Chair and colleagues,

Firstly, we would like to thank the Commission for your support for the work of the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics. This support is much appreciated and provides a clear incentive for the high level of activities the group is conducting and the number of concrete deliverables.

As vice-chair of the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics and chair of the Task Team on Big Data for the SDGs, we would like to draw your attention to the large number of activities taking place in the field of big data for official statistics. The field is undergoing constant development and showing promise for the application of big data in the production of official statistics. Many frameworks and handbooks have been developed and are ready to be used. In order to fully utilise the current achievements and potential of big data, we would like to encourage Member States to participate in the work and events organised by the Committee to an even wider extent. In our view, the biggest progress in the work on big data is best achieved through the involvement of and ongoing dialogue between the Member States, as this can help identify the most common challenges and the best solutions to address them and, through that, fine-tune the direction of the work of the Committee and its task teams.

Thank you

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