



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
2 December 2025

Original: English

Statistical Commission

Fifty-seventh session

New York, 3–6 March 2026

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda and annotations

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Items for discussion and decision:
 - (a) Working methods of the Statistical Commission;
 - (b) Social and demographic statistics;
 - (c) Demographic and housing statistics;
 - (d) Health statistics;
 - (e) National accounts;
 - (f) Environmental-economic accounting;
 - (g) Agricultural and rural statistics;
 - (h) Business and trade statistics, business registers and service statistics;
 - (i) Environment and climate change statistics;
 - (j) Data governance;
 - (k) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - (l) Well-being measurement;
 - (m) Presentation of statistical data and metadata, dissemination of statistics and open data;
 - (n) Statistical capacity development;
 - (o) Regional statistical development.
4. Items for decision:
 - (a) Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data;
 - (b) Refugee, internally displaced persons and statelessness statistics;



- (c) Disaster-related statistics;
 - (d) Governance statistics;
 - (e) International statistical classifications;
 - (f) Integration of statistical and geospatial information.
5. Items for information:
- (a) Gender statistics;
 - (b) Disability statistics;
 - (c) Culture statistics;
 - (d) Economic statistics;
 - (e) International Comparison Programme;
 - (f) Information and communications technology statistics;
 - (g) Data science;
 - (h) Coordination of statistical programmes;
 - (i) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;
 - (j) World Statistics Day.
6. Programme questions (Statistics Division).
7. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission.
8. Report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and past practices, the Statistical Commission, at the commencement of its first meeting of a regular session, shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chair, three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur (the Bureau).

The Bureau is elected based on the principle of equitable geographical distribution – one member of the Bureau is elected from each of the regions represented on the Commission. The Bureau serves for two years, to the extent possible. This is achieved by electing the Bureau for a period of one year and re-electing those members of the Bureau who continue to be representatives to the Commission at the following session.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The items on the provisional agenda and the corresponding documentation were proposed by the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, held from 4 to 7 March 2025 (see [E/2025/24](#), chap. I, sect. B), and were adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2025/315. Pursuant to that decision, the Bureau of the Commission was entrusted with streamlining and finalizing the agenda. The Bureau subsequently approved some changes. As previously decided in paragraph (e) of its decision 54/114, the Commission supported the inclusion of three agenda item types in order to streamline the Commission's discussions and decision-making, using the limited time effectively; consequently, three types of documentation are included in

the provisional agenda: those for discussion and decision, those for decision, and those for information. The proposed provisional programme of work and timetable for the session is also before the Commission. The Commission is invited to adopt the agenda and the provisional programme of work and timetable for its fifty-seventh session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations (E/CN.3/2026/1)

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional programme of work and timetable (E/CN.3/2026/L.1)

3. Items for discussion and decision

(a) Working methods of the Statistical Commission

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Bureau on working methods. The report contains a description of activities undertaken in 2025 pursuant to Statistical Commission decision 56/103. In the report, the Bureau outlines the latest developments and activities under its areas of work, such as updates on the development of the Advisory Board on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and the establishment of a working group on data governance, as well as assessing the achievement of the objectives of Economic and Social Council resolution 2024/2. The report also includes initial considerations regarding the artificial intelligence readiness of official data and statistics.

The Commission is invited to reflect on the work of the Bureau.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Bureau on the working methods of the Statistical Commission (E/CN.3/2026/2)

(b) Social and demographic statistics

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the final report of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics, prepared in accordance with decisions 53/105, 54/104, 55/111 and 56/108. The report outlines the group's activities and presents its strategic recommendations for strengthening social and demographic statistics, including elevating its role, improving coordination efforts at the global and regional levels and advancing the development of the proposed central framework for a system of population and social statistics. It also contains recommendations for establishing a successor mechanism to implement the group's strategic recommendations.

