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Statement provided by:

DANE-Colombia

Statement:

Colombia commends the efforts made by the international labour Organization and underscores the importance of continue to further the analysis of the labour market in alignment with the recommendations, norms and concepts established by ILO's Working Group for the Revision of the standards for statistics on informality.

Moreover, Colombia endorses the work and updates in the review of the new set of norms proposed by the ILO, through which a framework of definitions and concepts is established to be adopted by member countries. It is important to highlight that Colombia has taken the ICLS 17 (2003) as reference for the redesign process of the Great Integrated Household Survey (GEIH, by its acronym in Spanish). This process consisted in aligning with the guidelines and statistical definitions of informal employment, to guarantee the measurement of the variables for the application of ILO's definition of informal employment regarding labor in the informal sector, informal employment, and informal employment outside the informal sector.

Likewise, it is important to highlight that the redesign of the GEIH focuses on the productive unit and job position and has also included questions that allow the identification of dependent contractors, and the improvement in capturing the income of the self-employed as well as the self-consumption income. Colombia will continue to welcome and apply the ICLS resolutions through the implementation of the proposed definitions and methodologies.

The measurement of informality in the production of goods and services for own use has some challenges that imply that an in-depth characterization of these activities must be carried out, as per the used criteria within the re-design process, these activities are part of the informal sector. Considering the improvements made to better capture the income of the self-employed and income form self-consumption, Colombia's National Statistical Office will be able to better characterize self-consumption activities.

Finally, we endorse the proposal of the recommendation seeking that agriculture activities should be included in the informal sector when these activities fulfil the conditions for being considered an informal market producing unit.

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