

**Statistical Commission**

**Forty-ninth Session**

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Item 3(n) of the provisional agenda

**Items for discussion and decision: disability statistics**

## **COUNTRY NOTE OF TURKEY**

### **Disability Statistics**

In Turkey, statistical indicators on the subject of disability have been produced by using the main results of censuses, sampling surveys (disability survey, health survey and ad-hoc module on labour force survey, etc.) and administrative registers. A number of surveys have been conducted and several registers have been maintained to provide information on people with disabilities (PwDs), both on public administrations' and organisations' own duties and responsibilities.

The Population and Housing Survey (Census) was carried out in Turkey in 2011 to collect the information on demographic, social, disability and economic characteristics of population. The related questions on disability complied with International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) and Washington Group on Disability Statistics recommendations. In this survey, six functions (having a lot of difficulties in seeing, hearing, speaking, walking/climbing, holding or lifting something, learning, doing simple calculations, remembering or concentrating) were questioned.

Currently, Ministry of Health (MoH) has compiled disability data electronically from medical reports. At the National Disability Health Information System developed by MoH, medical reports have been recorded in an electronic format. In 2014, MoH developed a special requirement medical report in compliance with ICF for children at the 0-18 age group. Technical studies within this project titled COZGER have been continued.

Recently, Turkey has started a new project in 2017 in order to prepare National Disability Rights Strategy Document and Action Plan on the implementation of UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). In line with the objectives of the project, an action plan will be developed at the national level to identify legal, institutional and implementation activities for the protection and development of the rights of PwDs and to monitor and evaluate the processes.

In terms of monitoring and evaluation of Sustainable Development Goals, there is a growing demand on integrated information systems which are constructed through main results of population censuses, household surveys, sampling modules on disability and also administrative registers of public authorities at the national level. Strengthening administrative registers is a necessary step in order to produce disability measurement indicators which are not collected from censuses and surveys. In this context, upgrading data collection and dissemination processes based on administrative registers of responsible public authorities such as ministries, government offices, health institutions, municipalities should be planned for long-term strategies.