



**United Nations**

# **Statistical Commission**

**Report on the fifty-seventh session  
(3–6 March 2026)**

**Economic and Social Council  
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**ADVANCE UNEDITED VERSION**

# **Statistical Commission**

**Report on the fifty-seventh session  
(3–6 March 2026)**



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*Note*

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

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## Chapter I

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

#### A. Draft decision for adoption by the Council

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

#### Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-seventh session and provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission

The Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Takes note of the report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-seventh session;<sup>1</sup>
- (b) Decides that the fifty-eighth session of the Commission shall be held in New York from 23 to 26 February 2027;
- (c) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, as set out below:

#### Provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the Statistical Commission

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

##### Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations

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

3. Demographic and social statistics:

- (a) Social statistics;

##### Documentation

Report of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Population and Social Statistics

- (b) Population and demographic statistics;

##### Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (c) Poverty statistics;

##### Documentation

Report of the World Bank

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<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2026, Supplement No. 4 (E/2026/4).*

- (d) Human settlements statistics.

**Documentation**

Report of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

4. Economic statistics:

- (a) Economic statistics;

**Documentation**

Report of the Network of Economic Statisticians

- (b) National accounts;

**Documentation**

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

- (c) Financial statistics;

**Documentation**

Report of the International Monetary Fund

- (d) Environmental-economic accounting;

**Documentation**

Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

- (e) Energy statistics;

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General

- (f) Tourism statistics;

**Documentation**

Report of the World Tourism Organization

- (e) Business and trade statistics;

**Documentation**

Report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics

- (f) International Comparison Programme;

**Documentation**

Report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme

- (g) Price statistics;

**Documentation**

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics  
Report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indices

- (h) Food security and nutrition.

**Documentation**

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

6. Governance statistics:

- (a) Statistics of drugs and drug use.

**Documentation**

Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

7. Cross-cutting domains:

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

**Documentation**

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

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

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

- (b) Well-being measurement;

**Documentation**

Report of the Expert Group on Well-being Measurement

- (c) Data governance.

**Documentation**

Report of the Working Group on Data Governance

8. Statistical infrastructure and methodology:

- (a) Civil registration and vital statistics;

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) Population and housing censuses;

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General

- (c) Household surveys;

**Documentation**

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

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

**Documentation**

Report of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange sponsors

- (e) Data science;

**Documentation**

Report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics

Report of the Kigali Group on AI-readiness for official statistics

- (f) Integration of statistical and geospatial information.

**Documentation**

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

9. Management and modernization of statistical systems:

- (a) Management and modernization of statistical systems;

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) Data stewardship;

**Documentation**

Report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship

- (c) National quality assurance frameworks.

**Documentation**

Report of the Expert Group on National Quality Assurance Frameworks

10. Specific items of the Statistical Commission and the Statistics Division:

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

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) Working methods of the Commission;

**Documentation**

Report of the Bureau on working methods of the Commission

- (c) Regional statistical development.

**Documentation**

Report of the Economic Commission for Europe on regional statistical development

11. Programme questions (Statistics Division).

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

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda and documentation of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission

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

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

## **B. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council**

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

### **57/101**

#### **Working methods of the Statistical Commission**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Bureau and expressed appreciation for its work over the past inter-sessional period;

(b) Took note of the need for a review of the groups under the Commission and recommended a review of the pillar on environment and climate change statistics at a future time;

(c) Endorsed the list of members of the Consultative Advisory Board on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;

(d) Welcomed the Monday Forum on Beyond GDP which provided information on the work of the HLEG on Beyond GDP, and its forthcoming report, and invited the Bureau to consider any necessary follow up in the inter-sessional period, with a view to considering how to bring the topic into the 2027 Commission's session;

(e) Welcomed the Friday Seminar on Emerging Issues and supported the establishment of a City Group on AI-readiness of official data and statistics hosted by the National Institute of Statistics Rwanda; entrusted the Group's members to prepare a draft terms of reference through a consultative process, for finalisation by the Bureau, and requested the Group to report back at the 2027 Commission's session.

