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

Statement provided by:

UNODC and WB on behalf of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities

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This is a joint statement submitted on behalf of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (<u>CCSA</u>), which consists of 45 international and supranational organizations promoting the inter-agency coordination and cooperation on statistics.

The Committee:

CONGRATULATES the <u>Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics</u> for their continued work to harness the power of big data for the purposes of compiling official statistics and the sustainable development goals, and in particular for successfully holding the 6th International Conference on Big Data for Official Statistics, hosted by South Korea;

SUPPORTS the call to resource the <u>United Nations Global Platform</u> to ensure its longer term sustainability and congratulates the development work done the Office for National Statistics in the UK in developing this platform;

WELCOMES the emphasis being given to privacy-preserving techniques, securing access to global private sector data and the global capacity development programme being prepared;

EXPRESSES its appreciation to the Global Working Group, and to the Member States, who have shown leadership in this area. In particular, the chair, South Africa and to the vice chairs, Denmark and the United Kingdom, and also to Brazil, China, Rwanda and the United Arab Emirates for their work supporting the regional hubs;

ENDORSE the change of the name of the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics to the United Nations Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics;

NOTES that the work of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics will contribute to all 3 goals of the System-wide Road Map for Innovating United Nations Data and Statistics (CEB/2020/1/Add.1) - (a) to create new and timely data solutions; (b) to address emerging policy needs; and (c) to provide coordinated and innovative support to Member States;

REAFFIRMS that CCSA members remain committed to actively engaging in the work of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics and offering agency expertise and support for its work.