

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (f) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: environmental-economic accounting

Document E/CN.3/2021/10 – Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

Statement provided by:

Dr. Mohd Uzir Mahidin, Chief Statistician,
Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM)

Statement:

- a) The work programme of the Committee of Experts on Environmental Economic Accounting;

Malaysia through the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM) supports and welcome all initiatives made by the Committee on the collaboration with relevant groups to integrate SEEA into Sustainable Development Goal indicators, climate change, the circular economy, the ocean agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and sustainable tourism.

MySEEA Malaysia previously was appointed under the UNDA Tranche 9 and had successfully developed Roadmap for SEEA Malaysia 2016 - 2020 and MySEEA PSUT Water account 2010. As a continuation, Malaysia had executed MySEEA Extension for year 2021 - 2025 with the priority on the development of the Land and Ocean Accounts. Thus, Malaysia request **for technical expertise and capacity building in developing Land Account**. Malaysia also **request for knowledge sharing (courses, training, best practices) and technical expertise to develop Water Asset Account and MSUT Account for Energy**.

- b) The adoption of the SEEA Ecosystem Accounting as a statistical standard and encouraging its implementation in countries (see sect. II);

Malaysia agreed to the merge of working group on coordination and communication. The activities on the three main areas are in line with Malaysia's need; i.e. mainstreaming the SEEA in reporting initiatives, coordination of training & assistance and developing a strategy & work plan. Malaysia also hope UNSD can **include details example (case study, estimation, valuation, analysis, etc.) to facilitate countries in developing SEEA account**.

- (c) Engagement of the Committee in an expert group on the development and implementation of the monitoring framework of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and mainstreaming the use of the SEEA in policy, including climate change, the circular economy and sustainable finance (see sect. III);

Malaysia acknowledged on the early and active engagement by the Committee to provide an entry point for the official statistical community to involve in monitoring the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and support in mainstreaming the use of the SEEA in policy. Malaysia agreed and supports the committee's works on Methodological development SEEA Central Framework, consider the current manual of SEEA CF is too general without guidelines on the treatment/estimation data. Involvement of all parties (government & non-government) is important to ensure the understanding the use of SEEA which can be the tools and resource in making evidence-based decisions for their policy needs.

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (f) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: environmental-economic accounting

(d) The proposal to further develop the methodology for ocean accounting, including the development of a SEEA Oceans (see sect. VI B)

Malaysia acknowledged the proposal made by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership, the World Bank to establish a working group to make progress on SEEA Oceans.

In 2019, Malaysia has been selected as one of the pilot countries for the development of ocean accounts in Malaysia whereby the area of interest is Straits of Malacca. Moving forward, **Malaysia is planning to expand the study up to the national level.**

We are fully supporting the action taken by the Committee in preparing a draft of methodological document in support of the SEEA Central Framework and SEEA Ecosystem Accounting. Hence, for the proposed presentation planned in 2023, Malaysia is **truly honoured to be one of the selected pilot countries for the development of the technical guidance and will continue supporting the next action taken by the Committee especially in developing the SEEA Ocean.**

It would be helpful if this methodological document will include **comprehensive concept and definition and step-by-step process to develop account up to analytical part of the developed account. It is also best to include the best practice and example of completed ocean account (i.e. table or spreadsheet).**

(e) The formation of a working group on business accounting and the SEEA and the focus on alignment between the SEEA and private natural capital accounting approaches (see sect. VII).

Malaysia appreciates and support on the formation of a working group on business accounting and the SEEA. Indeed, it is a **need to focus on alignment between the SEEA and private natural capital accounting.**

Submitted on:

2/17/2021