Statement provided by:
Director-General for Policy Planning on Statistical Policy, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Government of Japan

Statement:
Japan welcomes the report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics.

It is important for the international statistical community to promote efforts related to big data and data science for official statistics.

With regard to “Mainstreaming big data and data science” (Paragraph 32 (b) - (i)) proposed as part of the direction of future work by the Committee of Experts, the paragraph mentions mainstreaming “in the daily work of national statistical offices”, even though the work is to be done by the Committee of Experts.

We believe that this wording is confusing as the actors and specific processes are unclear and would therefore like to request that the Committee of Experts streamline and clarify these.

We would also like to add that “Mainstreaming big data and data science in the daily work of national statistical offices” should be flexibly implemented by each country in consideration of its national policy relevance.

We understand that the United Nations Privacy-Enhancing Technologies Lab was launched on 25th January 2022, and a side event was held on 8th February.

We recognize the importance of the activities of the Lab and welcome more detailed explanations of current and future projects and organizational management at the plenary session (53rd session of the Statistical Commission).

Submitted on: 2/16/2022