



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
STATISTICS DIVISION  
UNITED NATIONS

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**8th meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics  
24-26 June 2025, Singapore**

Hosted by Statistics Singapore and Enterprise Singapore

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA (last update: 19 June 2025)**

Tuesday, 24 June 2025

9:30-10:00 a.m.	<p><b>1. Opening remarks and objective of the meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Alvin Tan (Minster of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry)(virtual)</li><li>- Gerardo Durand (INEGI, UNCEBTS Interim Chair)</li><li>- Launch of UNCEBTS global repository of country practices (Koh Eng Chuan, Chief Statistician, DOS Singapore)</li></ul>
10:00-10:20 a.m.	<p><b>2. Election of the Chair</b></p> <p>In accordance with paragraph 17 and 18 of the UNCEBTS Mandate and Governance, a Chair will be elected among the members of Committee for a period of three years.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Overview of the election process (UNSD)</li><li>- Inception remarks (new Chair)</li></ul>
10:20-10:50 a.m.	<p><b>3. Follow up to the UNSC decision and introduction of the strategic framework</b></p> <p>This session will provide an overview of the decisions of the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) in March 2025 and the follow-up work of UNCEBTS. It will review current and upcoming priorities for the work programme on business and trade statistics in countries and international organizations. This session will also present the strategic framework on the integration of business and trade statistics with other statistical domains and provide a strategic discussion on the work programme and future direction of the Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- UNCEBTS strategic framework (Cristina Neves, Statistics Portugal)</li></ul>
10:50-11:20 a.m.	<b>Coffee break and group photo</b>

11:20 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	<p><b>4. Task team on International Trade Statistics</b></p> <p>This session will review the progress of the Task Team’s work on international trade statistics and discuss emerging topics in this area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress update (Cristina Neves, Statistics Portugal and Ouljour Houssaine, Office des Changes - Morocco, TT-ITS leaders)</li> <li>- Reflection on the globalization workstream i.e., Large Case Unit (Markie, UNSD)</li> <li>- Compiling Informal and household trade as part of HIBTS (Cristina, Statistics Portugal)</li> </ul>
12:30-2 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
2 – 3.20 p.m.	<p><b>5. Task team on International Trade Statistics, continued</b></p> <p>The session will provide an update and discuss the way forward on the implementation of HIBTS following its endorsement by the recent UNSC, and the finalization of the revision of trade statistics manuals (IMTS 2026, MSITS2026 and the 2nd volume of MPIBTS) for submission to the next session of the UNSC in 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- HIBTS (Gerardo &amp; Cristina, INEGI, Mexico &amp; Statistics Portugal)</li> <li>- IMTS 2026 (Amy Donnelly, ABS)</li> <li>- MSITS 2026 (Barbara, WTO)</li> <li>- MPIBTS vol. 2 (Ouljour, Morocco)</li> </ul>
3.20-3.40 p.m.	<b>Coffee break</b>
3.40-5.00 p.m.	<p><b>6. UN Handbook of Business Statistics</b></p> <p>The session will discuss the way forward to develop a concrete proposal for a Handbook of Business Statistics, including the need for concerted efforts, dedicated resources and prioritization of developing such handbook for reporting back to the next UNSC session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Towards the development of the Handbook of Business Statistics (Julian Chow, UNSD)</li> <li>- European business statistics manual (Petra Sneiers, Eurostat)</li> <li>- Singapore’s Administrative-Data-First Approach to Business Statistics (Neo Soo Khee &amp; Suzanne Wong, DOS Singapore)</li> <li>- Recommendations on the development of the Handbook of Business Statistics from the developing country perspective (Arthur Johannes Giesberts, World Bank)</li> </ul>

