

## United Nations Statistical Commission

### Fifty-third session

Item 3 (c) of the provisional agenda

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

#### Document E/CN.3/2022/6 – Report of the Bureau on the working methods of the Statistical Commission: Reassessing the terms of reference and review of other initiatives of the Bureau during the inter-sessional period, 2021-2022

*Statement provided by:*

Suriname and Antigua and Barbuda on behalf of CARICOM countries

*Statement:*

Dear Chairperson,

Suriname and Antigua and Barbuda welcome the Report of the Bureau on the Working Methods of the Statistical Commission (E/CN.3/2022/6) and commend the Bureau for the intersessional activities undertaken.

Chair, while dealing with: revision of the Terms of Reference of the Statistical Commission, “Lessons learned from the 52nd session”, (the first Statistical Commission to be conducted virtually), and other initiatives such as “Nomenclature of Normative Work” and “Gender mainstreaming” are very important and certainly necessary, but they are by no means sufficient.

Chair, when dealing with working methods of the UN STATCOM, an important variable that may never be overlooked is the “equitable geographic distribution” used for the composition of the 24 members of the Commission. CARICOM countries are convinced that geographic equity should not only deal with proper regional representation, but also with proper sub-regional representation, and/or geographic representation of Small Islands Developing States and Least Developed Countries. This matter of utmost importance will have to be dealt with by the Bureau as well

Chair, back to the report and pertinent background documents at hand:

CARICOM countries support the revised Terms of Reference for the UN Statistical Commission, albeit propose a modification in PP6, which will be shared when treating the draft resolution to be submitted to ECOSOC.

We fully support Gender mainstreaming, because Gender Statistics are fully incorporated in the Regional Statistical Work Programme of CARICOM since 2001 and Gender mainstreaming is one of four Strategic Drivers of the CARICOM Regional Strategy for the Development of Statistics (RSDS). Nevertheless, we like to share the following regarding the pertinent background document: we support the creation of a multidisciplinary and multidomain advisory group on gender mainstreaming at the global level and agree that the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics play the role as steward or reference group. Given the scope of this activity, we propose that IAEG-GS be expanded to include countries from Small Islands Developing States and Least Developed Countries

We support the prioritization of climate change statistics for gender mainstreaming and the ongoing work in “methodological developments and statistical guidance for countries. We also welcome the inclusion of a gender perspective in economic and environmental statistics.

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We welcome and strongly support the work on the “Nomenclature of normative work of the Statistical Commission”, but would like to receive a justification for the choice of 2008 as the start year. Chair we strongly support further work in this area and are convinced that the final results of the Nomenclature of normative work of the Statistical Commission should be considered an important part of the Meta data and thus Quality Assurance for the UN Statistical Commission.

We expect UNSD to secure sufficient processing power to scale up this exercise and include all pages and not only the first 50 pages (limited to acknowledgements and forewords) of publications analyzed.

Finally, a numerical negligible but professionally (counting is our bread and butter) huge inconsistency needs correction on page 2: 34 of 50 publications were used for content analysis and the remaining 15 (should be 16) were not used.

Thank you chairperson, for providing this opportunity to Suriname and Antigua and Barbuda to submit a written statement on behalf of CARICOM countries.

*Submitted on:*

2/21/2022