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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

<i>Statement provided by:</i> Kenya	
<i>Statement:</i> Kenya would like to express on behalf of the Africa Group a contribution to the subject matter. The continent recognizes the active role taken by the African Development Bank in all the meetings of the Friends of the Chair (FOC) group which resulted in the formulation of some recommendations to be implemented in order to help economic statistics system to operate as a coherent, collaborative, accountable and integrated organization that is inclusive of the different actors of the system. We take note of the framing of a responsive programme for the system of economic statistics which aims at achieving key outcomes as outlined in the report to better integrate the statistical measurement of the economy, society and environment to inform the universal 2030 agenda. Further discussions underscored the importance of the informal sector in African economies and the need to give it a prominent place in the processing and discussions of the upcoming working groups. The Africa Group: (a) On approving the recommendations in the present report, including the establishment of a new network of economic statisticians and exploration of the need for and feasibility of a committee of experts on population and well-being; We adhere to these recommendations, in particular to the creation of a new network of economic statisticians to the extent that it should facilitate networking, coordination and communication between the different stakeholders of the economic statistics system. It should provide a horizontal coordination function between the United Nations statistical groups that make up the economic statistics system. This network should identify priorities and common thematic areas of the continent. It will allow the exchange of experiences and good practices between countries, thus allowing dynamic innovation and flexibility, but also collaboration and coordination. Reflection on the creation or feasibility of an expert committee on population and well-being should be deepened in order to develop a coherent methodological framework and relevant indicators relating to well-being and sustainability. b) On to dissolve the Friends of the Chair group on economic statistics. As this was an ad hoc group with a specific mission and referring to the recommendation to reduce the number of working groups, it would be appropriate to dissolve the Group of Friends of the Chair on Economic Statistics.	
Submitted on:	2/17/2021