Statement provided by:
Fernando Cantú, Chief Statistician, UNIDO

Statement:

The report of the UNCEBTS is very much appreciated. However, paragraphs 28-30 of the report mention the creation of a "task team to advance the joint research agenda for business and international trade statistics." We believe this proposal to create a new UNCEBTS task team on international trade statistics could result in confusion.

The Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics (TFITS) has previously been mandated by UNSC to update the manuals of international trade statistics. UNIDO has been a part of TFITS since 2009, not only to follow the latest development of international trade to compile its Industrial Demand and Supply Balanced Database (IDSB) and other indicators with up-to-date information, but also to cooperate with member States and other international agencies on joint research related to global value chains from the perspective of industrial production.

We therefore would like to request a clarification of paragraphs 28-30, while requesting for UNIDO to be part of this Task team on business and international trade statistics.

Submitted on: 2/18/2021