

(f) Asked the Partnership to continue reviewing the indicators in light of rapid technological advances and widespread use of ICT technology;

(g) Recognized the importance of capacity-building activities, welcomed the activities of some development partners in this area and urged other development partners to provide assistance in this regard;

(h) Agreed to include ICT statistics in its multi-annual work programme and requested the Partnership to report on progress made at the session of the Commission in 2014.

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National quality assurance frameworks

The Statistical Commission:

(a) Welcomed the report on national quality assurance frameworks (E/CN.3/2012/13) and the accompanying background documents and commended the Expert Group on a job well done;

(b) Fully endorsed the generic national quality assurance framework template and encouraged countries to use it. In this context, it particularly welcomed the fact that some countries had already started a process of using the template and the supporting materials developed by the Expert Group;

(c) Asked the Expert Group to develop an action plan to assist countries in the implementation of their national quality assurance frameworks and supported the plan to pilot the generic national quality assurance framework template in some countries with different types of statistical systems, and to report back to the Statistical Commission in due course on the lessons learned during the piloting process;

(d) Encouraged international, regional and subregional entities to work along with the United Nations Statistics Division in assisting countries to implement quality assurance programmes;

(e) Emphasized that a quality assurance framework must not be seen as an end in itself, and that regular review and continuous improvements of the framework are essential;

(f) Stressed the importance of having a knowledge base on quality assurance, including good practices, glossaries, examples and metadata, upon which countries could draw for guidance;

(g) Asked the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities to take on this topic, in particular the harmonization among different international quality assessment frameworks, as well as rendering assistance to countries in the implementation of their regional or national quality assurance frameworks.

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Implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

The Statistical Commission: