ILO and UN Women

Statement:

This statement is delivered on behalf of ILO and UN Women.

As members of the Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics, we are appreciative of the substantial work done by the group to advance the development of common guidance, classifications, and tools for time use measurement and to modernise the collection of time-use data. We are pleased that a provisional definition of supervisory care has been agreed by the members of the Expert Group, to support the measurement of critical care-related activities that are often underreported.

Going forward, it will be important to test and pilot the instruments in order to assess their performance, especially in low-income countries where low literacy and the digital gender divide are still a reality. Given the importance of time-use surveys to measure the gender dimensions of unpaid care and domestic work, it will also be important to ensure that the data collected through the Minimum Harmonized Instrument are well positioned to inform policies for gender transformative actions. ILO and UN Women stand ready to collaborate with countries and the Expert Group to validate the guidelines and instruments.

In this context, ILO, in partnership with Data 2X, is conducting a multi-country pilot project to evaluate alternative strategies for embedding the measurement of unpaid care work within national labour force surveys; and UN Women, in addition to supporting national time use surveys, through its Centre of Excellence on Gender Statistics, in partnership with El Colegio de Mexico, is currently conducting qualitative testing of the measurement of supervisory care to improve survey methods for SDG 5.4.1. We will continue to consult with and share the insights from these initiatives with the Expert Group.

We look forward to continued engagement in the Expert Group to reflect on lessons learned and integrate countries’ feedback in advance of the finalization of the updated United Nations guidelines.

Submitted on: 02/28/2022