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## Statistical Commission

### Fifty-sixth session

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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Items for decision: environment and climate change statistics**

## Environment and climate change statistics

### Report of the Secretary-General

#### *Summary*

The present report provides an overview of the progress towards the streamlining of environment and climate change statistics, as recommended by the Statistical Commission at its fifty-fifth session. It contains updates on the development of methodology and implementation support for the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, the implementation of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and water and waste data collection. It also contains a description of the outcomes of the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics.

The Commission is invited, inter alia: (a) to welcome the progress towards streamlining of environment and climate change statistics; (b) to take note of the importance for countries and international organizations of promoting coordinated statistical data collection and compilation which facilitates the harmonization and streamlining of data for both national policy demands and international data reporting requirements and requests; and (c) to encourage countries to use the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators and the accompanying metadata, as well as the implementation support tools (Implementation Guidelines and Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool) to assist in establishing national climate change statistics programmes and to support the ongoing reporting under the Paris Agreement.

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\* E/CN.3/2025/1.



## I. Introduction

1. At its fifty-fifth session, held from 27 February to 1 March 2024, the Statistical Commission adopted decision 55/118 (see [E/2024/24-E/CN.3/2024/36](#)), in which it:

(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.

## II. Recent activities

2. The climate crisis continues to escalate, creating more demand for information on the environment and climate change. Two recent examples of such demand have emanated from the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held from 27 to 30 May in Antigua and Barbuda and the Summit of the Future, held on 22 and 23 September in New York. The Statistics Division, the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics and the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change have initiated the streamlining and strengthening of the corresponding work programme covering the above-mentioned areas of work.

3. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics is currently being restructured with a steering group and several subgroups, each with distinct scope, participation and functions, which will be defined to respond to the request of the Statistical Commission at its fifty-fifth session.<sup>1</sup> The process requires further effort and will be reflected in revised terms of reference of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, ensuring that decisions of the Statistical Commission in prior years, such as the endorsement of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (in 2013) and the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators<sup>2</sup> (in 2022), are addressed with intensified support to Member States.

4. The Statistics Division organized the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, which was held virtually from 14 to 17 October 2024. Approximately 122 experts from 32 countries and 24 agencies and four independent experts attended the meeting. The meeting was organized in six sessions following the opening session: 1, Streamlining environment and climate change statistics; 2, Climate change statistics and indicators; 3, Environment statistics data collection; 4, Environment statistics toolbox; 5, Capacity development in environment statistics and climate change statistics; and 6, Discussion of priorities and conclusions.

5. At its 11th meeting, the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics addressed the need, in order, inter alia: to further define the structuring of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics given its expanded scope of work; to have a stronger connection between policy applications and statistical data requirements; and to ensure that statistical definitions, methods and classifications are applied in the relevant policy reporting as appropriate. The structuring of this expansion will be managed by the steering group and the Statistics Division and the draft terms of reference will be shared with the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics in due course.

## **A. Communication and coordination of activities on environment and climate change statistics**

6. The Statistics Division, the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>3</sup> and the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics support the coordination of the work programme on environment and climate change statistics by liaising with numerous stakeholders at the international and regional level. This consultative approach is aimed at aligning efforts with other related initiatives across the statistical community. The secretariat collects all types of climate change data, including on greenhouse gas emissions, policies and measures to reduce emissions, adaptation and vulnerability indicators, technology transfers, capacity-building, financial support, etc. The Statistics Division initiated the gathering of information on the data collection, methodology and capacity-development activities led by international agencies through a pilot survey entitled “International agencies’ activities on environment and climate change statistics” which was run within the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics in 2024. This information is complemented by responses to an equivalent survey entitled “State of development of environment and climate change

<sup>1</sup> See E/2024/24-E/CN.3/2024/36, decision 55/118, paras. (a) and (b).

<sup>2</sup> Available at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/climatechange.cshtml>.

<sup>3</sup> For related collaboration between the Statistics Division and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Secretariat, see the report of the Secretary-General on energy statistics (E/CN.3/2025/27), para. 20 (c).

statistics” which was addressed to Member States taking part in the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics. The latter included questions aimed at clarifying which international agencies have provided support to countries in developing environment and climate change statistics. Responses from 17 international agencies and 24 Member States highlighted numerous activities on methodological development, data collection, coordination and capacity development.

7. A dedicated panel discussion on international programmes on climate change data and statistics by selected agencies during the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, revealed the following:

(a) The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) collects and disseminates data needed for monitoring sustainable food and agriculture, greenhouse gas emissions from agrifood systems and Sustainable Development Goal indicator 2.4.1. The FAOSTAT agrifood systems<sup>4</sup> data contributes to global reporting and understanding of the agriculture-food-climate nexus;

(b) The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) leads the International Programme for Action on Climate and the Inclusive Forum on Carbon Mitigation Approaches. These programmes will contribute to assessing and enhancing climate policy effectiveness. Links with official statistics are needed in the context of the greenhouse gas inventories, since many data gaps persist and some of these can be filled by improved statistical inputs;

(c) The World Meteorological Organization has assessed the state of the climate, following step-by-step guidelines and the collection of national data on extreme events through a dedicated survey for the regional *State of the Climate* reports.