The Commission is invited: (a) to approve the recommendations presented in the report, including the establishment of the Committee of Experts on Population and Social Statistics; (b) to call upon donors and the international community to support the development of the central framework for a system of population and social statistics; and (c) to dissolve the groups that have completed their mandate in the domain of social and demographic statistics, including the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics (E/CN.3/2026/3)

(c) Demographic and housing statistics

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Secretary-General on demographic and housing statistics. The report brings to the attention of the Commission selected priority themes in this area: progress in the global implementation of the degree of urbanization methodology; work by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and partners in prioritizing adequate housing for all and strengthening data ecosystems for transformative change in cities; and the United Nations Demographic Yearbook System, a global authoritative source of official national demographic statistics.

The Commission is invited: (a) to encourage all countries to apply the degree of urbanization methodology and produce indicators using its breakdown; (b) to request the development of delineations of urban agglomerations and functional areas with full territorial coverage; (c) to take note of progress on the global mapping of slums and informal settlements and recommend the extension of the relevant expert group; (d) to take note of work on the Quality of Life Initiative and implementation of the Global Urban Monitoring Framework and endorse further work as specified; and (e) to take note of and reaffirm the role of the United Nations Demographic Yearbook System as an international compendium of official national demographic statistics.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on demographic and housing statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/4](#))

(d) Health statistics

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the World Health Organization (WHO) on health statistics. In the report, it is noted that, despite notable progress in maternal and child health and in reducing the burden of infectious diseases such as HIV and malaria, more than 90 per cent of health-related targets under Sustainable Development Goal 3 will remain off track without urgent acceleration. Progress has been impeded by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, protracted crises and persistent underinvestment in health data systems. Reliable data are indispensable for the early detection of challenges, effective allocation of resources, and strengthened accountability.

The Commission is invited: (a) to welcome WHO calls for a renewed global commitment to reinforce domestic health information systems; (b) to acknowledge the use of digital tools and frontier technologies such as artificial intelligence in fostering health system strengthening; and (c) to underscore the need for coordinated action across the United Nations system and partners.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Health Organization on health statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/5](#))

(e) National accounts

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts. In the report, the Working Group sets out progress in implementing the 2025 System of National Accounts (2025 SNA), including the preparation of compilation guidance to support its implementation, and progress on the editing and printing of the 2025 SNA and on the post-2025 SNA research agenda. It also contains the programme of work of the Working Group and

the regional commissions, and an update on the scope and timeliness of the implementation of the 2025 SNA at the country level.

The Commission is invited to express its views and provide guidance on the elements of the programme of work of the Working Group.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts ([E/CN.3/2026/6](#))

(f) Environmental-economic accounting

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. In the report, the Committee provides information on progress with the update of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Central Framework, covering the development of guidance notes, outreach activities to inform compilers and users, and coordination with the revision of related economic statistical standards.

The Committee also presents updates on its working groups on coordination and communication, methodological development, development of global databases, and implementation and statistical capacity-building. It further reports on activities of related groups and progress in the implementation of the Statistics Division project on compiling indicators for the biodiversity monitoring framework.

The Commission is invited to express its views and provide guidance on the progress of work related to the update of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Central Framework, as well as on the broader work programme on environmental accounting, as described in the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting ([E/CN.3/2026/7](#))

(g) Agricultural and rural statistics

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on recent developments in agricultural and rural statistics. The report provides updates on the FAO strategy for the modernization of statistics, key capacity-development programmes in the areas of agriculture and rural statistics, as well as the launch of the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2030 guidelines. It also provides an update on the development of guidelines for Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators, the work of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Agricultural and Rural Statistics, and a synthesis of the recommendations of the FAO regional commissions on agricultural statistics.

The Commission is invited: (a) to express its views and to provide guidance on the elements of recent developments in agricultural and rural statistics; and (b) to endorse the World Programme for the Census of Agriculture 2030 guidelines, the Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators guidelines, and the new programme of work of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Agricultural and Rural Statistics.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on agricultural and rural statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/8](#))

(h) Business and trade statistics, business registers and service statistics

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the joint report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics, the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers and the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics. The report provides a description of the activities of the Committee of Experts, the Wiesbaden Group and the Voorburg Group over the past year, including the finalization of updated guidance on international merchandise and trade in services statistics and the second volume of the *Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics*.

The Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions (2026); (b) to endorse the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (2026); (c) to endorse the second volume of the *Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics*; (d) to support the establishment of the task team on industry statistics under the Committee of Experts and endorse its terms of reference; (e) to express its views on research topics on the revision of the industry statistics manual and on the progress of the global initiative on unique identifiers for businesses; (f) to support the development of the handbook on business statistics; and (g) to take note of the past activities and provide guidance on the elements of the work programme of the Committee of Experts, the Wiesbaden Group and the Voorburg Group.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the joint report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics, the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers and the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/9](#))

(i) Environment and climate change statistics

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Secretary-General on environment and climate change statistics. The report provides an overview of the consolidated programme of work conducted by the Statistics Division in collaboration with the restructured Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics. The programme is coordinated by its Steering Group and supported by the subgroups on climate change questions for censuses and surveys and on climate and health statistics, as well as related processes. The report presents the outcomes of the twelfth meeting of the Expert Group and contains updates on communication and coordination, data collection, and the implementation of the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators, as well as on the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics. Improvements to methodologies for climate and health indicators are presented, and needs for capacity development are highlighted.

The Commission is invited to express its views on the work programme of the restructured Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics as reflected in its updated terms of reference.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on environment and climate change statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/10](#))

(j) Data governance

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Working Group on Data Governance. Established by the Commission at its fifty-sixth session, in 2025, the Working Group aims to advance a shared understanding of data

governance and promote coherent approaches across national statistical systems. The report presents the preliminary findings of the 2025 survey on data governance and the national statistical system, covering institutional arrangements, legal and policy frameworks, the use of new data sources and technologies, and related challenges in coordination, capacities and international cooperation.

The Commission is invited to take note of the Group's working modalities and express its views on the preliminary survey findings and the proposed way forward, which will include a detailed analysis of the survey results, as well as recommendations for action based on that analysis.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Working Group on Data Governance ([E/CN.3/2026/11](#))

(k) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the joint report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The report provides a summary of activities undertaken in 2025 by the two groups, including: (a) tier classification updates and indicator refinements of the global Sustainable Development Goal indicator framework; (b) activities of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group working groups and task team on lessons learned from monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals; (c) preparations for the sixth United Nations World Data Forum and evaluation plans; and (d) implementation of the Medellín Framework for Action on Data for Sustainable Development and the outcomes of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development.

The Commission is invited: (a) to approve the work programmes of both groups for 2026; (b) to approve the indicator refinements; (c) to express its views on the task team on lessons learned from monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals; (d) to express its views on the preparations for the sixth United Nations World Data Forum; and (e) to endorse the strategy for implementing the Medellín Framework and the outcomes of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development.

The Commission will also have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Secretary-General on the work by the Statistics Division, in cooperation with other entities of the United Nations system, in support of the 2030 Agenda. In the report, the Secretary-General describes the preparation of the annual report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([A/80/81-E/2025/62](#)) and the work to update the Global Sustainable Development Goal Indicators Database. He also provides updates on: (a) the Data for Now initiative; (b) the monitoring and evaluation framework for the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States; (c) the collaborative on the use of administrative data for statistical purposes; (d) the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training; (e) the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians; (f) the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys; and (g) the work on citizen data.

The Commission is invited to take note of and express its views on the work carried out by the Statistics Division, in cooperation with the United Nations system, in support of the 2030 Agenda in the above-mentioned areas.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the joint report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ([E/CN.3/2026/12](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/CN.3/2026/13](#))

(l) Well-being measurement

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Expert Group on Well-being Measurement. The Commission, in its decision 55/108, endorsed the creation of the Expert Group to take forward recommendations to produce a guidance document on a framework for inclusive and sustainable well-being (see [E/CN.3/2024/10](#)). Pursuant to decision 56/111, the Expert Group reports directly to the Commission. The report provides an overview of the Group's membership, its collaborative work with other organizations and experts, its delivery of its 2025 programme of work, and the proposed 2026 programme of work.

