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Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda and annotations

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Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and past practices, the Statistical Commission, at the commencement of its first meeting of a regular session, shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chair, three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur (the Bureau).

The Bureau is elected based on the principle of equitable geographical distribution – one member of the Bureau is elected from each of the regions represented on the Commission. The Bureau serves for two years, to the extent possible. This is achieved by electing the Bureau for a period of one year and re-electing those members of the Bureau who continue to be representatives to the Commission at the following session.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

The items on the provisional agenda and the corresponding documentation were proposed by the Commission at its fifty-second session, held virtually from 1 to 3 and on 5 March 2021 (see [E/2021/24](#)), and were adopted by the Council in its decision 2021/224. The Bureau of the Commission has subsequently approved some changes. The proposed provisional programme of work and timetable for the session is also

before the Commission. The Commission is invited to adopt the agenda and provisional programme of work and timetable for its fifty-third session.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations ([E/CN.3/2022/1](#))

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional programme of work and timetable ([E/CN.3/2022/L.1](#))

3. Items for discussion and decision

(a) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The Commission will have before it the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators on the work regarding implementation of the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In its report, the Group describes the activities undertaken in 2021 pursuant to Statistical Commission decision 52/101, including: (a) methodology review of the indicator framework and tier classification updates; (b) work stream on data disaggregation; (c) indicator refinements; (d) improvement of data flows and global data reporting for the Goals; and (e) work carried out by the three working groups on the measurement of development support, Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX), and geospatial information.

The Commission will also have before it the following background documents: (a) the report of the Working Group on Measurement of Development Support providing details on the work of the Group and its indicator proposal for target 17.3; (b) the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap; and (c) practical guidelines on small area estimation for the Sustainable Development Goals.

Action to be taken by the Commission includes: (a) approving the annual indicator refinements; (b) adopting the work programme of the Expert Group for 2022; (c) adopting the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap; and (d) adopting new indicator 17.3.1 and requesting that the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) become co-custodians of the indicator.

In addition, the Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, in cooperation with other entities of the United Nations system, in support of the 2030 Agenda. The report provides a description of the work to prepare the annual report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/2021/58](#)); the work to update the Global SDG Indicators Database; and the launch of the Global SDG Indicator Platform.

The report also provides updates on the following topics: (a) the Data for Now initiative, jointly convened by the United Nations, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, the World Bank and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network; (b) the project of the Statistics Division funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to support countries in monitoring achievement of the Goals; (c) the collaborative on use of administrative data for statistical purposes; (d) the work on the Federated Information System for the Sustainable Development Goals; (e) the Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training; (f) the Global Network of Data Officers and Statisticians; and (g) the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys. The Commission is invited to take note of the work carried out by the Division in cooperation with the United Nations system and its proposed programme of work and to express its views on the topics indicated.

The Commission will also have before it the report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which provides a summary of the recent activities of the Group, including: (a) highlights from the third United Nations World Data Forum, held in Bern from 3 to 6 October 2021, and details of the outcome statement adopted by the Forum entitled “Bern Data Compact for the Decade of Action on the Sustainable Development Goals”; (b) the launch of the Global Data Facility of the World Bank and the Bern Network Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data and related roles of the Group; (c) the global online survey by the Statistics Division, the World Bank’s Development Data Group and the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century, in coordination with the five regional commissions to monitor the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on national statistical offices and the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data; and (d) plans for the next United Nations World Data Forum to be held in Hangzhou, China, in April 2023 and in Medellín, Colombia, in November 2024.

Action to be taken by the Commission includes: (a) to review and approve the proposed workplan of High-level Group for 2022; (b) to approve the amended terms of reference; (c) to endorse the Bern Data Compact; (d) to review plans for the survey to monitor the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on national statistical offices and the implementation of the Cape Town Global Action Plan; and (e) to approve the timeline and process for the review and revision of the Cape Town Global Action Plan.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators ([E/CN.3/2022/2](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/CN.3/2022/3](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ([E/CN.3/2022/4](#))

(b) Data stewardship

The Commission will have before it the report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship, which contains a summary of the recent activities of the Working Group, including highlights from the five workstreams and the workplan for 2022, as well as initial ideas on the way forward for national statistical offices that wish to expand their role as data stewards within their national statistical and data systems.

