Statistical Commission

Forty-fourth session

26 February – 1 March 2013 Item 5 of the provisional agenda

Programme questions (United Nations Statistics Division)

Draft programme of work of the United Nations Statistics Division for the biennium 2014-2015

Note by the Secretariat

- 1. The draft programme of work in the field of statistics for the biennium 2014-2015, which is contained in the Annex to the present note, is submitted for the consideration of the Statistical Commission in compliance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8).
- 2. The General Assembly has approved, in its resolution 67/248 of 24 December 2012, the biennial programme plan for the period 2014-2015, which includes the elements of the "programme narrative", namely, the objectives, expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement of the statistics subprogramme.
- 3. The draft programme of work presented below includes, in addition to the programme narrative, a list of outputs formulated within the framework of subprogramme 5, Statistics, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, for the period 2014-2015.
- 4. The Commission is invited to take note of the programme narrative and to review the proposed outputs to be included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2014-2015, which will be submitted to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the General Assembly at the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly.
- 5. This note also contains in the Annex a listing of proposed adjustments for the 2012/13 programme. The 2012/13 list of outputs had been endorsed by the Commission in 2011. The Commission is invited to approve these adjustments in our current work programme and authorize the Commission's Bureau to approve further adjustments, should they become necessary in the course of this year.

Draft programme of work for the biennium 2014-2015 for the Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Objective of the Organization: To advance the global statistical system in order to produce high quality, easily accessible comparable national statistics for policymakers and other users at the national and international levels

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat

(a) Strengthened global statistical system, with more active participation by countries and increased collaboration among international organizations, including progress in the harmonization and rationalization of development indicators

- (b) Better and broader use by Governments, international organizations, research institutes, the private sector and the general public of statistical data and technical guidelines produced by the subprogramme
- (c) Strengthened capacity of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to routinely collect, compile, store, analyse and disseminate official statistics and indicators in the economic, social, demographic and environmental fields to produce quality data for policymakers and the public in general

Indicators of achievement

- (i) Increased number of participants from countries and international organizations attending the sessions of the Statistical Commission and the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, high-level fora, workshops, expert group meetings and seminars
- (ii) Increase in the number of collaborative activities carried out with international organizations on the rationalization and harmonization of development indicators
- (i) Increased number of requests satisfied for statistical data
- (ii) Increase in the number of visits to the Statistics Division website
- (i) Increased number of national statistical staff who have been effectively utilizing knowledge and skills acquired at training and capacity development activities delivered by the subprogramme
- (ii) Increased number of countries that have received guidelines and capacity development support for developing and implementing sustainable national statistical systems

External factors

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that national statistical offices will have the necessary national resources and capacity.

Subprogramme 4

Statistics

Outputs

During the biennium 2014-2015, the following final outputs will be delivered:

- (a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies (regular budget):
- (i) General Assembly:
- a. Substantive servicing of meetings: Fifth Committee, scale of assessments (20);
- b. Parliamentary documentation: reports, background papers and conference room papers on the scale of assessments for the Fifth Committee (2)
- (ii) Statistical Commission:
- a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions of the Statistical Commission (12);
- b. Parliamentary documentation: reports to the Statistical Commission (on the themes decided by the Commission in 2013) (25);
- (iii) Committee on Contributions:
- a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the Committee on Contributions (70);
- b. Parliamentary documentation: reports, background papers and conference room papers on the scale of assessments for the Committee on Contributions (2)
- (iv) United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names:
- a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the twenty-eighth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (10);
- b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the twenty-seventh session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (1)
- (v) United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific:
- a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the twentieth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (8);
- b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the twentieth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific (1)
- (vi) United Nations Commmitte of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management:
- a. Substantive servicing of meetings: Meetings of the 4th and 5th sessions of the Commmitte of Experts on GGIM (12);
- b. Parliamentary documentation: report on the 4th and 5th sessions of the Commmitte of Experts on GGIM (2);

- (vii) Ad hoc expert groups: 23 expert group meetings on: Expert Group meeting on Linking Trade and Business Statistics (1); Expert Group meeting on International Trade Statistics and Economic Globalisation (1); Expert Group Meeting on Environment Statistics (2); Expert Group Meeting on energy statistics (1); Expert Group Meeting on International economic and social classifications (1); Expert Group Meeting on industrial statistics (1); United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting and Environment Statistics (2); Expert group on National Accounts (2); Inter-agency and Expert Group meeting on MDG Indicators (4); Inter-agency and Expert Group meeting on Gender Statistics (2); Expert Group Meeting on Population and Housing Censuses (3); Expert Group Meeting on Social Statistics (1); Expert Group meeting on Global Geospatial Information Management (2);
- (b) Other substantive activities (regular budget/extrabudgetary):
- (i) Recurrent publications:
 - 1. Demographic Yearbook 2013
 - 2. Electricity Profiles 2012
 - 3. Energy Balances 2012
 - 4. Energy Statistics Yearbook 2012
 - 5. Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook 2012, Vol. I
 - 6. Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook 2012, Vol. II
 - 7. 2013 International Trade Statistics Yearbook, Volume I
 - 8. 2013 International Trade Statistics Yearbook, Volume II
 - 9. Millennium Development Goals Report 2014
 - 10. Millennium Development Goals Progress Chart 2014
 - 11. Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, 2014 (12 issues)
 - 12. National Accounts Statistics: Analysis of Main Aggregates, 2013
 - 13. National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables, 2013 Parts I-V
 - 14. Population and Vital Statistics Report, Vol. LXVI
 - 15. Statistical Yearbook, 59th issue
 - 16. UN Country Stats 2014
 - 17. World Statistics Pocketbook, 39th issue
 - 18. Demographic Yearbook 2014
 - 19. Electricity Profiles 2013
 - 20. Energy Balances 2013
 - 21. Energy Statistics Yearbook 2013
 - 22. Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook 2013, Vol. I
 - 23. Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook 2013, Vol. II
 - 24. 2014 International Trade Statistics Yearbook, Volume I
 - 25. 2014 International Trade Statistics Yearbook, Volume II
 - 26. Millennium Development Goals Report 2015
 - 27. Millennium Development Goals Progress Chart 2015
 - 28. Monthly Bulletin of Statistics, 2015 (12 issues)
 - 29. National Accounts Statistics: Analysis of Main Aggregates, 2014
 - 30. National Accounts Statistics: Main Aggregates and Detailed Tables, 2014 Parts I-V
 - 31. Population and Vital Statistics Report, Vol. LXVII
 - 32. Statistical Yearbook, 60th issue
 - 33. UN Country Stats 2015
 - 34. World Statistics Pocketbook, 40th issue

