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Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Items for discussion and decision: working methods of the Statistical Commission

Report of the Bureau on the working methods of the Statistical Commission

Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2013/235, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Statistical Commission the report of the Bureau on the review of the Commission's working methods. For this review, the Bureau of the Commission conducted a global consultation and also took into account other sources, such as the ongoing reform process of the Council and a survey conducted by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management after the forty-fourth session of the Commission. Proposals for adjustments in the working methods of the Commission are reflected in paragraph 39. The Commission is invited to comment on the report and decide on appropriate changes in its working methods.

* [E/CN.3/2014/1](#).



Report of the Bureau on the working methods of the Statistical Commission

I. Mandate and the process of reviewing the working methods

1. At its forty-fourth session, held from 26 February to 1 March 2013, the Statistical Commission approved the provisional agenda for its forty-fifth session in March 2014, including a report of the Bureau on the working methods of the Commission. This coincides with the provisions of General Assembly resolution [68/1](#), in which the Assembly requested the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council to review the resolution in relation to their respective work programmes, with a view to exploring necessary adjustments/changes to their methods of work, reporting and timing of their sessions. The current review of the working methods by the Bureau is the first such review since that conducted in 2004-2005 (see [E/CN.3/2005/2](#)), pursuant to the request made by the Council in its resolution 2003/6.

2. In October 2013, the Bureau decided to use the following three sources as a basis for the present report:

- (a) A global consultation process;
- (b) A survey conducted by the Secretary of the Commission following the forty-third session;
- (c) Possible effects of the ongoing reform process of the Economic and Social Council.

3. On 6 November 2013, the Chair of the Statistical Commission sent a letter to all national statistical offices and statistical services of international agencies inviting them to submit comments on improving the current working methods of the Commission. A total of 49 replies were received from Member States. Two replies were received from international agencies. The guiding questions asked in the global consultation are included in annex II.

4. The Bureau also received and reviewed a summary of replies received from 27 delegates (from 25 countries) in a survey conducted by the Secretary of the Commission following the forty-third session of the Commission.¹ The survey form is included in annex III for reference.

5. Further, the Bureau was briefed by the secretariat on possible effects of the ongoing Economic and Social Council reform process on the working methods of the functional commissions and on current working methods of other United Nations bodies. The Secretary also made suggestions, based on the working methods of a number of other intergovernmental bodies in the United Nations.

6. The Bureau reviewed all of this information and, with the assistance of the secretariat, prepared the present report. For information, the terms of reference of the Statistical Commission are included in annex I.

¹ Seventeen delegations replied to both the survey conducted by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and the global consultation conducted by the Bureau.

II. Current working methods of the Statistical Commission

7. The implementation of the results of the last review of the working methods of the Statistical Commission at its thirty-sixth session resulted in notable developments due to the new approaches introduced. A few additional changes to the working methods have been implemented since then, most notably the introduction of the PaperSmart Portal for the forty-fourth session in February/March 2013.

8. Directly below is a summary of the most notable changes introduced in 2005 and thereafter:

(a) *Agenda.* The session's agenda makes a clear distinction between items for discussion and decision and items for information. This allows for more extensive debate on topics that require a decision or guidance by the Statistical Commission on the issues raised. At the same time, the Commission has been able to maintain oversight over progress in a wide range of areas provided in reports for information;

(b) *Documentation.* Reports have become more streamlined, focus on the most substantive developments in the subject-matter area and include specific actions expected from the Statistical Commission. Timely submission and issuance of documents in all six official languages have been achieved for all recent sessions. Posting of session documents on the Commission website provides easy access to the documentation and ensures that participants can familiarize themselves with the reports well ahead of the session. Beginning with the last session, the distribution of documents is now carried out mostly through the PaperSmart Portal established and maintained by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management, which provides the Commission with technical and procedural support, and on the Commission's website, which is maintained by the Statistics Division as the substantive secretariat. In the survey conducted by the Secretary of the Commission, delegates were asked to rate, among other things, the linguistic quality of the documents and the interpretation. Most respondents rated them as excellent or good. The PaperSmart model received clear support.² A few particular suggestions for improvements were made and will be considered by the secretariat in preparing for the forty-fifth session. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management will also provide a further technical briefing to help delegations better understand the PaperSmart approach to the Commission's work;