Action to be taken by the Commission includes: (a) expressing its views on the scope of data stewardship; (b) expressing its views on the progress of the five workstreams defined under the Working Group; and (c) review and approval of the proposed workplan for 2022.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship ([E/CN.3/2022/5](#))

(c) Working methods of the Statistical Commission

The Commission will have before it the report of the Bureau on the working methods of the Commission. In the report, the Bureau revises the terms of reference and reviews other initiatives of the Bureau during the intersessional period, 2021–2022. In addition, the Bureau explores the lessons learned from the virtual session of the fifty-second

session and provides updates on other initiatives, including gender mainstreaming across the Commission's work. The Bureau also describes a scoping exercise of the categorization of the Commission's normative work, takes into consideration all existing normative work that has been adopted, endorsed or agreed by the Commission in the period from 2008 to 2021 and highlights the steps that have led to the development of materials and to adoption processes. The Commission will also have before it two background documents: on the revised terms of reference and on a detailed analysis of the scoping exercise. The Commission is invited to reflect on the revisions of the terms of reference, the scoping exercise and other initiatives undertaken by the Bureau.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Bureau on the working methods of the Statistical Commission: revising the terms of reference and reviewing other initiatives of the Bureau during the intersessional period ([E/CN.3/2022/6](#))

(d) Regional statistical development

The Commission will have before it the report of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) on regional statistical development. The report includes major statistical activities in the ECE region that may be of interest to the global statistical community. In the report, work undertaken by the Conference of European Statisticians on emerging topics in statistics is described, including on measuring the value of official statistics and defining the core values of official statistics, measuring poverty and social exclusion, and new forms of employment. Successful activities to support member States in meeting the challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic are presented. The main achievements of the ECE High-level Group for the Modernization of Official Statistics are described. ECE also describes progress in regional statistical work in response to the internationally agreed development goals, such as the Sustainable Development Goals, climate change and hazardous events and disasters. The Commission is invited to comment on the work undertaken in the ECE region and identify synergies and opportunities for the exchange of experience across regions.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Economic Commission for Europe on regional statistical development ([E/CN.3/2022/7](#))

(e) Population and housing censuses

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme. The report serves as a follow-up to the implementation of the Programme, as reported to the Commission at its fifty-first session, and to the results of the surveys and the census dashboard launched by the Statistics Division, in which the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on census-taking worldwide are documented. The report also provides an elaboration on the interpretation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in respect of establishing national statistical population registers on the basis of population and housing census records.

Action to be taken by the Commission includes: (a) to take note of the status of implementation of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme; (b) to urge Member States to conduct population and housing censuses or otherwise generate small area census statistics in the 2020 round of population and housing censuses (2015–2024); (c) to endorse the establishment of national statistical population registers based on census records exclusively for statistical purposes and within the legislative framework, disallowing its use for any other purposes; and

(d) to request the Division to continue to monitor population and housing census-taking worldwide and to report to the Commission.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme ([E/CN.3/2022/8](#))

(f) Civil registration, vital statistics and statelessness statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda on civil registration and vital statistics. The report serves to elaborate on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of implementing the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda, in particular on reporting and registering deaths and in producing accurate and reliable vital statistics overall. The report also provides an overview of joint initiatives undertaken by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the World Health Organization (WHO) related to the excess deaths assessment and the work of the Technical Advisory Group on COVID-19 Mortality Assessment and provides an update on activities carried out by the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda task force. The actions to be taken by the Commission are set out at the end of the report, including: (a) to take note of the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the functioning of civil registration and the impact on producing reliable vital statistics, primarily general and cause-of-death mortality statistics; (b) to take note of the initiatives and activities accomplished by the Technical Advisory Group; (c) to reiterate its call to for all countries to implement the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda as a matter of priority, as the holistic approach to civil registration, vital statistics and identity management; and (d) to request the Division to continue monitoring the functioning of civil registration and vital statistics system and the implementation of the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda and to report to the Commission thereon.

The Commission will also have before it the report of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics. Following a comprehensive description of the scale of the challenge and the need to develop international recommendations on statelessness statistics, the report includes progress made to date by the Expert Group, including the specific challenges identified with regard to definitions, data sources and coordination, and provides an outline of a proposed statistical framework for statelessness statistics. Next steps are also included.

