

# United Nations Statistical Commission

## Fifty-third session

Item 3 (d) of the provisional agenda

### Items for discussion and decision: regional statistical development

#### Document E/CN.3/2022/7 – Report of the Economic Commission for Europe on regional statistical development

***Statement provided by:***

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***Statement:***

(a) Malaysia Commends the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) for their outstanding efforts in developing, improving, integrating, promoting and facilitating the implementation of a variety of international statistical standards, guidelines, recommendations, and repositories of best practices based on emerging statistical issues for statistical modernisation that can be applied in countries with varying levels of statistical capacity.

(b) In particular, we appreciate and acknowledge ECE's efforts in methodological work by strengthening the coordination and collaboration among the specialists of member States and international partners, as well as providing tools for sharing knowledge, expertise, and experience, which lead to the development of international statistical standards that serve as guidelines and references to respond to national demands in improving the quality and comparability of official statistics and the efficiency of statistical production.

(c) Malaysia acknowledges all of the ECE's methodological work as detailed in Section IV, as well as the background documents of this report. We proposed that these works be disseminated in stages at any type of global statistics community event (across regions). Each country has a unique perspective on the most critical statistical development requirements and the results of all such efforts would benefit them all. This field of study is critical for the future of official statistics and will benefit all.

(d) Malaysia strongly believes that strengthening the governance and legal framework for statistical production is critical to producing high-quality data. As a result, Malaysia is reforming its statistical legislation and governance in order to strengthen the National Statistical System (NSS), with the Handbook of Statistical Organization serving as one of the primary documents for DOSM as recommendations and references. The Malaysian government has tasked DOSM to lead the strengthening of the existing national statistical system and functioning as the central agency or sole source of official national statistics for national planning. The 5-year plan for developing Malaysia's national statistical system focuses on seven agendas, namely:

(i) Establishment of the Change Management Office (CMO) to set a clear action plan, execute and monitor the implementation of the Strengthening of NSS;

(ii) Formation of the National Statistics and Data Council, which serves as the highest advisory body in providing direction for the national statistical system and the coordination of

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information at the national level;

(iii) Appointment of the Chief Data Officer as an agent whose role is to coordinate information in ministries/departments/agencies (federal or state) under the control of DOSM;

(iv) Amendment of the Statistics Act 1965 empower and give a bigger role to DOSM to increase efficiency and effectiveness to be on par with the best statistical agencies around the world;

(v) Establishment of the National Big Data Analytics Centre, which is a centralised data system or a hub to develop products from data analytics across various sectors;

(vi) Recognition of DOSM as a Central Agency towards its responsibility in coordination, standardization, monitoring, and controlling the production of statistics from Ministries, Departments, and government agencies; and

(vii) Strengthening capacity building through human resource restructuring, the creation of subject matter experts (SME), and the establishment of a Statistics Intelligence Centre of Excellence for the development of statistical literacy across ministries, agencies, and communities literacy across ministries, agencies and communities.

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