Document E/CN.3/2022/L.2 - Draft provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission

Document E/CN.3/2022/40 - Draft multi-year programme of work for the Statistical Commission 2022-2026

*Statement provided by:* Finland

Statement:

The Finnish delegation would like to thank the Bureau for the draft agenda for our next, the 54th session. In our opinion, the proposal contains many highly relevant horizontal issues, and less detailed agenda points pertaining to specific statistical subject areas.

We would like to encourage the Bureau of the Commission to further reflect on the agenda and working arrangements of the 54th session. When planning the final version of the agenda, we would like to propose the following.

Firstly, user needs for statistical information often do not relate to our traditional topic list of subject matter areas. It is important that we begin to move from producer orientation towards user orientation to promote the usage of statistics more widely. The pandemic has shown that there is a need for more horizontal data, like statistics combining health-related phenomena to economic development. The same "horizontalization of user needs" is, of course, also visible in our way of developing statistics for the follow-up of the SDGs.

Secondly, the way we are compiling statistics and especially the data sources we use, is changing rapidly. We nowadays use increasingly administrative data, data held by private companies, data available in the web, IoT data and so on. The new data sources are no longer topic-specific, as is often the case when we collect data directly through statistical surveys. Thus, also our data sources are becoming horizontal.

Thirdly, due to pandemic, we have developed more effective ways to work together. The written statements for the agenda points we have learned to use, clearly reduce the need to discuss the topics during the meeting. Reflecting on this meeting, we agreed on most of the agenda-points already in the written statements. In the future sessions, we could utilize this more and decide more agenda points en bloc without discussion. We could thus devote more time for agenda points, where we need discussion to better understand and agree on the issue.

*Submitted on:* 3/4/2022

## United Nations Statistical Commission Fifty-third session Item 6 of the provisional agenda Provisional agenda and dates for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission

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