(d) The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction maintains the Sendai Framework monitor and the DesInventar database, which contribute with disaster data in the context of giving insight into climate impacts and intergovernmental processes. Ongoing efforts included enhancing the value of disaster risk reduction data on the adaptation theme of climate change, as well as strengthening statistical aspects related to gender and disability in assessing the impacts of disasters.

(e) The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) leads a task force on the role of national statistical office in achieving national climate objectives, to which both Member States and international organizations contributed in the drafting of detailed guidance. The document was adopted by the Conference of European Statisticians and would support climate policy using recommendations for improving data collection, data quality and comparability.

8. The importance of enhancing communication and collaboration among the agencies which lead programmes on climate change data and statistics was highlighted. Such collaboration would contribute to filling existing data gaps, taking advantage of latest advances in technology and data, including artificial intelligence (AI) and big data, novel statistical advances such as the classification of climate expenditures and data collection instruments, in order to promote complementarity of the respective programmes of work and enrich the toolbox available to support countries. There is interest in collaboration among the international organizations that participated in the panel, and the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change

<sup>4</sup> The Statistics Division assists the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in this programme, and the Division’s Energy Statistics Database is one of the inputs to the FAOSTAT database on greenhouse gas emissions from agrifood systems.

Statistics recommended that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change secretariat and the Statistics Division initiate closer communication and collaboration with these organizations. There are still certain gaps in statistical inputs for climate policy, and the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics noted that the Paris Agreement is central to the work on climate change statistics, and therefore the appropriate statistics need to be applied to the relevant policy processes.

9. Communication outreach on environment and climate change statistics is covered mainly through the website of the Statistics Division and the biannual “EnvStats” newsletter. The website serves as a hub for information on the critical work being undertaken to advance environment and climate change statistics. The key areas of focus include: methodological development, data collection, coordination and capacity development. The “EnvStats” newsletter is an essential tool for sharing information about the Statistics Division’s ongoing and planned activities whereby stakeholders are kept informed about new developments, emerging trends and key opportunities for collaboration in the domain of environment and climate change statistics. International and regional organizations, as well as countries, are invited to contribute in the areas of methodology, data collection and dissemination and capacity development.

## **B. Development of methodology and tools for environment and climate change statistics**

10. The pilot survey on international agencies’ activities on environment and climate change statistics revealed that 11 agencies (of 17 who provided responses) are developing methodology, such as the FAO methodology for measuring greenhouse gas emissions from agrifood systems and methods for estimating pesticide use; the Pacific Community’s *Natural Disasters and Climate Change Survey Module Sourcebook*; the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Disaster-related Statistics Framework manual; Eurostat guidelines on climate change mitigation investments (in preparation); ECE work on the environment, climate, disasters, waste and circular economy; the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction technical guidance for the Sendai Framework; the work of the World Health Organization (WHO) on climate change and health; and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Sustainable Development Goal indicator methodologies. One of the most relevant methodologies was agreed by the parties to the Paris Agreement in 2018 for the implementation of the enhanced transparency framework, including the mandatory use of the 2006 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change guidelines for estimating greenhouse gas emissions. Close synergies can be observed between these endeavours and the work of the Statistics Division on the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators and related methodologies.

11. Thirteen agencies in the survey referred to work on developing indicator sets, including: the ESCAP and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) gender and environment indicators for the Asia-Pacific region; the European Environment Agency’s European environment and climate indicators; the WHO ambient air quality indicators; and ECE climate and disaster indicators. An overview of these processes helps to identify which parts of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators may require updates in a future revision. Meanwhile, the Global Set is used to provide input for the development of indicators, notably on climate change mitigation, adaptation, disasters, health and gender policies and measures. The Statistics Division, in collaboration with UN-Women and the Office for National Statistics of the United

Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, submitted a contribution to the Global Goal on Adaptation UAE-Belem Work Programme on Indicators in 2024.

## 1. Climate change and gender statistics

12. A previous mandate from the Statistical Commission (requesting that a gender perspective be adopted and integrated into all the agenda items of the Commission)<sup>5</sup> had been given due consideration in the advancement of the work concerning climate change statistics in collaboration with the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics. Notably, climate change was identified as a priority for gender mainstreaming, with the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics working closely with the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics in collecting country experiences through a dedicated short survey on gender and climate change data being collected and used. Based on the survey outcomes and other inputs, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics is developing a guidance note on mainstreaming gender into climate change statistics. The note underscores the significance of understanding the differentiated impacts of climate change on men and women and draws on existing frameworks, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, to guide its development.

13. The need for stronger gender reflection in the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators has been addressed in the past three annual meetings of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, where it was recommended to use the indicators from the Asia-Pacific set of gender and environment indicators, developed by UN-Women and ESCAP through several regional consultations with Member States and international agencies such as UNEP and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. The Asia-Pacific indicator set measures the differentiated interactions of women and men with the environment, to understand their roles in environmental conservation and degradation, their diverse levels of preparedness and capacity to cope with disasters and the enablers and inequalities that make them vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Because of additional requests from countries with populations highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change, UN-Women developed a set of 100 gender and environment indicators, which is an expansion of the Asia-Pacific indicator set. Several indicators from the Asia-Pacific indicator sets, along with their detailed metadata, were proposed for consideration in a future update of the Global Set and, consequently, these indicators were discussed during a dedicated groupwork session, as part of the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics. Varied national experiences were highlighted, such as gender-specific units now promoting gender among various other themes and the value of household budget surveys, which can be used for many cross-cutting issues, including the intersection of environment and gender. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics proposed that a subgroup on gender and climate be established to work closely with the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics. The subgroup, inter alia, will further test and refine the indicators that require gender and climate change statistics, as outlined in the Asia-Pacific indicator sets and the metadata provided by UN-Women. This subgroup will also review and provide input at a later stage on the guidance note being developed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics.