The Commission is invited: (a) to express its views on the Expert Group's activities in 2025; (b) to endorse its work programme for 2026; and (c) to endorse the distribution of draft chapters of the framework for inclusive and sustainable well-being for global consultation in 2026.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Expert Group on Well-being Measurement ([E/CN.3/2026/14](#))

(m) Presentation of statistical data and metadata, dissemination of statistics and open data

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Secretary-General on the presentation of statistical data and metadata, dissemination of statistics through the Statistics Division and its publications, and open data. The report provides an overview of the work on open data and data dissemination carried out by the Statistics Division in 2024/25, in collaborative efforts with its partners. It encompasses activities to implement the workplan approved by the Statistical Commission at its fifty-fifth session, including methodological advancements, data and metadata dissemination activities, and capacity-building endeavours in relation to the dissemination of data and metadata for official statistics.

The Commission is invited to review and provide input on the activities.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on presentation of statistical data and metadata, dissemination of statistics through the Statistics Division and its publications, and open data ([E/CN.3/2026/15](#))

(n) Statistical capacity development

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Secretary-General on statistical capacity development. The report draws, among others, on the outcomes of the Commission's 2025 seminar on emerging issues, entitled "Capacity development for relevant, resilient, and agile national statistical systems: are we on the right track?" In the report, statistical capacity development is

situated within the broader framework of system-wide approaches to capacity development. The report presents an overview of capacity-development activities carried out by the Statistics Division since 2023 to support national statistical systems and contains proposals for strengthening coordination and improving modalities to ensure more coherent, long-term support to national statistical systems.

The Commission is invited to express its views on the work carried out and the proposals for improvement.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on statistical capacity development ([E/CN.3/2026/16](#))

(o) Regional statistical development

The Commission will have before it, for discussion and decision, the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia. The report documents substantial progress in the Arab region towards advancing official statistics and modernizing national statistical systems aligned with global standards. It highlights efforts to strengthen institutional, technological and human capacities for producing high-quality, timely and comparable statistics across economic, social, demographic and environmental domains. Priority actions include implementing the 2025 SNA, with emphasis on digitalization, well-being and sustainability, transitioning to register-based censuses and strengthening civil registration and vital statistics, integrating geospatial and digital technologies, and applying artificial intelligence and data science to improve production and dissemination (e.g. interactive dashboards and data portals) and to address conflict-related data gaps. The report also underscores commitments to digital transformation and data innovation through enhanced coordination, expanded partnerships, a regional one-stop data portal, and wider use of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange and the MARS platform to support Sustainable Development Goal monitoring and reporting aligned with the global indicator framework, including disaggregation by sex and disability.

The Commission is invited to take note of and express its views on the progress achieved through strengthened regional collaboration among countries and with the United Nations system.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on regional cooperation for statistical development ([E/CN.3/2026/17](#))

4. Items for decision

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

(a) Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data. The report provides a review and update of the work undertaken by the Group since March 2024, including publications and activities. It also provides a summary of progress achieved over the seven-year duration of the Group, along with reflections on its challenges and successes.

The Commission is invited: (a) to take note of the Titchfield Group's work and publications; (b) to acknowledge the conclusion of its activities; and (c) to formally dissolve the Group.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data ([E/CN.3/2026/18](#))

(b) Refugee, internally displaced persons and statelessness statistics

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics, which contains a request for an extension of the Group's terms of reference to consolidate achievements and address emerging priorities.

The report presents progress in implementing the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics, the International Recommendations on Internally Displaced Persons Statistics and the International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics, which were endorsed by the Commission in 2018, 2020 and 2023, respectively, alongside other achievements of the Group. The report underscores the imperative of continued international collaboration to strengthen national statistical systems and advance statistical harmonization. Taken together, this work represents collaborative efforts to improve the quality and availability of national statistics on key vulnerable groups that facilitate evidence-based and inclusive policy development in line with the 2030 Agenda, the Global Compact on Refugees, the Action Agenda on Internal Displacement and the Global Alliance to End Statelessness.

The Commission is invited to review and endorse the revised terms of reference of the Expert Group and to approve its future work priorities.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/19](#))

(c) Disaster-related statistics

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics. The report presents the draft global disaster-related statistics framework, which incorporates inputs from a global consultation and annual global expert forums for producers and users of disaster-related statistics. In the report, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group identifies the need to strengthen disaster-related statistics for global, regional and national policy frameworks, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, and harmonizes disaster-related statistics with other official statistical frameworks. The report also contains a summary of activities conducted by the Group pursuant to decision 50/116, including the process for development of the global framework.

