

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (p) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: business and trade statistics

Document E/CN.3/2022/20 – Report of the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics

Statement provided by:

The Netherlands

Statement:

First we would like to compliment the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics for the results achieved in the past year. With regard to the specific items in section IV we would like to express our view as follows:

Statistics Netherlands welcomes the draft version of the manual on the Maturity Model for Statistical Business Registers. The statistical business register is the backbone for compiling high quality statistics for the economic domain. For the cause of International harmonization and comparability, well-developed Statistical Business Registers are crucial elements. Therefore, we welcome the implementation of business registers in as many countries as possible. We encourage countries to share their maturity status of the implementation of SBRs. Statistics Netherlands is happy to play an active role in bringing this topic further. With respect to the drafting of this manual we would like to express our sincere thanks to the intensive support of the UNSD office, and for the close and friendly cooperation with our colleagues from the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Statistics Netherlands endorses the new priority areas as described in the strategic view. The priority areas align very much with the priority themes chosen by SN to measure and explain the economy in an adequate way. Horizontal integration is very welcome across different economic domains (international trade, production, turnover, value added, etc.), but of course also very welcome across economic- social-environmental domains. We welcome initiatives to foster this horizontal integration in between different domains.

Statistics Netherlands has taken note of the progress made by the new Task Team on International Trade Statistics. We agree with the proposed working plan.

With regards to the manual on the global core set of principal business and trade indicators, we encourage the use of the list of indicators as a reference list for countries to develop business and trade statistic. Also, we think it is important to prioritize this list of indicators (high, medium, low). This helps NSI's to prioritize their work plan a well. Moreover, this helps international comparability for at least a few indicators.

We encourage the initiative aimed at improving the availability of a unique identifier in countries' administrative data sources and the link with a global unique identifier.

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