(c) *Time management.* Oral introductions on the agenda items are kept very brief and focus only on additional information that has been gathered since the submission of documentation and highlight key issues for decision. Information items are not introduced. However, despite the fact that the Bureau, in cooperation with the secretariat, carefully plans the allocation of time for agenda items, time management remains a concern (see sect. IV.B below);

² Respondents were also asked how they accessed documents during the session. Replies were as follows: electronically (downloaded before the session) (74 per cent), electronically through the Commission's website (59 per cent), on paper (printed before and brought to the session) (59 per cent), electronically through the PaperSmart Portal (48 per cent) and printed on demand in the conference room (7 per cent).

(d) *Preparation of the session report.* The report on the session is action-oriented. The director of the Statistics Division summarizes key decisions after the debate on each agenda item, thereby contributing to the success of the process of adopting the report at the last meeting of the session, held on Friday morning. During this meeting, the Statistical Commission considers the procedural part of the report as prepared by the Secretary of the Commission (see, for example, [E/CN.3/2013/L.3](#)) and an informal document containing the draft text of the Commission's decisions, as prepared by the Rapporteur. After the session the Rapporteur, with the help of the Secretary, finalizes the session report;

(e) *Participation in the session.* Most delegations are represented at the Statistical Commission by their chief statistician. The number of participants has increased significantly over recent years: 135 Member States and 47 international organizations participated in the 2013 session. The presence and active participation of a large number of Member States in the capacity of observers foster interactions with the members of the Commission and reinforce the global character of decisions reached at the session. In this regard, the increased attendance and active engagement of developing countries constitute a notable and valuable achievement. To promote efficient participation, the Statistics Division organizes a briefing for new participants each year on the day before the start of the session.

9. In general, respondents in both the survey and the global consultation expressed appreciation for the work of the Statistical Commission and overall satisfaction with the current working methods of the Commission as described above, as well as with the support provided by the Commission's technical and substantive secretariat.

III. Economic and Social Council reform

10. A long consultative process on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council culminated in September 2013 with the adoption of General Assembly resolution [68/1](#). In that resolution, the Assembly called for a closer engagement between the work of the Council and that of its subsidiary bodies to ensure that the richness of the work of its subsidiary machinery was fully harnessed. Some of the important provisions of this resolution have implications for the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council, such as the Statistical Commission.

11. In its resolution [68/1](#), the General Assembly mandated the Economic and Social Council to provide substantive leadership to the system through the adoption of a main theme. For 2014, a transition year, the theme of the annual ministerial review, which is "Addressing ongoing and emerging challenges for meeting the Millennium Development Goals in 2015 and for sustaining development gains in the future", was chosen as the main theme. Starting in 2015, the main theme will be decided on the basis of inputs from the subsidiary bodies as well as Member States. The President of the Council will seek inputs in respect of deciding on the 2015 theme in due course.

12. It was decided that a new integration segment would be held annually by the Economic and Social Council to consolidate all inputs of Member States, subsidiary bodies of the Council, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders and to promote the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental). The integration segment will

bring together the key messages from the Council system on a theme that is closely related to an aspect of the main annual theme. The integration segment marks an opportunity for subsidiary bodies to convey action-oriented recommendations to the Council for its follow-up in July. The 2014 integration segment is expected to focus on the theme of sustainable urbanization and will be held early in May for a duration of three days.

13. The Statistical Commission is invited to contribute according to its mandate to both of these themes. For 2014, this contribution could be conveyed through the Chair or the Bureau of the Commission. For 2015, a more formal approach to submission, for example, through the report of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council, could be developed.

