

## 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:*

Congo

#### *Statement:*

Congo would like to express on behalf of the Africa Group a contribution to the subject matter. The Africa Group appreciates the activities undertaken by FAO on agricultural and rural statistics since its report to the 51st session of the UNSC in 2020. During the period, the main activities undertaken by FAO in the Africa region were mainly under the 50X2030 Initiative, in 5 countries, Phase II of the Global Strategy to improve agricultural and rural statistics, of which will 25 countries, guidance and support to countries to report on 21 SDG under FAO custodianship, and three regional workshops to disseminate the Operational Guidelines of the World Census of Agriculture (WCA).

The Africa Group also appreciates the continuous Capacity Building in Agricultural Statistics provided by the African Development Bank, which benefited 29 African countries in 2020-2021, as follows: (i) Development of Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Statistics, in 2 countries; (ii) Construction of Master Sampling Frames, in 2 countries; (iii) Establishment of Agricultural Cost of Production statistics systems, in 3 countries; (iv) Use Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing, in 7 countries; (v) Food Balanced Sheets compilation, in 12 countries; (vi) Conduct of Agriculture Censuses, in 3 countries; (vii) Running of the 2020 Compilation Cycle of Minimum Set of agricultural Core Data; and (viii) Measuring the progress/capacity of National Agricultural Statistics Systems.

The 27th Session of the African Commission on Agricultural Statistics was convened virtually in Dakar, Senegal, from 15 to 18 November 2021. The Session was attended by 120 registered participants, including member countries, regional and international institutions, and discussed on how to boost agricultural statistics development in Africa.

The Africa Group:

- Commends FAO for implementing an integrated governance structure for Data and Statistics;
- Encourages FAO to develop an integrated quality assurance framework for statistics, Big data and geospatial data, in collaboration with other UN Agencies;
- Takes note on FAO's establishment of the Data Lab for Statistical Innovation, and the progress made by the three task teams of the UN-CEAG;
- Commends the progress made by FAO and AfDB in strengthening the agricultural statistical capacity of countries;
- Encourages FAO and other involved development partners to further strengthen their partnership to ensure more synergies, and continue pursuing an overall improvement of the quality of the data collected by member countries;
- Takes note of the Recommendations recently formulated by the FAO Regional Commission on Agricultural Statistics.

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