<sup>5</sup> See [https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/session\\_51/documents/2020-37-FinalReport-E.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/session_51/documents/2020-37-FinalReport-E.pdf) (ref. 51/115 (b)).

## 2. Climate change and health statistics

14. There is a need to develop standards and tools for official statistics to monitor the impacts of climate change on health, an important area, where indicators are currently tier 3 in the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators. This subject was prioritized and addressed by the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics at its past three annual meetings, based on the project led by the Office for National Statistics of the United Kingdom, “Standards for Official Statistics on Climate-Health Interactions”.<sup>6</sup> The objective is to develop a statistical framework and tools to enable national statistical offices to produce comparable and reliable evidence. Progress to date includes the definition of three indicators with detailed methodology from 10 topic areas, namely: mortality from heat and/or cold related deaths; extreme weather (wildfire smoke particulate matter (PM)<sub>2.5</sub>); and mental health (suicides associated with excess heat). These indicators were proposed for inclusion in a future revision of the Global Set. Their methodological documentation includes short metadata sheets, detailed overviews of the latest scientific advances and a platform with estimation algorithms which is being developed in collaboration with the United Nations Global Platform team to promote interoperability, data-sharing and data security.

15. Climate and health interactions is a subject of rapidly growing demand for further development of indicators and methodologies, with key initiatives led by WHO, with prioritized headline indicators, and the Lancet Countdown.<sup>7</sup> Related work on the selection of indicators is also being carried out under the global goal on adaptation. A recent meeting convened by the Lancet Countdown concluded with the expression of a shared desire by several international stakeholders, including WHO, the World Bank and the Statistics Division, to work towards a shared approach to climate-health indicators, which may involve several sets of indicators, but within an agreed overarching framework to bring coherence. The indicators proposed by the Standards for Official Statistics on Climate-Health Interactions project are focused on health outcomes and operationalize well-proven methodologies and would therefore form the core indicators of climate impact on health for international comparison. According to the agreed approach, the related sets of indicators would expand the scope and detail of the framework with new methods, measures of exposure and risk, etc.

16. The health indicators proposed by the Standards for Official Statistics on Climate-Health Interactions project were reviewed during a dedicated groupwork session, as part of the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, which recommended further testing of the methodologies and data availability by countries in the revision process of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators and noted that another cohort of indicator proposals would be presented to the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics at its next annual meeting. Notably, national statistical offices in European countries are well placed to test these health indicators and recommended that there be more involvement of the African and other regions to ensure the generalizability and global relevance of the proposed indicators. To facilitate the process, the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics is setting up a subgroup with experts from countries and international agencies which expressed an interest in joining this subgroup. The subgroup would be led by the Office for National Statistics of the United Kingdom and would meet regularly, to exchange experiences on testing and refining the proposed indicators to ensure their suitability for updating the Global Set, as well as to support the preparation of standards and tools for official statistics to

<sup>6</sup> See <https://zenodo.org/communities/soschi/>.

<sup>7</sup> See <https://lancetcountdown.org/>.

monitor the impacts of climate change on health to be presented at a future session of the Statistical Commission.

### 3. Disaster statistics

17. The Inter-agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics is developing a common statistical framework on disaster-related statistics which is expected to be completed and globally reviewed in 2025 and presented to the Statistical Commission in 2026. The Statistics Division is supporting this process, and since there is a substantive overlap between the two areas of work, the advances on disaster statistics have been presented during the past two meetings of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, while advances on climate change statistics were presented at the third and fourth Expert Forums for Producers and Users of Disaster Related Statistics. In addition, the nexus between climate change and disasters statistics is being addressed, inter alia, in the fourteenth tranche of the United Nations Development Account project<sup>8</sup> (see para. 32).

### 4. Water and waste statistics

18. The Statistics Division is contributing to a project being implemented by UNEP and the European Commission entitled “Identifying and quantifying plastic contaminant sources and leakages into the aquatic environment”.<sup>9</sup> In contributing to this project, the Statistics Division is applying its experience from collecting waste statistics from Member States, especially with an emphasis on plastic waste, and the associated waste management practices. Best methodologies concerning how plastic waste can be measured and monitored are being developed, and in due course, such methodologies may be applied to future work of the Statistics Division in a collaborative manner with Member States.

