CONCEPT NOTE

I. Background

Statistical Business Registers are often described as the backbone of economic statistics, as they provide the core infrastructure to support the collection of economic data and the production of economic statistics. They provide a coherent set of units and classifications to collect and compile data across all domains, and a consistent set of rules to maintain this set of units over time. SBRs are considered as the backbone for producing economic statistics that meet the increasing demand for better integrated, coherent and comparable statistics across countries and statistical domains. Inclusive and exhaustive SBRs is becoming an increasingly more important element of the statistical infrastructure for maintaining the relevance, responsiveness and quality of economic statistics in order to measure the structure and dynamics of economic activity.

To reflect the importance of Statistical Business Registers, the UN Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics established in 2018 two Task teams dedicated in addressing challenges in developing exhaustive business registers and develop tools to help countries in strengthening the Statistical Business Registers¹. These task teams developed the Maturity Model for Statistical Business Registers which provides a framework for evaluating the stages of maturity of the Statistical Business Registers in the seven dimensions that characterize SBRs. These include Legal and institutional framework; Data sources for the SBR; Maintenance and update of the SBR; Coverage of the SBR; Use of SBR; IT Environment; and Interoperability.

Building on the Workshop on Statistical Business Registers (SBR) in the Arab Countries organized by ESCWA, AITRS, UNSD and UNIDO in 2016, this Workshop will provide training to the region’s national statistical authorities on the recently published international guidelines on statistical business register and will serve as a venue to share experiences between member states and with other countries.

II. Organization

The Workshop on Statistical Business Registers is organized by UNSD in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the Arab Institute for Training and Research on Statistics (AITRS).

¹ The Task Team on Exhaustive Business Register lead by Statistics Netherlands and the Task team on Capacity building lead by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics.
The 3-day workshop is planned to be held from 25th to 27th June 2024 in Amman, Jordan. The workshop will be held as a physical meeting. Participants are expected to take the necessary precautions and preventive measures due to COVID-19. The workshop will be held in English. Simultaneous interpretation in Arabic and vice-versa will be provided.

III. Objectives

The objectives of this Workshop are to:

a) Review international recommendations and standards on Statistical Business Registers and provide guidance on the implementation of the Maturity Model for Statistical Business Registers
b) Share country experiences in the establishment and maintenance of Statistical Business Registers, main challenges encountered by countries, and new developments in this area

Topics for the Agenda

Opening of the workshop
Introduction of Statistical Business registers
Maturity Model for SBRs
Coverage of Statistical Business registers
Uses of SBRs
Data Sources
Legal and Institutional Framework
New developments for SBRs
Profiling and Global Registers