United Nations Statistical Commission  
Fifty-second session  
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Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda  
Items for discussion and decision: data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  


**Statement provided by:**  
United Kingdom Office for National Statistics (ONS) on behalf the National Statistician

**Statement:**

The UK welcomes the report from the IAEG and supports the work plan for the coming year.

UK welcomes the workstream on data disaggregation although would prefer to see the term “inclusion” used to ensure this covers the need to include all vulnerable groups and not just to disaggregated available data.

The shift in focus to disaggregation and the establishment of a task force for small area estimation is welcome but we feel there needs to be a more nuanced approach to disclosure control to make this work worthwhile. Most data are still only published at a national level due to disclosure control concerns, so the problem is not in the availability of methodology but in the institutional understanding of disclosure risk.

It’s positive that the work plan of the sub-group on geospatial information has included previous UK recommendations on expanding the role of geospatial from its use in monitoring only, to include visualisation, dissemination and disaggregation which are critical components of SDG reporting.

We welcome the written statement submitted by Denmark on behalf of Armenia, Canada, Ghana, Ireland, Poland, Portugal, Sweden and USA and are in broad agreement whilst also recognising that there is further work to be done from both National Statistical Institutions and Agencies to fully understand each others perspectives.

Submitted on: 2/23/2021