



Countries' written statements to the UN Statistical Commission – concerning environment and climate change statistics

16 October 2024, Environment Statistics Section, UNSD



Outline

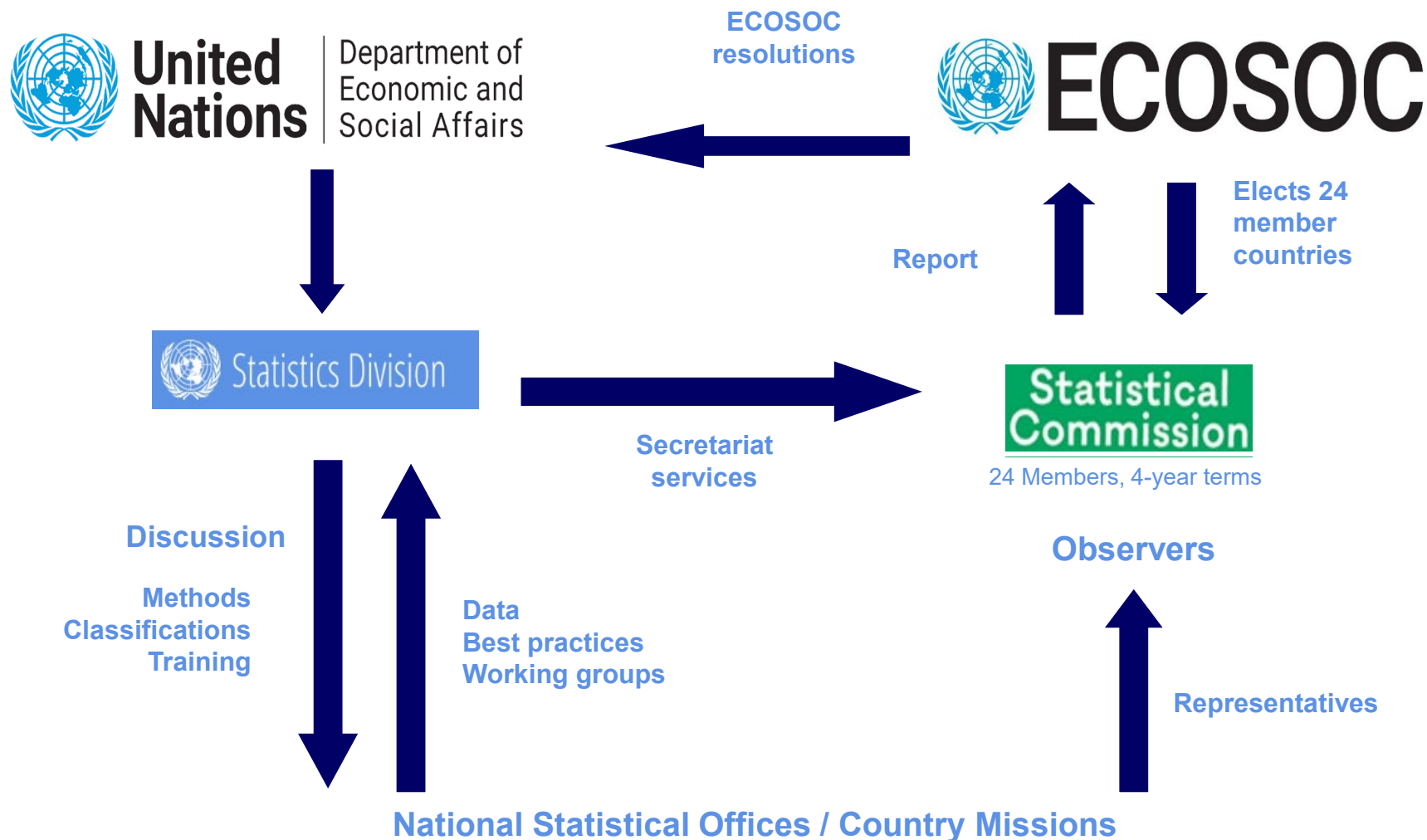
1. Brief introduction to the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC)
2. Review of a selection of countries' written statements to the 55th session of the UNSC (March, 2024)
3. The value and impact of countries' contributions to the UNSC
4. Ties between the EG-ECCS and the UN Statistical Commission

Statistical Commission mandate

- The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Commission state that it shall assist the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UN:
 - in promoting the development of national statistics and the improvement of their comparability;
 - in the coordination of the statistical work of specialized agencies;
 - in the development of the central statistical services of the Secretariat;
 - in advising the organs of the United Nations on general questions relating to the collection, analysis, and dissemination of statistical information;
 - in promoting the improvement of statistics and statistical methods generally.