### **57/102**

#### **Social and demographic statistics**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics and commended the group for its strategic recommendations to advance these statistical areas;

(b) Endorsed the recommendations, notably the development of a central framework for a system of population and social statistics, to address a critical gap in the statistical architecture and ensure greater harmonization and interoperability across statistical domains;

(c) Highlighted that advancing the framework will require a modular and flexible approach that reflects diverse national capacities, contexts, and policy priorities, as well as substantial and predictable financial and human resources, innovation, and targeted capacity development, and called on Member States, international organizations, and donors to mobilize the necessary support;

(d) Supported the establishment of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Population and Social Statistics, noted the interest of many countries to join, and underscored the importance of regional balance;

(e) Requested close coordination between relevant Groups and the Committee to prevent duplication of efforts and ensure coherence across statistical domains;

(f) Agreed to dissolve the Friends of the Chair group, having completed its mandate.

### **57/103**

#### **Demographic and housing statistics**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on Demographic and housing statistics;

(b) Took note of the methodological updates to the degree of urbanization and recommended further development on delineating urban agglomerations and functional areas;

(c) Took note of the progress made on the global mapping of slums and informal settlements and approved extending the related Expert Group to 2030;

(d) Took note of and encouraged the Quality of Life Initiative, its Index and the progress made on the implementation of the Global Urban Monitoring Framework;

(e) Reaffirmed the importance of the UN Demographic Yearbook as an authoritative international reference for official demographic and social statistics, and supported plans to align its questionnaires with current international statistical standards;

(f) Appreciated the activities undertaken by the Statistics Division and partners in implementing the 2030 World Population and Housing Census Programme, and stressed the need for continued capacity development and practical tools, like census toolkits, to support census undertaking, aligned with international statistical standards and best practices.

### **57/104**

#### **Health statistics**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the World Health Organization on health statistics and the Organization's commitment to support Member States in producing and using high-quality health data;

(b) Acknowledged the urgent need to reinforce national health information systems, including by strengthening civil registration and vital statistics systems, facility-based reporting, and population-based data sources to ensure comprehensive, reliable and timely monitoring of health outcomes; and called on all stakeholders to support these efforts;

(c) Underlined the importance of regulatory and governance mechanisms to ensure that digital tools and frontier technologies, including artificial intelligence, adopted in national health information systems are safe, transparent, equitable and aligned with international principles.

### **57/105**

#### **National accounts**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) and endorsed its 2026 programmes of work;

(b) Commended the progress in editing the English copy of the System of National Accounts, 2025, and stressed the importance of timely translation into all official UN languages;

(c) Commended ISWGNA on progress in implementing the system, in collaboration with the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts, regional commissions, and other partners, including the Balance of Payments Committee, following the endorsed implementation strategy;

(d) Highlighted the importance of the timely updating, testing, finalization, and dissemination of practical and essential compilation guidance and handbooks;

(e) Encouraged Member States to develop or update national implementation roadmaps in accordance with national priorities and capacities while ensuring comparability; welcomed the forthcoming common alignment questionnaire to monitor progress;

(f) Recognized that countries, particularly those that have not implemented the 2008 SNA, face resource, capacity, and institutional constraints, and requested ISWGNA, regional commissions, and other partners to continue providing coordinated technical assistance and financial support, facilitating peer-to-peer learning, and considering country-specific and regional needs;

(g) Welcomed progress in addressing the maintenance and updating of international macroeconomic statistical standards;

(h) Welcomed the formation of a task team to review the mandate and terms of reference of ISWGNA and the Advisory Expert Group, and took note of its terms of reference;

(i) Encouraged continued reporting on the availability and scope of official national accounts data reported by Member States, and noted the importance of quality data, including the availability of quarterly data.

## **57/106**

### **Environmental-economic accounting**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting;

(b) Welcomed progress on updating the SEEA Central Framework, noting the strong coordination with relevant macroeconomic statistical standards to foster coherence of the revised recommendations and underscored the importance of a broad and inclusive consultation process;

(c) Appreciated the financial and in-kind contributions from Member States and international organizations to the update process and encouraged continued support and engagement;

(d) Welcomed the Committee's proposed work programme noting the increased coherence across all its working groups;

(e) Welcomed efforts to mainstream the SEEA across key policy areas—including biodiversity, climate change, circular economy, sustainable tourism, disaster statistics, and “beyond GDP” initiatives—and encouraged continued collaboration with the Global Biodiversity Framework and the G20 Data Gaps Initiative;

- (f) Welcomed implementation of the SEEA in countries and underscored the need for capacity-building activities;
- (g) Approved the updated name and terms of reference of the London Group.