The Commission is invited: (a) to provide feedback on the proposed overarching statistical framework, including definitions and classifications of the population within the scope of the draft international recommendations; and (b) to provide guidance on the plans and priorities of the Expert Group subgroup on statelessness, in particular with regard to the further development of the international recommendations.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the Implementation of the United Nations Legal Identity Agenda on civil registration and vital statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/9](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics on statelessness statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/10](#))

(g) Human settlements statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on human settlements statistics. In its report, UN-Habitat highlights the progress it and partners have achieved on the development of human settlements statistics and relevant methodologies and on advancements in urban data collection and reporting in a consistent manner across a set of selected human settlements indicators. UN-Habitat also provides information on progress made in the implementation of previous recommendations on improving the global monitoring and reporting on human settlements indicators.

The Commission is invited: (a) to take note of the achievements and approve the planned human settlements statistics activities of UN-Habitat for the next four years, including the ongoing work on regional capacity-building activities, the global urban monitoring framework, the New Urban Agenda framework, the national sample of cities approach, urban observatories, spatial analysis, and slum and non-slum areas demarcations; (b) to take note of the progress made on rolling out the global urban/city definition and the capacity development plan following its earlier endorsement in 2020; and (c) to endorse the global urban monitoring framework and its further implementation as part of a harmonized global urban United Nations system-wide strategy.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) on human settlements statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/11](#))

(h) Gender statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics, which provides a summary of recent activities undertaken by the Statistics Division and the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics under the Global Gender Statistics Programme to strengthen gender data to support progress towards gender equality and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals. In particular, the report provides an update on the development of guidelines to improve the production of time-use data, in collaboration with a group of subject-matter experts and as requested by the Commission in its decisions 48/109 (see [E/2017/24](#)) and 51/115 (see [E/2020/24](#)), introducing a minimum harmonized instrument for time-use data collection, quality considerations for time-use surveys and options to modernize time-use data production. The report also provides information on the outcomes of the eighth Global Forum on Gender Statistics and the conclusions of recent meetings of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics, including a revised minimum set of gender indicators. The Commission is invited to review and approve the solutions identified to date for a more cost-effective production of time-use data. The Commission is also invited to express its views on the ongoing work on gender statistics and on future priority areas.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on gender statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/12](#))

(i) Health statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the World Health Organization on health statistics. In the report, WHO describes work carried out by its newly created Division of Data, Analytics and Delivery for Impact, including the establishment of a new Geographic Information System Centre, Health Information Systems Unit and Health Equity Monitoring Unit; the development of a new, global, modular health

survey; a revised and updated composite index of universal health coverage; a routine health information systems strategy; and the new World Health Data Hub.

Furthermore, WHO highlights the groundbreaking work, done in collaboration with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, on modelling estimates for COVID-19-related excess mortality for each member State, disaggregated by sex and age. It also provides information on the statement issued at the Health Data Governance Summit and on data-sharing principles, and refers to the intention to establish a new international conference on health statistics. WHO expresses its appreciation for the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Health Statistics.

The Commission is invited to express its views on the above activities and to endorse them. With the inauguration of the new international conference scheduled for 2023, WHO requests the Commission to dissolve the existing Intersecretariat Working Group on Health Statistics, while expressing appreciation for its work to date.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Health Organization on health statistics: strengthening statistical systems to track the health-related Sustainable Development Goals ([E/CN.3/2022/13](#))

(j) Crime and criminal justice statistics

The Commission will have before it the report jointly prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI) on crime and criminal justice statistics. The report provides a review of activities and accomplishments since 2019, including new methodological tools developed over the past few years, such as the new “Conceptual framework for the statistical measurement of illicit financial flows” (UNCTAD and UNODC); the common initiative on standardized survey modules for Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and UNODC) and the statistical framework on gender-based killings of women and girls (UNODC and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)). Furthermore, it provides a description of existing challenges and future activities to be undertaken at the international level.

The Commission is invited to review and approve the new methodological tools, comment on past activities and existing challenges in this area and provide advice on planned activities that will shape the third phase of implementing the road map to improve crime and criminal justice statistics at the national, regional and global levels.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico on crime and criminal justice statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/14](#))

(k) Education statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on education statistics. In its report, the Institute refers to the establishment of national benchmark values for selected Sustainable Development Goals indicators for 2025 and 2030. In particular, the report provides background information on the main objective and steps taken by the Institute to encourage countries to submit targets that would represent their own contributions to the global effort to achieve Goal 4 by 2030. The

Commission is invited: (a) to endorse the work conducted by the Institute and the *Global Education Monitoring Report* team, in which they invited countries to submit national benchmarks for selected Goal 4 indicators; (b) to note the potential of the benchmarking approach with regard to identifying data gaps and to encourage Member States to collect the relevant education statistics; (c) to note the potential of the benchmarking approach to promoting interregional and intraregional statistical cooperation in education; and (d) to support the update and revision mechanisms proposed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) for keeping the benchmarks relevant and to report back to the Commission in this regard in 2024.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on education statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/15](#))

(l) Environmental-economic accounting

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. In its report, the Committee describes progress made and its programme of work for the period 2022–2025 according to its five workstreams: coordination and communication; methodological development for normative standards and other research; development of databases; implementation and statistical capacity-building; and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and business accounting.

