

## United Nations Statistical Commission

### Fifty-third session

Item 3 (1) 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:*

DANE-Colombia

*Statement:*

Colombia considers that the five areas of the proposed work program of the Committee of Experts on Environmental and Economic Accounting for the period 2022-2025, appropriately include aspects of environmental and economic accounting. This allows to include in the agenda of discussion relevant topics for the global agenda, such as biodiversity, climate change and circular economy, as well as to promote the monitoring of the SEEA Central Framework and Ecosystem Accounts. Also, the proposed work considers aspects such as the dissemination and implementation of the proposed themes, covering key issues such as funding and the need for enhanced statistical capacity.

On the other hand, considering that the SEEA shares concepts, classifications and definitions with the System of National Accounts (SNA), it is very important to stress the relevance of the participation of the Committee in updating the SNA. For this same reason, Colombia considers that the determination of not immediately updating the SEEA is appropriate.

Colombia encourages National Statistical Offices to engage in the global discussions regarding the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework since the SEEA directly contributes to the provision of much of the information required for the follow-up of its progress. Similarly, Colombia urges to include in donors' agendas the need to increase funding to developing countries to strengthen the capacities for methodological development and production of data and statistics to meet the information needs that such statistical frameworks require.

In the same vein, since the SEEA-Ecosystem Accounts was raised to the standard level after the 52nd UNSC, it is necessary to implement the strategy for applying the same in different countries. Colombia encourages to develop documentation and methodological guidance, to improve the technical capabilities of countries in this field.

Similarly, and in relation to the final draft guidelines biophysical modeling, whose goal is to help compiling accounting of ecosystems in countries, Colombia believes that, given the existing limitations in terms of sources of information, biophysical modeling becomes a valuable tool for building respect of accounts ecosystems.

Likewise, It is important to commend the articulation efforts carried out by ECLAC in the region, as it is considered that through the organization of virtual capacity building activities, members will an assessment of the national capacity required in the matter, as well as learn the best practices required for coordination within the country.

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Finally, Colombia recognizes the progress achieved in the creation of the statistical framework for measuring the sustainability of tourism, in line with the decisions adopted in the 52nd session of the Statistical commission, particularly on decision 1, point e, as this will directly contribute to the measurement of the SDG targets that make an explicit reference to sustainable tourism (8.9, 12.b and 14.7).

*Submitted on:*

2/26/2022