

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:

Bureau of the ESCAP Committee on Statistics

Statement:

The Bureau welcomes the report on climate change statistics and recognizes the work of UNSD and its multiple partners in developing the Global Set of Climate Change Indicators. Climate change is an ever-present concern for countries in the Asia-Pacific region, many of which are at severe risk from rising sea levels, changing ocean conditions, and changing precipitation patterns.

We appreciate the report's acknowledgment of the diverse set of circumstances across Member States in terms of resources and available data and statistics. We also appreciate the acknowledgment that a key element for the generation of climate change statistics is continued improvement of the broader environmental statistics systems within Member States.

Given this, we particularly welcome the three priorities proposed within the report for further work related to the Global Set. Capacity development and resource mobilization, including additional training, workshops, and advisory support, will be particularly critical to encouraging and advancing implementation of the Global Set within the Asia-Pacific region.

The Bureau also supports the proposed revision process based on lessons learned during implementation, including the addition and modification of indicators as needed. We further support the noted continued need for additional improvement and methodological development within the areas of vulnerability and adaptation. Here we note the need for continued cooperation and linkages with the work of the Inter-Agency ad Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics to develop a common framework for disaster-related statistics. Tracking and understanding of vulnerability and adaptation are key to developing effective climate-related policy and also provide a bridge to work by Member States under the Sendai Framework.

The discussed need for pursuit of complementarity with other statistical frameworks, such as the SEEA, the emerging common framework for disaster-related statistics (aligned with the Sendai Framework), and Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, is critical and will support efficiencies in data collection, statistical compilation, and indicator development processes within the relevant government ministries.

We call on UNSD and the UNFCC Secretariat to ensure that the Global Set meets the needs of Member States responsible for the compilation and collection of the proposed Global Set. In particular, the implementation and capacity support should recognize the differing resources and policy demands within Member States for climate change statistics, and the coordination of Global Set activities with related statistical and accounting programs, such as the disaster-related statistics,

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Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting.

<i>Submitted on:</i>	2/21/2022
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