United Nations Statistical Commission Fifty-third session Item 3 (m) of the provisional agenda Items for discussion and decision: climate change statistics

Document E/CN.3/2022/17 – Report of the Secretary-General on climate change statistics

Statement provided by:

DANE-Colombia

Statement:

Colombia considers of the greatest relevance the adoption of the global set of statistics and indicators on climate change (134 indicators defined by five spheres) as a framework, given the exhaustive process of international consultations that took place for its construction (comments from 86 States and areas, and 26 agencies), as well as the growing information needs related to climate change. Similarly, Colombia commends the efforts made, in order to align the different developments with existing instruments associated with environmental statistics such as the Environmental and Economic Accounting System (SEEA), the Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics (FDES) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), among others. Due to the exhaustive, comprehensive, and transparent process, it is important to include a periodic review mechanism, in order to update and refine the indicator framework, adopting a series of overarching criteria, that take into account the constant changes associated in this area.

The consultation process made possible to identify that the countries are becoming actively involved in the field of climate change statistics, and that the will of NSO's to contribute to this process is anchored in a solid set of information that could strengthen the evidence base that is needed in the matter. Therefore, it is considered that increasing the development of statistical capacity and statistical offices worldwide, is needed to accurately and efficiently respond to the requirements of the Paris Agreement and the Sendai Framework regarding climate change and achieve the applicability of the global set of climate change statistics and indicators.

To attain this goal, it is essential to have the support of International Organizations, regional commissions and other key stakeholders to include financing data and statistics as priorities and continue promoting collaboration between the National Statistical Offices and the national authorities in charge of presenting information and reports to these agendas and international instruments. In this sense, we commend the efforts that have been carried out by the Statistics Division and the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change for the actions undertaken in this area and invites relevant parties to expand the technical dissemination of the global set of statistics and indicators on climate change to facilitate this articulation.

Environmental issues are becoming more relevant in recent years, and therefore, the development of information associated with issues such as circular economy and bioeconomy have increased their importance and development, both on the conceptual and measurement dimensions. As such, climate change statistics need to become key topics for inclusion in the statistical systems; for which a leadership role from the NSO's is required.

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Finally, Colombia considers that from the establishment of the global set of statistics and indicators on climate change, it is necessary to promote a strategy to implement its usability and monitoring. Therefore, we consider the work priorities that have been defined very appropriate, since they address aspects such as technical support; development of training material; mobilization of resources for training of trainers; and classification of the indicators into tier levels 1, 2 and 3, according to their level of methodological development and availability of information.

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