**Statement provided by:**
Russian Federation

**Statement:**

We take note of the report, commend the work of the UN Statistical Commission on the implementation of the 2020 World Programme Population and Housing Census and share concerns about the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on this activity. We note that the pandemic has led to the postponement of census dates, difficulties in planning and conducting censuses, as well as collecting and processing census statistics in general.

We support the thesis that prior to the publication of census results, it is important to comprehensively analyze and carefully compare the results with the data from past censuses and other sources of information about the population. This will minimize the negative perception of users of census data due to the impact of the pandemic on all aspects of society.

We welcome the initiative to establish national statistical population registers as the basis for the census.

**Submitted on:** 2/25/2022