

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (j) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: big data

Document E/CN.3/2021/14 – Report of the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics

<i>Statement provided by:</i> Director-General for Policy Planning on Statistical Standards, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Government of Japan	
<i>Statement:</i> <p>Japan welcomes the initiative to promote the use of big data in the global statistical community, as we are also working on the utilization of big data. For example, we have established a conference among the business, public, and academic sectors and are considering the calculation of an SDG indicator utilizing earth observation data under the auspices of this conference.</p> <p>Thus, we believe that it is a good idea to share insight related to big data through the various initiatives of the UN Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics, although the Japanese government itself is not a member of the Global Working Group.</p> <p>However, if in-kind and financial contributions are to be required for the UN Global Platform, we believe that a plan for using these contributions should be presented in advance and in detail from the perspective of ensuring accounting transparency and accountability, and we believe that the results of using in-kind or financial contributions should also be presented.</p> <p>Additionally, in order to create a finance committee, the governance structure of the committee should be clarified in advance.</p> <p>Moreover, although we have no objection to endorsing a change to the name of the Global Working Group, if any resultant changes are to be made to the Terms of Reference of the Global Working Group's successor organisation or to the role of the UN Global Platform, these should be carried out after transparent and open consultation with countries and a wide range of stakeholders.</p>	
Submitted on:	2/19/2021