

**12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts,  
27-29 November 2018, Luxembourg**

**Reference Material: RM.4**

**Decisions on National Accounts of the United Nations Statistical Commission at its Forty-ninth session, 6-9 March 2018**

Documentation

Statistical Commission – Report on the forty-eighth session, also available at:

<https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/documents/Report-on-the-49th-session-E.pdf>.



STATISTICAL COMMISSION, Forty-ninth session  
6 – 9 March 2018  
C. Decisions brought to the attention of the Council  
49/109 National Accounts

The Statistical Commission:

- (a) Welcomed the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts, expressed its appreciation for the activities undertaken by the members of the Working Group, the regional commissions, other regional organizations and countries to facilitate the implementation of the System of National Accounts 2008 (2008 SNA) and supporting statistics, and endorsed the programmes of work for 2018 of the Working Group and the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts;
- (b) Welcomed the initiative of the Working Group to address important conceptual issues, some of which may extend beyond the 2008 SNA, and requested the Working Group to report to the Commission at its fiftieth session on progress in addressing issues related to globalization (including statistical units and factoryless goods producers), digitalization (including related price and productivity measures) and well-being and sustainability (within the scope of SNA), which are central to the global economy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and issues related to Islamic finance and the informal sector;
- (c) Expressed concern at the relatively large number of Member States that are still unable to comply with the minimum required scope and detail of national accounts data, welcomed the initiative of the Working Group to step up its support to those Member States that are lagging behind, and urged those countries with a low level of compliance to develop basic source data for the compilation of national accounts that are policy-relevant and fit for purpose;
- (d) Requested the Working Group to continue to issue practical guidance on issues that would facilitate the implementation of the 2008 SNA through manuals, handbooks and guidelines and the application of modern tools, approaches and technology for capacity-building (for example, e-learning) and communication tools to advance the understanding of national accounts by the general public;
- (e) Noted the progress of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) data transmission mechanism for national accounts, and recognized that the implementation of the SDMX protocols by countries will facilitate data transmission and thereby significantly reduce the response burden in submitting data to international organizations.