

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (m) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: data and metadata presentation and dissemination

Document E/CN.3/2021/17 – Report of the Secretary-General on data and metadata presentation and dissemination

<i>Statement provided by:</i> CANADA	
<i>Statement:</i> <p>Canada notes that metadata and dissemination are critical components of solid data stewardship and effective communication of statistics. The ability to collect and compile information requires comprehensive metadata as well as robust dissemination tools. We also note that this importance is witnessed by its relation to Agenda 3(b) on Coordination of the Statistical Programs, as the discussion related to this item is connected to the UN data strategy and the System-wide Road Map for Innovating United Nations Data and Statistics.</p> <p>We also draw attention to the fact that the discussion of data flows, metadata and data dissemination have been discussed extensively in the work of the IAEG-SDG (Agenda item 3(a)). Much has been learned as a result of the enormous data requirements of the SDGs with the various complicated data flows, validation and attribution requirements. Given that so much has already taken place related to these elements we suggest that UNSD make use of the relevant components of the Guidelines on data flows for SDGs created by the IAEG-SDG and the CCSA.</p> <p>Canada congratulates United Nations Statistics Division for the elaboration of a vision for the creation of the new UNdata Hub. Having a one-stop shop for data and statistics at the global level is a positive information management step, and we note that robust metadata and accurate attribution are foundational to the modern architecture.</p> <p>Canada also supports the establishment of the Inter-agency and expert mechanism that includes member country representation. We believe such representation can help provide expert advice based on national experiences in addition to a stakeholder point of view as user of the external facing data hub and a direct or indirect data contributor. A diversity of voices from this set of stakeholders would be beneficial. We express our interest in being a part of this group.</p>	
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