

United Nations Statistical Commission

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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>	
USA	
<i>Statement:</i>	
<p>The United States of America welcomes the report of Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics and commend the current and future work of the task teams on globalization and digitalization, well being and sustainability, business dynamics, demography, and entrepreneurship, exhaustive business registers and capacity-building (leaving no one behind) on statistical business registers, and the terms of reference for the new task team on communication.</p> <p>We support the Friends of the Chair recommendation to review the mandates of statistical groups in the system of economic statistics on a case-by-case basis, as appropriate. It is also our understanding that when the mandates are reviewed, the specific work on international trade statistics will be taken up with the Inter-agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics.</p> <p>We agree that the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics should actively coordinate with the Inter-agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics to ensure that efforts are working toward common purposes on items that relate to the update of trade-related standards and that this should include a common research agenda. While the domains of business statistics and trade statistics have substantial overlap, they each have some degree of different stakeholders within the broader User community as well as specific and sometimes separate technical work, and this should be taken into account when determining the scope of a common research agenda to advance updating trade-related standards. We believe the Inter-agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics has been effective in advancing updates to the standards and related conceptual manuals for international merchandise trade statistics and international trade in services statistics and should remain the lead body for these areas of responsibility. We would be concerned if its effectiveness was disrupted should the mandates and governance change with the creation of a task team on the joint research agenda of business and trade statistics.</p>	
Submitted on:	2/19/2021