The Commission is invited to provide its views on the Committee's progress and proposed programme of work, in particular: (a) the global implementation strategy for the SEEA ecosystem accounting framework; (b) the final draft of the biophysical guidelines which is aimed at supporting the compilation of ecosystem accounts in countries; (c) the engagement of national statistical offices in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and development of the monitoring framework in the lead-up to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity; and (d) the progress made in finalizing the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting ([E/CN.3/2022/16](#))

(m) Climate change statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics. The report was prepared by the Statistics Division in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The report contains an update on the work of the Division in climate change statistics, in particular with regard to the development of a global set of climate change statistics and indicators, as mandated by the Commission at its forty-seventh and forty-ninth sessions. The report contains the final draft of the global set of climate change statistics, which provides a comprehensive statistical framework with statistics, indicators and metadata designed to support countries in preparing their own sets of climate change statistics and indicators according to their individual concerns, priorities and resources. It also serves to explain the process to develop the global set, which involved an extensive global consultation. The results of the consultation were discussed at the eighth meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics, at

which it was recommended that the global set be submitted to the Commission at its fifty-third session for adoption. The report also includes a workplan prepared by the Division outlining the way forward towards the implementation of the global set.

The Commission is invited to consider and adopt the global set as the framework for climate change statistics and indicators and encourage its implementation in countries, and to provide its views on the workplan outlining the way forward.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/17](#))

(n) National accounts

The Commission will have before it the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts. In the report, the Working Group provides information on the progress with the three elements of the work programme for the update of the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA), namely the development of guidance notes on the research issues identified for the 2008 SNA update; the outreach initiative to inform national accounts compilers and users about the update process and to collect feedback from them; and coordination with the update of other economic statistical standards, including balance of payments, classifications and international trade statistics. In addition, the report contains the programme of work of the Working Group and of the regional commissions, and an update on the scope and timeliness of the implementation of SNA at the country level. The Commission is invited to express its views and to provide guidance on the elements of the work programme for updating the 2008 SNA and on the programme of work of the Working Group.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts ([E/CN.3/2022/18](#))

(o) Network of Economic Statisticians

The Commission will have before it the first report of the Network of Economic Statisticians. The report provides the proposed mandate, governance structure, and working and reporting arrangements included in the terms of reference of the Network. It also includes information on the activities and deliverables of the proposed work programme of the Network, building on the endorsed recommendations of the Friends of the Chair group on economic statistics for an agile and more responsive system of economic statistics based on four thematic workstreams: (a) networking (collaboration and user consultation); (b) transforming and challenging the system (statistical infrastructure and operations, and data solutions); (c) enabling (institutional arrangements and governance); and (d) experimenting, integrating and documenting (statistical framework and methods). In addition, the report contains details on the proposed sprints (the short-duration operational mechanism adopted by the task teams of the Network to realize a series of a set amount of work and deliverables for the thematic workstreams of its work programme) for 2022. The Commission is invited to endorse the terms of reference of the Network, express its views on the progress made by the Network and its sprints, and endorse the proposed activities and deliverables of the work programme for 2022.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Network of Economic Statisticians ([E/CN.3/2022/19](#))

(p) Business and trade statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics. In its report, the Committee highlights the mandate and work programme of the newly established task team on international trade statistics and describes the progress made over the past year by its task teams on globalization and digitalization; well-being and sustainability; business dynamics, demography and entrepreneurship; exhaustive business registers; and capacity-building (leaving no one behind) on statistical business registers. The Committee also presents a new approach for business and trade statistics that builds on its strategic view on business and trade statistics and focus on key priority areas.