IV. Review of the working methods

A. Streamlining the agenda

14. While the distinction between discussion and information items has proved to be useful, the long agenda of the sessions has become increasingly difficult to manage. The established length of the formal session determines the available time for substantive discussion, limiting the number of topics that can be taken up during a session.

15. The agenda itself has to accommodate several requirements. On the one hand, the Statistical Commission has to maintain its classical “parliamentarian” function, i.e., of providing oversight and leadership role in official statistics, carrying out programme reviews, endorsing statistical standards and recommendations, promoting capacity-building and coordinating international statistical work. At the same time, new and emerging issues in statistics increasingly need to be addressed by the Commission. The follow-up to decisions and requests by the Economic and Social Council and United Nations conferences and those related to the post-2015 development agenda, for example, require the consideration of related statistical data and methodology aspects and guidance by the Commission. This in turn calls for streamlining and restructuring of the agenda so as to ensure that the existing functions of the Commission are covered and also allow for response to new demands in official statistics.

Provisional agenda and multi-year programme of work

16. At each session, the Statistical Commission adopts the provisional agenda for its next session and entrusts the Bureau with streamlining and finalizing it (subject of chap. V of the annual report of the Commission). These adjustments are carried out by the Bureau in the fourth quarter and the resulting provisional agenda and annotations for the upcoming Commission session is made available on the Commission’s website in late November.

17. The multi-year programme of work has been used for many years as the key basis for drafting the provisional agenda for the next session. It is a planning tool for keeping track of those areas of official statistics that are up for review so as to assess progress and seek guidance from the Commission in a timely and systematic manner. The multi-year programme of work cannot, however, plan for emerging

issues and/or reflect new policy-based demands. In addition, the multi-year programme of work does not function well in ensuring the presentation of cross-cutting and overarching topics for enhancing coherence among the regional and global programmes in economic, social and environmental domains, although the annual programme review has covered this element since its introduction in 2003.³ The multi-year programme of work has been and could be further improved by consolidating certain related topics under the same item.

Emerging issues

18. Some respondents in the global consultation voiced caution, pointing out that “plenary sessions may not be the best forum for discussions on emerging issues and (that) side events seem better suited”. On the other hand, a majority of respondents favoured a standing item on emerging issues to be included in the agenda of the Security Council. As a possible modality, it was proposed that the Bureau could consult with delegations early in the fourth quarter on possible topics to be discussed under this agenda item (and thus also enhance communication between the Bureau and delegations) and decide on a topic. It was also suggested that documentation for such an agenda item could be prepared by the Bureau in its role as an honest broker.

Moving the Statistical Commission closer to the key ongoing global policy debates

19. The majority of respondents in the global consultation agreed that the Statistical Commission should be more closely aligned to key ongoing global, regional and national policy debates, although some respondents expressed concern about shifting the focus of the Commission’s discussions from the technical to the political realm and warned that this should not lead to enlarging the Commission’s agenda.

20. It was suggested that, over the year, the Bureau, with the help of the secretariat, should play a more active role by monitoring policy debates. The above-mentioned agenda streamlining process in September would then allow the Bureau to amend the provisional agenda pursuant to the consideration of new policy-relevant topics if they arose between March and September.

21. It should be noted that the Statistical Commission already has a standing agenda item entitled “Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council”. The Commission’s contributions to the consideration of the two main Economic and Social Council themes (see para. 13) above could be discussed under this agenda item starting in 2015. The Bureau could lead this agenda item.