## C. Data collection, dissemination and use

### 1. Water and waste

19. The Statistics Division has been carrying out data collection on environment statistics from Member States since 1999, following the mandate of the Statistical Commission at its twenty-eighth session, in 1995, and further reinforced at its thirty-fourth session in 2003. A background document to the present report contains more detailed information on the data collection and dissemination activities. The current round of the biennial data collection is the 2024 cycle, in which the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire on environment statistics<sup>10</sup> (water and waste sections) was sent to 167 countries and areas. In accordance with a long-standing agreement between OECD, Eurostat and the Statistics Division, the countries and areas covered by the joint OECD/Eurostat questionnaire on the state of the environment are excluded from the Statistics Division’s data collection process. Both data collection processes are well coordinated, and the questionnaires are fully compatible, using identical definitions and classifications. Since 2006, the Statistics Division has collected data solely on waste and water, developing expertise in these fields of statistics to the point where the data are now the much-preferred source for seven

<sup>8</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/capacity-development/dal4/>.

<sup>9</sup> See [www.unep.org/ietc/what-we-do/plastic-waste-management/eu-funded-project-sustainable-plastic-waste-management](http://www.unep.org/ietc/what-we-do/plastic-waste-management/eu-funded-project-sustainable-plastic-waste-management).

<sup>10</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/questionnaire>.



Sustainable Development Goal indicators.<sup>11</sup> This focused approach, as discussed with Member States at the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, has allowed the Statistics Division to concentrate its limited resources on key areas, avoid duplication of effort at both the national and international levels and enhance the overall efficiency of the data collection process.

20. The database on waste and water statistics maintained by the Statistics Division has grown significantly with each new data collection cycle from Member States. These improvements help support informed national policymaking and facilitate international reporting. Using the data from the database, the Statistics Division continues to disseminate indicator tables,<sup>12</sup> country snapshots,<sup>13</sup> data sets through the Sustainable Development Goals database<sup>14</sup> and data sets through UNdata,<sup>15</sup> and also, increasingly, meets the demands of ad hoc key institutional user requests. Efforts are made to ensure that country-owned data are widely disseminated to promote their application and use in informed policy decision-making.

21. Owing to growing policy interest and demand concerning food waste, and following close collaboration with UNEP and consultations with other key international stakeholders and Member States, a new table on food waste generation was added to the 2024 cycle of the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire. This new table will capture the best efforts of Member States' to report data on the volumes of food waste generated, broken down by industries and households. As a result, the questionnaire will now serve as the preferred source of data for the Sustainable Development Goal indicator on food waste. After discussions at the 10th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics, and with other international organizations, it was decided to make minor definitional adjustments to some water-related terms in the questionnaire to better align with the policy demands of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, as in the case of the joint OECD/Eurostat questionnaire on the state of the environment. At its 11th meeting, the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics supported the periodic modifications to the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire, as well as other aligned international questionnaires, in response to evolving data needs, while ensuring the continuity of time series data. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics also expressed its appreciation for the flexibility of the Statistics Division in including emerging topics, for example, food waste, in its regular data collection.

22. The Statistics Division regularly holds multilateral meetings on water statistics with organizations such as Eurostat, FAO, OECD, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and WHO. These meetings provide a platform for in-depth technical discussion on concepts and terms pertinent to the statistics on Sustainable Development Goal indicators, in particular those that Member States report on through the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire and other related international questionnaires. In response to evolving policy demands, whether linked

<sup>11</sup> Metadata to all seven Sustainable Development Goals for which the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire on environment statistics serves as a source: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-06-03-01.pdf>; <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-06-04-01.pdf>; <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-06-04-02.pdf>; <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-11-06-01.pdf>; <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-12-03-01B.pdf>; <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-12-04-02.pdf>; and <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/files/Metadata-12-05-01.pdf>.

<sup>12</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/qindicators>.

<sup>13</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/snapshots/>.

<sup>14</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal>.

<sup>15</sup> See <https://data.un.org/Default.aspx>.

to the Goals, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics,<sup>16</sup> the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, circular economy initiatives, the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting or otherwise, the technical discussions help ensure that the data collection efforts of Member States are aligned with these demands. The Statistics Division also discusses methodology concerning waste statistics with relevant organizations such as Eurostat, OECD, UNEP and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) to promote harmonization and meet policy demands. The results of these dialogues on water and waste are presented annually to the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, ensuring that national data contribute effectively to policy formulation and monitoring over time. At its 11th meeting, the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics expressed its appreciation for this collaboration among international organizations and emphasized the international efforts to harmonize data collection practices whereby national data are captured once and can be used for multiple policy purposes at the national and international levels.

23. Member States' water and waste statistics reported through the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire are increasingly being utilized at the international level. Beyond being disseminated through the website of the Statistics Division, an increasing number of policy-oriented publications have contained citations of country-owned statistics, as shared at the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics.<sup>17</sup> This is a credit to Member States and their efforts, through coordinated approaches among the national statistical offices and other key stakeholders, to continue to improve water and waste statistics in line with national demands, and also in providing statistics in response to the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire. At its 11th meeting, the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics emphasized the importance of coordinated national responses, led by working groups, committees or inter-institutional teams, to minimize duplication and ensure that country-owned data are consistently used in reporting for the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire and other related international questionnaires.

