Statement provided by:
Suriname

Statement:
Belize and Suriname, on behalf of the CARICOM region.
The CARICOM Region

Prefaces this statement with the rhetorical question specific to Document 5: If the Roadmap has already been endorsed by the United Nations Chief Executives Board for Coordination, chaired by the UN Secretary General, what practical role can the UN Statistical Commission play, even if ECOSOC Resolution 2020/5 (page 2) "also recognizes that the Statistical Commission remains the primary body for the coordination of the statistical programmes of the United Nations System"?

Recognizes, nevertheless, the inherent value in the Roadmap to the UN system as well as Member States, and while the region has reservations with the endorsement process followed, it welcomes the System-wide Roadmap for innovating United Nations Data and Statistics (with its 3 goals, 9 targets and 39 actions) as a product, with the following qualifying remarks:

- Target 1.2, action 1.2.2: "Develop new UN Job profiles for data scientists, data analysts, ...". Suriname on behalf of the CARICOM Region wishes to know what is the relevance of this action, given that the UNSD has not been able to fill existing vacancies and that an answer to questions from Suriname asked from the UNSD and the Bureau at the 51st Statistical Commission session is still outstanding.
- Target 2.1, action 2.1.4: "Define common data and metadata standards". Requests clarification as to what the status of SDMX (as a Standard for data and metadata exchange) is in the global statistical system, and whether the work to be carried out under this target would represent a duplication of efforts and inefficient use of resources.
- Target 2.3, action 2.3.3:"Explore establishing a United Nations forecasting network (as a stand-alone network or as part of the nowcasting network)". In most CARICOM Member Countries the responsibility for developing forecasts lies not with the NSOs, but with Central Banks and/or National Planning Institutes. Therefore, while the region does not object to the activity in principle, it does not believe that it should be treated as a high priority activity.

Recognizes the completed and ongoing work of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities, as presented in its report, but notes that paragraphs 13 and 20 contain clear violations of ECOSOC Resolution 2006/6 and that activities which represent such violations cannot be supported by the countries of the CARICOM Region. The region further notes that in 2019 (UN Statistical Commission session 50), the HLG-PCCB warned against violations of ECOSOC Resolution 2006/6, noting that they would be disincentives to statistical capacity building efforts.
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