

**United Nations Statistical Commission**

**Fifty-second session**

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Item 3 (e) of the provisional agenda

**Items for discussion and decision: business and trade statistics**

**Document E/CN.3/2021/9 – Report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics**

<i>Statement provided by:</i> National Statistics Office, Malta	
<i>Statement:</i> <p>Maltes notes with appreciation the progress of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics, in particular the work of the task teams of the Committee and the future work programme of the Committee for 2021–2022.</p> <p>One of the most challenging, if not the most, recurring and growing issue faced by economic and business statistics in Malta is the subject of globalisation (and digitalisation). Being a small, open economy with a fiscal regime aimed at attracting foreign investment, plenty of effort is assigned at the NSO to discriminate between authentic (resident) local operations and other business activity recorded as a collateral from globalisation-related ventures. While targeting to step up our footing on further understanding the worldwide phenomenon impacting the Maltese business economy, Malta acknowledges the efforts of the UN and Eurostat to creating the necessary joint research task teams to adequately capture the assimilation and impact of such economic activities across the globe.</p> <p>Moreover, the creation of a global enterprise group register is indeed important to address the globalized economy, and to this end the sharing of data among countries will be very relevant to have a complete and real picture of the global value chains and of the global group register. In this regard, Malta is cautious on the sharing of confidential information or detailed information which might risk divulging identifiable information provided to NSIs.</p> <p>Furthermore, Malta welcomes the overall coordination role of the Committee with the aim to integrate the work programmes with the Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics, which will also take into consideration the specific role of the participating agencies.</p>	
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