Advising on the formulation of targets and indicators for new development frameworks

22. While respondents in the consultation acknowledged the crucial importance of an active involvement of chief statisticians in advising on the formulation of targets

³ Areas covered so far are: statistics of services (2003), social statistics (2004), energy statistics (2005), industrial statistics (2006), education statistics (2007), employment statistics (2008), climate change and official statistics (2009), national quality assurance frameworks (2010), gender statistics (2011), population and housing censuses (2012), developing a statistical-spatial framework in national statistical systems (2013).

and indicators in the discussion of new development indicator frameworks, many did not see this as a key outcome of the Commission's deliberations. In this context, it was considered that a type of delegated advisory body consisting of chief statisticians, which would be given the mandate to provide such technical advice, would be effective along the lines of the relationship of the Friends of the Chair group on broader measures of progress with the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals.

23. As a means of moving the Statistical Commission closer to policy debates, the global consultation also asked whether parts of the Commission's agenda in coming years should be devoted to reviewing the statistical implications of proposed development and indicator frameworks for the post-2015 agenda. The majority of respondents welcomed such an approach, suggesting that priority topics should be decided by the Bureau after consulting the global statistical community. This could be achieved in the same consultation process focusing on the topic of the emerging issue.

Reports on regional statistical development

24. For the past six sessions, the agenda has included a standing item on regional statistical development. This was usually supported by an exhibition during the session. The following suggestions were made with regard to the report on regional statistical activities: the report should focus on good practices in the region, from which other regions could benefit; it should identify major gaps in the region, which would point to needs for capacity-building and provide possible donors with guidance on how to direct technical assistance activities. Such reports from the different regions could follow a standardized format. Views differed on whether regional reports should be presented as documents for discussion or for information only. The current rotation between the regions was generally supported but there was also the proposal that all regions should submit documents for information at each session.

B. Increasing focus on decision-making/improving efficiency of the session

25. The Statistical Commission is the highest decision-making body for international statistical activities, especially the setting of statistical standards, the development of concepts and methods and their implementation at the national and international levels. To this end, sharing national experiences, achievements and activities has always played an important role in the Commission's work. Increased attendance and active participation of delegates are welcome developments of recent sessions. However, the increasing number of interventions on discussion items⁴ has created the need to reconsider the format and current practice of information-sharing.

More effective time management

26. During the last review of the working methods, in 2004-2005, many delegations had already stressed the need for better time management. Despite the

⁴ One hundred and ninety-six interventions were counted for 2008. Five years later, in 2013, 280 interventions were made on a smaller number of agenda items.

fact that short and focused introduction of items⁵ and the introduction of the distinction between discussion and information items have aided time management considerably since 2004, the issue of adequate time management remains an important concern in 2013.

27. The following possible remedies have been brought to the attention of the Bureau:

- Reduce the number of items and better prioritize the session's agenda
- Lower the frequency of some recurring topics
- Encourage all authors to submit short and concise documents
- Request authors of documents submitted for discussion to ensure that topics or questions for discussion are clearly highlighted in the document
- Request the Chair of the Statistical Commission to ensure that interventions by delegations focus on the questions for discussion
- Encourage keeping interventions related to information items to a minimum (or do not allow them at all)
- Invite delegations to submit written statements under each agenda item either in advance or during the formal session. These statements would be made available on the Statistical Commission website and the PaperSmart Portal. The sharing of a country's or organization's experience in such a written format would be highly valuable and welcome and could also improve follow-up activities for many agenda items. Such a presentation of individual country achievements should not be allowed in oral interventions
- Establish and strictly enforce time limits on interventions, and, related to this, establish an advanced list of speakers for each agenda item, which would allow the Chair and the secretariat to better allocate time limits for interventions

28. In this context, it is important to stress that any suggested measure is intended to enable the Statistical Commission to maximize the time available to it, increase the focus of the discussion and ensure that all delegations wishing to contribute to a decision-oriented discussion will be able to do so in the allotted meeting time.

Strengthening the link between the formal session and the side events of the Statistics Division

29. A large majority of respondents supported further strengthening the link between the formal sessions of the Statistical Commission and the Monday high-level forum on official statistics and the Friday seminar on emerging issues, as well as possible other side events. The following arrangements were proposed: (a) the Chairs of the two forums could report orally on the main findings and recommendations to the Commission; (b) minutes from the forums could be made available to delegates; and (c) suggestions emanating from various side events could be addressed by the Bureau outside of the formal session.

