United Nations Statistical Commission
Fifty-second session
1–3 and 5 March 2021
Item 3 (k) of the provisional agenda
Items for discussion and decision: international statistical classifications

Document E/CN.3/2021/15 – Report of the Expert Group on International
Statistical Classifications

Statement provided by: Finland Deputy Director General of Statistics Finland, Ms. Johanna Laiho-Kauranne on behalf of Director General of Statistics Finland.	
Statement:	
Classifications are a vital element for statistical systems. Finland supports the statement provided on behalf of the EU and its Member States. In particular, we welcome the initiative to establish a Task Team on statistical units and look forward to updated international guidance on how to coherently apply the industrial classification on the statistical construct enterprise. In the context of industrial classification and units, we volunteer to participate to further international development. We recognize that the economic classifications that are revised every 15 years or even more (as was the case with ISIC) do not allow the production of current statistical data in accordance with the rapidly changing economic reality. Our question concerns the timeline of the envisaged ISIC revision in 2023 and the possible new update in 2025. We would like to better understand the impact on the regional revision processes such as NACE in Europe and NAICS in North America. We would appreciate more information on what is meant by the possible new ISIC update in 2025 and by the continuous process that may lead to this update as the revised regional classifications will have to adapt to it. Thus we would suggest that there would be a roadmap to clarify how the ISIC revisions should be implemented at regional/country level. Finally we would like to congratulate the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications for the report, and thank for the opportunity to provide the comments.	
Submitted on:	2/26/2021