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

Document E/CN.3/2022/18 – Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

Statement provided by:

Russian Federation

Statement:

The Russian Federation commends the work of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts and the Advisory Expert Group on national accounts in implementing the decisions and recommendations of the fifty-second session of the UN Statistical Commission.

We take note of the progress in the implementation of the work program for updating the System of National Accounts2008 and welcome the results in developing guidance on measuring the digital economy, the informal economy, unpaid household service work, household income and wealth distribution, Islamic finance and global production arrangements, and the alignment of the system of health accounts.

We encourage the expanding the range of indicators that would complement the existing ones in the SNA, in particular, the development of indicators that enhance the ability to measure well-being, closer linkage with SEEA indicators, strengthening the measurement of the informal economy, increased use of net product and income measures. Supplementing the SNA with tables reflecting the distribution of income, expenses and wealth between households' categories will allow to better characterize the situation and dynamics of the people's well-being.

We take note of the appointment of the lead editor to facilitate the drafting of the update of the 2008 SNA, and project manager to assist the Intersecretariat Working Group in coordinating the update process.

The Russian Federation appreciates the efforts of Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts and the regional commissions in implementation of SNA 2008 and other internationally agreed standards in economic statistics and supports their activities in organizing and conducting workshops and seminars covering various aspects of the statistical production process for national accounts.

We note the significant success achieved by the UN Statistical Commission in the implementation of SNA standards over the past decade. At the same time, we share the concern that most Member States that do not meet the minimum requirements for coverage and detail of national accounts data use outdated base estimates, which seriously affects the quality of their national accounts data. We emphasize that compliance with the minimum requirements for the submission of national accounts datasets is mandatory for all member countries.

Submitted on:

2/24/2022

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