Mr. Gogita Todradze, Executive Director of the National Statistics Office of Georgia
9th Session of Committee on Statistics UN ESCAP
Agenda Item 2: Harnessing the power of data to leave no one behind

Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my honor and great pleasure to address you on behalf of the National Statistics Office of Georgia (GEOSTAT).

Enhancing the capacity of NSOs and data systems, while ensuring access to high-quality, timely, reliable, and disaggregated data, remains a top priority for measuring progress toward our shared goals and ensuring no one is left behind.

A strong and well-coordinated NSS is essential for providing the data needed to monitor progress on SDG implementation, reflecting Georgia's commitment to Agenda 2030 for sustainable development.

Over the past few years, Georgia has achieved significant milestones in developing the NSS and implementing international standards and best practices.

We have established new standards, introduced advanced methodologies, conducted innovative surveys, and produced more disaggregated data. Our data collection and dissemination tools have seen substantial improvements, and since 2023, we have transitioned to a "Paperless Office," eliminating the use of paper questionnaires across all surveys.

In 2023, a GA (Strategic Review) of the NSS was conducted by UNECE, EFTA, and Eurostat. The primary objective of this assessment was to provide a comprehensive overview and situational analysis of the country's statistical landscape. It aimed to identify existing gaps within the system and offer recommendations on how to advance and ensuring proper implementation of the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

based on recommendations from Global Assessment, the Strategy of NSS for 2024-2027 was developed. The production of high-quality statistics, based on user needs, increasing trust, credibility and promoting the use of data for decision making are the priority areas upon which the -activities of Geostat will be based for the next four years.

Another major milestone was the adoption of the New Law on Official Statistics of Georgia in 2023. Fully aligned with the Generic Law on Official Statistics (GLOS) and the European Statistics Code of Practice.

I am also pleased to highlight the launch of the EU Twinning Project with Statistics Finland. This initiative represents another step toward strengthening Georgia's statistical system and addressing key objectives outlined in the EU Association Agreement and its action plan.

Currently, our focus is on the ongoing Population and Agricultural Census, which began on November 14 and will run until the end of December. For the first time in Georgia's history, census

data is being collected electronically, using a modern, two-stage approach: web-based self-reporting followed by CAPI using tablets.

I believe our experience could be insightful for some countries in the region.

In conclusion, I extend my sincere appreciation to UN ESCAP for its vital role in strengthening our statistical systems. The Government of Georgia remains committed to fostering strong partnerships and supporting the ESCAP Committee on Statistics in achieving its objectives.

We look forward to continuing collaboration with our international partners to enhance our statistical capabilities and ensure the provision of reliable and accurate data for informed decision-making and effective policy implementation.

Thank you for your attention!