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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Committee on Statistics

Eighth session

Bangkok and online, 23–25 August 2022

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Committee on Statistics (section I) and the annotations thereto (section II).

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session:
 - (a) Opening statements;
 - (b) Election of officers;
 - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Follow-up on decisions made at the seventh session of the Committee on Statistics.
3. Progress on strengthening national statistical systems for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:
 - (a) Monitoring progress in line with the document entitled “Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community” and the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind;
 - (b) Monitoring progress in response to the Get Every One in the Picture initiative on civil registration and vital statistics.
4. Regional initiatives and partnerships for strengthening national statistical systems for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:
 - (a) Progress made in support of the collective vision and framework for action by groups responsible for regional initiatives of the Committee on Statistics and by the secretariat;

* Reissued for technical reasons on 21 June 2022.

- (b) Initiatives by global, regional and subregional organizations in support of the collective vision and framework for action.
- 5. Emerging issues:
 - (a) Measuring progress beyond gross domestic product;
 - (b) Data governance in a changing world.
- 6. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme.
- 7. Reports brought to the attention of the Committee:
 - (a) Report of the Bureau;
 - (b) Reports of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific;
 - (c) Report on the working group on Sustainable Development Goal data and statistics of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific.
- 8. Other matters.
- 9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its eighth session.

II. Annotations

1. Opening of the session

(a) Opening statements

The programme for the session will be available online at www.unescap.org/events/2022/committee-statistics-eighth-session.

(b) Election of officers

The Committee will elect a chair, three vice-chairs and two other members, one of whom will serve as rapporteur, to form the Bureau.¹ The term of the incoming Bureau will commence immediately and last until the ninth session of the Committee.

The list of participants will be available online at www.unescap.org/events/2022/committee-statistics-eighth-session.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (ESCAP/CST/2022/L.1/Rev.1)

Annotation

The provisional agenda will be considered and adopted by the Committee, subject to changes as may be necessary.

¹ As per decision 2/1 of the Committee on Statistics at its second session, in which it adopted the principles and procedures concerning the election of the Bureau as proposed in document E/ESCAP/CST(2)/1.

2. Follow-up on decisions made at the seventh session of the Committee on Statistics

Documentation

Report on progress with regard to decisions made at the seventh session of the Committee on Statistics (ESCAP/CST/2022/1)

Annotation

The Committee may wish to take note of the report on progress with regard to decisions made at its seventh session.

3. Progress on strengthening national statistical systems for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

(a) Monitoring progress in line with the document entitled “Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community” and the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind

Documentation

Summary of progress towards commitments contained in the collective vision and framework for action and the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind (ESCAP/CST/2022/2)

Report on progress towards commitments contained in the collective vision and framework for action and the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind (ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/1)

Annotation

Document ESCAP/CST/2022/2 contains a summary of the analysis and findings presented in more detail in information document ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/1. The latter contains an update on the progress made by statistical systems in Asia and the Pacific on their commitments with regard to the collective vision and framework for action (E/ESCAP/CST(5)/1/Rev.1) and the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind (ESCAP/CST/2018/7). Progress was assessed using the most recent data, based on the monitoring framework and guidelines developed by the secretariat with the Committee on Statistics and its Bureau.

The Committee is invited to express its views on progress made to date as documented in ESCAP/CST/2022/2 and ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/1 and provide guidance and recommendations on priority areas for future work.

(b) Monitoring progress in response to the Get Every One in the Picture initiative on civil registration and vital statistics

Documentation

Report on the 8th meeting of the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CST/2022/3)

Annotation

The report on the Regional Steering Group for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific on its 8th meeting, held on 9 and 10 March 2022, prepared with the guidance of the Regional Steering Group, contains a number of recommended actions for the statistical community to take to strengthen the implementation of the Regional Action Framework on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific in view of the Ministerial Declaration on Building a More Resilient Future with Inclusive Civil Registration and Vital Statistics, which was adopted on 19 November 2021, and the varying levels of progress made at the country level across the region towards the achievement of the vision related to the Asia and Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade (2015–2024).

The Committee is invited to take note of the outcomes of the Regional Steering Group's 8th meeting and to provide guidance to the statistical community on implementing the recommendations of the Regional Steering Group.

The Committee is also invited to express its views on the role and responsibilities of statisticians in achieving the goals defined in the Regional Action Framework.

- 4. Regional initiatives and partnerships for strengthening national statistical systems for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
 - (a) Progress made in support of the collective vision and framework for action by groups responsible for regional initiatives of the Committee on Statistics and by the secretariat**

Documentation

Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: progress in implementing regional initiatives with respect to the collective vision and framework for action (ESCAP/CST/2022/4)

Reports on the 10th and 11th meetings of the Steering Group for the Regional Programme for the Improvement of Economic Statistics in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/2)

Report on the 3rd meeting of the Regional Steering Group on Population and Social Statistics (ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/3)

Report on the technical working group on disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/4)

Reports on the 6th and 7th meetings of the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/5)

Annotation

A guiding principle for implementing the commitments contained in the collective vision and framework for action is to build on existing commitments, including the existing regional initiatives endorsed by the Committee at previous sessions.

