Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Committee on Statistics, Ninth Session

Intervention Note

Agenda 4a: Progress made in implementing the decisions taken by the Committee at its Eighth Session

Statement by:

Singapore

Honourable Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen.

1. Singapore appreciates the progress made in implementing the decisions taken by the Committee on Statistics at the eight session and the ESCAP Secretariat's outstanding work in facilitating the implementation of these decisions.

2. Singapore commends the Secretariat's efforts in developing the data governance framework and for placing emphasis on sharing country experiences and facilitating provision of technical assistance. The country profiles based on the framework, are useful for national statistical offices to assess against other countries and refine their role in data governance in their own country. Aligned with efforts to cross share experiences, the Singapore Department of Statistics (DOS) shared on our data governance and stewardship framework in producing official statistics at the 'Conference on Data Governance and Integration for Maximum Development Impact' jointly organised by Statistics Korea and UNESCAP in September 2024. DOS has also shared on Singapore's data governance practice in ESCAP Stats Brief, March 2024 Issue on 'Data Governance: Practices in Asia and the Pacific'.

3. Singapore applauds the Secretariat's progress in providing technical support to help countries to improve and strengthen climate-change-related statistics in the Asia-Pacific region. DOS is currently developing the Energy Account and Environmental Goods and Services Sector accounts based on the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting to measure the Green Economy.

4. Lastly, Singapore supports the adoption of the draft decision to replace standing groups and communities of practice to more flexible, time-bound task teams. The set-up of dash teams in a rapidly changing environment with many cross-cutting issues is in line with how DOS is managing increasing demands for data, diverse data sources, and rapid technological changes. The continual re-prioritisation of work to reduce those that are less relevant, improves our officers' capacity to push ahead with new priority work. Cross-functional teams with the necessary knowledge, interest and authority are formed to work on specific projects, with a collaborative mindset and an agile approach.

Thank you.