

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (I) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: environmental-economic accounting

Document E/CN.3/2022/16 – Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting

Statement provided by:

Chile

Statement:

Chile considers the work program proposed by the Committee to be addressing critical issues for the development of environmental accounting, such as classifications, updates to the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA) of the System of National Accounts (SNA), and the relationship between the SEEA Central Framework and its Ecosystem Accounting.

We welcome the Committee's participation in the updating of the SNA and of the two reference classifications. This work will facilitate the compilation of data for the SEEA by identifying several areas of particular interest, such as the circular economy, waste products, specific environmental products and services, and energy products, as well as issues related to climate change and biodiversity.

We consider it essential to continue the promotion of active participation of national statistical offices in these international forums because they represent an excellent opportunity for the development of national statistical systems by strengthening their monitoring and reporting.

Chile believes that the global implementation strategy of Ecosystem Accounting of the SEEA is a significant challenge for our countries, as are the regular production of Ecosystem Accounts of the SEEA and their availability for decision making and the creation of public policies.

We urge the Committee of Experts to promote an initial diagnostic of each country's local initiatives related to Ecosystem Accounting; to provide support on such issues as green recovery, biodiversity, and climate change; and to deepen the integration of data that support these initiatives. Likewise, implementation should be gradual and according to the circumstances of each country in order to develop such accounts using alternative data sources in addition to earth observation models and data.

We value the biophysical modeling guidelines because they provide an overview of data sources; propose practical advice on compiling accounts on the extent, condition, and ecosystem services in physical units; and provide guidance to statistical offices and other agencies that are beginning to implement SEEA Ecosystem Accounting. It is important to understand the basic concepts, the dimensions of scenario design, and the most advanced methods and simulation models for scenario analysis, as well as to learn about the experiences and good practices of countries that are more advanced in this area.

Finally, we believe that the statistical framework for measuring the sustainability of tourism is of great assistance to the countries, and it is important to note that the tourism-monitoring indicators are

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essential to measuring and monitoring SDGs. The usefulness of the framework is reflected in the implementation of its pilot programs by several countries.

Submitted on:

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