

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

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Item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: Economic Statistics

Document E/CN.3/2021/7 – Report of the Friends of the Chair Group on Economic Statistics

Statement provided by: Bureau of the UN ESCAP Committee on Statistics	
Statement: <i>UN ESCAP is a regional intergovernmental platform with 53 Member States and 9 associate members, or over 30% of countries worldwide. In 2020, 60% of the estimated 7.8b people globally were in the Asia-Pacific region. The region is also home to 97 of the 100 most air-polluted cities and 5 of the 10 countries most vulnerable to climate change.</i> The Bureau of the Asia-Pacific Committee on Statistics WELCOMES the report of the Friends of the Chair (FoC) Group on the future of economic statistics and appreciates the consultative nature in which the FoC operated. The Asia-Pacific statistical community APPRECIATED the FoC's engagement at the 14 th Management Seminar for the Heads of Statistical Offices held in Chiba, Japan in December 2019. We ACKNOWLEDGE the relevance and necessity of action on the four themes of the report for statistical advancement, noting the recommendations may be challenging to implement given the diversity of country needs, priorities, and capacities in Asia-Pacific. We TENTATIVELY SUPPORT the FoC proposal to create two new mechanisms: a Network of Economic Statisticians and a committee of experts on population and well-being. We note most recommendations transcend economic statistics and apply equally to other domains of statistics and SEEK more clarity and certainty on how implementation of the recommendations would interact with governance and secretariat arrangements for other statistical domains and groups of the Commission. Further, despite previous requests to the Commission from Asia-Pacific countries to streamline the work of the Commission, in addition to the two FOC proposals we NOTE additional mechanisms continue to be created across the Commission and secretariat such as the new Global Network of Official Statisticians and the proposed new working group on Data Stewardship under the High-Level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.	
Submitted on:	Click or tap to enter a date.