Document E/CN.3/2021/12 – Report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) on regional cooperation for development of official statistics

Statement provided by:

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Statement:

Malaysia through the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM) welcomes the Report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on regional cooperation for the development of official statistics and greatly appreciates/congratulates on the productive achievements despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Based on the subject areas as highlighted in the paper for the Arab region, **DOSM is ready to share our expertise and experiences on economics and social statistics**, especially on SNA with the concept of the Islamic Banking, alternative non-traditional data sources for International Comparison Program (ICP), the development of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS), System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), statistical business register as well as the use of advanced technology for official statistics. Platform of sharing knowledge is conducted through virtual study visit, training courses via Malaysia Statistical Training Institutes (ILSM) as well as submit proposal via The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) to conduct the training courses under the Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) Programme as DOSM has signed a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with SESRIC in March 2020.

Malaysia strongly supports the strengthening of cooperation and partnerships between regional commissions, UN teams, regional and international organisations, development partners, and the national statistical system in terms of expertise sharing, technical cooperation and capacity building in non-traditional resources that much needed in these pandemic situations such as **Data Science**, **use of advance technology for official statistics, geospatial information systems and big data. Malaysia is willing to participate in any training programme, working group, the expert group to further enhance expertise in the aforementioned statistical areas for the development of the national and global statistical systems.**

Submitted on:

2/17/2021