

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

1–3 and 5 March 2022

Item 3 (r) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: International Comparison Programme

Document E/CN.3/2022/22 – Report of the Secretary-International Comparison Programme

Statement provided by:

Stats NZ

Overview:

The report of the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme (ICP), which is being submitted to the Statistical Commission for discussion. The report provides an outline of the activities undertaken at the global, regional and national levels with regard to the 2021 comparison cycle of the Programme. In the report, the World Bank describes the governance, capacity-building, research, knowledge and advocacy activities carried out and highlights the risks and challenges presented by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and the mitigation measures taken. The Commission is invited to take note of the release of the advocacy publication entitled Purchasing Power Parities for Policy Making: A Visual Guide to Using Data from the International Comparison Programme, and two methodological guides for countries on consumer price index and ICP integration and on the production of subnational purchasing power parities. The Commission is also invited to encourage ICP stakeholders to (a) ensure their timely participation in the ICP 2021 cycle to enable the production of ICP 2021 cycle results, which will help policymakers analyse the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global economy; and (b) continue to incorporate ICP into their regular statistical work programmes

Action Taken by the Statistical Commission:

The Commission is invited to:

- (a) To take note of the significant progress made in the implementation of the ICP 2021 cycle, despite COVID-19-related challenges;
- (b) To instruct ICP stakeholders to ensure that ICP 2021 cycle activities are carried out in a timely manner in all countries, as the 2021 results will provide a unique and vital analysis of the global economy mid-pandemic;
- (c) To encourage the promotion of the publication entitled Purchasing Power Parities for Policy Making: A Visual Guide to Using Data from the International Comparison Programme to ICP stakeholders, policymakers and other users;
- (d) To impress upon national, regional and global agencies the need to incorporate ICP into their regular statistic

Statement:

StatsNZ commends the progress made by the World Bank on the International Comparison Programme, particularly its activities undertaken at the global, regional and national levels with regard to the 2021 comparison cycle of the Programme. It is of note that Covid-19 has made this work particularly challenging but they have still been able to deliver their ICP 2021 cycle, which is very commendable.

StatsNZ takes note of the work done on the release of the advocacy publication entitled Purchasing Power Parities for Policy Making: A Visual Guide to Using Data from the International Comparison

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Submitted on:	2/25/2021
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