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Programme of work of the Statistics subprogramme of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe: Programme planning documents for the Statistics subprogramme of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Draft programme of work of the Statistics subprogramme for 2022

Prepared by the Secretariat

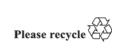
Summary

The Programme of Work of the Statistics subprogramme for 2022 continues to reflect the annual format presented in 2020 in line with General Assembly resolution 72/266, with enrichments reflecting General Assembly resolutions 74/251 adopted on 27 December 2019 and 75/243 adopted on 31 December 2020.

The text is an excerpt from the UNECE proposed programme budget for 2022 (A/76/6 (Sect.20)), which was reviewed by the ECE Executive Committee in December 2020. The draft Programme of Work follows the template, as approved by the Executive Committee and further updated in line with the annual programme budget format. The Programme of Work informs about the status of results planned in Programmes of Work for 2020 and 2021 (results 1 and 2) which will continue to be implemented in 2022, and presents a new result expected in 2022 'Increasing the number of countries that report sex-disaggregated statistical indicators' (result 3).

The Programme of Work is submitted to the Conference of European Statisticians for adoption and for recommending it to the Executive Committee of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe for approval.

The Conference will be invited also to consider document "Outline of key components of the programme of work of the Statistics subprogramme for 2023" (ECE/CES/2021/INF.1) and provide recommendations on these components, as necessary. Those recommendations agreed by the Conference and included in its decisions will be reflected in the proposed programme plan of the Statistics subprogramme for 2023.





I. Introduction

- 1. The present document sets out the draft programme of work of the Statistics subprogramme ("the subprogramme") for 2022. The Conference of European Statisticians is invited to adopt it and recommend to the Executive Committee (Excom) for approval. Any subsequent additional, discontinued or carried over deliverables will be reflected in UN Umoja system used by the Secretariat for planning, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the programme.
- 2. The draft programme of work applies a results-based management (RBM) approach, a broad management approach which establishes logical relationship between the hierarchical results (deliverables results objectives impact) known as 'results chain', the resources (human and financial) known as 'inputs' and the external factors (strategic, governance, operational, financial) which can prevent from achieving the objective.
- 3. The objective, the strategy, the planned results and the deliverables in the draft programme of work correspond to those contained in the ECE proposed programme budget for 2022 (A/76/6 (Sect.20)). The work of the subprogramme is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In attaining its objective, the subprogramme builds on cross-sectoral collaboration with other subprogrammes in relevant ECE nexus areas where multiple SDGs converge¹. This type of collaboration enables the subprogramme to maximize existing synergies, increase the efficiency of its work and have a multiplying effect on the impact of its actions to support countries to implement SDGs. The deliverables of the subprogramme fall into the following main categories: (a) facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies; (b) generation and transfer of knowledge, including technical cooperation projects, training events, seminars, workshops, and publications; (c) other substantive deliverables, and (d) communication deliverables.
- 4. The details of the proposed publications are provided in annex I. The overall ECE legislative mandates and those specific for the subprogramme are listed in annex II.

II. Objective

5. The objective, to which this subprogramme contributes, is to advance official statistics at the national and international levels for evidence-based policymaking and assessing progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and to ensure the coordination of statistical activities in the ECE region under the Conference of European Statisticians.

III. Strategy

6. The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Statistical Division.

A. Planned activities

7. The strategy of the subprogramme is based on the implementation of the core interlinked functions, namely, the streamlining of international statistical work in the ECE region by promoting dialogue at the Conference of European Statisticians and expert meetings; methodological work to develop and promote guidelines and recommendations to enhance the quality of statistics; statistical capacity development of ECE member States with less developed statistical systems, in particular to measure progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals; and the maintenance and development of the ECE statistical database. ECE statistical work is strongly anchored to the 2030 Agenda, which contains calls for a follow-up on and review of the achievement of the Goals and their targets based on

¹ The ECE nexus areas are as follows: 1) Sustainable use of natural resources; 2) Sustainable and smart cities for all ages; 3) Sustainable mobility and smart connectivity; and 4) Measuring and monitoring SDGs.

evidence, informed by high-quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated data. Through its work, the subprogramme will contribute to the ECE nexuses on measuring and monitoring the Goals and on the sustainable use of natural resources. The work conducted under this subprogramme deals mainly with statistical methodology and capacity-building, and the main national partners are national statistical offices of member States.