## **57/107**

### **Agricultural and rural statistics**

The Statistical Commission:

- (a) Welcomed the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization and expressed appreciation for progress in implementing FAO's strategy for modernizing statistics; welcomed the establishment of a data exchange platform;
- (b) Expressed appreciation for efforts in strengthening countries' statistical capacity in agricultural statistics, highlighted the importance of Earth Observation, requested FAO to continue those efforts; and highlighted the importance of sustained and predictable financing; Encouraged the timely expansion of the 50x2030 initiative to include participation by developing countries in regions currently underrepresented;
- (c) Endorsed the 2030 World Programme for the Census of Agriculture Guidelines, while underscoring the need for capacity development and implementation support;
- (d) Acknowledged the connection between the agriculture census and population and housing census;
- (e) Encouraged Members to conduct at least one agriculture census under the 2030 round and adhere to the proposed standards, concepts and definitions;
- (f) Endorsed the guidelines for the Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators, and recognized their potential to strengthen evidence-based policymaking;
- (g) Endorsed the 2026-2027 work programme of the UN Committee of Experts on Agricultural and Rural Statistics, noting the progress made by its task teams;
- (h) Noted the recommendations of the FAO Regional Commissions on Agricultural Statistics.

## **57/108**

### **Business and trade statistics, business registers and service statistics**

The Statistical Commission:

- (a) Welcomed 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, and appreciated the activities undertaken so far;
- (b) Adopted the International Merchandise Trade Statistics, Concepts and Definitions (IMTS 2026) and the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS 2026). Welcomed their implementation strategy, including compilation guidelines, and stressed the importance of capacity development to support Member States;
- (c) Endorsed the second volume of the Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics;

(d) Supported the establishment of the task team on industrial statistics under the Committee and endorsed its terms of reference;

(e) Supported the development of the compendium of technical notes on business statistics as a precursor to the handbook of business statistics, and welcomed its Action Plan;

(f) Supported the revision of the Standard International Trade Classification in collaboration with the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications;

(g) Appreciated the 2025 global assessments of Statistical Business Registers and the Use of Unique Identifiers for Businesses, noted progress in country implementation, and emphasized the need for capacity building.

## **57/109**

### **Environment and climate change statistics**

The Statistical Commission

(a) Welcomed the Report of the Secretary-General on Environment and Climate Change Statistics and approved the work programme implemented in collaboration with the restructured Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics;

(b) Reiterated the importance of countries using the Global Set of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators to support the preparation of biennial transparency reports under the Paris Agreement, while recognizing that this should not impose extra reporting burden over and above already agreed instruments;

(c) Encouraged further collaboration between national statistical offices and the UNFCCC national focal points;

(d) Noted the progress on developing new statistical methodologies, and endorsed the improvements to the Global Set indicators for climate and health, and related metadata;

(e) Encouraged international organizations to continue to collaborate on data collection on water and waste;

(f) Urged countries to strengthen their data collection in environment and climate change statistics, urged for financing for standalone surveys, and called on stakeholders to support these efforts;

(g) Requested the Expert Group to further revise the Global Set indicators and to assess the need to also revise the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, taking into account updates in statistical methodologies, especially on environmental-economic accounting, biodiversity and disasters, among others.

## **57/110**

### **Data governance**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Working Group on Data Governance and expressed appreciation for its work, including the open, transparent and inclusive working modalities and linkages with other international initiatives on data governance;

(b) Welcomed the results of the 2025 global survey on data governance, as detailed in the background document;

(c) Supported the Working Group in advancing its work on the four clusters, including the cross-cutting cluster on the data governance glossary, to inform the development of a proposed data governance framework for official statistics, and encouraged contributions from Member States and relevant stakeholders to ensure regional balance and capture diverse experiences;

(d) Requested the Statistics Division to continue updating the knowledge repository to facilitate the exchange of practices and experiences;

(e) Endorsed the planned programme of work of the Working Group for 2026 and 2027.

