

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: The Netherlands	
Statement: <p>The Netherlands welcomes and supports the work done by the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. The further methodological development and implementation of SEEA is an important area of work for the statistical community.</p> <p>In particular, the Netherlands welcomes and appreciates all the work done on the revised draft of the SEEA ecosystem accounting, which is a significant improvement with regard to the previous manual from 2012. We support the EU global position, in particular with regard to the adoption of chapters 1-7 as a statistical standard and the inclusion of chapters on monetary valuation in the manual. The SEEA EA provides a consistent description of the key concepts, definitions and classifications needed for the statistical description of ecosystems and the ecosystem services they supply. It will play an important role supporting policies in the area of biodiversity, climate change and economic development. Valuation of ecosystems provides important additional insights that in combination with the results from the physical account supports various policy applications, so it is important that it is part of the SEEA EA manual.</p> <p>A key challenge for the coming years is the implementation of the SEEA EA, which will require additional methodological guidance for countries.</p>	
Submitted on:	2/19/2021