

## 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

*The statement provided by:*



Statistics Poland

*Statement:*

Statistics Poland **welcomes the list of activities done by the task teams of the UN Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics**. It endorses **the creation of a new task team** on the acquisition of global private sector data. It is imperative to negotiate access to multinational companies' data sources under global arrangements.

Poland welcomes the idea of a new task team as it is **consistent with the current initiatives at the European Union level**, such as the *European Statistical System Committee Partnership Group Task Force on access to privately-held data*, which Statistics Poland has a privilege to chair as well as a recently proposed *Expert Group on Facilitating the use of new data sources for official statistics* which would involve various stakeholders, including non-statistical ones, interested in this area.

The 2021 work program's priorities appear to meet the expectations and needs of national statistical offices (NSOs) concerning the use of big data. **The development of the global training program is a crucial element expected to guide national statistical offices** in various areas of big data and data science. According to the survey, *An assessment of NSO readiness for the use of big data in official statistics* completed in 2020 by the Task Team on Training, Competencies and Capacity Development, a large proportion of the NSOs are already embracing big data. However, there are still areas in which NSOs require further support. The highest urgency is the guidance in providing access to training in topics related to big data and data science. In this respect, the Task Team on Training, Competencies, and Capacity Development has already undertaken to provide guidance on developing training programs that address the gaps and mismatches identified in the competency analysis. The Task Team coordinates the Big Data Training Curriculum development, which will map onto the Big Data Competency Framework and establish global training requirements. Another vital endeavor will involve developing the Big Data Training Catalogue, which will outline the training courses that already exist and other materials and tools to support NSOs in enhancing their big data capabilities. Equally important will be the coordination of e-learning courses developed by the subject-matter task teams.

Regarding the **UN Global Platform's funding strategy**, the community model seems to be the most suitable. The **in-kind contribution** in the form of expert involvement should be stressed as an essential pillar of the model. Besides, it would be recommended to effectively communicate further developments of the UNGP and outline its added value for the national statistical systems.

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The need to rename the Global Working Group to align the expert groups' names under the UN Statistical Commission is acknowledged.

Submitted on:

2/19/2021