## **57/111**

### **Partnership, coordination and capacity-building for statistics and the Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed appreciation for the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators' work in enhancing the robustness and transparency of the global SDG monitoring framework, and adopted the minor refinements in Annex I, while emphasizing that refinements to the indicators should maintain flexibility for countries to reflect their national priorities and contexts;

(b) Welcomed the Expert Group's promotion of good practices and progress of its working groups; stressed the need for practical guidance and sustained capacity building on data disaggregation, data innovation and integration — including geospatial information, administrative data, citizen data, SDMX, small area estimation, and AI;

(c) Welcomed the background document of the Task Team on Lessons Learned as a significant contribution to improving current SDG reporting and shaping future global development frameworks;

(d) Expressed appreciation for the work of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda in preparing the sixth UN World Data Forum to be held in Riyadh between 9 and 12 November 2026 and acknowledged the role of the host in its preparation;

(e) Welcomed the High-level Group's work on implementing the Medellín Framework for Action on Data, the outcomes of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4), and the Sevilla Platform for Action initiative on "FFD4 and the future of data"; considered the need for equitable financing for SIDs and other vulnerable countries to conduct household surveys for SDG monitoring;

(f) Approved the proposed work programmes of both groups.

## **57/112**

### **Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the work of the Statistics Division, in cooperation with the UN system, in support of the 2030 Agenda;

(b) Commended the Data for Now and the Data for SIDS initiatives in helping countries use data innovations to address national priorities and produce timely, disaggregated, high-quality data for decision making, encouraged continued support to countries, and noted efforts to establish a trust fund;

(c) Welcomed the monitoring and evaluation framework for the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS and requested support for its implementation;

(d) Commended the work of the Collaborative on Administrative Data and requested further guidance and peer-to-peer exchanges;

(e) Welcomed the efforts of the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training and the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians in strengthening capacity-building and knowledge-sharing;

(f) Commended the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys and adopted the Handbook of Surveys on Households and Individuals: Foundations and Emerging Approaches; called for translation, accompanying training materials and capacity building.

(g) Welcomed recommendations for sustainable health and demographic data production, emphasizing the importance of national ownership, and access to existing data, including administrative data, as a public good, core data needs for national policy and international comparability, international standards and sustainable financing;

(h) Welcomed the work on citizen data and the implementation of the Copenhagen Framework; and requested practical guidance, knowledge sharing, piloting and capacity building, and requested that citizen data be considered by the Commission.

## **57/113**

### **Well-being measurement**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report and commended the Expert Group on Well-being Measurement on progress achieved in 2025, including consultations with key partners and the High-level Expert Group on Beyond GDP;

(b) Requested the Expert Group to coordinate and align its technical work with relevant groups, frameworks, and existing global, regional and national initiatives, while maintaining the clarity of its mandate and avoiding duplication;

(c) Stressed the importance of developing a coherent and complete Framework for Inclusive and Sustainable Well-being anchored in transparent, practical, comparable, and policy-relevant indicators.

(d) Stressed the importance of ensuring that the proposed domains, bridging tables, and indicators adequately reflect issues of particular relevance to different regions, and requests stronger inclusion of countries not yet well represented in the work of the Expert Group.

(e) Endorsed the programme of work for 2026, including the distribution of draft chapters of the Framework for global consultation;

(f) Endorsed the two-phase approach to develop the Framework.

## 57/114

### **Presentation of statistical data and metadata, dissemination of statistics and open data**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Took note of the Statistics Division's work on open data, and encouraged continued technical support - particularly for low-resource countries and SIDS - to advance open, interoperable and AI-ready official statistics;

(b) Called for efforts to protect and preserve access to existing open data as a global public good; and to support data literacy;

(c) Welcomed and encouraged continued effort on the development of the UN Data Commons Platform and the Data Commons for Africa as global and regional access points for statistical data and metadata, while ensuring alignment with national practices, and addressing challenges on technology infrastructure, coordination, and financial sustainability;

(d) Recognized both the opportunities and the challenges of making official statistics open, AI-ready and future-ready, and underscored the need for harmonized metadata; clear legal, ethical, and governance frameworks; safeguards to protect confidentiality; and practical guidance for countries at different levels of digital readiness;

(e) Supported the continued modernization of the Statistics Division's publications, including a hybrid digital and print approach that is accessible and multilingual. Supported secure financial resources for publications and strengthening linkages between narrative outputs, data and metadata, and ensuring traceability of updates;

(f) Supported efforts on data harmonization using the SDMX standards and requested capacity development in this area.

