

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.3/2021/3 – Report of the Secretary-General on work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

Statement provided by:

Colombia

Statement:

Colombia welcomes the report on the Work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and highlights the efforts undertaken by the United Nations Statistics Division to create networks and platforms for collaboration between stakeholders throughout the spectrum of stakeholders which participate in the International Statistical Community. From an overall perspective, Colombia considers that the leadership of UNSD has been catalytical amid this pandemic and values the opportunity to express its views on the different initiatives that are currently being supported by the Division.

Likewise, we welcome the Sustainable Development Goals progress reports. Specifically, we want to characterize the Progress Chart Report 2020 as a tool to analyze global and regional trends towards SDGs using a traffic light dashboard. The updated version of the progress chart report including the latest available data from 2020 could help to characterize the achievement of SDGs an after COVID-19 pandemic at regional and global levels, and why not to think in having this Progress Chart at national levels.

Colombia highlights the opportunity to open the door to innovations in both: sources of information and computation methods through the activities carried out in the framework of the D4N initiative. These innovation processes are motivated by the challenge for having sufficiently timely and disaggregated data to help monitor the progress in the goals of the 2030 Agenda. And at the end, all improvements achieved in the calculation of specific SDGs are gains to strength the capacity of NSS to produce data -beyond SDGs. Moreover, the sustainability of the processes is key since D4N activities includes training programs and consulting services that attends the technical needs identified by DANE; thus activities are intended to produce specific SDGs while capacity is built at different stages of statistical production.

Amid the pandemic one of the achievements of UNSD has been to put into operation the Collaborative on the use of administrative data for statistical purposes. As members of the collaborative, we would like not only to endorse the launch of the collaborative but also to encourage members from different regions to strengthen their engagement on this scenario, as we consider that as the Collaborative has already established three specific Task Teams, a massive engaging from other NSO's would significantly contribute to reinforce the outcomes of this scenario. We also like to thank UNSD for including the collaborative into the Divisions Wiki, as it allows for a more structured cooperation. Nonetheless, we would like to encourage the commission to consider renaming the Collaborative, as we think that this might help the outreach process.

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Regarding the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians, we consider that it is a useful initiative for the exchange of good practices and lessons learned by the NSO's and also that by being logged in Yammer, It allows for a more dynamic dialogue between the participating members.

Finally, regarding the Covid-19 Survey developed by UNSD and the World Bank, we would like to once more reiterate that this initiative has been a valuable as the multiple rounds of the survey, with the inclusion of additional questions in each of them, has allowed the development community to identify possible lines of cooperation at the bilateral, sub-regional and regional levels to support the National Statistical Offices. Likewise, the work of dissemination of the results of the Survey is highlighted, since it has been presented in different international forums, which has made it possible to raise awareness among different actors, highlighting the importance of having quality statistics to face the pandemic. Moreover, given the intention on having subsequent rounds of the Survey, we would like the to encourage UNSD and the World Bank to use this tool to collect information that allows to identify possible indicators that enable an appropriate measurement of an inclusive and sustainable recovery.

Submitted on:

2/23/2021