



United Nations

Statistical Commission

**Report on the fifty-fifth session
(27 February–1 March 2024)**

**Economic and Social Council
Official Records, 2024
Supplement No. 4**



Statistical Commission

**Report on the fifty-fifth session
(27 February–1 March 2024)**



United Nations • New York, 2024

Note

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

Contents

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention . . .	5
A. Draft resolution for adoption by the Council	5
An inclusive and representative Statistical Commission to leave no one behind	5
B. Draft decision for adoption by the Council.	8
Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-fifth session and provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission	8
C. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council	12
55/101. Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.	12
55/102. Working methods of the Statistical Commission	12
55/103. Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	13
55/104. Partnership, coordination and capacity-building for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	14
55/105. Data science	14
55/106. Governance statistics	15
55/107. National accounts	15
55/108. Economic statistics.	16
55/109. Environmental-economic accounting	17
55/110. Agricultural and rural statistics	18
55/111. Social statistics	19
55/112. Gender statistics	19
55/113. Population and housing censuses	20
55/114. Regional statistical development	21
55/115. Tourism statistics	21
55/116. Business and trade statistics	22
55/117. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	23
55/118. Climate change statistics	24
55/119. International statistical classifications	24
55/120. Open data	25
55/121. International Comparison Programme	26

55/122. Programme questions	26
55/123. Information items	26
II. Items for discussion and decision	28
A. Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics	28
B. Working methods of the Statistical Commission	28
C. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	28
D. Data science	29
E. Governance statistics	29
F. National accounts	29
G. Economic statistics	29
H. Environmental-economic accounting	30
I. Agricultural and rural statistics	30
J. Social statistics	30
K. Gender statistics	30
L. Population and housing censuses	30
M. Regional statistical development	31
III. Items for decision	32
A. Tourism statistics	32
B. Business and trade statistics	32
C. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	32
D. Climate change statistics	32
E. International statistical classifications	33
F. Open data	33
G. International Comparison Programme	33
IV. Items for information	34
V. Programme questions (Statistics Division)	35
VI. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission	36
VII. Report of the Commission on its fifty-fifth session	37
VIII. Organization of the session	38
A. Opening and duration of the session	38
B. Attendance	38
C. Election of officers	38
D. Agenda and organization of work	38
E. Documentation	39

Chapter I

Matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention

A. Draft resolution for adoption by the Council

1. The Statistical Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

An inclusive and representative Statistical Commission to leave no one behind

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution [1566 \(L\)](#) of 3 May 1971, in which the Council recognized the importance of the coordination function of the Statistical Commission and the need to achieve an integrated system in the collection, processing and dissemination of international statistics, and the interest of the Statistical Commission and the Statistical Office¹ in matters related to the use of computers in the United Nations system, and requested the Secretary-General to undertake, in cooperation with the specialized agencies, concerted action to assist the developing countries in strengthening their statistical systems,

Recalling also its resolution 2006/6 of 24 July 2006, in which it encouraged the strengthening of statistical capacity of the relevant international agencies and recognizing the collaboration of the United Nations system, including the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat and the regional commissions and international agencies, to support national efforts in building and strengthening national statistical capacity, in particular of developing countries,

Recalling further its resolution [2020/5](#) of 18 June 2020, in which it recognized the need to strengthen coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system, and the request to the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System to more effectively strengthen coordination of statistical programmes within the United Nations system, guided by and in support of the work of the Statistical Commission,

Reaffirming, as stated in its resolution [2022/3](#) of 8 June 2022, the Statistical Commission as the primary body for the coordination of the global statistical programmes in general and of the United Nations statistical and data-related system,

Recognizing the need for the United Nations statistical and data-related system, with a view to stressing that the work in the field of statistics and data is adaptive to the changing statistical and data ecosystem, to report on work on statistics and data within all domains to the Statistical Commission, to enable the Commission to fulfil its function as the primary body at the global level responsible for the management of statistical information and governance of statistics and data,

Emphasizing the need for technological innovations to systematically modernize statistical offices and national statistical and data systems and to promote practices for the generation of information aligned with principles that ensure, inter

¹ Subsequently renamed the Statistics Division.

alia, coherence, comparability, data privacy and confidentiality, and the importance of building partnerships,

Noting that the Statistical Commission is expected to play the role as the apex forum for discussions, knowledge exchange and sharing of best practices on statistics and data across all domains, to develop and maintain international statistical standards and norms, tools and methodologies, to support and bolster the development of sustainable national statistical systems, to develop and build the capacity of national systems, to advocate for the professional community of official statistics, and to ensure continued innovations to adapt to the changing statistical and data system,

Taking note of the expanding scope of national statistical systems, in which chief statisticians are frequently asked to serve as data stewards for data ecosystems in general,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it was agreed to intensify the efforts to strengthen statistical capacities of national statistical offices and data systems in developing countries, particularly African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and middle-income countries, to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable, disaggregated data and the commitment was made to developing broader measures of progress to complement gross domestic product,

Noting that, in its resolution [70/1](#), the General Assembly decided that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets would be followed up and reviewed using a set of global indicators developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators,

Taking note of General Assembly resolution [71/313](#) of 6 July 2017, in which the Assembly adopted a global framework of indicators, developed by the Statistical Commission, to monitor progress, inform policy and ensure accountability of all stakeholders as the follow-up and review mechanism for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution [68/261](#) of 29 January 2014, by which the Assembly endorsed the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and in which the Assembly stressed that, in order to be effective, the fundamental values and principles that govern statistical work have to be guaranteed by legal and institutional frameworks and be respected at all political levels and by all stakeholders in national statistical systems,

Recognizing that an enlargement of the membership of the Statistical Commission will bring wider representation and inclusivity,

1. *Recognizes* the value of official statistics, which constitute a foundation for fact-based decision-making;
2. *Acknowledges* that data is increasingly available and can be used to measure progress and implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;²
3. *Also acknowledges* that high-quality, timely and reliable data and statistics, in conjunction with other data sources and innovative methods, such as new and emerging technologies, can create added value and benefits for society;
4. *Underlines* that the Statistical Commission is a body in which the heads of national data and statistical systems meet to discuss and agree on technical aspects of their data and statistical systems;

² General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

5. *Welcomes* the essential role that the Statistical Commission plays in coordinating the development of international standards, methods and guidelines on data and statistics which are widely accepted, including by Member States, the United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies, the Secretariat, including the regional commissions, as well as the Bretton Woods institutions and international organizations;

