**Statement provided by:**
Suriname

**Statement:**

Suriname and Belize on behalf of CARICOM,
The CARICOM Region

Welcomes the report of the Friends of the Chair on Economic Statistics.

Disagrees with the statement (Paragraph 10) “transitioning national statistical offices from the role of data producers to that of data stewards”, as data stewardship is a role being undertaken by NSOs in addition to their established role as a data producers.

Strongly supports the use of the term Data Stewardship in Paragraph 15 which states “national statistical offices should adopt the role of data stewards in addition to being data producers”.

Notes and supports the recommendations under paragraph 23 (a), the theme of Networking (Collaboration and User Consultation) and (b), the theme of Transforming and Challenging the System.

Further to paragraph 23 (c), the theme of Enabling institutional arrangements and governance, the CARICOM Region also supports the recommendation contained in Paragraph 67 on “Establishing a Network of Economic Statisticians”, provided that there is full and transparent collaboration and cooperation with existing groups and duplication and gaps are avoided.

Expresses its reservations with respect to the recommendation for the establishment of a Committee of Experts on Population and Well-being and requests clarification as to the proposed composition of the committee and the explicit assurance that its mandate for improving the availability and quality of statistics related to the well-being of people and the sustainability of societal developments in a broader statistical framework will also ensure consistency with established standards, concepts and methodologies within the various subject matter areas which it seeks to consolidate into an overarching statistical framework.

Points out that, although the CARICOM Region is represented in the Expert Group on Environment Statistics (EGES), it is not aware of discussions that have taken place to date between FOC Economic Statistics and EGES as indicated in paragraph 74.

Requests that, with reference to Paragraph 79 which states that “a prominent role for the regional commissions and regional agencies in experimentation with and testing of methodological changes in countries is foreseen in both the assessment and implementation phases”, an equally prominent role
United Nations Statistical Commission  
Fifty-second session  
1–3 and 5 March 2021  
Item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda  
**Items for discussion and decision: economic statistics**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submitted on:</th>
<th>2/19/2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

be accorded to the CARICOM region for sub-regional organizations.

Supports the recommendation to dissolve the FOC Economic Statistics.