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Department of Statistics Malaysia

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ITEM 5(a) Informal economy statistics

#### Statement:

- 1. Malaysia welcomes and appreciates the "Report of the International Labour Organization on Informal Economy Statistics" by the working group which provides a detailed statistical framework of the informal economy and its components, such as the informal sector and informal employment.
- 2. Malaysia acknowledges that the report was prepared in accordance with the resolution adopted in the 21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS), which introduces the statistical concept and statistical definition of the informal.
- 3. Malaysia took note that all informal production by economic units and all forms of informal paid and unpaid work by persons are included in the informal economy.
- 4. Malaysia noted that Agriculture is included in the measurement of the informal sector as this sector is predominantly smallholders, unstructured and lacks social protection. Considering this, Malaysia has also published the Agriculture activities in the Informal Sector and Informal Employment Survey Report commencing 2022 to gauge a comprehensive insight of informal economy in Malaysia.
- 5. Malaysia appreciates ILO's efforts in developing tools to guide countries through the adaptation of the new resolution and strengthen statistical capacities to enhance the quality of statistical instruments used to capture statistics on informality, in particular through improved tools for labour force surveys. In line with this, Malaysia calls for capacity building for the development and enhancement of informality statistics. This could involve collaborative training programs, workshops and knowledge-sharing sessions.
- 6. Malaysia is conducting a pilot test questionnaire Labour Force Survey based on the resolution ICLS 21<sup>st</sup> in 2025. The objective of this test is to collect the new indicators of the informal sector and informal employment according to the recommendation from ILO.

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7. Furthermore, a study titled Study on Regulatory Framework and Development of The Sharing Economy has been conducted in Malaysia by the Ministry of Economy. The proposal from this study includes the importance of a regulatory framework that should consider adopting an agile regulation approach to navigate the evolving landscape of technological innovation and consumer preferences. This approach, encompassing data-driven insights, experimental sandboxes, stakeholder collaboration, and sector-specific strategies, will ensure that regulations remain relevant, effective, and responsive to emerging trends.

Submitted on:

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ITEM 5(b) Energy statistics

## Statement:

Malaysia supports the recommendations stated in the documents that emphasizes the importance of accurate energy statistics for policy-making and the ongoing efforts to improve data collection and analysis in response to global energy challenges and climate change initiatives.

Malaysia has taken an initiative in compiling MySEEA PSUT Energy Account for the year 2016-2020 which is in line with international recommendations.

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ITEM 5(c) Financial statistics

#### Statement:

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) commends the IMF's report and its focus on emerging areas such as financial inclusion, fintech, and digital money, which are critical for modernizing financial statistics. DOSM emphasizes the importance of aligning these efforts with the balance of payments framework, particularly in capturing cross-border digital financial flows. Additionally, DOSM recommends enhancing the digital trade compilation methodology to ensure comprehensive measurement of digital transactions and services across borders, including platforms such as Alipay, WeChat Pay, and other emerging fintech solutions facilitating international payments.

We welcome the forthcoming update to the Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual and Compilation Guide and encourage clear methodologies for incorporating innovative financial services. DOSM urges continued capacity-building support for developing economies to address data challenges in these areas. Additionally, inclusive consultations with national statistical offices are vital to ensure updated methodologies reflect diverse global contexts.

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ITEM 5(d) Industrial statistics

## Statement:

- a) Malaysia welcomes the comprehensive report by UNIDO on industrial statistics, which highlights critical progress, ongoing challenges, and strategic initiatives aimed at straightening global industrial data collection and analysis.
- b) Malaysia took note of the UNIDO's role, as outlined in the Report in the collection of industrial statistics across multiple sectors, as well as efforts in improving access to industrial statistics databases which aligned with the global commitment to open data and transparency. Malaysia continues to support UNIDO's work by providing timely and disaggregated industrial statistics as required.
- c) Malaysia agrees with UNIDO's proposal on the need of comprehensive data particularly in small-scale industries, as these enterprises play a crucial role in employment generation and economic resilience. Malaysia welcomes UNIDO's initiative to report additional data series on small-scale industries and further collaboration to ensure standardized reporting.
- d) Malaysia will conduct the Economic Census in 2026 for the reference year 2025, which will cover all establishments, including small-scale industries. The Malaysia Economic Census 2026 will adopt ISIC Revision 5 and provide comprehensive industrial statistics, including production and industrial commodity production statistics.

