

**Statistical Commission
Forty-ninth Session
6 - 9 March 2018
Item 3(a) of the provisional agenda *
Items for discussion and decision**

COUNTRY NOTE OF TURKEY

REPORT OF THE INTER-AGENCY AND EXPERT GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL INDICATORS

Turkey follows and supports the Expert Group's studies on implementation of global indicator framework, methodological developments of Tier III indicators, reducing the number of Tier III indicators and continuing Tier reclassification, 2020 comprehensive review timeliness, next year work plan of IAEG-SDGs and its working groups' activities. The representatives of the Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) participated to the 6th meeting and hope to monitor closely the activities of IAEG-SDGs.

Turkey would like to improve data based on geographical location and therefore expects a guideline on using geospatial information in production of SDGs statistics as a non-traditional data source from working group on geospatial information.

Turkey agrees with the annual refinements of four indicators since it does not affect the overall scope of the indicators. We expect the progress on methodological developments of Tier II (1.4.2 and 16.1.3) and Tier III (17.17.1) indicators. Within this scope, it is considered that the IAEG can request opinion from countries in a standardized structure before identifying the annual refinements on indicators.

Strong demands from various custodian agencies regarding validation of SDG indicators have come to TurkStat in recent days. We encountered some coordination problems on this issue. Mentioned in the draft UNECE CES Steering Group on Sustainable Development Goals Data Flow Pilot Study Results, a dashboard relating the focal point and a tool on UNSD SDGs website that provides country access to update validation process will be a very effective way for data flows without e-mail traffic, which is open to error-prone.