

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> Federal Statistical Office Germany	
<i>Statement:</i>	
<p><i>This statement is delivered on behalf of the EU and its Member States. The EFTA countries Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland align themselves with the statement.</i></p> <p>The European Statistical System (the ESS) congratulates the Friends of the Chair Group on Economic Statistics for its remarkable achievements. The Group has fully accomplished its mandate and can now be dissolved.</p> <p>The ESS welcomes the report and the four themes of forward looking recommendations. While some of them are of long term, they put the official statistics on a path of innovation, collaboration and responsiveness to new challenges and user demands, while leaving no country behind. Some innovative elements in the report deserve particular emphasis: the creation of a network of national data science centres; the shift from ‘just’ sharing experiences and best practices to co-investment and co-development of statistical infrastructure, operations and data solutions across countries and statistical domains; the focus on accessing and integrating alternative data sources and encouragement of experimental statistics.</p> <p>The ESS supports the establishment of a new network of economic statisticians to facilitate the networking, coordination and communication between the different actors in the system of economic statistics and promotes global partnerships with academia and the private sector. The network should be inclusive and reactive towards the needs and views of developed and developing countries alike. The ESS supports the view expressed in the Report that the network should not constitute an additional hierarchical layer between the existing groups and the Statistical Commission.</p> <p>Finally, the ESS stresses the importance of careful examination of the value added, tasks and feasibility of having a new Committee of Experts on Population and Well Being.</p>	
Submitted on:	2/18/2021