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ITEM 5(e) International Comparison Programme

## Statement:

- (a) The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) congratulates the World Bank and regional implementing agencies for the successful release of the ICP 2021 results, which provide valuable insights into global economic conditions during the mid-pandemic period.
- (b) Malaysia is committed to the ICP 2024 cycle and actively engaged in ongoing data collection efforts across all key ICP areas, including household consumption, construction, machinery and equipment, and housing rental. DOSM also actively participated in all ICP regional workshops, including the 4th and 5th regional workshops which were recently held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 20 to 24 January 2025.
- (c) In line with the Statistical Commission's recommendations to promote and disseminate ICP results data, DOSM will publish the ICP 2021 results via newsletters on DOSM's official portal by the first quarter of 2025. At the same time, DOSM has also initiated a Spatial Subnational Study using ICP 2021 data to support regional economic analysis at the national level.
- (d) Malaysia also welcomes the new hybrid methodology for housing rental data proposed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which improves consistency and standardization across the Asia-Pacific region.

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ITEM 5(f) Price statistics

## Statement:

- (a) The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) congratulates the World Bank and regional implementing agencies for the successful release of the ICP 2021 results, which provide valuable insights into global economic conditions during the mid-pandemic period.
- (b) Malaysia is committed to the ICP 2024 cycle and actively engaged in ongoing data collection efforts across all key ICP areas, including household consumption, construction, machinery and equipment, and housing rental. DOSM also actively participated in all ICP regional workshops, including the 4th and 5th regional workshops which were recently held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 20 to 24 January 2025.
- (c) In line with the Statistical Commission's recommendations to promote and disseminate ICP results data, DOSM will publish the ICP 2021 results via newsletters on DOSM's official portal by the first quarter of 2025. At the same time, DOSM has also initiated a Spatial Subnational Study using ICP 2021 data to support regional economic analysis at the national level.
- (d) Malaysia also welcomes the new hybrid methodology for housing rental data proposed by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which improves consistency and standardization across the Asia-Pacific region.

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ITEM 5(g) Statistics of human development

#### Statement:

Malaysia takes note of the present report submitted by the Human Development Report Office of the United Nations Development Programme. The report highlights significant advancements in human development measurement, including the introduction of new composite indices, updates on methodologies, and plans for innovative tools such as digital dashboards.

Malaysia acknowledges the importance of these efforts in providing valuable insights into global development trends and fostering collaboration among stakeholders.

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ITEM 5(h) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata

#### Statement:

Malaysia recognises the importance of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) initiative in enhancing data standardisation, interoperability, and efficiency in statistical reporting and exchange. As a country committed to advancing data governance and modernization, Malaysia fully supports the adoption and implementation of SDMX standards to improve data sharing at both national and international levels.

The Malaysian government, through the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), continues to strengthen its statistical infrastructure by integrating SDMX into its data dissemination frameworks. The application of SDMX has significantly improved Malaysia's ability to provide high-quality, standardised, and timely statistics to support evidence-based policymaking, particularly in areas such as economic indicators, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and national accounts.

Malaysia also acknowledges the rapid advancements in artificial intelligence (AI) and digital transformation in statistical processes. We are keen to explore AI-powered SDMX applications that enhance data accessibility and analytics, contributing to more effective decision-making. We appreciate the collaborative efforts of SDMX sponsors and partners in promoting global data exchange, and Malaysia remains committed to further strengthening regional and international cooperation to leverage SDMX for sustainable development and statistical excellence.

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ITEM 5(i) Management and modernization of statistical systems

Statement:

Malaysia acknowledges and commends the report on the **Management and Modernisation of Statistical Systems**, recognizing its importance in supporting governance, economic policies, and data-driven decision-making at national and international levels.

The Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) appreciates the **updated Handbook on Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems**, particularly the new chapter on **national data ecosystems and data governance**. This addition provides valuable frameworks for engaging diverse data communities, ensuring data interoperability, and improving statistical data quality and accessibility. Malaysia fully supports this initiative, recognizing that managing and modernizing national statistical systems is an ongoing journey that all member countries should undertake.

For Malaysia, the experience in gathering updates of citizens' data during the Main Central Data (PADU) operation has witnessed the importance of how updated citizens' data are beneficial to the policy-makers. Refined and granular statistics were able to be produced and new statistical tools were made available to the public.

DOSM also recognizes the **technical and digital advancements** introduced in collaboration with UNITAR, including the transition to a digital format and the development of **e-learning modules**, which will enhance capacity-building efforts for National Statistical Offices (NSOs). Malaysia supports strengthening **institutional foundations** for NSOs to operate effectively in a **data-driven environment**.

In line with modernization, DOSM is implementing e-surveys for the Business Tendency Survey, replacing traditional methods to improve efficiency, data accuracy, and cost-effectiveness. Additionally, the Malaysia Economic Indicators System (MyEIS) is being developed as part of the Statistics Data Warehouse (StatsDW) to enable real-time information sharing and better monitoring of economic indicators.

The report provides a well-structured update on these developments but could benefit from **case studies or examples** of successful implementation for practical application. Overall, Malaysia

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11	ing efforts to align statistical systems with global best practices, ensuring evolving data landscape.
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