- 8. To contribute to the objective, the subprogramme will continue to promote methodological work to develop statistical models, guidelines and recommendations to enhance the quality of statistics, and to promote the use of official statistics. This will be done through regional and country-specific initiatives aimed at disseminating the statistical models, guidelines and recommendations and promoting their use. Closer partnerships will be built between geospatial experts and statisticians to support the integration of statistical and geospatial information. The activities will be coordinated and implemented in cooperation with statistical departments of other regional entities such as Eurostat, OECD, the European Free Trade Association, the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Eurasian Economic Commission, as well as international specialized agencies active in the region. To support the development of the statistical capacity of member States, the subprogramme will facilitate the exchange of experiences in the field of population and housing censuses and provide support to countries in planning and conducting their census. All member States were requested to conduct at least one census between 2015 and 2024 (Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/10), which was also called the "2020 census round". The majority of the countries in the ECE region will conduct the census in 2021.
- 9. The subprogramme plans to support member States on issues related to COVID-19 by re-focusing existing activities relating to specific subject matter domains (e.g. population censuses, price statistics, environment statistics) to include exchanges of experiences and good practices in compiling COVID-19-relevant statistics whilst adapting to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. Activities in cross-cutting topics such as statistics for SDGs, statistical legislation, data collection, data integration, dissemination and human resource management will also be adapted to support countries as they recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

B. Expected results

- 10. The above-mentioned work is expected to result in: (a) improved statistical methodology and capacity of member States to support measuring and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals, including improved cost efficiency, coverage, accuracy, comparability and timeliness of dissemination of the census results; and (b) an increase in the number of countries who conduct the census through innovative and efficient approaches.
- 11. The planned support on issues related to COVID-19 is expected to result in improved capacity of member States to provide the statistics necessary to develop evidence-based policies to manage the post-COVID recovery.

III. Planned results for 2022

A. Result 1: Increasing the number of countries producing improved statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals²

1. Programme performance in 2020

12. The subprogramme has supported countries in producing improved statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals by providing practical guidance to implement the Conference of European Statisticians Road Map on statistics for SDGs. These include guidance on setting up National Reporting Platforms (NRPs) on SDGs, reports from piloting SDG indicator data transmission, good practices in communicating SDG data, etc. To provide

² As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020 (A/74/6 (Sect.20))

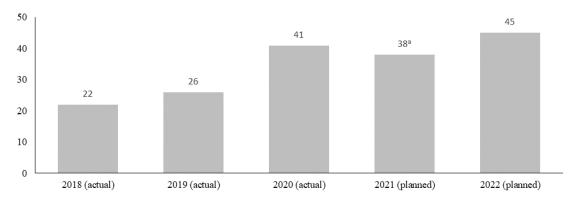
easy access to the guidance materials and data on SDGs, ECE has set up a regional platform on statistics for SDGs, consisting of a knowledge hub and dashboard and database of SDG indicators for the ECE region. Work is ongoing on preparing the Second Edition of the Road Map to address the new challenges in providing statistics for SDGs, including in the context of COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, the subprogramme is bringing together experts from national statistical, mapping and geospatial agencies, to share good practices in integrating geospatial and statistical information that is crucial for the measurement of progress towards SDGs. This was done through a collaboration agreement and joint plenary session of the governing bodies (Conference of European Statisticians and UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (GGIM: Europe)), joint task teams (for example on aligning geospatial and statistical standards), coordinating capacity building and organising joint seminars and webinars.

13. The above-mentioned work contributed to increased availability of statistics on SDGs from ECE countries. Forty-one ECE member States have set up National Reporting Platforms providing data on SDG indicators, which exceeded the planned target of 30 countries reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2020. A few more countries are in the process of developing an NRP, including Bosnia and Herzegovina where ECE is providing capacity development support for this purpose.