## **2. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change biennial transparency report submissions**

24. Under the enhanced transparency framework, the parties to the Paris Agreement are submitting in 2024 their first biennial transparency reports, including their national inventory reports, in accordance with the modalities, procedures and guidelines.<sup>18</sup> Once submitted, the biennial transparency reports will undergo a technical expert review process. A facilitative, multilateral consideration of progress will also be conducted for each party after the expert review report is published. The biennial transparency reports provide a comprehensive and detailed overview of the national circumstances, including national climate policies and strategies, the measuring, reporting and verification system, greenhouse gas inventories, progress towards the nationally determined contribution, mitigation and adaptation actions, financial flows and other relevant information. Common reporting tables and common tabular formats accompany the biennial transparency reports, providing the actual data on greenhouse gases and projections, mitigation policies, financial flows and other associated themes. National statistical offices are usually the main providers

<sup>16</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes.cshtml>.

<sup>17</sup> See <https://www.unep.org/ietc/news/story/new-report-global-waste-management-outlook-2024>; <https://ewastemonitor.info/the-global-e-waste-monitor-2024/>; <https://desapublications.un.org/publications/waste-crisis-accelerating-national-local-policy-action-evidence-based-strategies>; and <https://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/45230>.

<sup>18</sup> <https://unfccc.int/first-biennial-transparency-reports>.

of information needed in the preparation of the biennial transparency reports, for example, data on energy balances, industrial processes, agriculture, livestock, forestry and waste statistics, which are all critical activity data in estimations of the greenhouse gas inventories. The Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators is a useful tool for providing support to countries in preparing their biennial transparency reports, as it serves as a framework for countries in the preparation of their own sets of climate change statistics and indicators to inform both national and international data demands. There is a need for stronger collaboration at the national level between the national statistical offices and the authorities responsible for reporting climate change information to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (e.g. national focal points) with the key objective of ensuring that there is sustainable collection and management of data and a sustainable data quality assurance and assessment practice in line with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics invited international organizations, in particular the Statistics Division, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and partner organizations, to continue to support countries, both the national statistical offices and national focal points for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (in respective institutions), in the production of climate change statistics for the effective preparation of their first biennial transparency reports and related processes. In addition, there is a need to enhance the training of the national focal points for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to apply the Global Set and its implementation support tools as a means of ensuring that the biennial transparency reports and related reports are informed by and aligned with the official statistical system in the country.

### 3. Questions on climate change for censuses and surveys

25. Censuses and surveys are being used as a vehicle to obtain data on environment and climate change statistics. Several countries are including questions or a section on environment and climate change in their censuses and surveys. The Statistics Division has had a long history of compiling and disseminating such censuses and surveys for the benefit of Member States through a centralized hub on its website.<sup>19</sup> At its tenth meeting, the Expert Group on Environment Statistics recommended the formation of a subgroup to develop a core set of environment and climate questions that can be included in censuses and surveys.

26. The subgroup held several meetings to launch its activities, which commenced with a mapping of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators to existing questions from censuses and surveys, followed by a screening exercise whereby suitable questions with response options were rated, selected and compiled. This draft compilation of questions was shared with the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics for feedback prior to its 11th meeting. At the 11th meeting, experts, through a groupwork session, discussed the draft compilation and next steps towards advancing work on the core set of environment and climate questions. Several national practices were shared, and the Pacific Community described capacity-development support provided to the Pacific countries for the collection of data through surveys.

27. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics expressed its appreciation for the work undertaken by the subgroup and cited the usefulness of having national examples available on the website of the Statistics Division. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics encouraged countries to include questions from the core set, being developed by the subgroup into traditional

<sup>19</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/censuses/>.

surveys and censuses, as well as specialized surveys, to fill existing data gaps. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics highlighted the need for further review of the draft compilation and noted that the Statistics Division had hired a consultant to further analyse the compilation and test some of the questions in selected pilot countries. Given the growing availability of data with the advancement of technology, it was also agreed to re-evaluate which indicators and statistics could be informed by existing data, including from administrative sources and spatial data, as this could reduce the need for and cost of developing new data collection instruments. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics recommended the inclusion of climate change as a topic more broadly in handbooks or guidelines on household surveys and censuses and requested that good practices on integrating climate change questions or modules be captured and reflected in international handbooks or guidelines. It also recognized the importance of having guidelines available on the use of administrative and geospatial data for climate change statistics and indicators, including on the appropriate use of survey data instead of administrative data.

#### **4. Big data**

28. At the 10th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics it was highlighted that there was a need to enhance the role of multi-source data collection, data science, new technology, big data and spatial data (with time series) for climate change statistics. Consequently, the subject was addressed at the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics with an introduction on the work of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics and groupwork. In the groupwork, the group emphasized that there was a need to establish a better understanding of how big data could be applied to the compilation of basic environment and climate change statistics and to coordinate its efforts with the work on ecosystem accounts in order to identify synergies and opportunities. The group also noted that, while big data inputs were abundant, the statistical capacity to use this data source in climate change and disasters was lagging behind and needed to be further enhanced. Consequently, the group recommended that review of the existing guidance on using big data for official statistics with key principles and applications be carried out, followed by a review of best practices, including various types of big data such as satellite data, automatic identification systems vessel tracking data, mobile phone data and citizen-generated data, and that these be presented at the next meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics. The group also encouraged the promotion of linkages between interested national statistical offices and the global and regional hubs under the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (in Brazil, China, Indonesia, Rwanda, Spain and the United Arab Emirates) and the preparation of specific guidance on applying big data for climate change and disaster statistics.