⁵ Information items are not introduced at all.

30. While many respondents saw a clear advantage in further strengthening the link between the formal session and the informal side events, some respondents maintained that the already existing links were sufficient and advocated for retaining the informal nature of the side events, which enabled the exploration of new and emerging issues that had not been sufficiently developed to allow for inclusion in the agenda of the formal session. In this context, it was also pointed out that for many chief statisticians, attendance at the Friday seminar was not possible owing to time constraints.

Alternative forms of session organization

31. A majority of respondents supported alternative arrangements, such as parallel or panel debates, indicating as the main reasons efficient time use and the ability to focus on certain topics that were of greater interest to their delegation. However, many who supported such alternative forms did so with hesitation and pointed out the uniqueness of the session of the Statistical Commission in its present form and the importance of discussing a wide range of items under the same umbrella agenda. It was stressed that breakout sessions, in whatever format, would necessitate providing a substantive report to the formal plenary of the outcomes of any such non-plenary sessions. Not only those in favour of keeping the current form of plenary-only session but also many proponents of changes pointed out the possible difficulties that such alternative arrangements would pose for small delegations, including the need for conference services to provide simultaneous interpretation.

32. The conclusion drawn from the global consultation indicates that the strengthening of the link between the formal session and the main side events could serve as a means to achieve some of the desired effects of alternative session arrangements, such as the discussion of certain topics in greater depth, with the presentation of their outcome in the main session.

C. Strengthening the role of the Bureau

33. The officers of the Statistical Commission are the Chair, three Vice-Chairs and the Rapporteur, who constitute what is referred to as the Bureau. The members of the Bureau are elected for a one-year period with the expectation that they will be re-elected for a second one-year term, if available. Nominations are made by the members of the Commission. It has been customary to elect one Bureau member from each of the five regional groupings.⁶ Elections are held at the beginning of a session and are, in practice, by acclamation.

Enhanced role between formal sessions

34. A majority of respondents supported an enhanced role for the Bureau between formal sessions. Areas of such strengthening mentioned include: follow-up of Commission decisions; more active participation in setting the agenda (see paras. 18, 20, 21 and 23); and pre-assessment of documentation prepared for upcoming formal sessions. It was also suggested that Bureau members could exercise a more active and visible role during the session, for example, by introducing agenda items.

⁶ These regional groupings are: African States, Asia-Pacific States, Eastern European States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States.

Regular teleconferences were suggested as the best way for the Bureau to interact between the sessions.

35. There was a consensus that communication between the Statistical Commission and other United Nations intergovernmental bodies and “the political sphere” in general needed to be improved, most notably in the context of shaping a post-2015 development agenda. It was also mentioned that the Bureau, together with the secretariat, could represent the Commission in the policymaking process in the United Nations system through the invitation of members of the Bureau of the Commission meetings of the Economic and Social Council or of its Bureau. A few respondents, however, stressed the need to keep such a dialogue interactive and “avoid ... excessive documentation/bureaucratization”, although others stressed the need for the Bureau to report back on such interactions to the Commission. A more active outreach of the Commission’s Bureau to the bureaux of the regional statistical committees was also suggested.

Size and composition of the Bureau

36. In the global consultation processes, only very few respondents supported changing the size and/or composition of the Bureau. Easier communication within a relatively small group was mentioned as the main advantage of the current size. It was also mentioned that in case a larger group was needed for any new or larger task, the Bureau could always call upon (any of) the 24 Commission members for assistance. As for possible additions to the composition of the Bureau, two respondents supported inclusion of observers from international organizations. One respondent suggested further reflection on if and how the composition of the Bureau could be better balanced not only among regional groupings but also between developing and developed countries.

37. Some delegations also requested an enhancing of the transparency of Bureau activities between the meetings. The lack of communications from the Bureau between sessions was mentioned.

