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Items for discussion and decision: data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Document E/CN.3/2021/2 - Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

Statement provided by: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)	
Statement: <p>The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) welcomes the background document and work of the IAEG-SDGs on <i>COVID-19 and the global SDG indicators</i>. Cognizant how the COVID-19 pandemic is undermining progress across the globe in implementing the 17 SDGs, the UN Secretary General (SG) in his note providing a UN framework on the socio-economic response to COVID-19 emphasized the central role of human rights for both pandemic response and mitigation, and for building back better into more just, equal and resilient societies. For this purpose, the SG's note included the COVID-19 Human Rights Indicators Framework, which was developed by OHCHR and other UN agencies under the UN Crisis Management Team. The framework is a practical tool for measuring how UN and States' responses to the pandemic are consistent with international human rights standards, address key human rights concerns, and builds on the global SDG indicators framework. It especially highlights the importance of safeguarding the rights to health and life, upholding freedom of speech, information, association and others that are critical to a healthy civic space, and ensuring that states of emergencies and public health measures comply with international law. OHCHR also recognizes and further encourages efforts by the IAEG-SDGs on data disaggregation for the SDGs. As highlighted in the <i>Practical Guidebook on Data Disaggregation for the SDGs</i>, data collection and disaggregation that allow for comparison of population groups or characteristics are central to OHCHR's work on the Human Rights-Based Approach to Data and forms part of States' human rights obligations to collect and publish data disaggregated by grounds of discrimination recognized in international human rights law.</p>	
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