(ii) Non-recurrent publications:

- 1. Guidelines for the Compilation of Energy Accounts (provisional title), part of methodological series
- 2. Handbook of Short-term Economic Indicators: Business Cycle Composite Indicators, part of methodological series
- 3. Handbook of Short-term Economic Indicators: Rapid Estimates, part of methodological series
- 4. Handbook of Short-term Economic Indicators: Tendency surveys part of methodological series
- 5. Methodological Guidelines for the Compilation of the Core Set of Environment Statistics, part of methodological series
- 6. Short-term Economic Indicators: Statistical Guide for the Internationally Accepted Data Template and Metadata Structure, part of methodological series
- 7. The System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Experimental Ecosystem Accounts, part of methodological series
- 8. The System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Extensions and Applications, part of methodological series;
- 9. Handbook on Linking Trade and Business Statistics: Compilation and Analysis;
- 10. Handbook on International Trade Statistics and Economic Globalization;
- 11. Manual on Environment Statistics;
- 12. World's Women 2015: Trends and Statistics
- (iii) Technical material (regular budget/extrabudgetary): Analytical Tables for International Merchandise Trade Statistics (2); Analytical Tables for Statistics of International Trade in Services (2); Analytical Tables for Tourism Statistics (2); UN Comtrade database (2); UN ServiceTrade database (2); Website on International Merchandise Trade Statistics (2); Website on Statistics of International Trade in Services (2); Website on Tourism Statistics (2); Website of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (2); Website of the Global Forum on Trade Statistics (2); Knowledge base on-line for International Merchandise Trade Statistics (2); Knowledge base on-line for Statistics of International Trade in Services (2); Knowledge base on-line for Tourism Statistics (2); Newsletter on International Trade Statistics (4); Newsletter of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (2); Website on environment statistics (4); Environmental indicators (2); Environmental Country Snapshots (2); Environment Statistics Newsletter (4); Website on industry statistics (semi-annual update) (4); Website on classifications (semi-annual update) (4); Website on Energy Statistics (semi-annual update) (4); Classifications Newsletter (4); Energy Statistics Newsletter (4); Website on environmental accounting (2); Newsletter Environment-Economic Accounting (4); Knowledge base on-line for Economic Statistics (2); Knowledge base/archive on-line for Environmental-Economic Accounting (2); Website on National Accounts (2); Newsletter on National Accounts (4); Statistical annex on MDGs for the Secretary-General's office (2); MDG Indicators database update (2); Website on MDGs (2); Website of the IAEG on MDG Indicators (Techgroup) (2); Demographic and Social Statistics Website (8); World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses website (8); Vital Statistics, Series A. biweekly website (24); Social Indicators Website (half yearly update) (4); UNGEGN Information Bulletin (two issues per year) (4); Website on Global Geospatial Information Management - 6-monthly updates (4); Website on UNGEGN World Geographical Names Database - 6-montly updates (4); Website on Statistical Commission (2); Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (internet) (24); Website of UNdata (12);

World Statistics Pocketbook (electronic) (2); Website on City Groups (2); Website on Standards and Methods (2); Website of the Statistics Division (8); Website of the Statistics Division publication archive (2); Website of CCSA (4); Website technical cooperation (8); Website on National Statistical Systems (2); Responses to ad hoc requests from Member States and other users for information on concepts and methods, as well as national practices, in the various fields of statistics (information hotlines) (5); Responses to ad hoc requests from Member States and other users for specific data (5); Preparation of technical material for the Meetings of the Task Team on SDMX (2); MDG Indicators Database technical development and maintenance (including documentation and training) (2); UNdata Database technical development and maintenance (including documentation and training) (2); Preparation of technical material for the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts (2); Preparation of technical material for the Meetings of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (4); Preparation of technical material for the Meetings of the Committee for Coordination of Statistical Activities (4); Preparation of technical material for the Meetings of the UN-System and the Cluster 10, Statistics, EC-ESA (4);

Annex: Modifications to the work programme 2012/13

Addition of outputs:

- Non-recurrent publications: SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting and SEEA Applications and Extensions
- Expert Group Meeting: International Seminar Towards Linking Ecosystems and Ecosystem Services to Economic and Human Activity
- Parliamentary documentation: Report of the Secretary General on Economic-Environmental Accounting
- High Level Forum on the Response to the Rio+20 Mandate for Broader Measures of Progress.
- High Level Forum on Global Geospatial Information Management

<u>Termination of outputs:</u>

- Non-recurrent publication: Handbook on good practices in compilation of External Trade Indices (merchandise trade) (Record identifier: P092375)
- Taskteam on statistical data and metadata exchange (Record identifier S135879 and 135880)
- Recurrent publication: Newsletter on Environment-Economic Accounting 2012 (2 issues: Record identifier: P092321 and P092322)