

**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:***

Republic of Mali

***Statement:***

Unofficial translation:

Thank you, president.

On behalf of the Africa Group, Mali wishes to welcome the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting.

We note with satisfaction the extent of the work done on environmental-economic accounting. We also appreciate the progress made in this domain, especially as the large majority of African countries, including Mali, rely on the exploitation of natural resources for their better capitalization. The evaluation of the accounts allows the monitoring of two targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, namely: i) 15.9.1 and ii) 12.b.1.

Despite the progress made to develop environmental-economic accounts, Mali, like many African countries, is not yet advanced enough in this domain. The majority of African states do not find themselves in any of the progressive stages of SEEA implementation, namely: a) countries which have compiled at least one account within the last five years; b) countries which have compiled and published at least one account within the last five years; and c) countries which have compiled and published at least one account on a regular basis.

In the implementation of a three-year project financed by the 12th Tranche of the UN Development Account, Africa strongly encourages the choice of African countries in the implementing the SEEA and its use in knowledge-based policy making in order to extend this knowledge to other non-project countries. Indeed, African countries have a strong need for capacity building on the compilation of environmental-economic accounts insofar as they have a weak system for collecting environmental statistics. Still, the Global Program on Sustainability (GPS) of the World Bank is supporting countries through the programme, “Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services”, implementing many capacity building activities on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Central Framework. African countries strongly support the organization of trainings and workshops, which are an asset for them to advance implementation of the SEEA.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Submitted on:

2/17/2021

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