Statement provided by:
Russian Federation

Statement:
We appreciate the work of the UN Statistics Division on the analysis of documentation, including the review of the normative work of the Statistical Commission in the period 2008-2021, as well as further consideration of the road maps on procedures regulating new or revised documents for their subsequent adoption.

We take note of the consultation process conducted by the Bureau towards updating the terms of reference of the Statistical Commission. In general, we look with a positive eye at the proposed updates and the related draft ECOSOC resolution. However, Member States of the Commission need to be more closely involved in this process related to procedural aspects of the work of this ECOSOC functional body. It is also very important to hold consultations on draft ECOSOC resolutions submitted by the Commission, providing enough time for the discussion. We are ready to take part in the informal consultations on the aforementioned draft ECOSOC resolution related to the terms of reference of the Commission. We also highlight the importance of close coordination and consultation of the UN Secretariat with Member States on issues related to statistical data published by the UN.

With regard to the Bureau’s analysis of the experience of the informal virtual meetings of the Commission in 2021, it should be emphasized that this format of work was of an emergency nature, due to the specific circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. We support the holding of traditional in-person meetings. The practice of submitting written statements published on the Commission’s website can only be supplementary and voluntary, as it cannot replace the traditional live discussion. At the same time, we look positively at the recent experience of holding informal side events in a virtual format in order to optimize such work.

With regard to mainstreaming a gender perspective in the work of the Commission, we take note of the information on the related activities of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics. We believe that the issue of data on gender equality is already well integrated into the activities of the Commission, in particular, within the framework of the said Group. We should also be careful with regard to applying experiences of the Statistical Conference of the Americas to the context of the Statistical Commission at large, given the specific features of other regions involved in the global work.

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**Items for discussion and decision: working methods of the Statistical Commission**