

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (f) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: civil registration, vital statistics and statelessness statistics

Document E/CN.3/2022/10 – Report of Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics on statelessness statistics

Statement provided by:

PHILIPPINES

Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)

Statement:

The Philippines, through the Philippine Statistics Authority and the government's relevant agencies, supports the finalization of the international recommendations on statelessness statistics. As a signatory of the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons, the Philippines commends the Expert Group on Refugee, IDP, and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS) on its efforts to further consolidate and develop the recommendations similar to the international recommendations for Refugee Statistics and IDP Statistics. The Philippines firmly believes that the development of these international recommendations is a step forward in closing the data gap and diminishing the risk of leaving stateless people behind.

In recognizing the need to close data gaps and diminish the risk of leaving the stateless people behind, the Philippines is taking action in the national context by helping undocumented Filipinos by conducting civil registration missions abroad. This is a measure of a multisectoral strategy to address inequalities brought by inadequate safeguards against statelessness.

In consideration of the current developments with the international recommendations in statelessness statistics, the Philippines calls for stronger support and advocacy for a more progressive approach, enough to accommodate these recommendations and enhance data collection, quality, availability, coordination, sharing, and dissemination of statelessness statistics—improving statistics used for developing policy and that would safeguard the rights of vulnerable populations. Recognizing that political sensitivities and extreme political fervor may hinder progressive and scientific approaches towards identifying and counting vulnerable groups that are stateless, with undetermined nationality, and is stateless-related.

The Philippines reiterates its support to the work of the EGRISS and encourages the body and its members to provide guidance and feedback to the Expert Group while aligning other international, regional, and national initiatives to the efforts of this body and its groups.

Submitted on:

25 February 2022