The Commission is invited to express its views on: (a) the revised strategic view on business and trade statistics to strengthen the horizontal (across statistical domains) and vertical (between data sources and macroframeworks) integration of business and trade statistics and focus on new topics; (b) the progress of work of the task team on international trade statistics and the proposed revision process and the research agenda for the revision of the international trade statistics manuals; (c) the manual on the global core set of principal business and trade indicators; (d) the manual on the maturity model for statistical business registers; (e) the establishment of a global assessment on the status of implementation of statistical business registers in countries; and (f) the initiative aimed at improving the availability of a unique identifier in countries' administrative data sources and the link with a global unique identifier.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/20](#))

(q) Information and communications technology statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development. In the report, the Partnership presents an overview of its recent work, including the revision of methodological guidelines and an updated core list of information and communications technology (ICT) indicators, and an assessment of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the production of ICT statistics. The Commission is invited to endorse the revised core list of indicators; to highlight the need to implement the revised guidelines in order to improve the availability and quality of ICT indicators and to better assess digital readiness; and to call for an increase in capacity development support for the production of ICT indicators building on training resources developed by the Partnership.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development ([E/CN.3/2022/21](#))

(r) International Comparison Programme

The Commission will have before it the report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme. In the report, the World Bank outlines the activities undertaken in 2021 at the global, regional and national levels with regard to the 2021 comparison cycle of the Programme. It describes the governance, capacity-building, research, knowledge and advocacy activities carried out in that regard. The Commission is invited to take note of the release of the advocacy publication entitled

Purchasing Power Parities for Policymaking: A Visual Guide to Using Data from the International Comparison Programme, and two methodological guides for countries on the consumer price index and International Comparison Programme integration and the production of subnational purchasing power parities. The Commission is also invited to encourage Programme stakeholders to ensure their timely participation in the 2021 cycle of the Programme, which will produce a vital global dataset that will help policymakers to understand the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global economy and material well-being; and to continue to incorporate the Programme into their regular statistical work programmes.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme ([E/CN.3/2022/22](#))

(s) Agricultural and rural statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on recent developments in agriculture and rural statistics. In the report, FAO provides an update on recent actions and efforts it has undertaken in the area of agricultural and rural statistics since its previous report ([E/CN.3/2020/13](#)). In its current report, FAO provides information on recent developments in the implementation of its statistics modernization strategy, in particular its new proposed governance system for data and statistics, with an integrated quality assurance framework and a coordination mechanism for the production and dissemination of big data, geospatial data and statistics; an update on the implementation of the key capacity development programmes in the areas of food security, agriculture and rural statistics, as well as in support of the Sustainable Development Goals indicators under FAO custodianship; the main achievements of the workstreams of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Food Security, Agricultural and Rural Statistics; and a summary of the recommendations emanating from the biennial meetings of its regional commissions on agricultural statistics. The Commission is invited to express its views and provide guidance on elements of the statistical work programme of FAO.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on recent developments in agriculture and rural statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/23](#))

(t) Informal economy statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on informal economy statistics. In the report, ILO outlines the establishment of an ILO working group pursuant to a consensus reached at the twentieth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, held in 2018, to revise the statistical standards defining the informal sector and informal employment; reports on progress made by the working group to recognize that informal productive activities potentially include all activities carried out by persons and economy units within the SNA general production boundary, thus aligning the standards to the concept of work. In addition, a number of improvements, intended to clarify the different statistical concepts of informality and to increase global coverage and harmonization is proposed. The new standards will be considered by a formally convened tripartite meeting of experts in 2023 and will then be presented and discussed at the twenty-first International Conference, to be held in October 2023. The Commission is invited to express its views and to provide guidance on the

elements of the work programme for updating the guidance on informal economy statistics.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the International Labour Organization on informal economy statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/24](#))

(u) Big data

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics. In its report, the Committee provides a summary of the activities it has undertaken and invites the Commission to express its views on the proposed future direction of the Committee's work. The Committee aspires to mainstream the use of big data and data science into the work programmes of national statistical offices by engaging more in collaboration between the Committee task teams and subject-matter expert groups established by the Commission. At the same time, the Committee intends to foster an agile approach in the preparation and delivery of results as well as the dissemination and communication of experimental data by incorporating training in big data and data science on a regular basis into the training curricula of national statistical offices and by maintaining an active communication platform for the Committee and the wider community of official statistics. Other next steps include setting priorities for new activities on the basis of policy considerations; creating a forum of leaders of data science centres and regional hubs for big data; developing a more strategic approach for engagement with the private sector; and strengthening collaboration with the geospatial community. The future direction of capacity development in big data and data science consists, among other things, of empowering the regional hubs for big data as points of training, project implementation, consultancy, coordination and advocacy for the national statistical offices of the region, and of enlarging the international data science mentoring programme to draw on the expertise of all members of the Committee.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/25](#))

(v) International statistical classifications

The Commission will have before it the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications. In its report, the Committee describes the work related to the development and implementation of international statistical classifications in various fields and the work it has carried out on the coordination of classifications and the family of international statistical classifications. The report contains an update of the work of the task team on the revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, including its draft revised structure. The report also provides an update on the work of the task team on the revision of the Central Product Classification and on the development of the classification of business functions.