## 57/115

### **Statistical capacity development**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Commended the report of the Secretary-General on statistical capacity development and the background document and welcomed the consideration of an integrated and system-wide approach, including within broader United Nations cooperation processes, that is responsive to country demand and supports sustainable institutional strengthening;

(b) Underscored the importance of adequate capacity-development support and predictable financing for data and statistics, to enable national statistical systems to remain relevant and meet the data demands of the 2030 Agenda and emerging priorities in a fast-changing data and technological environment;

(c) Provided guidance on the structured approach based on service lines set out in the Report, to strengthen planning and delivery of capacity development, while emphasising the need to build on existing mechanisms and avoid additional reporting burdens;

(d) Acknowledged the role of the Statistics Division in contributing to strategic coordination of statistical capacity development activities, as appropriate, and requested the Division, in consultation with relevant bodies and partners, including the UN Resident Coordinator System, the regional commissions, the

regional UN HUBS for Big Data , and relevant coordination bodies and multi-stakeholder partnerships, to continue to facilitate coordination, coherence and complementarity of capacity-development initiatives, and to report back to the Commission according to the multi-year programme of work.

## **57/116**

### **Regional statistical development**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on regional cooperation and took note of the main achievements in statistical development in the region;

(b) Commended the substantial progress achieved and appreciated the strong partnerships fostered through strengthened regional collaboration among countries, regional statistical organizations, and entities within the United Nations system;

(c) Recommended regional statistical organizations and MSs to expand the collection of disability data using harmonized tools for comparability and public policy;

(d) Urged MSs to consider integrating the international comparison programme (ICP) into national statistical systems to ensure its funding and its sustainability.

## **57/117**

### **Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Expressed appreciation to the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data for its methodological guidance to national statistical offices on strengthening age-disaggregated data across key policy priority areas and addressing data gaps for older persons;

(b) Acknowledged the conclusion of the Group's mandate, agreed to dissolve it, and encouraged the continuation of efforts to place ageing and changing demographics at the heart of SDG implementation and future development frameworks.

## **57/118**

### **Refugee, internally displaced persons and statelessness statistics**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS), commended its collective achievements, and endorsed the revised terms of reference of the Group;

(b) Noted the progress made so far in the implementation of the recommendations, supported continued monitoring, and welcomed the efforts to integrate the recommendations into population censuses, surveys and administrative data sources;

(c) Supported the Expert Group's work priorities, encouraging continued exploration of the use of emerging technologies, underscoring the importance of coordination mechanisms, and called for sustained technical assistance.

## **57/119**

### **Disaster-related statistics**

The Statistical Commission:

- (a) Welcomed the report and background documents of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics;
- (b) Endorsed the Global Disaster-related Statistics Framework as the global statistical framework underpinning the production of these statistics;
- (c) Encouraged countries to implement the Framework and stressed the importance of collaboration and coordination among national statistical offices, disaster risk reduction offices, and geospatial information agencies;
- (d) Called upon the Expert Group to operationalize the Framework through the development of guidance, methodological tools, and capacity-building activities; and invited the Group to report back to the Commission on progress achieved in the framework's implementation.

## **57/120**

### **Governance statistics**

The Statistical Commission:

- (a) Welcomed the report of the Praia Group, noting the methodological developments in governance statistics and the Group's continued efforts in capacity building and awareness raising in this domain, including through its crosscutting human rights dimensions;
- (b) Endorsed the survey on participation in political and public affairs; the guidance on utilizing electoral administrative data to produce statistics on political participation; the survey on discrimination; and the guidance for national statistical offices on using administrative data to measure non-discrimination and equality;
- (c) Supported the continuation of the Praia Group's activities under its proposed revised terms of reference, with a focus on further developing standardized methodologies in selected governance sub-domains and strengthening the capacities of Member States in producing and compiling governance statistics

## **57/121**

### **International statistical classifications**

The Statistical Commission:

- (a) Welcomed the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications;
- (b) Endorsed the following as international statistical classifications:
  - a. Classification of Statistical Activities, Version 2.1.
  - b. the structure of the Standard International Energy Product Classification (SIEC), Version 2.0; encouraged the Committee to finalize the explanatory notes and relevant correspondences.
  - c. the Extended Balance of Payment Services Classification 2026

d. the International Statistical Classification on Alternative Care of Children

e. the International Classification of Dying Places

(c) Supported a revision of the International Recommendations for Energy Statistics in connection with the development of the revised SIEC; requested the Intersecretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics to present a work programme for the revision to the Commission for consideration;

(d) Requested continued technical assistance to Member States and development of compilation guidance to support the ISIC and CPC implementation;

(e) Called for timely publication of the approved international statistical classifications.

