

Summary Assessment

Committee on Statistics Eighth session 23-25 August 2022

I. Introduction

The eighth session of the Committee on Statistics took place from 23 to 25 August 2022 as a hybrid meeting.

An online questionnaire assessing the relevance, effectiveness and quality of the meeting was conducted.¹ The main purpose of the assessment is to support the secretariat's ongoing efforts to improve its servicing of the session.

II. Attendance

The eighth session of the Committee on Statistics was attended by 38 members and associate members; 1 permanent observer; 1 United Nations Secretariat; 10 United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and funds; 5 intergovernmental organizations; and 2 other entities. In total, there were 201 registered participants, of whom 94 were female (47 per cent).

The total number of participants from governments were 169, and 138 of which were from the capitals (82 per cent).

III. Respondent's Profile

A total of 32 individual respondents from 6 member countries (23 respondents did not state their countries) provided feedback to the questionnaire. All respondents were from government agencies. Of these 32 respondents, 19 respondents were male, 13 were female.

Respondent countries by subregional

SEA	SSWA
Indonesia, Thailand	Bhutan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Sri Lanka
ENEA	Pacific
-	-
NCA	Others
Uzbekistan	-

¹ The rating scale is 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest).

IV. Relevance

Overall, respondents agreed that the agenda items reflected the present trends and issues in the Asia-Pacific region and that the issues discussed were useful for their government/organization.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
1. The session raised the most relevant and latest development trends/issues in the Asia-Pacific region.	Average: 4.6
2. The issues discussed were useful for my government/organization.	Average: 4.5
3. The session met my government/organization's needs and expectations.	Average: 4.6
4. The session allowed for related gender issues to be discussed.	Average: 4.0

V. Effectiveness

The respondents agreed that the meeting effectively achieved its objective; decisions adopted were pertinent and satisfactory; addressed questions and issues raised; achieved the desired level of participation; documents were of high quality and the time was allocated adequately.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
1. The objective of the session was met	Average: 4.6
2. The decisions adopted at the session were pertinent and satisfactory.	Average: 4.3
3. The session effectively addressed questions and issues raised.	Average: 4.6
4. The session achieved the desired level of participation.	Average: 4.4
5. The documents were of high quality and state the issues clearly.	Average: 4.6
6. The time available for discussion was adequate.	Average: 4.5

VI. Efficiency

Generally, the respondents rated positively on the efficiency of the meeting, they were highly satisfied with the organization and service of the secretariat. The session's documents were easily accessible and provided in a timely manner. The communications and technical support provided was effective and timely.

Please rate your agreement of the following statements	Ratings
1. The session was efficiently organized and serviced by the secretariat.	Average: 4.6
2. The session's documents were easily accessible and provided in a timely manner.	Average: 4.5
3. The communications from ESCAP on the preparation for the session were clear and timely.	Average: 4.6
4. The technical support provided to online participants was effective.	Average: 4.6

VII. Comments and suggestions

The respondents provided comments and suggestions for improvement of future sessions. Many of the respondents benefited from the session, including the side events which were a platform to share country experiences:

- The best achievement was the organization of side events and expert dialogue which provide a platform of sharing knowledge and experiences.
- Learning other country's experience and recognizing recent challenges faced by Statistical Community, NSO and NSS.
- It was highly useful to share problems faced by countries and their strategies to overcome.
- Enrich knowledge on data governance; gain rich experiences from other countries; connect to countries and organizations on possible cooperation, etc.
- Knowledge from sharing and exchanging of good practices will definitely strengthen national statistical systems and help in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Suggestions to improve questionnaire:

- This questionnaire could be improved by adding answer option "not applicable" to some questions.

Suggestions to improve ESCAP's website:

- Please also improve the session website so as to not having returned back to the top page of the session after opening a file and having to click on tabs again to open another file. The tabs should have own links.
- When clicking browser back, the webpage always returns to top page, and I have to click the tab again. Please improve the website.

VIII. Conclusion

Overall, delegations agreed that the eighth session of the Committee on Statistics was well organized and fruitful. Positive feedback was received on the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency of the session, in particular, the session was highly relevant with the latest development trends/issues in the Asia-Pacific region and the communication and support from the secretariat were highly satisfied.