2. Proposed programme plan for 2022

14. The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will continue to provide practical guidance to countries on the implementation of the planned Second Edition of the Road Map on statistics for SDGs. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 1).

Figure 1
Performance measure: number of national reporting platforms on statistics for Sustainable Development Goals in use by member States



^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

B. Result 2: Conducting a new population and housing census that provides cost-effective and better-quality results³

1. Programme performance in 2020

15. The subprogramme has supported member States in the planning and conducting of the population and housing censuses, in accordance with the "Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing". It has conducted a review of the short- and long-term consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on census operations and organized expert meetings to exchange experience among member States and to identify successful solutions in the context of the pandemic. The subprogramme

³ As reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2021 (A/75/6 (Sect.20))

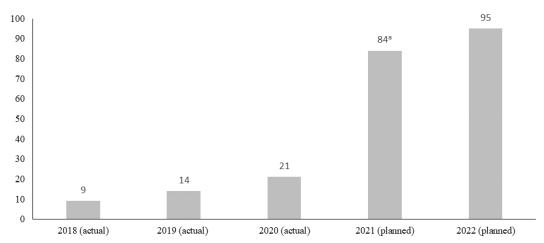
also enhanced its online platform for exchange of experience and methodological information on the censuses. These activities have supported ECE member States in adapting their census plans and operations to the context of the pandemic while maintaining the information content and achieving cost-efficiency, coverage and accuracy of the census.

16. The above-mentioned work contributed to the completion of population and housing censuses in 21 per cent of ECE member States, which did not meet the target of 25 per cent reflected in the proposed programme budget for 2021. For most countries, the census is conducted in the way that requires enumerator personal visits, which were not possible in the COVID-19 pandemic on the intended scale. These circumstances forced many countries to postpone the census that they had originally planned for 2020.

2. Proposed programme plan for 2022

17. The subprogramme will continue the work related to the planned result, in line with its mandate. To contribute to further progress towards the objective, the subprogramme will organize expert meetings to exchange experience and conduct methodological work to improve the use of administrative data for population and housing censuses. The expected progress is presented in the performance measure below (see figure 2).

Figure 2
Performance measure: percentage of Economic Commission for Europe countries having conducted a census in compliance with the Conference of European Statisticians recommendations



^a To maintain accountability for initial programme plans, the 2021 target is carried forward from the programme budget for 2021 and reflects best estimates at that point in time before the COVID-19 pandemic. Programme performance for 2021 will be reported in the proposed programme budget for 2023.

C. Result 3: Increasing the number of countries that report sexdisaggregated statistical indicators (new result for 2022)

1. Proposed programme plan for 2022

18. Gender data and indicators are in high demand for understanding the situation with respect to gender equality, and for monitoring SDGs and the impact of different policies on women and men. The subprogramme develops statistical capacity and promotes the use of advanced methodologies for producing data and indicators of gender equality.

A. Lessons learned and planned change

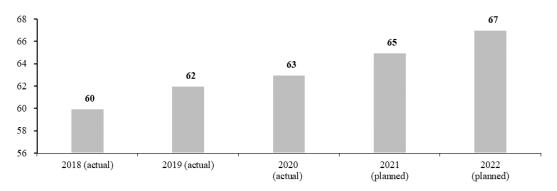
19. The lesson for the subprogramme was that during the COVID-19 crisis, questions surrounding the economic impact on women and men, the burden of childcare amidst school closures, and the link between social isolation measures and gender-based violence further increased the demand on timely gender statistics. In applying the lesson, the subprogramme will organise ECE expert meetings and capacity building workshops to discuss the national statistical offices' responses to these challenges. The expert exchanges and capacity

development will lead to the production of improved statistical indicators from the gender perspective and their better availability.

