

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

<i>Statement provided by:</i> General Authority for Statistics - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	
<i>Statement:</i> <p>The General Authority of Statistics- Saudi Arabia appreciate the efforts to improve governance of data statistics. Integrating statistics governance and data governance is a priority that we will start working on. To do so, we need FAO to shed light on what capacity needs to be built or allocated. We agree that on the data side, statistics can be better delivered using improved techniques of transforming remotely sensed data in the agricultural sector into a more precise statistic. But this field is still field has many challenges and we need FAO's support on how to align our data strategy with their's in a way that help us becoming more effective in reporting the reality of the relative indicators. We also have been working on improving our IT infrastructure and making our statistics more available online. We will also work to test how we could remodel our statistics to fit the "50X 2030" initiative by working closely with line ministries directly involved with this FAO initiative.</p> <p>In order for us to expedite our contribution to FAO's Earth observation data, we would like to gain access to expertise at FAO regarding what big data is required and how to replicate their machine learning models at the local scale to feed them with a more accurate statistics.</p> <p>We also would like more information on the new guidance on core indicators specific to measuring the private sector's contribution to the SDGs. Additionally, we are interested in the new training toolkit on Earth Observation data and its uses in agricultural statistics. Thus we commend the establishment of FAO's data lab and would like to see how we can benefit from it. We would like you to inform us upon its availability. We also support action points to provide hands-on technical assistance for the compilation of quality statistics and we would like to be involved in engagements regarding this action point. We at the General Authority of Statistics - Saudi Arabia would like to express our interest in participating in the work of Committee of Experts for the review of guidelines on processing food consumption data from household consumption and expenditure surveys.</p>	
<i>Submitted on:</i>	2/20/2022