

United Nations Statistical Commission

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Item 3 (q) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: information and communications technology statistics

Document E/CN.3/2022/21 – Report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development

<i>Statement provided by:</i> Rwanda	
<i>Statement:</i> Rwanda on behalf of Africa would like to express a contribution to the agenda item concerned. We appreciate the work done by the Partnership on Measuring ICT for development. We endorse the revised core list of indicators and we support the collection of e-waste indicators. We welcome the use of big data in measuring the information economy and society. We look forward to the increased collaboration with development partners and international organizations in building the capacity of NSOs to explore alternative data sources and to build trust between data providers and analysts/consumers towards translating data into robust indicators of interest to the region. Further, we call for more collaboration between national statistics offices and both other public and private ICT stakeholders. We would like to commend the Smart Africa vision by 2030 which is driving many digital transformations: Half of the 16 countries that joined the high EGDI group in 2020 are African (Namibia, Cabo Verde, Egypt, Gabon, Botswana, Kenya, Algeria, and Zimbabwe). Much has been done in Government service interactions with citizens, businesses, and organizations through online public services. Examples include online tax payments, digital IDs, e-signatures, online business registration systems in many countries like South Africa, Tunisia, and Rwanda to mention a few. And Seamless cross-border e-services through interoperability of both public and private e-services. We would also like to acknowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of ICT and the need to have reliable statistics and indicators around ICT to help design effective policy interventions. A few examples include the role of ICT in e-learning, working from home, and e-business that peaked during the last two years to comply with public health guidelines.	
<i>Submitted on:</i>	2/17/2022