B. Expected progress towards the attainment of the objective, and performance measure

20. This work is expected to contribute to the objective, as demonstrated by the increased availability of sex-disaggregated indicators in the ECE SDG database. This is measured as the average percentage of sex-disaggregated indicators available for the ECE member States (see figure 3).

Figure 3
Performance measure: average percentage of sex-disaggregated indicators available for the Economic Commission for Europe's member States in the ECE's Sustainable Development Goals database



IV. External factors

- 21. The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective on the assumption that:
- (a) Member States continue to support the work of ECE and give high priority to regional and subregional cooperation and integration with a view to achieving sustainable development;
- (b) All relevant stakeholders at the national level have the political will and sufficient capacity to cooperate in implementing the ECE legal instruments, norms and standards;
 - (c) Voluntary resources continue to be available.

V. Deliverables to be implemented in 2022

22. The below table lists all deliverables, by category and subcategory, that are expected to contribute to the attainment of the objective stated above.

Table 1

Deliverables to be implemented in 2022 by category and subcategory

Del	Deliverables 2022		
A.	Facilitation of the intergovernmental process and expert bodies:		
Pa	rliamentary documentation (number of documents)	81	
1.	Documentation for Conference of European Statisticians	43	
2.	Documentation for expert bodies	38	
Substantive services for meetings (number of three-hour meetings)		85	
3.	Meetings of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau	13	
4.	Meetings of expert bodies	72	
B.	Generation and transfer of knowledge:		
Tec	chnical cooperation and field projects (number of projects)	1	

Deliverables		2022 plan
5.	Project on social and economic statistic	1
Sei	minars, workshops and training events (number of days)	6
6.	Workshops on social and economic statistics	3
7.	Workshops on innovating statistical production	3
Pu	blications (number of publications)	7
8.	Publications on topics covering multiple statistical areas	1
9.	Publications on social, environmental and economic statistics	6

C. Substantive deliverables:

Consultation, advice and advocacy: advisory services for more than 100 government officials (staff of national statistical systems) and other stakeholders of countries of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia and South-Eastern Europe on economic, social, demographic and environment statistics, statistics for the Sustainable Development Goals, geospatial statistics and institutional issues and modernization of official statistics (4 countries).

Databases and substantive digital materials: update and maintenance of ECE statistical databases (SDG, population and gender statistics database; economic statistics database; transport database; forestry database).

D. Communication deliverables:

Outreach programmes, special events and information materials: leaflets and other promotional materials.

External and media relations: articles for the "UNECE Weekly" and "EnvStats" newsletters for regional access.

Digital platforms and multimedia content: interactive digital workspaces (wikis, including the ECE census wiki); update and maintenance of the website of the subprogramme.

Annex I

Details of proposed publications and information materials for 2022

A. Publications

Item no.	Title	Mandate	Print and/or electronic	Trim size	No. of pages	Original language (s)	Translated language(s) and Source of funding (RB or XB)	No. of copies and language(s)
1	Statistical Modernisation Monograph	Mandate expected to be provided by the meeting of the CES in June 2021.	Print and electronic	A4	120	Е		500E
2.	Guidelines in Economic Statistics	Mandate expected to be provided by the meeting of the CES in June 2021.	Print and electronic	A4	150	Е	R (RB)	300E, 150R
3	Guidance on statistics on children and youth	Mandate expected to be provided by the meeting of the CES in June 2021.	Print and electronic	A4	212	Е	R (RB)	300E, 150R
4	Are UNECE countries going to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals?	Mandate expected to be provided by the meeting of the CES in June 2021.	Electronic		60	Е		
5	New data sources on migration and mobility	Mandate expected to be provided by the meeting of the CES in June 2021.	Electronic		212	Е		
6	Approaches to measuring social exclusion	Mandate expected to be provided by the meeting of the CES in June 2021.	Print and electronic	A4	106	Е		200E
7	Set of core indicators for measuring hazardous events and disasters	Mandate expected to be provided by the meeting of the CES in June 2021.	Print and electronic	A4	100	Е		300E
8	Revised Guidelines for the Application of Environmental Indicators (jointly with UNECE Environment Division)	Mandate expected to be provided by the meeting of the CES in June 2021.	Print and electronic	A4	200	Е	R (XB)	200E, 200R