The Commission is invited to endorse the draft global disaster-related statistics framework as the global statistical framework underpinning the production of disaster-related statistics and provide guidance to the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics on future efforts to strengthen disaster-related statistics and implement the global framework.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/20](#))

(d) Governance statistics

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics. The Group provides a review of activities and accomplishments since 2024, particularly the methodological work carried out by the task teams on non-discrimination and equality and on participation in political and public affairs, to develop internationally harmonized survey modules and guidance on the use of administrative data sources for producing internationally comparable statistics on these two subdomains of governance statistics.

The Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the four methodological tools developed by the task teams, namely: the survey on discrimination, the survey on participation in political and public affairs, the guidance on utilizing electoral administrative data to produce statistics on inclusive political participation, and the guidance for national statistical offices on using administrative data to measure non-discrimination and equality; (b) to support the continuation of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics and its work under the proposed revised terms of reference; and (c) to express its views on possible future directions of work in the domain of governance statistics beyond 2025, within the framework of the revised Classification of Statistical Activities (CSA 2.0).

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/21](#))

(e) International statistical classifications

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications. The report presents the Committee's work on the revision of the Classification of Statistical Activities, the Standard International Energy Product Classification and the Classification of the Functions of Government, and its work on the maintenance of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities and the Central Product Classification. It also presents the Committee's activities in coordinating work on other classifications proposed for the Commission's adoption.

The Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the Classification of Statistical Activities, version 2.1; (b) to endorse the Extended Balance of Payments Services Classification 2026; (c) to endorse the International Statistical Classification on Alternative Care of Children; (d) to endorse the International Classification of Dying Places; (e) to endorse the structure of the Standard International Energy Product Classification, version 2.0; and (f) to support the revision of the International Recommendations for Energy Statistics in connection with the development of the revised Standard International Energy Product Classification.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications ([E/CN.3/2026/22](#))

(f) Integration of statistical and geospatial information

The Commission will have before it, for decision, the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information. In its report, the Group provides information on its recent activities to strengthen the integration of statistical and geospatial information, including: (a) the issuance of the second edition of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework; (b) the paper on the benefits of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information Framework for the statistical domain, showcasing opportunities for interoperability with national geospatial information agencies; and (c) its strategic plan and vision for 2030.

The Commission is invited to take note of the work, endorse the second edition of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework and provide guidance on the Group's future direction.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information ([E/CN.3/2026/23](#))

5. Items for information

The following items are presented to the Commission for information. Limited time will be allocated for interventions under this item.

(a) Gender statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics, providing a summary of recent activities undertaken by the Statistics Division and the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics to strengthen gender data to support progress towards gender equality and Sustainable Development Goal monitoring. In the report, the Secretary-General describes progress in mainstreaming a gender perspective into the work of the Commission (see decision 55/112) and provides information on the outcomes of the tenth Global Forum on Gender Statistics and conclusions of recent meetings of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group, as well as an update on activities related to statistics on time use. The report provides an update on methodological developments related to measuring technology-facilitated violence against women (*ibid.*), jointly undertaken by the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), WHO and the United Nations Population Fund, as well as plans for future work. All these elements are expanded in the respective accompanying background documents. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/24](#))

(b) Disability statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the joint report of the Secretary-General, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and international agencies on disability statistics. The report presents activities carried out by the United Nations system and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, highlighting activities and new developments to strengthen the national capacity of statistical systems to produce quality statistics on disability since the joint report in 2024. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Joint report of the Secretary-General, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and international agencies on disability statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/25](#))

(c) Culture statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics on cultural statistics. The report offers updated insights into recent advancements in international culture statistics, with particular emphasis on the newly established 2025 UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics and a progress update on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 11.4.1 data (survey of expenditure on cultural and natural heritage). In addition, the report outlines activities within the Institute's culture statistics programme, including an overview of key focus areas. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Institute for Statistics on cultural statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/26](#))