Action to be taken by the Commission includes: (a) commenting on the work carried out by the Committee and its future work; (b) endorsing the draft structure of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities; and (c) endorsing the classification of business functions for use in an international standard classification.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications ([E/CN.3/2022/26](#))

(w) Open data

The Commission will have before it the report of the Working Group on Open Data. The report reflects the work of the Group in providing guidance to national statistical offices on open data practices in the production of official statistics. The guidance in the report concerns such topics as data that are open by default and best practices on data licensing; data interoperability guidelines and a joined-up data maturity model; and use cases for local-level open statistics. A background document provides additional guidance and best practices on an open by default model for the dissemination of statistics. The Commission is invited: (a) to take note of the report; (b) to review and approve the proposed guidance on how to implement an open by default model for the dissemination of statistics; (c) to take note of the review of best practices on data licensing and their harmonization with national laws; (d) to express its views on the joined-up data maturity model and accompanying guidance; (e) to take note of the review of use cases for local-level open statistics; (f) to provide guidance on incorporating open data issues in the discussions of the Working Group on Data Stewardship; and (g) to review and approve the proposal of the Working Group on Open Data that its work be concluded.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Working Group on Open Data ([E/CN.3/2022/27](#))

(x) Integration of statistical and geospatial information

The Commission will have before it the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information. In its report, the Expert Group provides information on its recent activities to strengthen the integration of statistical and geospatial information, including the significant progress made in the development and finalization of the Implementation Guide of the Global Statistical Geospatial Framework. The Implementation Guide provides both the geospatial and statistical communities with valuable and understandable guidance for identifying methodologies, techniques and approaches for implementation of the Framework by Member States, inclusive of detailed case studies of national and regional implementation. The Commission is invited to express its views and endorse the Implementation Guide provided as a background document to the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information ([E/CN.3/2022/28](#))

(y) Governance, peace and security statistics

The Commission will have before it the report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics. In its report, the Group provides a summary of the recent activities it has undertaken and of the future direction of the work. The Commission is invited to express its views on the plan of work of the Praia Group task teams, including the task teams on non-discrimination and equality, and on participation in political and public affairs, both of which were formed in 2021. The Commission is invited to provide recommendations on the use of the survey on Sustainable Development Goal

16, developed by UNDP, UNODC and OHCHR as a consolidated survey instrument that countries can use for measuring progress on a majority of the survey-based Goal 16 indicators related to the thematic areas of governance, access to justice, corruption, discrimination, violence and human trafficking.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/29](#))

4. Items for information

The following items are presented to the Commission for information. Limited time will be allocated for interventions under this item.

(a) Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data. The report contains a summary of developments regarding the work of the Titchfield City Group since 2018, including planned activities and publications and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the work and timeline of the Group. The report also includes a revised road map, by which the timeline of the work of the Group is extended, so as to conclude in 2025. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of Titchfield Group on Ageing-Related Statistics and Age-Disaggregated Data ([E/CN.3/2022/30](#))

(b) Disability statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report on disability statistics prepared jointly by the Secretary-General and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics. The report provides information on current and planned activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of national statistical systems to produce quality statistics on disability for evidence-based policies and programmes that are carried out by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, ILO, the United Nations Children's Fund, the UNESCO Institute for Statistics, the World Bank, the World Health Organization and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Joint report of the Secretary-General and the Washington Group on Disability Statistics on disability statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/31](#))

(c) Energy statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General on energy statistics. The report provides updated information on the increased cooperation and coordination among agencies working on energy statistics, including on Sustainable Development Goal 7 and on the assessment of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions. The report also provides details on the activities concerning the implementation of international methodological documents on energy statistics, as well as new developments and challenges. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on energy statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/32](#))

(d) Industrial statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) on industrial statistics. In the report, UNIDO describes its activities in the field of industrial statistics, carried out since the fiftieth session of the Commission, in 2019, and provides information on capacity-building and training activities undertaken for the implementation of the International Recommendations for Industrial Statistics. UNIDO also refers to its role as a custodian agency in the Sustainable Development Goals monitoring process.

Certain activities related to industrial statistics that were undertaken by the Statistics Division in the past have been transferred to UNIDO in recent years. The transfer has allowed UNIDO to assume full responsibility for global industrial statistics and has contributed to streamlining data reporting by national statistical offices to UNIDO. In its report, UNIDO reflects the status of the transfer of activities and the recent innovations it has implemented in its production and dissemination of industrial statistics. It also highlights the data gaps that remain in industrial statistics, particularly in developing countries, and the difficulties in obtaining timely data for monitoring the Goals, particularly in relation to the activities of small industrial enterprises. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on industrial statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/33](#))

(e) Business registers

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers. In the report, the Group provides a summary of recent developments regarding its work, as presented at its twenty-seventh meeting, held virtually, in September 2021. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers ([E/CN.3/2022/34](#))

(f) Service statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics. In its report, the Group describes the progress since its previous report in 2019, including on such topics as the updating of sector papers for specific industries, examination of the alignment of methodology and scope between services producer price indices and consumer price indices and the development of a framework for using the latter in the calculation of the former, and alternative data survey results. Owing to current realities and challenges related to digitalization and globalization, the Group has also necessarily broadened its scope within its current mandate to include the establishment of an internationally comparable methodology for the development of measures, not only for output and producer price indices for the service industries but also for international trade price indices for imports and service-related industries. The Group's work product and deliverables are available on its website. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/35](#))

(g) Price statistics

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics. The report provides an outline of the latest developments and activities in the area of price statistics, including the release of the updated Consumer Price Index Manual, following its endorsement by the Commission at its fifty-first session, and the guidance provided to countries regarding price data collection and index compilation during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics ([E/CN.3/2022/36](#))

(h) Coordination of statistical programmes

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System on coordination within the United Nations statistical system.

In the report, the Committee describes the progress it has made in the area of coordination within the United Nations system, in particular its activities towards implementing the System-wide Road Map for Innovating United Nations Data and Statistics, which was welcomed by the Commission at its fifty-second session as a solid commitment of the United Nations system to strengthen coordination and modernize United Nations statistics and data addressing the provisions of Economic and Social Council resolution [2020/5](#).

The Commission will also have before it, for information, the report of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities, which contains a summary of the work undertaken by the Committee in 2021, including the main conclusions of its thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions, held in 2021.

The Commission is invited to take note of the two reports.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System on coordination within the United Nations statistical system ([E/CN.3/2022/37](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities ([E/CN.3/2022/38](#))

(i) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council

The Commission will have before it, for information, the report of the Secretary-General containing extracts from resolutions, decisions and agreed conclusions adopted by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council or other functional commissions that are relevant to the work of the Commission. The report also contains a description of the actions taken to date by the Commission and the Statistics Division and those suggested to be taken in response to the decisions and

mandates of the parent bodies. The Commission may wish to take those actions into account in its discussions under relevant agenda items. The Commission is invited to take note of the report.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council ([E/CN.3/2022/39](#))

5. Programme questions (Statistics Division)

The Commission will receive an oral report from the Director of the Statistics Division concerning current activities, plans and priorities.

6. Provisional agenda and dates for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure, the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its fifty-fourth session, together with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each item. The Commission will also have before it a proposal for the dates of the session. In accordance with a request of the Council (see Council resolution 1999/51), the Commission will have before it a draft multi-year programme of work for 2022–2026. The Commission is invited to approve the date, provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-fourth session, as well as to approve the multi-year programme of work.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission ([E/CN.3/2022/L.2](#))

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Statistical Commission 2022–2026 ([E/CN.3/2022/40](#))

7. Report of the Commission on its fifty-third session

The Commission will have before it the procedural report of the fifty-third session of the Commission covering organizational matters relating to the Commission's work. The Commission will also have before it an informal paper containing the draft decisions submitted by the Rapporteur.

The Commission is invited to adopt the draft report on its fifty-third session, including the draft decisions, which will be submitted to the Council, and to entrust the Rapporteur with streamlining and finalizing it.

Documentation

Draft report of the Commission on its fifty-third session

Informal paper with draft decisions