D. Other considerations

38. The Statistical Commission may wish to consider institutionalizing the review process on a biannual or other, less frequent, basis. This would afford the Commission a regular opportunity to monitor and critically appraise its practices and improve its efficiency continuously. Such regular reviews and revitalization of working methods are now standard for other intergovernmental bodies.

V. Main recommendations

39. The Statistical Commission is invited to discuss the following recommendations by the Bureau:

(a) Keep the distinction between decision and information items, but reinforce the focus on decision points in the deliberations on decision items and request the Chair to guide deliberations in a decision-oriented manner;

(b) Add to the annual agenda of the Commission a standing item entitled “emerging issues”, the topic under which the Bureau would decide in the fourth quarter after consultation with national statistical offices;

(c) Add to the annual agenda of the Commission as a standing item on the oral reports of the Chairs of the Friday seminar and the Monday high-level forum for the consideration of the Commission, including the findings and recommendations emanating from these events;

(d) Request the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, to develop a more formal approach on how the Commission can contribute to the annual theme of the Economic and Social Council;

(e) Invite delegations to submit written statements under each agenda item in advance of the session and request the secretariat to make these available via the PaperSmart Portal and on the Commission’s website;

(f) Request the Bureau to play a more active role in monitoring policy debates (including the formulation of targets and indicators for new development frameworks) and to amend the provisional agenda for the next session accordingly;

(g) Strengthen the role of the Bureau between formal sessions in setting the agenda and overseeing the preparation of the documentation (see paras. 18, 20, 21 and 23), with the assistance of the secretariat;

(h) Keep the preparation of the report on regional statistical activities on a rotational basis and request authors to focus on lessons learned in the region and to identify major needs for capacity-building in the region;

(i) Institutionalize the review process on a biannual or other, less frequent basis.

Annex I

Note on the terms of reference of the Statistical Commission

1. On the basis of the recommendations of its nuclear session, the Statistical Commission was established and given terms of reference by the Economic and Social Council. The terms of reference as set forth in Council resolution 1566 (L) of 3 May 1971, reaffirming its resolution 8 (I) of 16 February 1946, as amended by resolution 8 (II) of 21 June 1946, state that the Commission shall assist the Council:

“(a) In promoting the development of national statistics and the improvement of their comparability;

“(b) In the coordination of the statistical work of specialized agencies;

“(c) In the development of the central statistical services of the Secretariat;

“(d) In advising the organs of the United Nations on general questions relating to the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical information;

“(e) In promoting the improvement of statistics and statistical methods generally.”

2. In its resolution 1566 (L), the Economic and Social Council stressed the importance of the Statistical Commission’s coordination function and the need to achieve an integrated system in the collection, processing and dissemination of international statistics; recognized the interest of the Commission and the Statistics Division in matters related to the use of computers in the United Nations system; and requested the Secretary-General to undertake, in cooperation with the specialized agencies, concerted action to assist the developing countries in strengthening their statistical systems.

Annex II

Guiding questions for global consultation

Guiding questions on the review of the working methods of the Statistical Commission

A. Streamlining the agenda of the session

Should the Commission's agenda be more closely related to key ongoing global, regional and national policy debates and, if so, how could this be resolved?

Do you have suggestions on how emerging issues can better be brought to the Commission's agenda?

Should parts of the Commission's agenda be devoted to a review of all statistical aspects (e.g., methods, coordination, capacity-building) of, for example, the 12 goals identified in the High-level Panel report on the post-2015 development agenda^a and which themes in your view should have the highest preference?

How can the Commission's deliberations contribute to actively involving the Chief Statisticians in advising on the formulation of targets and indicators in the discussions on new development frameworks?

How can the multi-year programme of work be better utilized as a planning tool for future sessions?

What is your view on the objective, format and content of future reports on regional statistical development?