## **57/122**

### **Integration of statistical and geospatial information**

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report, the background papers, and progress of the Expert Group, supported its strategic plan, vision and 2025-2027 workplan, and recognized the critical role of integrating statistical and geospatial information for policymaking;

(b) Endorsed the second edition of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework, aligned with decision 15/109 (2025) of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, encouraged Member States to adopt it, and requested resource mobilization and translation for its implementation;

(c) Welcomed the Unique Identifiers for Cities concept, aligned with decision 2025/8 of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

## **57/123**

### **Programme questions**

The Statistical Commission took note of the oral report presented by the Acting Director of the Statistics Division concerning the work programme of the Division, including the current activities, plans and priorities of the Division. It requested the Bureau to review substantively the programme proposals for 2027.

## **57/124**

### **Information items**

The Statistical Commission took note of the following reports:

Report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics<sup>2</sup>

Joint report of the Secretary-General, the Washington Group on Disability Statistics and international agencies on disability statistics<sup>3</sup>

Report of the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on culture statistics<sup>4</sup>

<sup>2</sup> E/CN.3/2026/24

<sup>3</sup> E/CN.3/2026/25

<sup>4</sup> E/CN.3/2026/26

Report of the United Nations Network of Economic Statisticians<sup>5</sup>

Report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme<sup>6</sup>

Report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development<sup>7</sup>

Report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics<sup>8</sup>

Joint Report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System and the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>10</sup>

Report of the Secretary-General on the World Statistics Day<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> E/CN.3/2026/27

<sup>6</sup> E/CN.3/2026/28

<sup>7</sup> E/CN.3/2026/29

<sup>8</sup> E/CN.3/2026/30

<sup>9</sup> E/CN.3/2026/31

<sup>10</sup> E/CN.3/2026/32

<sup>11</sup> E/CN.3/2026/33

## Chapter II

### Items for discussion and decision

1. The Commission considered item 3 of its agenda at its 1st to 7th meetings, from 3 to 6 March 2026. At its 7th meeting, on 7 March, the Commission took action on all related draft decisions (draft decisions 57/101–57/116) contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 3 of its agenda (see chap. I, sect. B).

#### A. Working methods of the Statistical Commission

2. The Commission considered item 3 (a) of its agenda at its 1st and 7th meetings, on 3 and 6 March 2026. At its 1st meeting, the Chair introduced the report of the Bureau of the Statistical Commission on the working methods of the Commission (E/CN.3/2026/2). Thereafter, the representatives of Rwanda and Slovenia briefed the Commission on the topics of AI-readiness and Beyond GDP, respectively. Statements were subsequently made by the representatives of 10 States members of the Commission, 13 observer States and 3 international organizations.

#### B. Social and demographic statistics

2. The Commission considered item 3 (b) of its agenda at its 1st, 2nd and 7th meetings, on 3 and 6 March 2026. At the 1st meeting, the representative of Mexico introduced the report of the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics (E/CN.3/2026/3). At its 2nd meeting, the Commission continued its consideration of item 3 (b). At the 1st and 2nd meetings, statements were made by the representatives of 17 States members of the Commission, 15 observer States and 2 international organizations.

#### C. Demographic and housing statistics

3. The Commission considered item 3 (c) of its agenda at its 2nd and 7th meetings, on 3 and 6 March 2026. At the 2nd meeting, the Chief of the Demographic and Social Statistics Branch of the Statistics Division introduced the report of the Secretary-General on demographic and housing statistics (E/CN.3/2026/4). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 8 States members of the Commission, 13 observer States and 2 international organizations..

#### D. Health Statistics

4. The Commission considered item 3 (d) of its agenda at its 2nd and 7th meetings, on 3 and 6 March 2026. At the 2nd meeting, the representative of the World Health Organization introduced its report on health statistics (E/CN.3/2026/5). At the 2nd meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 3 States members of the Commission, 6 observer States and 2 international organizations.

#### E. National accounts

5. The Commission considered item 3 (e) of its agenda at its 2nd, 3rd and 7th meetings, on 3, 4 and 6 March 2026. At the 2nd meeting, the representative of the World Bank Group introduced the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (E/CN.3/2026/6). At its 3rd meeting, the Commission continued its consideration of item

3 (e). At the 2nd and 3rd meetings, statements were made by the representatives of 13 States members of the Commission, 21 observer States and 2 international organizations.