(d) Economic statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Network of Economic Statisticians. In the report, the Network describes its completed sprints in 2025 and the proposed activities and deliverables of its work programme for 2026. The Commission is informed of the work that the Network has done to organize subnational statistics, tourism, and net-zero statistics sprints, as well as the support provided by the Network to the Expert Group on Well-being Measurement to set up its own structure to function separately from the Network. In addition, the Commission is informed of the proposed activities and deliverables of the work programme for 2026, which will focus on the areas of government statistics, business registers and the use of open data. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note of the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Network of Economic Statisticians ([E/CN.3/2026/27](#))

(e) International Comparison Programme

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme. The report provides a summary of the activities undertaken in 2025 at the global, regional and national levels on the use of the 2021 results and implementation of the 2024 cycle. It highlights progress in governance, capacity-building and methodological development, including digital and artificial intelligence-enabled tools to improve the quality and timeliness of price data collection and to monitor the use and impact of purchasing power parities. In the report, the World Bank also notes the establishment of the Task Force on Annual Production of Purchasing Power Parities, to enhance the policy relevance and responsiveness of purchasing power parities, and the Task Force on the International Comparison Programme Classification Update, to strengthen alignment and synergies between the Programme and consumer price statistics.

The Commission is invited to take note of these developments, and stakeholders are called upon to provide the necessary resources and institutional support to accelerate

innovations and ensure the sustainability of the Programme as a permanent element of the global statistical system.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme ([E/CN.3/2026/28](#))

(f) Information and communications technology statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development. The report outlines the outcomes of the Global Digital Compact and the 20-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS+20) review process, both calling for a comprehensive assessment of progress in implementing the World Summit on the Information Society action lines and the Global Digital Compact. The Partnership underscores the urgent need for new statistical indicators to monitor emerging trends in the digital economy and society, including the use of artificial intelligence and the environmental impacts of information and communications technology (ICT) development. It also highlights the growing demand for data to monitor universal and meaningful connectivity. Recognizing that reliable ICT statistics are vital for policymaking, the Partnership stresses the importance of sustainable financing for data collection, particularly ICT surveys by national statistical offices. The report also presents new and revised indicators on ICT in employment, artificial intelligence use, e-waste, and greenhouse gas emissions from the ICT sector. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development ([E/CN.3/2026/29](#))

(g) Data science

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics. The report highlights the achievements and plans of the Committee's task teams and hubs, outlines progress on the United Nations Global Platform, and details the activities of the Data Science Leaders Network. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics ([E/CN.3/2026/30](#))

(h) Coordination of statistical programmes

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

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the joint report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities ([E/CN.3/2026/31](#))

(i) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission. In the report, the Secretary-General presents the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Council adopted in 2025, or earlier, that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission. It also indicates actions taken or proposed by the Commission and the Statistics Division in an effort to respond to the requests made by the Assembly and the Council. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council that are relevant to the work of the Statistical Commission ([E/CN.3/2026/32](#))

(j) World Statistics Day

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on the fourth World Statistics Day, held on 20 October 2025 under the theme “Driving change with quality statistics and data for everyone”. The report provides information on activities undertaken by the statistical community worldwide to celebrate achievements, share knowledge and exchange experiences, coordinated by the Statistics Division and the regional commissions. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on World Statistics Day ([E/CN.3/2026/33](#))

6. Programme questions (Statistics Division)

The Commission will receive an oral report from the Director of the Statistics Division concerning current activities, plans and priorities.

7. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each item. The Commission will also have before it a proposal for the dates of the session. In accordance with a request of the Council (see Council resolution 1999/51), the Commission will have before it a draft multi-year programme of work for 2026–2030. The Commission is invited to approve the date, provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-eighth session, as well as to approve the multi-year programme.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda and documentation of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission ([E/CN.3/2026/L.2](#))

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Statistical Commission 2026–2030 ([E/CN.3/2026/34](#))

8. Report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session

The Commission will have before it the procedural report of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission covering organizational matters relating to the Commission's work. The Commission will also have before it an informal paper containing the draft decisions submitted by the Rapporteur.

The Commission is invited to adopt the draft report on its fifty-seventh session, which will be submitted to the Council, including the draft decisions and entrust the Rapporteur with streamlining and finalizing it.

Documentation

Draft report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session

Informal paper with draft decisions
