

**United Nations Statistical Commission**  
**Fifty-sixth session**  
Item 3 (l) of the provisional agenda  
**Items for discussion and decision: Price statistics**

**Document E/CN.3/2025/15 – Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics**

***Comment provided by:***

Azerbaijan – State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan

***Comment:***

**I. The Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Price Statistics**

We highly appreciate the report prepared within the framework of the work carried out by the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Price Statistics.

**II. International Standards and Methodological Guidelines**

**C. Cooperation with the Expert Committee on the Use, Processing, and Analysis of Large-Scale Data for Official Statistics and the Working Group on Scanned Data**

The development of information technologies in statistics has made it possible to modernize the data collection process. Since 2018, the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan has initiated a project to obtain data on retail prices in Baku's consumer market directly from the databases of trade enterprises.

Ten supermarket chains, accounting for approximately 26% of the total turnover in the city, were selected. Agreements were reached with their owners for the electronic submission of data, and partnership contracts were signed. Since early 2019, electronic data from trade enterprises have been integrated into the database of the State Statistical Committee and used in the calculation of the consumer price index.

From mid-2019 onwards, this method has also been applied in other cities and districts of the country.

**D. Cooperation with the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics**

The State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan calculates producer price indices in the fields of transport, warehousing, postal services, communications, ICT, advertising services, and construction-installation works. However, the State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan is not a member of the Voorburg Group.

**III. Data Collection at the International Level**

**A. Consumer Price Index**

The State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan closely cooperates with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and regularly provides data on the country's consumer and producer price indices.

### C. International Comparison Program

Since 1994, Azerbaijan has participated in the International Comparison Program (ICP), which is based on purchasing power parities (PPP) of gross domestic product (GDP).

In 2024, work began on implementing the 2024 ICP program for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) region. In this regard, the CIS Statistical Committee prepared and approved an action plan for conducting international comparisons within the region.

As part of this plan, the list of representative consumer goods for participating countries was agreed upon and prepared. The data collection process began in the first quarter of 2024. Azerbaijan supports the ICP and actively participates in it.

### IV. Meetings and Conferences

#### C. Ottawa Group on Price Indices

The Ottawa Group provides a platform for experts and researchers working in statistical agencies of various countries and international organizations to exchange experiences and opinions on price index calculations.

Within the framework of the Ottawa Group's activities, conceptual, methodological, and practical issues related to price indices are discussed. One of the group's main areas of focus is the use of different data sources for the collection of primary data on consumer prices, as well as issues related to data collection, processing, index calculation, and the dissemination of CPI-related information.

The Ottawa Group has contributed to the preparation of methodological guidelines such as the "Consumer Price Index Manual: Concepts and Methods" and the "Guide for CPI Calculation During Periods of Constraints."

The State Statistical Committee of Azerbaijan follows the international methodological recommendations developed with the participation of the Ottawa Group. In the calculation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), it utilizes new data sources, including electronically obtained retail price data from trade networks.

The implementation of these innovations has created broad opportunities for improving the quality of final data on consumer prices.

In conclusion, the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan highly appreciates the activities of the Ottawa Group and fully supports the issues presented in the report.

**Submitted on:**

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