

## United Nations Statistical Commission

### Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (i) of the provisional agenda

### Items for discussion and decision: management and modernization of statistical systems

### Document E/CN.3/2021/13 – Report of the Secretary-General on management and modernization of statistical systems

***Statement provided by:***

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***Statement:***

Malaysia through the Department of Statistics, Malaysia (DOSM) welcomes the concise “**Report of the Secretary-General on management and modernization of statistical systems**” on the work of the advisory group and on recent progress towards drafting the next edition of the Handbook on Management and Organization System. Malaysia agrees that the role of national statistical offices to build and sustain resilient, inclusive and integrated data and statistical system is integral to respond to the increased and urgent data demands in times of crisis and will support the 2030 transformative agenda for sustainable development and its transformation and modernization agenda.

Malaysia acknowledges that the statistical system – both at national and international level – are quickly evolving. Hence, Malaysia supports the effort to produce the web-based handbook, in particular the new “living document”, given the dynamicity of the requirements of modernization. The latest edition also contains examples of country practices which we find extremely valuable. However, in including these practices in a reference document such as this handbook, it is recommended that the advisory group also account for the clarification of the countries’ statistical systems prior to publication to ensure fair and just detailed.

Additionally, there are notable content across chapters in the handbook relating to the parties who are non-NSOs yet would be recommended to play a crucial role in the statistical system, especially with regard to the governance of the system, as well as other roles which may overlap with other parties including national policies and enforcement agencies, industries and academics. Malaysia strongly believed that production of official statistics will require a robust and holistic statistical framework which entailed extensive and strong collaborations with these relevant parties. Thus, it is pertinent to ensure that the content of this handbook reach the intended audience inclusive of non-NSO’s through various other international platforms. In doing this, the production of official statistics will not only be demand driven, but the statistical system itself may go beyond to alert the relevant parties, hence create demand for new statistics for informed decision making.

Malaysia is confident that the updated handbook will be the tools and guidance for the least developing countries and developing countries to implement their transformative agenda in the countries. In line with the five-year development plan for Malaysia i.e. Eleventh Malaysia Plan 2016-2020, DOSM had formulated and achieved the Strategic Transformation Plan during the same period to better manage and organize and modernize the statistical system in support of the national policy framework.

In terms of quality management, DOSM adapted the completed National Quality Assurance Framework (NQAF) for Malaysia to ensure the quality of statistical business model. Further action, DOSM has acknowledged the latest version of the United Nations National Quality Assurance Frameworks Manual

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including its recommendations on the framework and implementation guidance 2019 for Official Statistics provided by the Expert Group of National Quality Assurance Framework.

To ensure continuous efforts to cater for production of a timely, holistic and aggregated statistics, DOSM has escalated communication and extend networking to strengthen the national system through usage of administrative data. Thus, it is also helpful to continuously review and update documented detail guidance especially in terms of methodology to calibrate or to harmonise information from multiple sources in production of official statistics. The analysis will be very useful and can cater the urgent need for more granular data in designing policy recommendations. Through the organization of regional thematic conferences on the above strategic area, we are able to further strengthen and enhance the existing capabilities.

Submitted on:

2/17/2021