

## **Third Meeting of Expert Group on Well-Being Measurement Online, 16 April 2025 Conclusions**

Mohammad Hassan, Co-Chair of the Expert Group on Well-Being Measurement (EGWM) and Chief Statistician of the United Arab Emirates chaired the meeting. He welcomed the participants, expressed appreciation for their active engagement, and highlighted the significant potential of the EGWM in supporting the efforts of the Secretary-General's high-level expert group to propose alternative indicators to GDP for assessing inclusive and sustainable well-being.

The meeting continued with presentations and discussions concerning the topics listed below.

Participants at the meeting:

1. Expressed their appreciation for the work done by the bureau in organizing the online meeting and preparing the agenda as well as the various updates.

### **Update from UN Statistical Commission**

2. Congratulated the bureau of the EGWM for successfully organizing the side event.
3. Agreed with the proposed changes to the terms of reference of the EGWM arising from decision [56/111](#) at the 56<sup>th</sup> Statistical Commission.
4. Agreed that the co-chairs of the EGWM should meet with the ISWGNA and UNCEEA to explore mechanisms for reducing duplication risks and enhancing coordination in work related to well-being and sustainability and subsequently report back to the EGWM.

### **Update on High Level Expert Group**

5. Welcomed the update from UNSD that the final list of 14 proposed members for the high-level expert group (HLEG), which comprises policy and statistical experts, and the terms of reference of the HLEG have been submitted to the Secretary General for decision.
6. Noted the aim of the HLEG to submit its final report containing its recommendations to the General Assembly by December 2025, which will be followed by an inter-governmental process to take forward the recommendations and the need to secure extra budgetary resources for the HLEG to do its work.
7. Noted the mandate of the HLEG to consult widely, including with the statistical community, and observed that the EGWM can contribute more effectively, through the Statistical Commission, to the work of the HLEG and the subsequent inter-governmental process, given that the EGWM will be directly reporting to the Statistical Commission from 2026.

### **Consolidated overview of the Briefing Notes Final Drafts**

8. Appreciated the various comments that had been received for the six briefing notes and requested the co-chairs to suggest a timetable for the revised briefing notes (which should ensure coherence and consistency in addressing cross-cutting issues) to be finalized.

9. Agreed that the EGWM should stress that its work and the use of terms such as “beyond GDP” should not give the impression that national statistical offices can reconstruct GDP or ignore international statistical standards in compiling estimates of GDP.

**Discussion on EGWM work programme – Aligning ‘Outcomes’ Building Block & 4x4 Tabulation of Outcomes**

10. Agreed broadly with the proposal to organize an in-person meeting in 2025, but suggested to (a) organize the meeting earlier than September 2025 (if possible, in a hybrid format) to take into consideration the above-mentioned timeline of the work of the HLEG, (b) invite the HLEG to the meeting to utilize the opportunity to meet and consult with EGWM experts and provide an update on the progress of the work of the HLEG, (c) explore the feasibility of jointly organizing the meeting with the Friends of the Chair group on social and demographic statistics and inviting other groups working on well-being and sustainability and report back to the EGWM.

11. Agreed to provide written comments on the agenda, if necessary, to the co-chairs of the EGWM.

12. Agreed that a position paper on how corporations are incorporating and reporting sustainability and well-being indicators in their accounting framework should be prepared for discussion at a future EGWM meeting.

**Proposed update to task-teams**

13. Agreed with the proposal to form new task teams on education, environment and health and identify their co-chairs.

**Schedule of forthcoming meetings**

14. Requested the co-chairs of the EGWM to circulate the schedule of forthcoming meetings as soon as possible.