### **D. Capacity development and implementation of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators and the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics**

#### **1. Implementation support materials**

29. The Implementation Guidelines<sup>20</sup> for the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators were translated into Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish under the auspices of the fourteenth tranche of the United Nations

<sup>20</sup> [https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Climate%20Change/Implementation\\_Guidelines.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Climate%20Change/Implementation_Guidelines.pdf).

Development Account project, workstream 2.1 on climate change and disaster-related statistics, and will soon be available through the website of the Statistics Division. The Statistics Division collaborated with UNEP and all regional commissions to realize this output.

30. The Implementation Guidelines are aimed at helping to improve the monitoring of climate change, its impacts and response actions by communicating the benefits of official statistics to national authorities responsible for reporting climate change-related information to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and by guiding national statistical offices to increase their engagement in the area of climate change.

31. The Implementation Guidelines contain references to relevant frameworks, methods, guidelines and handbooks to facilitate closer engagement between the two types of institutions. They set out the key steps needed to set up national processes to produce climate change statistics in response to national policies while striving to improve the comparability of data internationally and thus contribute to improved climate change monitoring, as well as the way countries progress with their mitigation and adaptation actions.

## 2. Capacity development

32. Capacity development is a key component of the work of the Statistics Division work to support countries in developing environment and climate change statistics. In collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and other partners, capacity development continues to be delivered in various formats such as online, on-site and through other collaborative efforts. The Statistics Division, in collaboration with UNEP, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and ESCAP, has contributed to the conduct of climate change and disaster-related statistics workshops in the Dominican Republic, Fiji and Jordan under the fourteenth tranche of the United Nations Development Account project, workstream 2.1.

33. At the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, key findings from the pilot survey on the International Agencies' Activities on environment and climate change statistics highlighted the importance of national statistical offices in increasing data production while maintaining statistical quality and that the application of self-assessment tools such as the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool<sup>21</sup> and the Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool<sup>22</sup> should serve the needs of both national statistical offices and national focal points. In further insights it was recognized that questions in the pilot survey needed to be reformulated to address more challenging issues, such as identifying institutional responsibilities, methodology solutions and policy effectiveness so that progress in resolving such issues within the countries' national statistical systems could be tracked.

- Also at the 11th meeting, the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) highlighted detailed action plans to strengthen climate change data ecosystems, as part of strategic planning for statistics, engaging key actors and allowing for high-level buy-in, that had been developed in seven countries. This was followed by a panel discussion involving regional commissions, as well as regional and international agencies, which highlighted various initiatives aimed at supporting countries in their climate and environment statistics' efforts. ESCAP highlighted the importance of

<sup>21</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes/essat.cshtml>.

<sup>22</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/Climate%20Change/cisat.cshtml>.

collaboration at different levels and different angles (between producers and users, and between departments and disciplines) through mix-modality coordinated efforts in capacity development, guided by countries' needs.

- ECLAC informed the Expert Group on progress towards producing integrated environmental and climate change indicators and emphasized the need to publish such advances and to build synergies with, inter alia, the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and biodiversity statistics.
- The Economic Commission for Africa announced the establishment of a regional centre of excellence and an African regional school for training postgraduate students, while highlighting the need for complementarity between traditional and novel sources of data.
- The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat mentioned the sustained production of environment and climate change statistics at the Secretariat and member countries through the use of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, South-South cooperation and the Electronic Caribbean Institute for Statistical Training.
- The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa shared that, at a regional workshop in 2022, application of the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool and the Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool had led to the creation of road maps for environment and climate change statistics in countries.
- ECE highlighted the use of dedicated guidelines to compile environmental indicators, as well as capacity-building covering the climate connections with the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, disasters, waste and circular economy. Notably, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting can contribute to setting national priorities, as highlighted through sectoral reviews.

34. Following the panel, UNEP gave a presentation on collaboration on climate change and disasters in which it informed the Expert Group that completed activities include national workshops in Bhutan, Cameroon and Lesotho and upcoming in Burundi, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Jordan, Kenya and Togo.

35. At its 11th meeting, the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics emphasized that collaboration with various international organizations at the global and regional level brought together unique expertise, demonstrating the One UN approach, and, together with national institutions, created synergies among different projects. It was agreed that high-level coordination was needed to seek complementarity between United Nations-led activities and those led by bilateral donors, as well as other international funds and multilateral development banks, and that the Statistics Division would explore supporting on a more regular basis dialogue on capacity development being conducted by many agencies. It was recommended that in-country capacities be strengthened by facilitating translations of the implementation tools of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators (Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool), the preparation of training materials and the provision of more online and in-person capacity development, as well as through South-South cooperation and knowledge exchange, to address emerging areas such as sustainable infrastructure and circular economy. The transparency of plans on capacity-building activities was cited as necessary to avoid duplication of efforts and to find synergies among various relevant national activities. The pilot survey to international organizations was proposed as a suitable vehicle for compiling the information on capacity-development plans and activities

in countries and international and regional organizations, with results to be published on a single platform. Notably, capacity development to integrate environment and geospatial data to compile environment and climate change indicators and complementarity between traditional and novel sources of data needs to be developed and strengthened.