Annex II

Legislative mandates

A. Overall ECE legislative mandates

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

Res No.	Title
66/288	The future we want
67/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Eurasian Economic Community
67/290	Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development
69/277	Political declaration on strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations
69/313	Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
70/1	Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
71/14	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization
71/16	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization
72/237	South-South Cooperation
72/279	Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
73/10	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Central European Initiative
73/195	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
74/122	Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
74/128	Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
74/144	Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: accessibility
74/216	Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development
74/231	Development cooperation with middle-income countries
74/235	Women in development
74/271	Progress towards an accountability system in the United Nations Secretariat
74/297	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system
74/306	Comprehensive and coordinated response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic
75/8	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development - GUAM
75/9	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Commonwealth of Independent States

75/12	Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization
75/216	Disaster risk reduction
75/221	Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
75/233	Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

Res No.	Title
1998/46	Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields
2006/38	Workplan on reform of the Economic Commission for Europe and revised terms of reference of the Commission
2013/1	Outcome of the review of the 2005 Reform of the Economic Commission for Europe

3. Economic Commission for Europe decisions

Res No.	Title
A (64)	The Work of the Economic Commission for Europe
A (65)	Outcome of the review of the 2005 reform of ECE
A (66)	Endorsement of the High-level statement on the post-2015 development agenda and expected sustainable development goals in the ECE region
A (68)	High-level statement
B (68)	Extension of the mandate of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

B. Legislative mandates specific to the subprogramme

1. Resolutions of the General Assembly

Res No.	Title
67/144	Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women
68/261	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
69/210	Entrepreneurship for development
69/282	World Statistics Day
72/234	Women in development
73/148	Intensification of efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls: sexual harassment

2. Resolutions of the Economic and Social Council

Res No.	Title
2006/6	Strengthening statistical capacity
2014/7	Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002
2015/10	2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme
2016/27	Strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management
2017/7	Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

2018/5	Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all
2018/7	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system
2020/5	Strengthening coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system

3. Economic and Social Council decisions

Res No.	Title
2013/235	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fourth session (Statistical Commission decision 44/105: Environment statistics)
2014/219	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth (Statistical Commission decision 45/101: Implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics)
2014/219	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session (Statistical Commission decision 45/103: Programme review: broader measures of progress)
2014/219	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-fifth session (Statistical Commission decision 45/110: Big data and modernization of statistical systems)
2015/216	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session (Statistical Commission decision 46/101: Data in support of the post-2015 development agenda
2015/216	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session (Statistical Commission decision 46/102: Population and housing censuses)
2015/216	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-sixth session (Statistical Commission decision 46/107: International trade and economic globalization statistics)
2016/220	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session (Statistical Commission decision 47/102: High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2016/220	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-seventh session (Statistical Commission decision 47/112: Climate change statistics)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/101: Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/103: Transformative agenda for official statistics)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/107: Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/108: Integration of statistical and geospatial information)
2017/228	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-eighth session (Statistical Commission decision 48/114: Business registers)
2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/101: Global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/102: Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/108: Regional statistical development)
2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/113: Climate change statistics)
2018/227	Report of the Statistical Commission on its forty-ninth session (Statistical Commission decision 49/114: Statistical classifications)
2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/101: Global indicator framework for the 2030 Agenda)

2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/103: Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)
2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/106: National quality assurance frameworks)
2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/116: Disaster-related statistics)
2019/210	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fiftieth session (Statistical Commission decision 50/117: International migration statistics)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/101: Global indicator framework for the 2030 Agenda)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/104: Coordination of statistical programmes)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/106: National accounts)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/107: International trade and business statistics)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/108: Price statistics)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/110: Environmental-economic accounting)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/112: Demographic statistics)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/115: Gender statistics)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/120: Management and modernization of statistical systems)
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (Statistical Commission decision 51/123: Integration of statistical and geospatial infor12mation)