

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

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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

<i>Statement provided by:</i> UNWTO - World Tourism Organization	
<i>Statement:</i> <p>UNWTO commends and supports the work of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting, especially that that refers to the monumental task related to the finalization of the SEEA Ecosystems Accounting manual, and the transparency of the process that led to it.</p> <p>UNWTO supports the making of chapters 1 to 7 of the SEEA EA manual into an international statistical standard, and acknowledges the wide support and consensus achieved at the global level in this regard. The UNWTO also supports that chapters 8 to 11 of the SEEA EA manual be kept together with the rest of the document as a statistical standard, while including relevant aspects of valuation in the research agenda for future development.</p> <p>The UNWTO believes that such an important standard can also feed the discussion in the measurement of the impact and dependencies of tourism on ecosystems and, more specifically, that it can feed the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism(SF-MST). A background document has been submitted to the UN Statistical Commission under this item, explaining the progress so far and the steps ahead for the SF-MST.</p> <p>As expressed by countries in this Commission, measuring the sustainability of tourism is important in many countries. Developing a Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism that is anchored in related measurement systems—such as the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting, Ecosystems Accounting, and the National Accounts—is fundamental to bring data comparability and credibility at global, national and subnational levels.</p> <p>The World Tourism Organization and its Committee on Statistics are looking forward to continuing the fruitful collaboration with the UNCEEA and the members of the Statistical Commission.</p>	
Submitted on:	2/24/2021