## **F. Environmental-economic accounting**

6. The Commission considered item 3 (f) of its agenda at its 3rd and 7th meetings, on 4 and 6 March 2026. At the 3rd meeting, the representative of Australia introduced the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (E/CN.3/2026/7). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 4 States members of the Commission, 10 observer States and 4 international organizations.

## **G. Agricultural and rural statistics**

7. The Commission considered item 3 (g) of its agenda at its 3rd, 4th and 7th meetings, on 4 and 6 March 2026. At the 3rd meeting, the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations introduced its report on agricultural and rural statistics (E/CN.3/2026/8). At its 4th meeting, the Commission continued its consideration of item 3 (g). At the 3rd and 4th meetings, statements were made by the representatives of 10 States members of the Commission, 16 observer States and 2 international organizations.

## **H. Business and trade statistics, business registers and service statistics**

8. The Commission considered item 3 (h) of its agenda at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 4 and 6 March 2026. At the 4th meeting, the representative of Netherlands introduced 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). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 5 States members of the Commission, 16 observer States and 4 international organizations.

## **I. Environment and climate change statistic**

9. The Commission considered item 3 (i) of its agenda at its 4th and 7th meetings, on 4 and 6 March 2026. At the 4th meeting, a member of the Environment Statistics Section of the Statistics Divisions introduced the report of the Secretary-General on environment and climate change statistics (E/CN.3/2026/10). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 10 States members of the Commission, 10 observer States and 2 international organizations.

## **J. Data governance**

10. The Commission considered item 3 (j) of its agenda at its 4th, 5th and 7th meetings, on 4, 5 and 7 March 2026. At the 4th meeting, the representative of Finland introduced the report of the Working Group on Data Governance (E/CN.3/2026/11). At its 5th meeting, the Commission continued its consideration of item 3 (j). At the 4th and 5th meetings, statements were made by the representatives of 4 States members of the Commission, 17 observer States and 3 international organizations.

## **K. Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

11. The Commission considered item 3 (k) of its agenda at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 5 and 6 March 2026. At the 5th meeting, the representative of Kenya introduced 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). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 12 States members of the Commission, 19 observer States and 6 international organizations.

12. Also at the 5th meeting, the Officer-in-Charge of the Development Data and Outreach Branch of the Statistics Division introduced the Report of the Secretary-General on the work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (E/CN.3/2026/13). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 4 States members of the Commission, 7 observer States and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

## **L. Well-being measurement**

13. The Commission considered item 3 (l) of its agenda at its 5th and 7th meetings, on 5 and 6 March 2026. At the 5th meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom introduced the report of the Expert Group on Well-being Measurement (E/CN.3/2026/14). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 8 States members of the Commission, 9 observer States and 2 international organizations.

## **M. Presentation of statistical data and metadata, dissemination of statistics and open data**

14. The Commission considered item 3 (m) of its agenda at its 5th, 6th and 7th meetings, on 5 and 6 March 2026. At the 5th meeting, the Officer-in-Charge of the Development Data and Outreach Branch of the Statistics Division introduced the 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). At its 6th meeting, the Commission continued its consideration of item 3 (g). At the 5th and 6th meetings, statements were made by the representatives of 5 States members of the Commission, 13 observer States and one international organization.

## **N. Statistical capacity development**

15. The Commission considered item 3 (n) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 5 and 6 March 2026. At the 6th meeting, the Chief of the Data Innovation and Capacity Branch of the Statistics Division introduced the report of the Secretary-General on statistical capacity development (E/CN.3/2026/16). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 5 States members of the Commission, 10 observer States and 3 international organizations.

## **O. Regional statistical development**

16. The Commission considered item 3 (o) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 5 and 6 March 2026. At the 6th meeting, the representative of Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia introduced the Commission's report on regional cooperation for statistical development (E/CN.3/2026/17). Thereafter, statements were made by the representatives of 2 observer States and one international organization.

## Chapter III

### Items for decision

1. The Commission considered item 4 of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 5 and 6 March 2026. At the 7th meeting, the Commission took action on all related draft decisions (draft decisions 57/117 and 57/122) contained in an informal paper introduced by the Rapporteur under item 8 of its agenda (see chap. I, sect. B).

#### A. Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data

2. The Commission considered item 4 (a) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings. At the 6th meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom introduced the report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data (E/CN.3/2026/18). Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of one State member of the Commission and one observer State.

