

**United Nations Statistical Commission**

**Fifty-second session**

1–3 and 5 March 2021

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**

<i>Statement provided by:</i> ESCWA Statistical Committee	
<i>Statement:</i> ESCWA countries agree with the recommendations of the Friends of the Chair group on economic statistics (E/CN.3/2021/7).  The future work on economic statistics should consider the need for a responsive, comprehensive and coordinated system of economic statistics that includes macroeconomic accounts, statistical business records, international rankings and accurate data from household and business and business statistics. Such system of economic statistics should also address global development priorities, such as those related to globalization, digitization, welfare and sustainability, the informal economy and human capital;  ESCWA countries also agreed to dissolve statistical groups that are no longer active in the field of economic statistics, as contained in paragraph 30 of the report of the Friends of the Chair Group on Economic Statistics: the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financial Statistics, the Expert Group on International Trade Statistics and Economic Globalization, and the Joint Working Group Between the Secretariats on International Trade and Statistics of Economic Globalization, the Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics, and the Inter-Agency Working Group on Debt Statistics;  ESCWA countries also support (i) short-term projects, based on the needs of developed and developing countries, to experiment with new working methods and to connect networks of statistical groups to support the modernization of the economic statistics system; (ii) development of detailed guidance notes addressing implementation of emerging conceptual approaches in national statistical systems.	
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