United Nations Statistical Commission
Fifty-third session
Item 3 (n) of the provisional agenda
Items for discussion and decision: national accounts


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Statement:

Malaysia acknowledges the report by the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts.

(a) Malaysia believes that the issues currently being considered for the update of the 2008 SNA cover long term challenges, considering that it will have impact to the National Accounts compilers. Malaysia:

   i. noted the work programme for the updating of the 2008 SNA with the aim of submitting the updated SNA to the Commission for its consideration in 2025 and believes that the plan is achievable and well recognised by the Members.

   ii. welcomes broader framework of accounts in a new feature of updating 2008 SNA without redefining the current set of macroeconomic indicators. Hence, a lot of debate and discussion needs to be established to realign between central framework of SNA, System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and measures of human well-being and the sustainability of societal development.

   iii. supports the collaboration with other expert groups to ensure the overall consistency with the system of economic statistics.

   appreciates and recognises the effort of consolidated guidance notes by the Advisory Expert Group (AEG).

(b) Malaysia suggests that the updated 2008 SNA explains explicitly on the treatment of emerging economy such as gig economy, sharing economy, shadow economy and blue economy in view of the national accounts compilation.

(c) Malaysia welcomes the outreach programme on updating national accounts standard for the countries’ benefit. Hence, Malaysia participates in the global consultation on the guidance note for updates on System of National Accounts, 2008 (2008 SNA) and Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual, sixth edition (BPM6) in September last year. We also actively participated in the series of webinar to keep us updated on the latest development of GN. On this note, Malaysia also joins 2 Task Team: (1) International Trade Statistics of the UN Committee of Experts in Business and Trade Statistics; and (2) Islamic Finance. As such, Malaysia with the collaboration of SESRIC (Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries) agency conducted an online training on Islamic Finance to the Arab Countries last year and provided input as well as comments in the guidance note on Islamic Finance in the context of National
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Accounts. In the meantime, Malaysia also actively response to the online questionnaire for the adoption of the updated SNA during the Global Consultations.

(d) Malaysia noted on the appointed lead editor to facilitate the drafting of update 2008 SNA and project manager to assist the Intersecretariat Working Group. Malaysia has no objection in appointing an editorial team if it will have a better impact on the overall editorial process and the final updated SNA.

(e) Malaysia supports the work programmes to cover various aspect of statistical production process for national accounts by the Working Group and the regional commission. Hence, Malaysia welcomes any invitation in such activities undertaken in 2022 by the Working Group and the regional commission.

(f) Malaysia also welcomes the efforts to continue reporting of annual national accounts data to evaluate the availability and scope of official national accounts reported by the Members.

Submitted on: 2/24/2022