6. *Affirms* that the Statistical Commission should seek to promote the active participation of all Member States and relevant stakeholders, including international organizations, the private sector, academia and civil society, in discussions on issues related to data and statistics;

7. *Recognizes* the need to enlarge the membership of the Statistical Commission for enhanced inclusivity;

8. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Statistical Commission from 24 to 54 members, to be elected by the Economic and Social Council on the basis of equitable geographical distribution;

9. *Also decides* that the enlargement shall take effect progressively, in three steps, from the beginning of the fifty-seventh session of the Statistical Commission, in 2026, until the fifty-ninth session, in 2028;

10. *Further decides* that the enlargement shall take effect according to the following pattern of membership in the Statistical Commission:

(a) 8 members from African States, 6 members from Asia-Pacific States, 6 members from Latin American and Caribbean States, 5 members from Eastern European States and 9 members from Western European and other States at the fifty-seventh session, in 2026;

(b) 11 members from African States, 9 members from Asia-Pacific States, 8 members from Latin American and Caribbean States, 5 members from Eastern European States and 11 members from Western European and other States at the fifty-eighth session, in 2027;

(c) 14 members from African States, 11 members from Asia-Pacific States, 10 members from Latin American and Caribbean States, 6 members from Eastern European States and 13 members from Western European and other States at the fifty-ninth session, in 2028;

11. *Requests* that the Bureau of the Statistical Commission review, assess and report on the progress towards the achievement of the objectives of the present resolution at the fifty-eighth session, including by making recommendations in this regard, while preserving the technical nature of the Commission;

12. *Notes* that the Bureau will continue to consist of one representative from among States members of the Statistical Commission from each of the five regional groups;

13. *Calls upon* members of the Statistical Commission to play an active role, sharing knowledge with the global community and acting as advocates for data and statistics;

14. *Welcomes* that the Statistical Commission will play a central coordinating role in the global data and statistics system in order to promote comparability, harmonization and cooperation between Member States and relevant stakeholders with the aim of making data and statistics reliable and accessible for the good of society.

B. Draft decision for adoption by the Council

2. The Statistical Commission recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decision:

Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-fifth session and provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Takes note of the report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-fifth session;
- (b) Decides that the fifty-sixth session of the Commission shall be held in New York from 4 to 7 March 2025;
- (c) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission, as set out below:

Provisional agenda of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the annotated provisional agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional programme of the work and timetable

3. Demographic and social statistics:

- (a) Demographic statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) Migration statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (c) Working and employment statistics;

Documentation

Report of the International Labour Organization

- (d) Education statistics;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

4. Economic statistics:

- (a) National accounts;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

- (b) Informal economy statistics;

Documentation

Report of the International Labour Organization

- (c) Finance statistics;

Documentation

Report of the International Monetary Fund

- (d) Environmental-economic accounting;

Documentation

Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

- (e) Industrial statistics;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization

- (f) Energy statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics

- (g) Business and trade statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics

- (h) International Comparison Programme;

Report of the World Bank

- (i) Price statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices

5. Natural resource and environment statistics:

- (a) Environment statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) Disaster-related statistics;

Documentation

Report of the core group of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics

6. Governance statistics:

- (a) Statistics of drugs and drug use;

Documentation

Report of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

7. Cross-cutting domains:

- (a) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

Documentation

Report of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

Report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Report of the Secretary-General on the work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

- (b) Statistics of human development;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Development Programme

- (c) Food security and nutrition;

Documentation

Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund

8. Statistical infrastructure and methodology:

- (a) Civil registration and vital statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) International statistical classification;

Documentation

Report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications

- (c) Population and housing censuses;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (d) Household surveys;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

- (e) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata;

Documentation

Report of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange sponsors

- (f) Data science;
Documentation
Report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics
 - (g) Integration of statistical and geospatial information;
Documentation
Report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information
9. Management and modernization of statistical systems:
- (a) Management and modernization of statistical systems;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (b) Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (c) Data stewardship;
Documentation
Report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship
 - (d) National quality assurance frameworks;
Documentation
Report of the Expert Group on National Quality Assurance Frameworks
 - (e) Statistical capacity development;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
10. Specific items of the Statistical Commission and the Statistics Division:
- (a) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General
 - (b) Working methods of the Statistical Commission;
Documentation
Report of the Bureau of the Commission
 - (c) Regional statistical development;
Documentation
Report of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
11. Programme questions (Statistics Division).

12. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Commission

13. Report of the Commission on its fifty-sixth session.

C. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council

3. The following decisions adopted by the Commission are brought to the attention of the Council.

55/101

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Endorsed the proposal to prepare two sets of implementation guidelines tailored to different audiences, to be submitted to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, in 2025;

(b) Reiterated its support for the establishment of an independent advisory board on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;

(c) Requested the Bureau of the Statistical Commission to advance, through a transparent and inclusive consultation process, the terms of reference, composition of the Board and criteria for the selection of experts, and requested the Bureau to report back to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, in 2025, presenting the outcomes of the consultations, an amended version of the terms of reference and a report comprising the aforementioned items, as well as the financial implications and arrangements associated with the Board.

55/102

Working methods of the Statistical Commission

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Commended the Bureau on the thorough, inclusive and participatory process undertaken to prepare the background note on a more representative and inclusive Commission, especially with regard to the widespread consultations, and supported the proposed six goals, as outlined in the report;

(b) Acknowledged the importance of the Commission being an inclusive representative body and the need to preserve the technical nature of the Commission;

(c) Called upon the Bureau to continue its work on analysis of the role of the Commission in the broadened data and statistical landscape, including by consulting the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System to determine the next steps and providing an overview of data governance as discussed in the Friday seminar on emerging issues: data governance with the aim of launching a process towards the development of common terminology and definitions for data

governance, noted other initiatives within the scope of the Bureau, such as gender mainstreaming, and requested the Bureau to report back to the Commission in 2025.