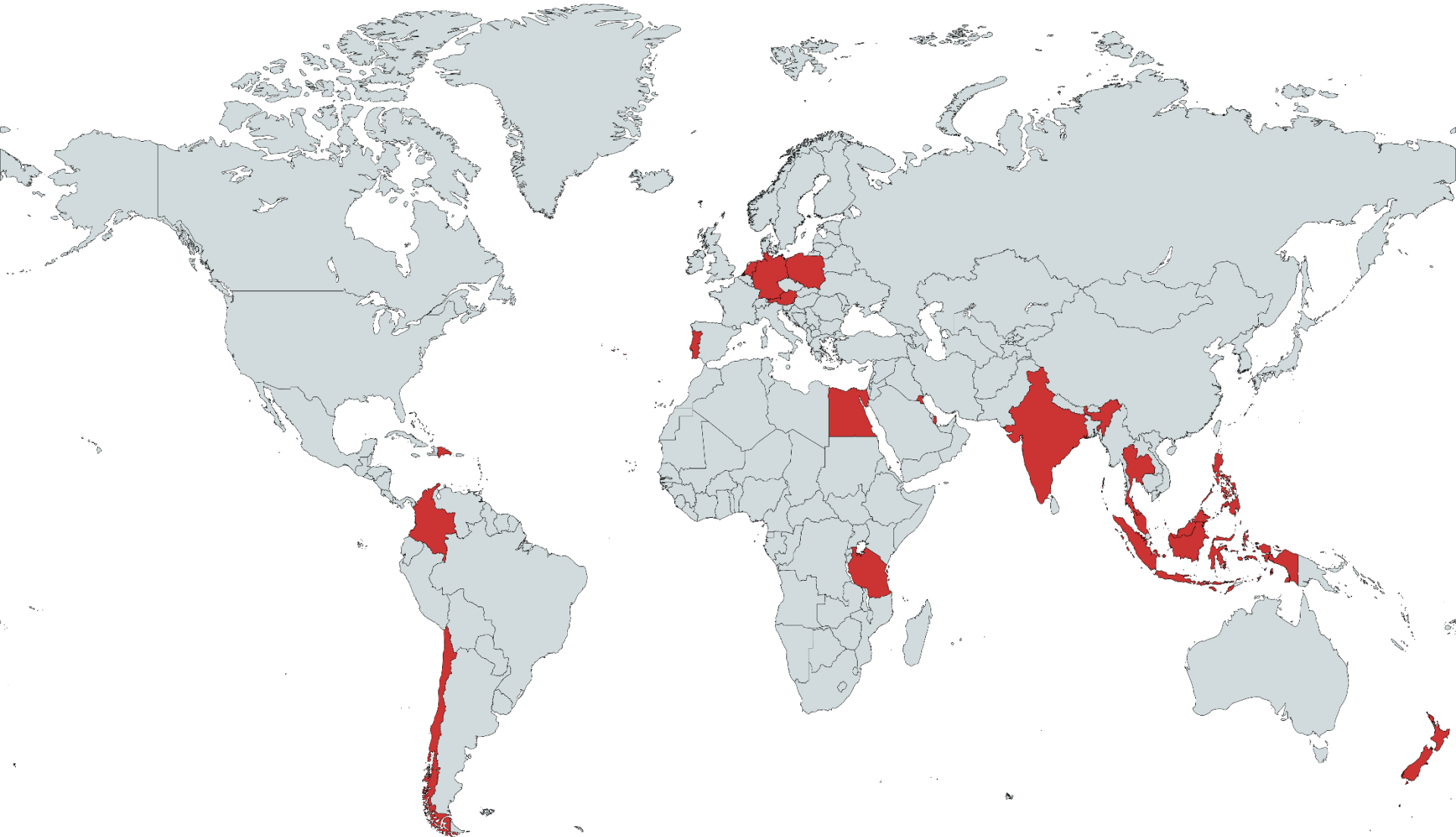
Source: <https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/>

