

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:

The Netherlands

Statement:

The Netherlands welcomes the report of the Secretary General on Climate Change.

Climate Change is a topic of utmost importance. The effects of climate change are tangible and visible to the global community. As statisticians, we can help politicians to measure climate goals with an agreed global set of climate change statistics and indicators and metadata.

Given its global importance, in our view climate change deserves a more prominent place on the statistical agendas of NSIs and other national and international data suppliers and users. The Global Set facilitates this and will lead to much more focus on the development of climate change-related statistics at a global, regional and national level.

The Global Set is an exhaustive reference list of many indicators and extensive metadata. This reference list can be used by countries and regions to identify their data gaps. It is important that the underlying definitions, classification and methodologies of the indicator sets are harmonized in accordance with already existing frameworks (SEEA, IPCC, ...).

A clear review mechanism for the Global Set should be set in place now, so that the global set is continually reviewed, rather than in three to five years' time. This review mechanism should be systematic and country led.

The Global Set includes several indicators that can be derived from the SEEA CF or SEEA EA. Although there has been a broad global consultation among countries, the global set has not yet been properly reviewed by the SEEA community. Therefore in the coming year(s) this needs to be done in order to further improve the list of indicators and its metadata.

The Global Set consists of a very large number of 158 indicators. There is a need to prioritize and explain the relationships between different indicators and develop a short list with recommended indicators elevating it from a reference list to an indicator framework.

Ideally we strive for one base set of global indicators on climate change, which of course could be extended by any organization for any specific national and regional target. It should be investigated how to integrate the current sets of indicators. The institutional and organizational aspects of such integration could be a mission for the recently established CES Task Force on the Role of National Statistical Offices in achieving National Climate Objectives, where many organizations and countries are participating.

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

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| | |
| <i>Submitted on:</i> | 2/17/2022 |