55/103

Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Commended the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators on the regular methodological review of the global indicator framework to improve the overall quality of indicators and metadata, took note of methodological concerns on specific indicators of some countries, and encouraged the Group to facilitate collaboration among organizations and countries on methodological improvements;

(b) Agreed on the proposed annual refinements, as presented in annex I to the report of the Group ([E/CN.3/2024/4](#));

(c) Took note of the proxy indicator proposal for Goal indicator 2.4.1 as a practical interim solution, urged countries with concerns to continue technical conversations with the custodian agency and to improve the proposed proxy indicator, and encouraged the custodian agency to work with countries to strengthen capacity-building activities for the official indicator;

(d) Expressed its appreciation for the Group's ongoing efforts in compiling and showcasing good practices for monitoring the Goals, and invited more countries and partners to share their good practices;

(e) Endorsed the specific criteria and detailed submission requirements for the 2025 comprehensive review, as proposed in section III of the Group's report, and emphasized the importance of not imposing an additional burden on national statistical systems;

(f) Expressed its appreciation for the progress made by the working groups on geospatial information and the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange and the task team on sustainable tourism;

(g) Stressed the need for continued technical and financial support for countries to build capacity for the production and monitoring of and reporting on Goal indicators, including the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange and implementing the SDGs geospatial road map;

(h) Encouraged the Group to continue its work on data innovation, data integration and the use of non-traditional data, such as geospatial information, administrative records and citizen data for Goal monitoring;

(i) Encouraged regular dialogue between the Group and custodian agencies, as well as increased cooperation between custodian agencies and national statistical offices, to improve global monitoring to support accelerating progress towards the Goals;

(j) Approved the proposed work programme of the Group, as described in section V of its report.

55/104 Partnership, coordination and capacity-building for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its gratitude to the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Government of China and the programme committee for organizing the United Nations World Data Forum 2023, held in Hangzhou, China, as a hybrid event, and endorsed the launch of the Hangzhou Declaration;

(b) Welcomed the two-phase approach to the realignment of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data, with the Hangzhou Declaration as the conclusion of the first phase, and the second phase, known as the Cape Town Global Action Plan 2.0, which will reflect new developments and innovations in the data ecosystem;

(c) Also welcomed work on other outcomes, including financing needs and capacity development, ahead of the fifth United Nations World Data Forum, to be held in Medellín, Colombia, from 11 to 14 November 2024;

(d) Encouraged the High-level Group to continue its work on other areas of strategic importance to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development³ and as defined in its terms of reference;

(e) Agreed with the work programme of the High-level Group, and asked the Group to report back to the Commission at its fifty-sixth session on its implementation and the outcomes of the fifth United Nations World Data Forum.

55/105 Data science

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Acknowledged the outcomes and the achievements of the 10-year review of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics in its methodological work, and supported the updating of the Committee's mandate to reflect current needs, including data science and private sector partnerships;

(b) Acknowledged the crucial role of regional and global hubs in enhancing capacity in big data and data science, and supported the proposal that these hubs expand their partnerships with national statistical offices, international organizations, academia and the private sector while requesting that close attention be paid to data ethics;

(c) Supported the creation of a new task team on data science and Sustainable Development Goal localization, in close collaboration with the Data Science Leaders Network, and encouraged in this regard closer collaboration between the Committee and the geospatial community;

(d) Requested the creation of a task team on large language models in the production and dissemination of official statistics, and noted that the Africa Group had volunteered to take the lead therein;

³ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

(e) Supported the development of a playbook for integrating data science into the work of statistical offices, as well as guidelines for the skills and information technology infrastructure required to use big data and data science in producing official statistics;

(f) Strongly reiterated the need for further capacity-building in using big data and data science in official statistics, encouraged the use of the maturity matrix as a tool for regularly assessing countries' progress in this area, requested a continued focus on the challenges still encountered in the use of big data and data science, encouraged increased resource mobilization to make such capacity-building effective, and noted the offer by Maldives to establish an international data science and research centre for official statistics for small island developing States;

(g) Requested the improvement of the United Nations Global Platform for easier access and to enhance communication on the work of the Committee through user-friendly website updates, newsletters and social media engagement.

55/106

Governance statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Commended the work of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics, in particular the methodological work on non-discrimination and equality and on participation in political and public affairs, and encouraged the participation of regional commissions in the work of the Praia Group;

(b) Acknowledged that governance statistics is recognized increasingly as an important field of official statistics, as shown in the revised Classification of Statistical Activities, and requested further refinement of its methodology;

(c) Expressed its appreciation for the capacity-development activities spearheaded by the Praia Group, especially on cognitive testing of the draft questionnaires and during the development of a guide for collecting and using administrative data to produce statistics on discrimination and participation;

(d) Endorsed the outlined plans and priority areas of work for the period 2024–2025, and encouraged the inclusion of corruption statistics.

55/107

National accounts

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Endorsed the programmes of work for 2024 of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts and the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts;

(b) Commended the outreach activities to keep countries informed of the transparent process and the inclusive approach to seek the views of countries through global consultations on guidance notes, recommendations for the update of the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA) and draft chapters of the 2025 SNA;

(c) Commended the close collaboration between SNA and the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual* update teams to ensure full alignment between the recommendations of SNA and the *Manual* to the best extent possible;

(d) Endorsed the recommendations for the update of the 2008 SNA, except for the recommendation on marketing assets, and requested further research on the measurement of marketing assets in the post-2025 SNA research agenda;

(e) Noted the concerns of some Member States about the impact of selected recommendations, emphasized the importance of addressing conceptual uncertainties, and stressed the importance of continuing to develop implementation guidance on the new recommendations to facilitate the implementation of the 2025 SNA in an internationally comparable way;

(f) Welcomed the initiation of a work programme to develop guidance on the recommendations that have an impact on key national accounts aggregates and those that involve significant methodological challenges in implementation;

(g) Emphasized the need for capacity-building and funding for Member States with limited resources, including small island developing States, including those that have not yet implemented the 2008 SNA, to facilitate the implementation of SNA, and expressed its appreciation to international organizations and countries for providing the technical support for national account statistics in particular and economic statistics in general;

(h) Encouraged Member States to take ownership of developing strategies, including the mobilization of national resources, to facilitate the implementation of the 2025 SNA, noting that guidance thereon will be developed as part of the proposed 2025 SNA implementation strategy;

(i) Requested the timely translation of the 2025 SNA into the official languages of the United Nations;

(j) Encouraged the continued reporting on and evaluation of the availability and scope of official national accounts data reported by Member States, and noted the importance of quality data, including the availability of quarterly national accounts data, in support of international comparisons and a global understanding of the world economy.