36. In collaboration with the United Nations Office for Sustainable Development, the Statistics Division attended a capacity-development workshop entitled “Circularity of resources and solid waste management to accelerate Sustainable Development Goals”, which was held in El Salvador.<sup>23</sup> Services were provided to nine United Nations Member States, mostly from Central America. The Statistics Division contributed capacity development with reference to the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire on environment statistics (water and waste sections) for collecting country-owned data to meet demand for several Sustainable Development Goal indicators pertinent to waste. A national workshop was held in Madagascar at which participants delved into the policy and practical aspects of waste management through a life-cycle approach. As at the El Salvador event, the participants included a range of stakeholders involved in both the policy and technical sides of waste management. The United Nations Office for Sustainable Development is intending to use the data from the questionnaire to inform its decision-making and to contribute to analytical reports similar to the recently published *The Waste Crisis: Accelerating National to Local Policy Action*,<sup>24</sup> launched in July 2024 in New York.

37. Other capacity-development activities included contribution to the regional small island developing States-small island developing States peer learning workshop held in Belize in May 2024. The workshop was focused on environmental data management mechanisms, illustrated by small island developing States in the region, some of which reflect unique applications of international statistical frameworks and tools, especially the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool. Further details are available in the report of the Secretary-General on the work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (E/CN.3/2025/8) at the current session of the Statistical Commission.

### 3. Implementation of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics

38. To gauge implementation of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, the application of its tools, such as the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool, and the development of environment statistics in general, the Statistics Division consulted countries in the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics through the pilot survey on the status of development of environment and climate change statistics prior to its 11th meeting in 2024. At the 11th meeting, the Statistics Division, UNEP and some countries described progress made and shared experiences in the implementation of the Framework. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics noted that the Framework and its tools had been used extensively by countries to produce environment statistics at varying stages of development, for example, for establishing or strengthening environment statistics programmes and publishing environment statistics compendiums, as well as to prioritize statistics and ensure alignment with international definitions for the more advanced national statistical systems. It was also noted that countries used complementary frameworks and indicator sets,

<sup>23</sup> See <https://unosd.un.org/events/2024-central-american-dialogue-circular-economy>.

<sup>24</sup> Available at <https://desapublications.un.org/publications/waste-crisis-accelerating-national-local-policy-action-evidence-based-strategies>.



including the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, and environmentally related Sustainable Development Goals and ECE environment indicators. National examples illustrated that training on the Framework across the relevant national institutions facilitates the establishment of national networks of experts needed for the production and dissemination of environment statistics.

39. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics recommended that countries and international agencies intensify the use of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool and share their experiences with the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, in particular on contributions to specific multilateral environmental agreements. In addition, it recommended the development of guidelines to identify statistical priorities based on the Framework. The Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics noted that there should be focus on new statistical requirements, for example, ecosystem conditions and other biodiversity indicators for the Convention on Biological Diversity monitoring framework, for example, species richness and species abundance. It also acknowledged the need for continuous training in environment and climate change statistics to include experts from the wider national statistical system at the national level and recommended that train-the-trainers training be continuously supported.

#### **4. Implementation of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators**

40. There has been steady and growing engagement of Member States producing climate change statistics since the adoption of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators. Many countries have communicated activities on climate change statistics to the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics. Most of these activities are led by national statistical offices, and some Member States communicated that such activities are being led by the national focal points for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Two pilot surveys to countries were run within the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics in 2023 and 2024, to which 23 and 24 responses were obtained, respectively. The surveys revealed key messages, such as the importance of national statistical offices in ensuring that statistical quality is maintained and that the application of self-assessment tools such as the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool and the Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool should serve the needs of both national statistical offices and national focal points for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, etc. It was also recognized that the questions in the pilot survey in 2024 need to be reformulated to address more challenging issues, such as identifying institutional responsibilities, methodology solutions, policy effectiveness, etc. so that progress in resolving such issues within the countries' national statistical systems can be tracked.

41. A dedicated panel discussion with five countries during the 11th meeting of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics revealed key benefits from collaboration between national statistical offices and national focal points for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, yielding good results and practices. For example, Statistics New Zealand has promoted awareness of both the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators to government agencies and in discussions in relation to prioritizing environment and climate change statistics; however, choices and trade-offs are made between international guidance and domestic need. While recognizing that new statistics and indicators are often driven by domestic need and with many agencies involved, as is the case for climate change statistics, it was stressed that coordination and system leadership are essential but can be challenging. The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) used the Global Set, the



Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool and the Implementation Guidelines to launch deeper communication and engagement with other data-producing institutions to collect the majority of climate change data. The Italian National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT) highlighted advances in climate change statistics and indicators, which are regularly produced and disseminated in statistical reports and are also included in annual statistical yearbooks. The Global Set served as guidance to set up priorities and define a road map with key steps to improve and better delineate the relevant issues and the scope. In 2022, the National Institute published its first short report dedicated to climate change statistics. The National Statistics Office of Nepal is responsible for conducting climate change surveys and the compilation of environment statistics reports. It published a climate change statistics and indicators report based on the Global Set with currently available data. The Uganda Bureau of Statistics has integrated questions to collect data on climate change statistics and indicators into the national population and housing census 2024, and some of the questions were adapted from the United Republic of Tanzania 2022 Population and Housing Census. The Global Set has triggered further commitment from the Bureau to fund more activities towards providing data on the Global Set and the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics.