Document ESCAP/CST/2022/4 contains a summary of the work of the secretariat as well as the plans and achievements of the Steering Group for the Regional Programme for the Improvement of Economic Statistics in Asia and the Pacific, the Regional Steering Group on Population and Social Statistics, the technical working group on disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific and the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific. The contributions of each group to furthering the collective vision and framework for action are highlighted as are issues requiring review, endorsement or other guidance by the Committee.

The Committee may wish to express its views on the progress made to date and review and endorse the proposed actions contained in the document. Among other things, it may wish to review and endorse the revised terms of reference of the Regional Steering Group on Population and Social Statistics and recommend that the technical working group on disaster-related statistics in Asia and the Pacific continue its work. The Committee may also wish to provide guidance on the future direction of the groups with a view to ensuring that they collectively and effectively serve to further the collective vision and framework for action.

Information documents ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/2, ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/3, ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/4 and ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/5 contain further information, including records and outcomes of recent meetings of related groups and networks.

(b) Initiatives by global, regional and subregional organizations in support of the collective vision and framework for action

Documentation

Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: initiatives by global, regional and subregional organizations with respect to the collective vision and framework for action (ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/6)

Annotation

The collective vision and framework for action focuses on collaborative activities that add value to national efforts to strengthen statistics for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Hence, development partners at all levels play important roles in its successful implementation. Information document ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/6 contains highlights of the current efforts of partners in support of the collective vision and framework for action.

The Committee may wish to express its views on the progress to date and provide guidance on the future direction of the initiatives with a view to ensuring they collectively and most effectively serve to implement the vision and framework for action.

5. Emerging issues

(a) Measuring progress beyond gross domestic product

Documentation

From gross domestic product to well-being and sustainability (ESCAP/CST/2022/5)

Annotation

The Bureau of the Committee has identified measuring progress beyond gross domestic product (GDP) as an emerging priority issue for the region.

Document ESCAP/CST/2022/5 contains information on selected international and national efforts to develop and use progress measures that go beyond GDP. Recognizing the shortcomings of GDP to capture progress on well-being or sustainability goals, such as those related to climate change, the document also contains reflections on the role of national statistical systems in producing complementary statistics and promoting their uptake for evidence-based policy.

Bearing in mind the linkages between the two emerging issues identified by the Bureau, further opportunities for regional action to strengthen data governance, including the increased production and use of complementary progress measures, are outlined in the document.

The Committee may wish to take note of document ESCAP/CST/2022/5 and discuss the role of national statistical offices in the development and use of broader progress measures. Members of the Committee are invited to share their country's experience with broader progress measures in the context of strengthening official statistics through the implementation of the collective vision and framework for action and strengthening national statistical systems through the implementation of the commitments contained in the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind.

The Committee is also invited to consider and express its views on each of the opportunities for further regional action outlined in the document.

(b) Data governance in a changing world

Documentation

Data governance in a changing world (ESCAP/CST/2022/6)

Annotation

The Bureau of the Committee has identified data governance, non-traditional data sources, including big data, and inclusive policymaking and its impact on national statistical systems (including data literacy) as emerging priority issues for the region.

Document ESCAP/CST/2022/6 contains a summary of international and national efforts in the areas of data governance, non-traditional data sources, and inclusive policymaking and its impact on national statistical systems.

Bearing in mind the linkages between the two emerging issues identified by the Bureau, further opportunities for regional action to strengthen data governance, including the increased production and use of complementary progress measures, are outlined in the document.

The Committee may wish to take note of document ESCAP/CST/2022/6 and discuss the different approaches national statistical offices take to data governance. Members of the Committee are invited to share

their country's perspective on these topics in the context of strengthening official statistics through the implementation of the collective vision and framework for action and strengthening national statistical systems through the implementation of the commitments contained in the Declaration on Navigating Policy with Data to Leave No One Behind.

The Committee is also invited to consider and express its views on each of the opportunities for further regional action outlined in the document.

6. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme

Documentation

Proposed programme budget for 2023, section 19, on economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific (A/77/6 (Sect. 19))

Annotation

Particular attention will be paid to subprogramme 7, Statistics.

The Director of the Statistics Division will make a statement on current activities, plans and priorities. The Committee may wish to provide guidance on future areas of work of the subprogramme.

7. Reports brought to the attention of the Committee

(a) Report of the Bureau

Documentation

Report on the activities of the Bureau since the seventh session of the Committee on Statistics (ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/7)

Terms of reference of the Bureau of the Committee on Statistics (ESCAP/CST/2022/7)

Annotation

The report on the activities of the Bureau since the seventh session of the Committee on Statistics will be supplemented by an oral report of the Chair. The Committee is invited to endorse the revised terms of reference of its Bureau. The Committee may also wish to take note of the report on the activities of the Bureau.

(b) Reports of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Report of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its sixteenth session (ESCAP/77/12)

Report of the Governing Council of the Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific on its seventeenth session (ESCAP/78/25)

Annotation

The Committee may wish to take note of the reports.

(c) **Report on the working group on Sustainable Development Goal data and statistics of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific**

Documentation

Report on the working group on Sustainable Development Goal data and statistics of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP/CST/2022/INF/8)

Annotation

The Committee may wish to take note of the report.

8. Other matters

The Committee may wish to consider other matters not covered under the items listed above.

9. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its eighth session

Documentation

Draft report (ESCAP/CST/2022/L.2)

Annotation

The Committee will consider and adopt the report on its eighth session, for submission to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific for its consideration and endorsement at its seventy-ninth session, to be held in 2023.