55/108

Economic statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Commended the Network of Economic Statisticians on: (i) successfully organizing the “beyond gross domestic product” sprint 2023 and the international statistical classifications sprint; (ii) increasing communication and engagement with Network members through quarterly and informal meetings; and (iii) organizing an online consultation with regional commissions to determine and scope the statistical priorities of the global South;

(b) Welcomed the progress of work on the five use cases from the data access sprint to advance methods and principles of data access in close cooperation with the private sector;

(c) Endorsed the creation of a multidisciplinary expert group to take forward the recommendations presented in the report of the Network ([E/CN.3/2024/10](#)) and to develop a framework for measuring inclusive and sustainable well-being, recognized the potential synergies between the Network and the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics, and encouraged collaboration between the two initiatives;

(d) Commended the work of the international statistical classifications sprint in developing a set of recommendations to update international statistical classifications more frequently;

(e) Approved the work programme of the Network for 2024, in particular:

(i) The continuation of the five data access use cases;

(ii) The activities of the multidisciplinary expert group to take forward the recommendations of the “beyond gross domestic product” sprint 2023;

(iii) The organization of other sprints addressing identified priority topics, such as housing data, data strategies to manage and use information for the benefit of users, and the potential of utilizing artificial intelligence in statistical work in collaboration with relevant groups and communities to avoid duplication.

55/109

Environmental-economic accounting

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Endorsed the proposed update of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Central Framework, noting that the Framework should remain responsive to emerging demands for integrated environmental and economic data in support of climate change, the circular economy, disaster risk reduction, resource management, green growth and jobs, biodiversity and other policies and be aligned with the updated System of National Accounts and balance of payments and other recently revised standards, classifications and manuals, as appropriate, and requested the Committee to submit, at the next session of the Commission, the list of issues and the road map for its update;

(b) Encouraged countries, international organizations, multilateral development banks and donors to actively participate in and contribute financially and in kind to the update of the Framework;

(c) Welcomed the use of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Ecosystem Accounting as the methodological basis for multiple headline indicators of the monitoring framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, called upon national statistical offices to engage with their biodiversity focal points, and encouraged the Committee to support the implementation of the monitoring framework and to facilitate collaboration between the statistical and the biodiversity communities to strengthen national monitoring and reporting;

(d) Welcomed the Committee’s progress in advancing the development of global System of Environmental-Economic Accounting databases, in particular the establishment of global data sets for air emission accounts and energy accounts, and encouraged countries to submit data and disseminate their accounts;

(e) Encouraged the Committee to continue its involvement in the Data Gaps Initiative, in particular to support closing data gaps related to climate change, and to promote the accounts;

(f) Welcomed the Committee’s efforts to advance the research agenda of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Ecosystem Accounting, the development of methods, guidance and tools to support implementation of the accounts and the use of the accounts for international initiatives;

(g) Welcomed the progress in country implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, noted the importance of partnerships, regional

collaboration, communities of practice and the System's focal points network in supporting implementation and encouraged the Committee to further accelerate implementation of the Framework and System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Ecosystem Accounting;

(h) Supported the efforts of international organizations, regional commissions and statistical training institutes in providing technical assistance, organizing workshops and training and developing compilation tools, and noted the importance of ensuring that resources continue to be made available for this work;

(i) Expressed its appreciation for the collaboration of the Committee with the World Tourism Organization in the development of the statistical framework for measuring the sustainability of tourism, noted country interest in this topic, and encouraged the Committee to continue collaboration in this area;

(j) Welcomed the work programme of the London Group on Environmental Accounting, including its engagement in the update of the Framework.

55/110

Agricultural and rural statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation for the progress made with regard to the implementation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations strategy for the modernization of statistics, and endorsed the programme of work of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Food Security, Agricultural and Rural Statistics;

(b) Commended the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on strengthening the statistical capacity of countries, including in the areas of Sustainable Development Goal monitoring, the census of agriculture, the 50 x 2030 initiative and the Global Strategy to Improve Agriculture and Rural Statistics, and requested the development of a programme on rural statistics, aligned with the Global Strategy, while recognizing the existing challenges of defining "rural";

(c) Noted countries' increased use of Earth observation data and other alternative sources in the context of the modernization of agricultural statistics, and expressed its appreciation for the progress made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in preparing the new guidelines for the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2030 in consultation with national and international experts;

(d) Welcomed the Committee on World Food Security policy recommendations on strengthening the collection and use of food security and nutrition data and related analytical tools;

(e) Approved the inclusion of a new agenda item on food security and nutrition statistics under the aegis of the Commission, invited the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund to report on progress made on this item every two years, and recommended that the United Nations Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications consider food security and nutrition as a stand-alone statistical data domain in the classification of statistical activities and report back to the Commission;

(f) Endorsed the guidelines on processing food data from household consumption and expenditure surveys;

(g) Noted the recommendations recently formulated by the regional commissions on agricultural statistics.

55/111

Social statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Endorsed the proposed work priorities and activities of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics, in particular the research towards an overarching conceptual framework for social and demographic statistics, including harmonized concepts, definitions, terminology and classifications across subdomains, in line with the group's objective of formulating strategic recommendations for strengthened social and demographic statistics that better reflect society and its connections with the environment and the economy;

(b) Commended the review of national practices for improved timeliness, frequency, disaggregation and granularity in social and demographic data, which will also facilitate an intersectional approach to the analysis, as well as the work done on communication strategies to elevate the role of social and demographic statistics in the eyes of users and producers;

(c) Agreed on the need to integrate a wide range of data sources, including geospatial information and administrative data, and, in this context, encouraged the group to place special emphasis on issues related to data protection and technological infrastructure;

(d) Recognized the potential synergies between the Friends of the Chair group and the Network of Economic Statisticians, and encouraged collaboration between the two initiatives;

(e) Took note of the expressions of interest of countries to share their experiences, and welcomed the addition to the group of six new Member States from the global South, which will ensure that the Group's recommendations reflect different national contexts.

