Statement provided by:
Director-General for Policy Planning on Statistical Policy, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Government of Japan

Statement:
Japan welcomes the work done by the Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics and approves its future plans.

Contributing to the development of the Minimum Harmonized Instrument as a member of the group was a good opportunity for us. We appreciate the efforts of all members and the UNSD in the development process and support further work on the Minimum Harmonized Instrument and the updated UN methodological guidelines.

The mainstreaming of gender in the agenda items of the Commission could be considered an effort to highlight the importance of gender statistics and to share awareness cross-sectionally within the international statistical community.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the employment and daily lives of people around the world in various way. In Japan, a task force under the Cabinet Office conducted analyses fully utilizing gender statistics and found that the pandemic has affected men and women in different ways. The data shows that it has had serious impacts on women.

Based on these analyses, the Japanese government is improving policies from a gender-based perspective while putting women at the centre of its strategy against COVID-19.

Regarding other work priorities of the UNSD and IAEG-GS, Japan approves the future work plans. As a co-chair of the IAEG-GS, we especially appreciate the efforts by the UNSD and the host country as well as IAEG-GS members to organize IAEG-GS annual meetings and the Global Forum on Gender Statistics despite the global COVID-19 pandemic.

Submitted on: 2/16/2022