B. Increasing the focus of discussion on decision-making

Do you support strengthening the link between the formal session of the Statistical Commission and the Monday high-level forum on official statistics and the Friday seminar on emerging issues, as well as other side events? If so, what arrangements do you propose?

Do you have any suggestions for more effective time management of the Commission's session?

In what way can the session be conducted to increase the Commission's focus on decision-making (e.g., by posting country practices on the Commission's website rather than including them in oral interventions during the session)?

Do you support alternative forms of session organization during the Statistical Commission such as parallel non-plenary sessions, informal panel debates, etc.?

C. Strengthening the role of the Bureau

Do you support an enhanced role for the Bureau in the intersessional period? If so, what would that enhanced role look like?

Do you support a different composition of the Bureau? If so, what composition?

^a These are: poverty; gender equality; quality education; health; food security; water and sanitation; sustainable energy; jobs, livelihoods and equitable growth; natural resources; governance; peaceful societies; enabling environment and long-term finance.

Do you support an enlargement of the Bureau? If so, how?

Do you see a need for improved communication and closer relationships between the Commission and/or its Bureau with the Economic and Social Council, other functional commissions and intergovernmental bodies and what is your proposal for organizing such dialogue?

Annex III**Survey of participants of the forty-third session of the
Statistical Commission**

Forty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission
[New York, 26 February-1 March 2013]

Survey of participants

Delegation of:

Name of person who filled out the questionnaire:

Contact e-mail:

Contact phone number:

0. Which languages did you use during the Commission Session?

	Arabic	Chinese	English	French	Russian	Spanish
To read documentation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To listen to interventions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To make interventions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional comments:

1. Please rate the work of the Secretariat, in general, in providing conference management support in preparation of and during the session:

- Excellent
 Good
 Satisfactory
 Poor
 N/A

Please provide details on any particular experiences:

2. The Statistical Commission this year was conducted in the PaperSmart mode. Please rate the PaperSmart approach, in general:

- Excellent
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Poor
- N/A

Please provide details:

3. How did you access documentation during the session (check all that apply)?

- Electronically through the PaperSmart Portal
- Electronically through the Statistical Commission's website
- Electronically (downloaded before session)
- Paper, printed-on-demand in the conference room
- Paper, printed before the session and brought to the session

Additional comments:

4. Did you require any technical assistance with the PaperSmart set up?

- Yes
- No
- N/A

If yes, please provide details:

If yes, please rate the assistance provided by the PaperSmart technician and/or other secretariat staff:

- Excellent
- Good
- Satisfactory
- Poor
- N/A

5. Documents for adoption by the Commission were distributed in hard copy in the conference room as well as released on the PaperSmart Portal. Please tell us the following:

	Did you use the paper version distributed?		Do you recommend distributing this document in print again during the next session?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No
Provisional annotated agenda (E/CN.3/2013/1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organization of work (E/CN.3/2013/L.1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Procedural part of the report (E/CN.3/2013/L.3)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Draft decision (informal documents)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provisional agenda for next session (E/CN.3/2013/L.2)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provisional list of participants (E/CN.3/2013/INF/1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. Please provide any suggestions on improving the PaperSmart services for the next session:

7. Please rate the communication between the technical Secretariat and your delegation, regarding in particular, e-mail communication and information disseminated through the Journal:

- Excellent
 Good
 Satisfactory
 Poor
 N/A

Please provide details:

8. Did you use the United Nations Journal during the session?

Yes

No

N/A

If yes, how easy was it to find the Journal electronically?

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Poor

Please provide details:

9. Please rate the linguistic quality of interpretation:

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Poor

N/A

Please provide details:

10. Please rate the linguistic quality of documents:

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Poor

N/A

Please provide details:

11. Please rate the reliability of the microphones and sound system

Excellent

Good

Satisfactory

Poor

N/A

Please provide details:

12. Please add any other comments that will help us improve the next session of the Statistical Commission:

Thank you for your time!