55/112

Gender statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Highlighted the importance of time-use data for informing key policy concerns, such as gender equality, quality of life, people's well-being and progress that goes beyond gross domestic product, as well as for measuring unpaid domestic and care work and for compiling related extended national accounts;

(b) Endorsed the revised *Guide to Producing Statistics on Time Use*, took note of the interest expressed by countries in using the proposed methods, and requested the Statistics Division and partners to support countries in the implementation of the *Guide*, in collaboration with regional actors, to ensure its national relevance and effective implementation;

(c) Commended the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics on its work on integrating a gender perspective into the work of the Commission, in collaboration with other subject matter experts, took note of the note on mainstreaming a gender perspective into trade and business statistics, and took note of the progress made on mainstreaming gender into climate change statistics;

(d) Welcomed the progress made on measuring technology-facilitated violence against women, and requested the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the World Health Organization, the United Nations Population Fund and other partners: (i) to conduct technical consultations, testing and piloting, in close collaboration with and with the active contribution of national statistical offices; and (ii) to propose a statistical framework for standardized internationally comparable measures on the topic;

(e) Approved the work priorities of the Statistics Division and the Inter-Agency and Expert Group under the umbrella of the Global Gender Statistics Programme;

(f) Reiterated the need for capacity-building and resources to support countries in the area of gender statistics, including on time use and violence against women, and requested the Statistics Division and partners to support countries to that end;

(g) Welcomed the organization of the tenth Global Forum on Gender Statistics, and took note of the countries that expressed an interest in hosting it in 2025.

55/113 Population and housing censuses

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Reiterated its concern regarding the negative impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on census-taking, including postponements of the conduct of censuses and challenges in ensuring the quality of census planning and operations and the resulting statistics;

(b) Encouraged Member States to assess the quality of their censuses in terms of both their coverage and their comparability over time, taking into consideration the implications of changes in methods, procedures and technologies introduced as a result of the pandemic;

(c) Requested the Statistics Division, in its role as the secretariat of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme, to continue to monitor the implementation of the Programme, to prepare a comprehensive report highlighting achievements and challenges faced by countries, and to take measures to improve the global discourse on the experiences of the 2020 round of censuses;

(d) Expressed its appreciation to the Statistics Division for the preparations for the 2030 round of censuses and for the ongoing work, in collaboration with an international expert group, on the fourth revision of the *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses*, and noted that the expert group should have regional representation to identify good practices and challenges that countries had during the 2020 round;

(e) Recognized that an increasing number of countries are modernizing their census operations, including through the use of alternative methodologies and advanced technologies, encouraged countries to enhance the use of administrative data in census-taking, and requested the Statistics Division and partners to provide guidance, support capacity-building activities and maintain knowledge-sharing platforms;

(f) Requested the Statistics Division to prepare a draft resolution to launch the 2030 World Population and Housing Census Programme at the fifty-sixth session

of the Statistical Commission, in 2025, for adoption by the Commission and endorsement by the Economic and Social Council.

55/114

Regional statistical development

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Commended the Asia-Pacific countries, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, regional bodies and other development partners on the significant work undertaken in support of statistical coordination and development in the region;

(b) Expressed its appreciation for the leading role of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in support of open-source solutions, such as the National SDG Tracker and the tool Every policy is connected, and encouraged the promotion and use of these tools;

(c) Supported the call for countries to engage more in cross-country and cross-regional knowledge-sharing, and expressed its appreciation for events such as the Asia-Pacific Stats Café series;

(d) Expressed its appreciation for the work of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific and its regional statistical training programme and technical support to respond to needs in the Asia-Pacific region;

(e) Supported the call for countries within and beyond the Asia-Pacific region to use the data governance framework developed by Asia and the Pacific to document and share their data governance practices, knowledge and experience;

(f) Strongly supported the call for coordinated technical, financial and capacity development assistance to countries, aligned with the priorities of those countries and the specific context;

(g) Requested development partners to continue to provide technical support while considering differing country contexts, levels of capacity and needs across Member States;

(h) Encouraged increased engagement of countries of Asia and the Pacific with global groups.

55/115

Tourism statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed its appreciation to the World Tourism Organization Committee on Statistics for its leadership in tourism statistics, in particular in the area of measuring the sustainability of tourism as an example of moving beyond gross domestic product;

(b) Endorsed the statistical framework for measuring the sustainability of tourism;

(c) Welcomed the further development of the programme of work on measuring the sustainability of tourism, including an implementation programme and preparation of a compilation guide, under the auspices of the World Tourism Organization Committee on Statistics and the technical leadership of the expert group on measuring the sustainability of tourism, and requested the World Tourism

Organization to undertake further capacity-building activities to ensure that countries are able to report on the indicators for the sustainability of tourism;

(d) Called upon the international donor community and Member States to support financing for the measurement of tourism and its sustainability, as well as for its integration into broader statistical development efforts, including capacity-building.

55/116

Business and trade statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Endorsed the amended mandate and governance of the Committee to facilitate stronger integration between business and trade statistics and stronger coordination across other statistical domains and with the macroeconomic frameworks;

(b) Endorsed the second edition of the *Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade*;

(c) Welcomed the progress of work on the revision of the trade statistics manuals;

(d) Expressed its appreciation for and took note of the progress of work on the handbook on integrating business and trade statistics and volume 2 of the *Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics*;

(e) Approved the note on mainstreaming a gender perspective into trade and business statistics, and encouraged the Committee to strengthen ongoing collaboration with the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics and other relevant groups to advance the integration of gender and social perspectives into business and trade statistics;

(f) Expressed its appreciation for the progress on integrating geospatial aspects into business and trade statistics, and supported continued collaboration between the Committee and the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information to develop guidelines to assist countries in integrating geospatial information into statistical business registers;

(g) Commended the work on the global initiative on unique identifiers for businesses, and expressed its support for the continuation of activities undertaken by the Committee and other key partners to strengthen the legal registration of businesses and the management of unique identifiers for the improvement of the statistical business register and other users of register data while considering the cost implications;

(h) Welcomed the finalization of the manual on the maturity model for statistical business registers, and expressed its support for the ongoing work on the development of a toolkit for the maturity model and the development of a global assessment on the status of implementation of statistical business registers in countries;

(i) Underscored the importance of capacity development to strengthen the capabilities of the national statistical system for the compilation of business and trade statistics.

