

# 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

#### 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:***

Lesotho

***Statement:***

Lesotho would like to express on behalf of the Africa Group a contribution to the subject matter

On Document E/CN.3/2022/L.2

We do support the provisional agenda for the next year. In particular, we expect that the impact of Covid-19 pandemic in our countries should be at the centre of the discussion.

In this regard, we would like to see population and housing censuses in the agenda as well as price statistics in the context of the pandemic. Furthermore, Africa region expresses high expectation on Refugee statistics given the spreading conflicts prevailing in the region at this moment.

In addition, we have since been advocating for integration of statistical and geospatial information and working steadily for modernization of statistical systems; therefore, we duly support these subjects in the agenda.

On Document E/CN.3/2022/40

African countries, through their representatives in CCSA namely UNECA, AfDB and AFRISTAT have been actively contributing to the CCSA activities.

African countries commend efforts made during the recent past years to raise emerging statistical issues.

Despite the negative impact of the global pandemic that has halted a series of planned censuses, a number of African countries are determined to undertake their censuses. Therefore, we support the annual programming of censuses. We also support the annual activities such as population and housing censuses, national accounts, International Comparison Programme, International trade as well as integration of statistical and geospatial information and Coordination of statistical programmes.

Further, poverty statistics should be in the agenda every five years considering that methodologies change frequently.

In addition to subjects indicated in the programme, we would like to see for the coming years the following items:

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(a) Urban statistics: Africa's urban population has been growing at a very high rate (i.e. from about 27% in 1950 to 40% in 2015 and projected to reach 60% by 2050 (UN-DESA, 2014). Urbanization has been identified as key to policies in African countries.

(b) Infrastructure statistics: one of the major priority programmes in the region is the development of infrastructure. To this extent, our Heads of States established the former New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), that has been integrated in the African Union Development Agency (AUDA). Therefore, statistics in this domain become key to inform national and regional policies.

(c) Agricultural statistics: In Africa region agriculture represent on average, 40% of the GDP of almost all countries and more than 70% of active population.

(d) Energy statistics: energy is key for economic and social development and African countries have enormous energy potential; so energy statistics should be considered as high priority for the region.

Thus, any development of suitable methodologies on these subjects would help.

*Submitted on:*

2/15/2022