



Economic and Social Council

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Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Osman **Sankoh** (Sierra Leone)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2021/213, and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic that are affecting the working arrangements and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, the Statistical Commission did not hold formal meetings during its fifty-second session. The Commission held four online informal meetings with remote simultaneous interpretation from 1 to 3 and on 5 March 2021 pursuant to Council decision 2021/213.

2. The Commission conducted its business during the fifty-second session through correspondence and informal consultations and considered proposals under silence procedure pursuant to Council decision 2021/213.

B. Attendance

3. The online informal meetings of the fifty-second session were attended by the representatives of the 24 States members of the Commission. Also in attendance at the meetings were observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of United Nations system organizations and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations.

C. Election of officers

4. The Commission elected the following officers by acclamation under silence procedure pursuant to Council decision 2021/213:



Chair:

Shigeru Kawasaki (Japan)

Vice-Chairs:

Gabriella Vukovich (Hungary)

Julio Alfonso Santaella Castell (Mexico)

Anil Arora (Canada)

Rapporteur:

Osman Sankoh (Sierra Leone)

D. Agenda and organization of work

5. The Commission adopted its provisional agenda, as contained in document [E/CN.3/2021/1](#), under silence procedure pursuant to Council decision 2021/213. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Items for discussion and decision:
 - (a) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - (b) Coordination of statistical programmes;
 - (c) Economic statistics;
 - (d) National accounts;
 - (e) Business and trade statistics;
 - (f) Environmental-economic accounting;
 - (g) Migration statistics;
 - (h) Regional statistical development;
 - (i) Management and modernization of statistical systems;
 - (j) Big data;
 - (k) International statistical classifications;
 - (l) Household surveys;
 - (m) Data and metadata presentation and dissemination.
4. Items for information:
 - (a) Demographic statistics;
 - (b) Culture statistics;
 - (c) Climate change statistics;
 - (d) Disaster-related statistics;
 - (e) International Comparison Programme;
 - (f) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata;
 - (g) Statistical capacity development;

- (h) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;
 - (i) National Quality Assurance Frameworks;
 - (j) Integration of statistical and geospatial information;
 - (k) World Statistics Day.
5. Programme questions (Statistics Division).
 6. Provisional agenda and dates for the fifty-third session of the Commission.
 7. Report of the Commission on its fifty-second session.
6. The Commission also approved the provisional programme of work and timetable of the session (E/CN.3/2021/L.1), under silence procedure pursuant to Council decision 2021/213.
7. The Commission also adopted a decision under silence procedure pursuant to Council decision 2021/213, in which it invited the following intergovernmental organizations to participate as observers at its fifty-second session: Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics; Arab Maghreb Union; Bank for International Settlements; Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa; Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre; Central African Economic and Monetary Community; Eurasian Economic Commission; and European Free Trade Association.

E. Documentation

8. The documents before the Commission at its fifty-second session are available at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/52nd-session/documents>.
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