

United Nations Statistical Commission

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Item 3 (l) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: household surveys

Document E/CN.3/2021/16 – Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys (ISWGHS)

Statement provided by:
National Bureau of Statistics of China

Statement:

Unofficial translation:

(1) We agree with the amendment of the terms of reference and the work carried out by the Inter-Secretariat Household Survey Working Group (ISWGHS) in 2020. In particular, we appreciated the work done by the Working Group in promoting the exchange and sharing of best practices in household surveys, supporting SDG monitoring and how household surveys can withstand the impact of Covid-19. The National Bureau of Statistics of China is willing to continue to strengthen communication with the members of the United Nations Statistical Commission in the area of household surveys.

(2) Household surveys are an important source of data for fully implementing of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and monitoring progress in achieving the SDGs. The National Bureau of Statistics of China has been actively promoting household surveys to meet the needs of SDG monitoring continuously. On the one hand, the household survey in China actively provides data for SDG monitoring to many international organizations such as the United Nations Statistics Division, the World Bank, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). It covered household income, consumption, poverty, income inequality, water and toilets, and so on. On the other hand, household surveys in China had revised and improved the survey plan promptly to meet the SDGs' monitoring needs better. For example, in the 2019 household survey plan revision, in accordance with the monitoring needs of the SDGs in water, environmental sanitation, and personal hygiene, the UNICEF's recommendations were actively absorbed by adding survey indicators such as water intake location, excrement removal, and disposal, hand washing facilities, and revising and improving the indicators of toilet types and toilet usage. In addition, based on the needs of the SDGs in nutrition and health monitoring, the survey indicators such as height and weight of residents had been added.

(3) We highly appreciate the collective vision document toward the "new normal" of household surveys. The document provides practical suggestions and a feasible vision on expanding data sources, improving data quality, enhancing the use of electronic data collection methods, and strengthening work organization, implementation, and training for household surveys in the future.

Submitted on:

2/22/2021