

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-third session

Item 3 (s) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: agricultural and rural statistics

Document E/CN.3/2022/23 – Report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on agricultural and rural statistics

Statement provided by:

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Statement:

(a) Malaysia would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciate the work that has been done by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on the recent development in agricultural and rural statistics. The report of the FAO includes an update on the implementation of its statistics modernization strategy, in particular the proposed new integrated governance system for data and statistics, and an update on the implementation of major capacity development programmes in the areas of food security, agriculture and rural statistics and Sustainable Development Goal indicators under FAO custodianship.

(b) Malaysia supports and welcomes all initiatives made by FAO on the progress and latest development in the implementation of global strategy to improve agricultural and rural statistics. We fully support the action taken by the FAO in updating its existing statistical quality assurance framework in order to incorporate guidelines and best practices applicable to the use of big data and geospatial data for statistical purposes. Malaysia also agreed with national and international statistical agencies that, in that enlarged data ecosystem, collecting and using big data for statistical purposes requires the revision of the existing framework. That should account for the changes needed at the level of the institutional environment, statistical production processes and the assessment of the quality of the statistical outputs based on the use of big data.

(c) To meet the national agenda and in line with the international agenda, Malaysia is in the midst of strengthening the production of agriculture statistics and index. Malaysia took note on the progress of three tasks of work by the UN Committee related to (a) improving methods for food security and food consumption measurement; (b) development of a national quality assurance framework for agricultural statistics; and (c) the use of geospatial data for producing agricultural statistics. Recently, Malaysia has attended a training workshop organized by SESRIC and FAO on Compilation and Analysis of National Food Balance Sheets in OIC Countries in October 2021. This is under one of the SESRIC and FAO activities under project development “Enhancing Food Security Through National Balance Sheet”. This year, Malaysia is conducting a Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) and the latest guidelines on processing food consumption data collected through the survey is the important document. In addition, Malaysia for the first time implemented National Household Indicators Survey (NHIS) guided by Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS). The main objective of NHIS is to meet the needs of the development of SDG indicators and one of the indicators is Indicator 2.1.2: Prevalence of moderate or severe food insecurity in the

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population, based on the food insecurity experience scale (FIES). In December 2021, Malaysia invited FAO to give the initial session on the methodology for SDG2.1.2. Malaysia also developed an in-house pilot project called Estimating Rubber Plantation Area and Production using Remote Sensing and Satellite Image for producing agricultural statistics.

(d) Malaysia also acknowledges the efforts that have been made by the Global Office to carry out a comprehensive research programme, prepare guidelines and training material as well as technical assistance in fulfilling data requirements. We will continue to support ongoing activities and participate in any training, technical assistance and regional workshops conducted by the Global Strategy. The benefits of these workshops can assist Malaysia to improve agriculture and rural policy as well as its statistical system.

Submitted on:

2/24/2022