Wednesday, 25 June 2025

9.00-9.10 am.	<b>7. UNSD Director's remark</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stefan Schweinfest (Director, UNSD)</li> </ul>
9.10-9.30 am	<b>8. SNA and BPM implementation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2025 SNA implementation (Herman Smith, UNSD)</li> <li>- BPM7 implementation (Venkateswarlu Josyula, IMF)</li> </ul>
9.30-10.50 a.m.	<b>9. Task Team on Business Dynamics, Business Demography and Entrepreneurship</b> This session will review the progress of the work of the Task Team on business dynamics, demography, and entrepreneurship and discuss emerging topics in this area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress update (Gerardo Durand, INEGI, TT-BDBDE leader)</li> <li>- Concept note on Entrepreneurship (Julio Rosa, Statistics Canada)</li> <li>- Progress update on the Gender Data Initiative (Annabelle Mourougane, OECD)</li> <li>- Template for collecting practices on mainstreaming gender in business and trade statistics (Gerardo Durand, INEGI)</li> <li>- Document on indicators related to the integration of gender in business and trade statistics (Ricardo Gutierrez, INEGI)</li> <li>- Next steps of the TT-BDBDE (Gerardo Durand, INEGI)</li> </ul>
10.50-11.10 a.m.	<b>Coffee break</b>
11.10 a.m.-12.30 p.m.	<b>10. Task Team on Statistical Business Registers</b> This session will review the progress of the work of the Task team on statistical business registers and discuss emerging topics in this area. Global Initiative on Unique Identifiers for Businesses will also be discussed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress update (Hank Hermans, CBS, TT-SBR leader)</li> <li>- SBR Maturity Model Toolkit (Cui Hui Min, DOS Singapore)</li> <li>- SBR global assessment (Julian Chow, UNSD)</li> <li>- Statistical unit (Andrew Allen, ONS)</li> <li>- Global initiative on unique identifiers for business (Bastiaan Rooijakkers, CBS; Ricco Dun, GLEIF; and Julian Chow, UNSD)</li> </ul>
12.30-2 p.m.	<b>Lunch</b>
2 – 3.20 p.m.	<b>11. Work programme on Wellbeing and Sustainability</b> This session will review the progress of the work of the Task team on wellbeing and sustainability and discuss emerging topics in this area, notably the progress and alignment of programme with the Expert Group on Wellbeing Measurement (EGWM). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress update (Stefano Menghinello, Istat )</li> </ul>

3.20-3.40 p.m.	<b>Coffee break</b>
3.40-5 p.m.	<p><b>12. Emerging initiatives and capacity development activities on business and trade statistics</b></p> <p>The session will discuss the emerging initiatives related to business and trade statistics, such as drafting ESR Framework on Tourism Statistics. The session will session will also discuss capacity development efforts undertaken by international/regional organizations to support the compilation of business and trade statistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ESR Framework on Tourism Statistics (Leandry Moreno, UN Tourism)</li> <li>- Work on Business Statistics in the World Bank (Arthur Johannes Giesberts, World Bank)</li> <li>- Interagency Task Force on International Trade Statistics on capacity development activities (Barbara D'Andrea, WTO)</li> </ul>

Thursday, 26 June 2025

9:00-10:20 a.m.	<b>13. Task Team on Digitalization</b> This session will review the progress of the work of the Task Team on digitalization and discuss emerging topics in this area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Progress update (Mark Uhrbach, StatCan. TT-D leader)</li><li>- Update on the Task Group on measuring e-commerce value (Siriphan Wichaidit, TG-eCom Chair)</li><li>- Survey of AI in the state of Sao Paulo, Brazil (Aline Viscontie Rodrigues, Brazil)</li></ul>
10:20-10:40 a.m.	<b>Coffee break</b>
10:40 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	<b>14. Industrial Statistics</b> This session will discuss the way forward for the revision of the international guidelines on industrial statistics. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Way forward for the revision of the international guidelines on industrial statistics (Fernando Cantu Bazaldua, UNIDO and Markie Muryawan, UNSD)</li><li>- Navigating emerging data needs in the industrial development (Cheng Wai San &amp; Cui Hui Min, DOS Singapore)</li></ul>
12.00-12.30 p.m.	<b>15. Closing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- UNCEBTS Chair</li><li>- UNSD</li><li>- DOS Singapore</li></ul>