55/117 Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the work of the Statistics Division, in cooperation with the United Nations system, in support of the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁴ including *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2023*, the regular update of the Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database, the support for data exchange, and the establishment of platforms for improved Goal data and information access;

(b) Expressed its appreciation for the Data for Now initiative to strengthen capacity to utilize innovative data sources and methods to enhance production of statistics prioritized by country, securing high-level support and ensuring country ownership, scalability and sustainability, and encouraged its further extension and the inclusion of additional countries;

(c) Supported the work of the collaborative on the use of administrative data for statistical purposes, and expressed its appreciation for its comprehensive and customizable approach in using these data sources and for its overall work and achievements;

(d) Welcomed the efforts and achievements of the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training, especially its efforts in addressing countries' training needs by providing easier access to courses, as well as needs assessment tools;

(e) Expressed its appreciation for the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians as an effective mechanism and space for the professional community for information- and knowledge-sharing and networking among statisticians around the world;

(f) Welcomed the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys on survey coordination, methodology and advocacy for improving national capacity in this area, and supported the planned revision of the United Nations handbooks on household surveys, which will provide much-needed updated guidance, incorporating current methodologies and advances in this area;

(g) Supported the work on citizen data by the Statistics Division, recognized the potential of citizen data to address data demands and bridge data gaps for Goal monitoring while acknowledging associated challenges, welcomed the draft Copenhagen Framework on Citizen Data, supported its continuous testing and refinement, requested the Statistics Division and the Collaborative on Citizen Data to provide practical guidance, recognized the vital role of national statistical offices in assessing data quality and promoting greater accessibility and utilization of citizen data, requested the Collaborative to play a pivotal role in implementing the Copenhagen Framework, and stressed the inclusivity of the Collaborative by welcoming members from diverse countries and stakeholder groups.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

55/118 Climate change statistics

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Approved the renaming of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics as the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics to cover both topics, given their close interrelationship;

(b) Requested the amendment of the work programme of the Commission to combine environment and climate change statistics into a single agenda item, with one joint report;

(c) Encouraged countries to apply the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, regional indicator sets such as the gender and environment indicators for the Asia-Pacific region, the set of core climate change-related indicators of the Conference of European Statisticians, and the self-assessment tool and implementation guidelines to assist in establishing national programmes on climate change statistics, which will contribute to the reporting under the Paris Agreement;

(d) Encouraged further collaboration between the Statistics Division, the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and other key partners to continue to strengthen the link between statistics and policy, as well as to minimize any possible overlap of efforts, by undertaking joint initiatives, training and capacity-development efforts, including on reporting tools;

(e) Urged countries to increase collaboration between the national statistical office and the national authorities responsible for reporting climate change-related information to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(f) Took note of the work undertaken to develop methodologies for prioritized topics, and encouraged the further integration of gender, health, disasters and other statistical areas into environment and climate change statistics;

(g) Urged the donor community to mobilize additional substantial resources to enable capacity development in environment and climate change statistics in countries with less developed statistical systems;

(h) Encouraged national statistical systems to invest in the development of climate change statistics by enhancing the use of administrative data, designing specialized surveys or other data collection tools, and including climate- and environment-related questions in relevant censuses and sample surveys, as appropriate.

55/119 International statistical classifications

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Endorsed the amended mandate and governance of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications to strengthen its role in overseeing the implementation of statistical classifications;

(b) Endorsed the structure of the Central Product Classification, Version 3, recommended that this classification be recognized as the international standard for products covering all goods and services, and encouraged the Committee to finalize the explanatory notes and the development of relevant correspondences;

(c) Endorsed the explanatory notes, introduction and the implementation plan for the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 5, and requested the translation of Revision 5 into all the official languages of the United Nations;

(d) Endorsed the Classification of Environmental Purposes and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources Global Ecosystem Typology as international statistical classifications, and recommended that they be included in the international family of classifications;

(e) Commended the work of the international statistical classifications sprint on highlighting the importance of having agile and responsive classification systems and the necessity of adequate investment and resourcing for classifications work;

(f) Recommended more frequent revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification and the Central Product Classification so that they accurately mirror economic realities and aid in effective policymaking, noted the recommendation by the Committee of a five-year revision cycle, acknowledged the concerns expressed about that frequency, noted the need for an adequate statistical infrastructure, concerted efforts and dedicated resources to implement the recommendation, and requested the Committee to propose and evaluate procedures, stages and milestones for implementing a regular revision cycle for the International Standard Industrial Classification and the Central Product Classification, leading to the next revision, and to report back to the Commission by 2028;

(g) Took note of the progress of work on the revision of the Standard International Energy Product Classification, and requested the Committee to submit the revised version thereof to the Statistical Commission at its next session, in 2025;

(h) Approved the terms of reference of the task team on the revision of the Classification of the Functions of Government;

(i) Welcomed the Committee's work programme, which includes advancing the Classification of the Functions of Government revision and implementation of the Classification of Statistical Activities, updating the documentation on best practices and approvals, and promoting the increased availability of classifications in linked open data format and work on modernization of classifications.

55/120

Open data

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the work of the Statistics Division, in collaboration with the United Nations system and Google, in leading the modernization of the UNdata portal, which provides a single entry point for authoritative statistical data and metadata from the United Nations system and other participating international and regional organizations;

(b) Requested all members of the global statistical community to actively participate in the modernization of the UNdata platform and to use it as a complementary mechanism for the open dissemination of official statistics;

(c) Welcomed the work of the Statistics Division on open data for official statistics, in collaboration with various partners, working groups and initiatives, covering the areas of data documentation, interoperability, and standards for data exchange and data dissemination;

(d) Expressed its appreciation to the Statistics Division and its partners for strengthening national capacity in areas related to open data through various capacity-building programmes, and requested the Division and its partners to continue to advocate the open data principles, develop assessment and guidance tools and provide capacity-development support to countries;

(e) Endorsed the proposed work programme on continued efforts towards the modernization of the UNdata platform and the implementation of open data principles.

55/121 International Comparison Programme

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the imminent release of the results of the International Comparison Programme 2021 cycle, and commended Programme stakeholders on having successfully completed the cycle despite extraordinary challenges related to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and other crises;

(b) Called upon International Comparison Programme stakeholders to address the support, resources and funding required by the Programme to ensure the quality and timeliness of future results, and to commence the 2024 cycle without delay;

(c) Emphasized the widening dependence on purchasing power parities and International Comparison Programme data in a number of administrative uses and in socioeconomic analyses, including credible monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals, and the proposal to meet user needs by producing results on a more frequent basis;

(d) Impressed upon national, regional and global agencies the need to incorporate the International Comparison Programme into their regular statistical work programmes to ensure its sustainability as a permanent global statistical programme.

55/122 Programme questions

The Statistical Commission took note of the oral report presented by the Director of the Statistics Division concerning the work programme of the Division, including the current activities, plans and priorities of the Division. It requested the Bureau to review substantively the programme proposals for 2025.