Contextualising UNSD, the Statistical Commission and member states' and others' roles





UN member state shared a written comment prior to the UNSC's 56th session (March 2024) concerning agenda item 4(d): Climate change statistics. n=18



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... and several more countries and international organisations made verbal interventions.

Review of a selection of countries' written statements prior to the 55th session of the UNSC (March, 2024)...

Theme 1: This Expert Group

“**The Philippines** supports the approval of the renaming of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics to the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics to cover more aspects of climate change statistics and indicators, and the streamlining of environment and climate change statistics.”

“**Colombia** supports the decision of the Statistical Commission **to approve the name change** to the Expert Group.”

“**Egypt** agrees to rename the **EGES** team to become the Expert Team on Environment and Climate Change Statistics.”

“**Austria** supports the renaming of the **Expert Group** on Environment Statistics to the Expert Group on Environment and Climate Change Statistics.”

... and several more countries expressed support to rename the group.

All written comments received are available here:

<https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/documents/55> (refer Agenda item 4(d), Items for decision: Climate Change Statistics)

Theme 2: Methodological work

“The State of Kuwait emphasizes the importance of implementing the **Global Set** in countries.”

“**Malaysia** also agreed with the proposal to streamline the environment and climate change statistics and use **Global Set** Climate Change Statistics and its implementation support tools such as the Climate Change Statistics and Indicators Self-Assessment Tool (**CISAT**).”

“We (**Portugal**) recognize the importance of the **Global Set** as a framework for climate change statistics and indicators for countries to develop their own set, in our case as a complement to the set of European indicators.”

“We (**Qatar**) support to apply the **Global Set** and its implementation support tools, **CISAT** and Implementation Guidelines to assist in establishing national programs of climate change statistics.”

Tanzania (on behalf of the Africa group): “Promoting and supporting the implementation of the **Global Set** of Climate Change Statistics and Indicators in countries. The implementation support tools, namely the **Climate Change Statistics and Indicators SelfAssessment Tool (CISAT)** and the **Implementation Guideline**... have been instrumental for countries developing their national programmes in climate change statistics.”

Theme 3: Collaboration

“Statistics **Poland** agrees... that at national level there is a **need for very close cooperation between NSO and national authorities** – including institutions responsible for reporting climate change to the UNFCCC.”


“**BPS (Indonesia) Statistics has collaborated with MoEF** in providing data for national climate change reporting mandate to UNFCCC. Closer collaboration at the global level (between the Statistics Division and UNFCCC), will strengthen NSO position at the national level in advocating Global Set on Climate Change Statistics and indicators.”

“**Malaysia** has **established a Technical Working Committee on Climate Change Statistics and Indicators with members comprising various ministries and agencies**. The committee serves as a mechanism for compiling climate change statistics.”


Netherlands: “...an **intensive cooperation with stakeholders** and other data producers, in both public and private domains, is essential and critical in delivering jointly the right data and insights.”

Observations on the EG-ECCS and its tie to the UNSC


Toward countries especially, please feel reassured that from the UNSD side, the comments you may make at the EG-ECCS have potential to impact content put to the UNSC.



The EG-ECCS is a wonderful opportunity for peer review, group consultation, formation of sub-groups on priority topics, etc., prior to a body of work being put to the consideration of the UNSC.



Following that, NSOs around the world (in particular Chief Statisticians and leadership teams of NSOs) can consider the work, and then support and endorse it (or critique it).



Once UNSC has mandated a body of work (e.g. the Global Set, CISAT, the FDES, data collection on waste and water, etc.), its impact can be felt worldwide, especially, but not only within, NSOs.

Thank you for your attention!

For more information please contact the Environment Statistics Section
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Website: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/>