

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (b) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: data stewardship

Document E/CN.3/2022/5 – Report of the Working Group on Data Stewardship

<i>Statement provided by:</i> CANADA	
<i>Statement:</i> Canada thanks the Data Stewardship group for the work done over the course of the year and requests that the group continue to leverage and find synergies with other groups working on areas of overlap, such as the UNECE task force on data stewardship and work being done under HLG-MOS on statistical legislation to ensure consistency and eliminate duplication. We fully support, and note the vital importance of, Workstream 5 to provide clarity on the conceptual framework and boundaries of common terminology for data stewardship. We agree that this will help ensure coherence across the other four workstreams. We also note that as the role of NSOs is to evolve from data producers into coordinators and, finally, into "data stewards", then this conceptual clarity is vital. Canada approves the amended Terms of Reference with the following suggestion. Under objective 3, we suggest amending the phrase to, "Promote sharing and collaboration around data whether public-public or public-private that allows the regular use of public interest data for the generation of official statistics, and preserving confidentiality, privacy and ensuring the maintenance of public trust and social acceptability." For this suggested amendment, we note that while privacy and confidentiality are vital aspects of statistical systems, these concepts refer to the data and data subjects respectively. The broader concepts of trust, public support/engagement and social acceptability go beyond to describe a healthy data ecosystem and statistical environment focused on data and insights for public good. Canada approves the workplan of the group and is happy to continue to contribute to work stream two on equity and inclusion in statistics.	
<i>Submitted on:</i>	2/25/2022