55/123 Information items

The Statistical Commission took note of the following reports:

Report of the Secretary-General on demographic statistics⁵

Joint report of the Secretary-General, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and international agencies on disability statistics⁶

⁵ E/CN.3/2024/23.

⁶ E/CN.3/2024/24.

Report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data⁷

Report of the World Health Organization on health statistics⁸

Report of the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics⁹

Report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development¹⁰

Report of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers¹¹

Report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information¹²

Report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship¹³

Joint report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities¹⁴

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 Commission¹⁵

⁷ E/CN.3/2024/25.

⁸ E/CN.3/2024/26.

⁹ E/CN.3/2024/27.

¹⁰ E/CN.3/2024/29.

¹¹ E/CN.3/2024/30.

¹² E/CN.3/2024/31.

¹³ E/CN.3/2024/32.

¹⁴ E/CN.3/2024/33.

¹⁵ E/CN.3/2024/34.

Chapter II

Items for discussion and decision

1. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 1st to 5th and 7th meetings, from 27 February to 1 March 2024. At its 7th meeting, on 1 March, the Commission adopted the draft resolution (see chap. I, sect. A). At the same meeting, the Commission took action on all related draft decisions (draft decisions 55/101–55/114) contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 of its agenda (see chap. I, sect. C).

A. Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

2. The Commission considered item 3 (a) of its agenda at its 1st and 7th meetings, on 27 February and 1 March 2024. At its 1st meeting, on 27 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/2](#)).

3. At its 1st meeting, on 27 February, the Commission heard a statement by the Inter-regional Adviser of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 14 States members of the Commission and 22 observer States, as well as by the representatives of 2 international organizations.

B. Working methods of the Statistical Commission

4. The Commission considered item 3 (b) of its agenda at its 1st, 2nd and 7th meetings, on 27 February and 1 March 2024. At its 1st meeting, on 27 February, the Commission had before it a draft resolution ([E/CN.3/2024/L.4](#)) and the report of the Bureau of the Statistical Commission on the working methods of the Commission ([E/CN.3/2024/3](#)). The Commission heard a statement by the Chair, who introduced the report and the draft resolution.

5. At its 2nd meeting, on 27 February, the Commission continued its consideration of item 3 (b). At the two meetings, statements were made by the representatives of 11 States members of the Commission and 12 observer States.

6. At its 7th meeting, on 1 March, the Commission resumed its consideration of item 3 (b) and heard a statement by the Chair, who introduced the revised draft resolution ([E/CN.3/2024/L.4/Rev.1](#)).

C. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

7. The Commission considered item 3 (c) of its agenda at its 2nd and 7th meetings, on 27 February and 1 March 2024. At its 2nd meeting, on 27 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators ([E/CN.3/2024/4](#)) and 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](#)). The Commission considered those reports in turn.

8. At its 2nd meeting, on 27 February, the Commission heard a statement by the observer for Canada, who introduced the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group

on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 7 States members of the Commission and 25 observer States, as well as by the representatives of 2 international organizations.

9. Also at the 2nd meeting, the Commission heard a statement by the representative of Ghana, who introduced the report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of two States members of the Commission and eight observer States.

D. Data science

10. The Commission considered item 3 (d) of its agenda at its 2nd, 3rd and 7th meetings, on 27 and 28 February and 1 March 2024. At its 2nd meeting, on 27 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (E/CN.3/2024/6) and heard a statement by the representative of South Africa, who introduced the report.

11. At the 3rd meeting, on 28 February, the Commission continued its consideration of item 3 (d). At the 2nd and 3rd meetings, statements were made by the representatives of 7 States members of the Commission and 18 observer States, as well as by the representative of 1 international organization.

E. Governance statistics

12. The Commission considered item 3 (e) of its agenda at its 3rd and 7th meetings, on 28 February and 1 March 2024. At its 3rd meeting, on 28 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics (E/CN.3/2024/7) and heard a statement by the representative of Cabo Verde, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of three States members of the Commission and eight observer States, as well as by the representatives of four international organizations.

F. National accounts

13. The Commission considered item 3 (f) of its agenda at its 3rd and 7th meetings, on 28 February and 1 March 2024. At its 3rd meeting, on 28 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (E/CN.3/2024/8) and the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts on the recommendations for the update of the 2008 System of National Accounts (E/CN.3/2024/9) and heard a statement by the representative of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, who introduced both reports. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 12 States members of the Commission and 21 observer States, as well as by the representatives of 2 international organizations.

G. Economic statistics

14. The Commission considered item 3 (g) of its agenda at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 28 February and 1 March 2024. At its 4th meeting, on 28 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Network of Economic Statisticians (E/CN.3/2024/10) and heard a statement by the observer for Canada, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of four States

members of the Commission and seven observer States, as well as by the representatives of two international organizations.

H. Environmental-economic accounting

15. The Commission considered item 3 (h) of its agenda at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 28 February and 1 March 2024. At its 4th meeting, on 28 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting ([E/CN.3/2024/11](#)) and heard a statement by the observer for Canada, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 3 States members of the Commission and 14 observer States, as well as by the representative of 1 international organization.

I. Agricultural and rural statistics

16. The Commission considered item 3 (i) of its agenda at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 28 February and 1 March 2024. At its 4th meeting, on 28 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on recent developments in agricultural and rural statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/12](#)) and heard a statement by the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 6 States members of the Commission and 18 observer States, as well as by the representatives of 2 international organizations.

J. Social statistics

17. The Commission considered item 3 (j) of its agenda at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 28 February and 1 March 2024. At its 4th meeting, on 28 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/13](#)) and heard a statement by the representative of Mexico, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 3 States members of the Commission and 10 observer States, as well as by the representatives of 2 international organizations.

K. Gender statistics

18. The Commission considered item 3 (k) of its agenda at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 5th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics ([E/CN.3/2024/14](#)) and heard a statement by the Chief of the Demographic and Social Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 8 States members of the Commission and 19 observer States, as well as by the representatives of 3 international organizations.

L. Population and housing censuses

19. The Commission considered item 3 (l) of its agenda at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 5th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Secretary-General on population and housing censuses ([E/CN.3/2024/15](#)) and heard a statement by the Chief of the Demographic and Social Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division, who introduced

the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 7 States members of the Commission and 18 observer States, as well as by the representative of 1 international organization.