42. The panel discussions highlighted that the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators and its tools (Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool and Implementation Guidelines) have been used by several countries in developing their own climate change statistics programmes. Conversely, there is a call for assistance from many other countries and there is a need to enable the exchange of lessons and good practices. Countries with developed national statistical systems can also benefit from the Global Set and its tools by offering direction and helping to draw road maps. The need to establish a subgroup to further develop and refine the pilot survey on the state of development of environment and climate change statistics and to explore the possibilities of setting up an online platform to disseminate publicly the information provided was recognized.

## E. Advocacy and resource mobilization

43. The importance of environment and climate change statistics and their role in policy and decision-making, as well as in informing the public, need to be advocated at global, regional and national forums involving producers and users of statistics and information. It is critical that adequate resources be mobilized to support the comprehensive development of environment and climate change statistics in Member States.

44. In collaboration with WHO as key organizer, as well as with other key partners (UN-Habitat, et al), the Statistics Division served as a panellist at a side event entitled, “Progress on wastewater treatment: contributions to global water security”, at World Water Week, held in Stockholm in August 2024. The event saw the launch of the Sustainable Development Goal 6.3.1 indicator report, *Progress on the proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater flows safely treated*, and participation by the Division allowed for emphasis of the value of Member States’ efforts in contributing data in response to the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire on environment statistics before a high-level audience with a strong interest in the associated policy issues.<sup>25</sup>

45. The Statistics Division participated in a high-level political forum side event entitled “Partnerships for addressing the waste crisis and accelerating circularity: a new policy support initiative for data and action” in July 2024. The Division used the

<sup>25</sup> See <https://www.unwater.org/publications/progress-wastewater-treatment-2024-update>.

opportunity to advocate the critical role of waste statistics in informing policy decisions concerning circular economy, in particular regarding the treatment of municipal solid waste, hazardous waste, e-waste, etc. Before a high-level and in many cases ministerial audience, the Division emphasized the importance of close collaboration between national statistical offices and other key stakeholders at the federal, state and municipal levels. In key messages, the value of waste statistics was stressed as an evidence base for informing, checking and improving policy concerning circular economy. The side event also featured the launch of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs publication, *The Waste Crisis* (see para. 36), in which the decades-long work of the Statistics Division on waste statistics is cited repeatedly.

46. The budgetary restrictions at the United Nations over the past two years have obstructed important advocacy activities, notably the planned attendance of the Statistics Division and the organization of side events at the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth sessions of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. In addition, in-person meetings of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics have not been held in recent years owing to a lack financial resources.

### III. Action to be taken by the Statistical Commission

47. The Statistical Commission is invited:

(a) To support the ongoing restructuring of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics given the expanded scope of the Group to cover both environment and climate change statistics and pursuant to decision 55/118 of the Statistical Commission at its fifty-fifth session (see sect. II, Introduction, and [E/2024/24-E/CN.3/2024/36](#));

(b) To express its appreciation for the efforts to enhance communication and collaboration among the agencies leading international programmes on climate change data and statistics (see sect. II.A);

(c) To welcome the methodology updates and reviews by the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics (see sect. II.B), as well as the establishment of subgroups on health and gender to thoroughly review the new indicators developed along with the corresponding metadata and ensure their global relevance before these indicators can be considered for inclusion in a future revision of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators;

(d) To urge countries to strengthen national data collection and compilation in environment and climate change statistics to better inform policy decisions and to facilitate unified reporting for international data requirements, and encourage countries to promote a coordinated response when completing the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire on environment statistics;

(e) To support periodic updates to the terms and definitions used in the Statistics Division/UNEP questionnaire on environment statistics to meet evolving data demands, while ensuring the consistency of time series, and encourage flexibility in the questionnaire to accommodate emerging topics, such as e-waste and food waste;

(f) To support the work of the subgroup of the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics in the compilation of a core set of questions that can be included in traditional censuses and surveys as well as specialized surveys, to inform environment and climate change statistics,

including on the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, as well as encourage Member States to use the core set as appropriate;

(g) To request the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, the Statistics Division and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to support both the national statistical offices and national focal points for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (in respective institutions) at the national level in the production of climate change statistics for supporting the effective preparations for their first biennial transparency reports and related processes under the Paris Agreement;

(h) To encourage the Statistics Division to strengthen collaboration and coordination efforts among partners and regional, national and international agencies in order to improve synergies and maximize the benefits from various existing capacity-development initiatives;

(i) To encourage Member States and international agencies to intensify the use of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and the Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool and share their outcomes with the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics, in particular, contributions to specific multilateral environmental agreements, as well as general and comprehensive applications;

(j) To urge Member States to apply the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, and its implementation support tools (Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool and Implementation Guidelines) in order to assist in establishing national programmes of climate change statistics, publish climate change statistics reports and contribute to reporting under the Paris Agreement;

(k) To urge the donor community to intensify efforts towards mobilizing additional substantial resources; and to promote more sustained and permanent statistical advancements.

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