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities). The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the joint report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities ([E/CN.3/2024/33](#))

**(I) 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 on policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Commission. The report presents the policy decisions of the Assembly and the Council adopted in 2023, or earlier, that are relevant to the work of the Commission. It also indicates the actions that were taken or are proposed by the Commission and the Statistics Division in an effort to respond to the requests made by the Assembly and the Council. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission ([E/CN.3/2024/34](#))

**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-sixth 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-sixth 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 2024–2028. The Commission is invited to approve the dates, provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-sixth session, as well as to approve the multi-year programme.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-sixth session of the Commission ([E/CN.3/2024/L.2](#))

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Statistical Commission, 2024–2028 ([E/CN.3/2024/35](#))

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

The Commission will have before it the procedural report of the fifty-fifth 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-fifth session, which will be submitted to the Council, including the draft decisions and entrust the Rapporteur with streamlining and finalizing it.

**Documentation**

Draft report of the Commission on its fifty-fifth session

Informal paper with draft decisions