#### B. Refugee, internally displaced persons and statelessness statistics

3. The Commission considered item 4 (b) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings. At the 6th meeting, the representative of Colombia introduced the report of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics (E/CN.3/2026/19). Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 2 States members of the Commission and 2 observer States.

#### C. Disaster-related statistics

3. The Commission considered item 4 (c) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings. At the 6th meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom introduced the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics (E/CN.3/2026/20). Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 4 observer States.

#### D. Governance statistics

4. The Commission considered item 4 (d) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings. At the 6th meeting, the representative of Cabo Verde introduced the report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics (E/CN.3/2026/21). Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 5 States members of the Commission, 2 observer States and 3 international organizations.

#### E. International statistical classification

5. The Commission considered item 4 (e) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings. At the 6th meeting, the representative of New Zealand introduced the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications (E/CN.3/2026/22). Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 2 States members of the Commission, 6 observer States and one international organization.

## **F. Integration of statistical and geospatial information**

6. The Commission considered item 4 (f) of its agenda at its 6th and 7th meetings. At the 6th meeting, the representative of Brazil introduced the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (E/CN.3/2026/23). Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of 2 States members of the Commission and one observer State.

## **Chapter IV**

### **Items for information**

1. The Commission considered item 5 (a) to (j) of its agenda at its 6th meeting, on 65 March 2026. At the same meeting, the Commission took note of all the reports under these agenda items for information (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 57/124; and chap. VIII, para. 6).

## Chapter V

### Programme questions (Statistics Division)

1. The Commission considered item 6 of its agenda at its 7th meeting, on 6 March 2026, and, in that context, heard an oral report by the Acting Director of the Statistics Division concerning the Division's current activities, plans and priorities.
2. At the same meeting, the Commission took note of the oral report and requested the Bureau to review substantively the programme proposals for 2027 (see chap. I, sect. B, decision 57/123).

## Chapter VI

### **Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission**

1. The Commission considered item 7 of its agenda at its 7th meeting, on 6 March 2026. A representative of the Office of the Director of the Statistics Division introduced the following:

(a) Note by the Secretariat on the draft provisional agenda and documentation of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission (E/CN.3/2026/L.2);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Statistical Commission 2026-2030 (E/CN.3/2026/34).

2. Also at its 7th meeting, the Commission approved the draft provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session (E/CN.3/2026/L.2), as orally revised. The Commission decided to recommend the provisional agenda to the Economic and Social Council for approval (see chap. I, sect. A).

3. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to recommend to the Council that its fifty-eighth session be held from 23 to 26 February 2027 (see chap. I, sect. A).

4. Also at the same meeting, the Commission approved its draft multi-year programme of work for 2026-2030 (E/CN.3/2026/34).

## **Chapter VII**

### **Report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session**

1. The Commission considered item 8 of its agenda at its 7th meeting, on 6 March 2026, and heard a statement by the Rapporteur, who introduced the draft report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session (E/CN.3/2026/L.3), together with an informal paper containing the draft decisions.
2. At the same meeting, statements on the text of the draft decisions were made by the representatives of 4 States members of the Commission, 13 observer States and one international organization.
3. Also at the same meeting, the Commission adopted the draft report on its fifty-seventh session, including the draft decisions, as orally revised; and entrusted the Rapporteur with finalizing the report.

## Chapter VIII

### Organization of the session

#### A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Statistical Commission held its fifty-seventh session at Headquarters from 3 to 6 March 2026. It held seven meetings.

#### B. Attendance

2. The session was attended by the representatives of 33 of the 34 States members of the Commission. Also in attendance were observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of United Nations system organizations and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.3/2026/INF/1.

#### C. Election of officers

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

*Chair:*

Ms. Graciela Márquez Colín (Mexico)

*Vice-Chairs:*

Mr. Markus Sovala (Finland)

Ms. Apolonija Oblak Flander (Slovenia) Hyoung Il Lee (Republic of Korea)

Mr. Behzod Hamraev (Uzbekistan)

*Rapporteur:*

Mr. Oussama Marseli (Morocco)

#### D. Agenda and organization of work

4. At its 1st meeting, on 3 March, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda (E/CN.3/2026/1) and approved the provisional programme of work and timetable for the session (E/CN.3/2026/L.1).

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

#### E. Documentation

6. The documents before the Commission are available at <https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/documents/57>.