

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

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

Document E/CN.3/2021/4 – Report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

<i>Statement provided by:</i> Mr. Geir Axelsen, Director General, Statistics Norway	
<i>Statement:</i> Norway takes note of the report from the HLG-PCCB presented to the Statistical Commission as well as the background paper on data stewardship, which provides a good and balanced overview of status and activities that are relevant for expanding the role of NSOs relating to data stewardship. Norway approves the way forward to develop guidance for NSOs on issues related to data stewardship, including the establishment of a working group. It is necessary to establish definitions in this area that go beyond the existing definitions related to official statistics. However, the role and organisation of data stewardship will depend on the national context. To fully take such a role cannot be an objective for the NSO in all countries. Still, there are aspects of it that should be relevant for the NSOs in most countries. Keywords are extended coordination and cooperation, services such as data linking, data privacy vs. disaggregation, quality assurance beyond own institution, analyses and activities to improve statistical literacy and numeracy in the society. Statistics Norway has recent and new experience in leading the establishment of the first national statistical program for Norway, but also a long-standing collaboration with national register owners about administrative data for statistical purposes including ensuring its quality. These are examples of roles that are closely linked to a data stewardship role for an NSO in a national context. Statistics Norway would therefore be willing to participate and contribute in the proposed working group.	
Submitted on:	2/19/2021