M. Regional statistical development

20. The Commission considered item 3 (m) of its agenda at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 5th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ([E/CN.3/2024/16](#)) and heard a statement by the representative of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of four States members of the Commission and nine observer States, as well as by the representatives of three international organizations.

Chapter III

Items for decision

1. The Commission considered items 4 and 5 (f)¹⁶ of its agenda at its 5th, 6th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 7th meeting, on 1 March, the Commission took action on all related draft decisions (draft decisions 55/115–55/121) contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 8 of its agenda (see chap. I, sect. C).

A. Tourism statistics

2. The Commission considered item 4 (a) of its agenda at its 5th, 6th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 5th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the World Tourism Organization on tourism statistics (E/CN.3/2024/17) and heard a statement by the representative of Austria, who introduced the report.

3. At its 6th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission continued its consideration of agenda item 4 (a). At the 5th and 6th meetings, statements were made by the representatives of 4 States members of the Commission and 12 observer States, as well as by the representative of 1 international organization.

B. Business and trade statistics

4. The Commission considered item 4 (b) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 6th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics (E/CN.3/2024/18) and heard a statement by the representative of Italy, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of two States members of the Commission and seven observer States.

C. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

5. The Commission considered item 4 (c) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 6th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the work on the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (E/CN.3/2024/19) and heard a statement by the Chief of the Development Data Section of the Statistics Division, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of one State member of the Commission and two observer States, as well as by the representatives of two international organizations.

D. Climate change statistics

6. The Commission considered item 4 (d) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 6th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics (E/CN.3/2024/20) and heard a statement by Chief of the Environment

¹⁶ At its 1st meeting, on 27 February 2024, the Commission decided to consider agenda item 5 (f) as the final sub-item under agenda item 4.

Statistics Section of the Statistics Division, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of three States members of the Commission and two observer States, as well as by the representatives of three international organizations.

E. International statistical classifications

7. The Commission considered item 4 (e) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 6th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications ([E/CN.3/2024/21](#)) and heard a statement by the representative of New Zealand, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of two States members of the Commission and seven observer States.

F. Open data

8. The Commission considered item 4 (f) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 6th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the Secretary-General on open data ([E/CN.3/2024/22](#)) and heard a statement by the Chief of the Sustainable Development Goals Monitoring Section of the Statistics Division, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of three observer States.

G. International Comparison Programme

9. The Commission considered item 5 (f) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 29 February and 1 March 2024. At its 6th meeting, on 29 February, the Commission had before it the report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme ([E/CN.3/2024/28](#)) and heard a statement by the representative of the World Bank, who introduced the report. Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of one State member of the Commission and of three observer States.

Chapter IV

Items for information

The Commission considered item 5 (a) to (e) and (g) to (l)¹⁷ of its agenda at its 6th meeting, on 29 February 2024. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of one State member of the Commission and three observer States. Thereafter, the Commission took note of all the reports under these agenda items for information (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 55/123, and chap. VIII, para. 7).

¹⁷ At its 1st meeting, on 27 February 2024, the Commission decided to consider agenda item 5 (f) as the final sub-item under agenda item 4.

Chapter V

Programme questions (Statistics Division)

1. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 7th meeting, on 1 March 2024, and, in that context, heard an oral report by the Director of the Statistics Division concerning the current activities, plans and priorities of the Division.
2. At the same meeting, the Commission took note of the oral report presented by the Director of the Statistics Division concerning the current activities, plans and priorities of the Division. The Commission requested the Bureau to review substantively the programme proposals for 2025 (see chap. I, sect. C, decision 55/122).

Chapter VI

Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission

1. The Commission considered item 7 of its agenda at its 7th meeting, on 1 March 2024. It had before it the following documents, which were introduced by a representative of the Office of the Director of the Statistics Division:

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

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

Thereafter, a statement was made by the representative of one observer State.

2. At its 7th meeting, on 1 March, the Commission approved the draft provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session, as outlined in document [E/CN.3/2024/L.2](#), as orally revised, and entrusted the Bureau with streamlining and finalizing it. The Commission decided to recommend the provisional agenda to the Economic and Social Council for approval (see chap. I, sect. B).

3. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council that its fifty-sixth session be held from 4 to 7 March 2025 (see chap. I, sect. B).

4. Also at the same meeting, the Commission approved its draft multi-year programme of work for 2024–2028 ([E/CN.3/2024/35](#)).

Chapter VII

Report of the Commission on its fifty-fifth session

1. The Commission considered item 8 of its agenda at its 7th meeting, on 1 March 2024, and heard a statement by the Rapporteur, who introduced the draft report of the Commission on its fifty-fifth session (E/CN.3/2024/L.3), together with an informal paper containing the draft decisions.
2. At the same meeting, statements were made on the text of the draft decisions by the representatives of 9 States members of the Commission and 18 observer States, as well as by the representatives of 2 international organizations.
3. Also at the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report on its fifty-fifth session, including the decisions contained therein, as orally revised, and entrusted the Rapporteur with streamlining and finalizing it.

Chapter VIII

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Statistical Commission held its fifty-fifth session at Headquarters from 27 February to 1 March 2024. The Commission held seven meetings.

B. Attendance

2. The session was attended by the representatives of the 24 States members of the Commission. Also in attendance were observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of United Nations system organizations and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. A list of participants is contained in document [E/CN.3/2024/INF/1](#).

C. Election of officers

3. At its 1st meeting, on 27 February, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chair:

Georges-Simon Ulrich (Switzerland)

Vice-Chairs:

Graciela Márquez Colín (Mexico)

Hyoung Il Lee (Republic of Korea)

Adnen Lassoued (Tunisia)

Rapporteur:

Apolonija Oblak Flander (Slovenia)

D. Agenda and organization of work

4. At its 1st meeting, on 27 February, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda, as contained in document [E/CN.3/2024/1](#), as orally revised.

5. At the same meeting, the Commission approved the provisional programme of work and timetable of the session ([E/CN.3/2024/L.1](#)), as orally revised.

6. Also at the same meeting, the Commission invited the following intergovernmental organizations to participate as observers at its fifty-fifth session: Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics; Bank for International Settlements; Central African Economic and Monetary Community; Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa; Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre; Economic and Statistical Observatory for Sub-Saharan Africa.

E. Documentation

7. The documents before the Commission at its fifty-fifth session are available at <https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/documents/55>.

24-05309 (E) 080424

