

# United Nations Statistical Commission

## Fifty-third session

Item 3 (u) of the provisional agenda

### Items for discussion and decision: big data

#### Document E/CN.3/2022/25 – Report of the Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics

<i>Statement provided by:</i> The Netherlands	
<i>Statement:</i> <p>The Netherlands welcomes the Report of the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics. We are grateful for the impressive achievements of this Committee.</p> <p>The Netherlands is committed to continue working with our colleagues in this field and we strongly believe that this work is absolutely necessary to keep official statistics relevant and increase our social license.</p> <p>We are very happy that the work on privacy enhancing techniques is progressing well and we welcome the establishment of PET labs. We were very pleased that the PET labs approach is even recognized by famous leading journals like The Economist. That publication drew the attention of big tech companies and that is exactly what we want: collaborate with great partners for the public good.</p> <p>Apart from the technical infrastructure that enables innovative ways of data access we should look into the subject matter areas. Experience at Statistics Netherlands shows the most progress is made when data scientists collaborate with subject-matter specialists and other experts. Therefore the collaboration we started between the Data Science experts and the Network of Economic Statisticians is very important, alongside the already existing connection with e.g. the environmental statistics and geospatial domains.</p> <p>We think the work on data access is important and gladly co-chair the taskforce. The Sprint on Data Access for Global Value Chains is being so well received, thanks to the excellent support from UNSD and the enthusiasm of a large and diverse group of participants and contributors, among which NSOs, Central Banks, International organizations. High-profile keynote speakers from various backgrounds make this an inspiring event. But to make this really a sustained success with impact on statistics production and serving our users' needs, continued support from all UN members is required.</p> <p>Now it is time to expand the dialogue with stakeholders from the private sector, academia and policy makers, using the power and brains of United Nations and to create a community of practice to elaborate upon the ideas we explored during the Sprint and to continue the modernization of official statistics. Therefore we call on all those present to travel this exciting journey together with us.</p>	
<i>Submitted on:</i>	2/17/2022

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