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## Statistical Commission

### Fifty-sixth session

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Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Items for discussion and decision: national accounts**

## Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

### Note by the Secretary-General

In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2024/312 and past practices, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit the report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts, which is submitted to the Commission for discussion and decision.

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\* [E/CN.3/2025/1](#).



# Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

## I. Introduction

1. At its fifty-fifth session, held in New York from 27 February to 1 March 2024, the Statistical Commission adopted decision 55/107 (see [E/2024/24](#), chap. I.C), in which it:

(a) Endorsed the programmes of work for 2024 of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts and the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts;

(b) Commended the outreach activities to keep countries informed of the transparent process and the inclusive approach to seek the views of countries through global consultations on guidance notes, recommendations for the update of the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA) and draft chapters of the 2025 SNA;

(c) Commended the close collaboration between SNA and the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual* update teams to ensure full alignment between the recommendations of SNA and the *Manual* to the best extent possible;

(d) Endorsed the recommendations for the update of the 2008 SNA, except for the recommendation on marketing assets, and requested further research on the measurement of marketing assets in the post-2025 SNA research agenda;

(e) Noted the concerns of some Member States about the impact of selected recommendations, emphasized the importance of addressing conceptual uncertainties, and stressed the importance of continuing to develop implementation guidance on the new recommendations to facilitate the implementation of the 2025 SNA in an internationally comparable way;

(f) Welcomed the initiation of a work programme to develop guidance on the recommendations that have an impact on key national accounts aggregates and those that involve significant methodological challenges in implementation;

(g) Emphasized the need for capacity-building and funding for Member States with limited resources, including small island developing States, including those that have not yet implemented the 2008 SNA, to facilitate the implementation of SNA, and expressed its appreciation to international organizations and countries for providing the technical support for national account statistics in particular and economic statistics in general;

(h) Encouraged Member States to take ownership of developing strategies, including the mobilization of national resources, to facilitate the implementation of the 2025 SNA, noting that guidance thereon will be developed as part of the proposed 2025 SNA implementation strategy;

(i) Requested the timely translation of the 2025 SNA into the official languages of the United Nations;

(j) Encouraged the continued reporting on and evaluation of the availability and scope of official national accounts data reported by Member States, and noted the importance of quality data, including the availability of quarterly national accounts data, in support of international comparisons and a global understanding of the world economy.

2. Information on the work programme for the update of the 2008 SNA is set out in section II of the present report. The implementation of the 2025 SNA is presented

in section III. Section IV provides an overview of the activities on national accounts and supporting statistics of the Working Group and of the regional commissions. Section V contains an update of the scope and timeliness of the implementation of SNA at the country level. Points for discussion are set out in section VI.

## II. System of National Accounts 2025

3. The Commission, at its fifty-first session, in 2020, requested the Working Group to submit, for consideration by the Commission at its fifty-second session, in 2021, a road map for the revision of SNA for adoption by the Commission in 2025. The programme for the update of the 2008 SNA was endorsed by the Commission at its fifty-second session. The update is being overseen by the Working Group, assisted by the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts. The Working Group generally meets monthly to monitor progress. The project management reports submitted at those meetings and other information related to the project management of the update are available on the SNA update web page at <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/SNAUpdate/PM.asp>.

4. The SNA update team consists of a project manager and a lead editor, supported by the secretariat of the Working Group. The project manager assists the Working Group in coordinating the update. The lead editor oversees the drafting of the 2025 SNA, assisted by five supporting editors, all of whom have extensive national accounting experience.

5. An important feature of the update of the 2008 SNA is that it is being carried out in parallel to the update of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual*. This enables extensive collaboration with the IMF *Manual* update team. Collaborative efforts include joint work on the preparation of various forms of guidance and other types of issue notes, joint preparation of chapters that are relevant to both standards and joint efforts on outreach. The timetables for the two update processes are coordinated, and there are regular meetings between the two update teams.

6. The initial stages of the 2008 update process were focused on the preparation of guidance notes based on an initial list of issues identified in July 2020. Dedicated task teams were established to undertake the technical research and draft the guidance notes. Each guidance note went through the following key steps: (a) an initial draft was submitted to the Advisory Expert Group for approval for global consultation; (b) global consultation was undertaken; and (c) the guidance note was endorsed by the Advisory Expert Group for incorporation into the 2025 SNA. The Advisory Expert Group endorsed 68 guidance notes and other issue notes for publication. As many of the issues considered also had an impact on the *Manual*, the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics participated, where appropriate.

7. In 2023, a consolidated list of recommendations for the update of the 2008 SNA, drawn from the guidance notes and clarifications on a range of topics, was prepared. The consolidated list underwent global consultation and was endorsed by the Advisory Expert Group. An updated version was submitted to the Commission for endorsement at its fifty-fifth session in 2024. The Commission endorsed all the recommendations except for the recommendation on marketing assets; it requested further research on measurement in this area in the post-2025 SNA research agenda.

8. The chapter structure of the 2025 SNA, which is harmonized with that of the update of the *Manual*, was presented to the Commission in 2023. Initial work on drafting the 2025 SNA consisted of the development of annotated outlines, which were subjected to global consultation, for 16 chapters, which were either new or

revised extensively from the 2008 SNA versions. The drafting of these chapters commenced in mid-2023, building on the annotated outlines. Each chapter was reviewed by the Advisory Expert Group and the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics, where relevant, and also underwent global consultation. The Advisory Expert Group considered the feedback from the consultation, and updated versions of the chapters were prepared by the editorial team.

9. Drafting of the 23 chapters that are not new or substantially revised commenced in late-2023. As the drafting of those chapters involved fewer changes to the 2008 SNA, it was done on the existing SNA text using the track changes feature. The Advisory Expert Group was consulted on the drafting of those chapters.

10. In June 2024, a complete draft of the 2025 SNA was made available for global consultation. Given the size of the document, a significant period of about three months was allowed for consultation. As mentioned above, the 16 new or substantially revised chapters had already been subjected to global consultation separately, whereas the other 23 chapters were shown with tracked changes so that the changes made to the 2008 SNA could be clearly identified.

11. As the proposed changes for the SNA update had already been subjected to extensive review, the purpose of the global consultation on the full draft 2025 SNA was to ensure: (a) that the agreed recommendations had been incorporated correctly; (b) that material was presented in a way that could be clearly understood; and (c) that there were no errors or inconsistencies. There was a parallel global consultation process for the update of the *Manual*.

12. About 1,300 comments were received from 63 respondents to the global consultation. Thirty-one individual national statistical offices responded (multiple responses were received from some offices), of which 13 were from Europe, 13 from Asia, 4 from the Americas and 1 was from Africa. Eight international organizations responded, and there were also responses from some individuals. Several comments relating to joint chapters of the 2025 SNA and the seventh edition of the *Manual* chapters were also received from the consultation on the *Manual* update.

13. Most of the responses simply expressed agreement with the material presented and many useful comments were received that will make the 2025 SNA a better document. Some respondents sought detail beyond what would be appropriate for the SNA or requested specific compilation guidance, which will be provided in supporting materials. Some respondents raised issues that went beyond the mandate for the update of the 2008 SNA and those that are relevant have been added to the research agenda. A few respondents raised issues regarding the recommendations for changes to the 2008 SNA that had been endorsed by the Commission. It is, however, important to note that all recommendations had already undergone extensive discussion and global consultation, and no new issues were raised that would warrant a reconsideration of the recommendations.

14. The comments from the global consultation on the draft 2025 SNA were considered by the Advisory Expert Group at its meeting in October 2024. The IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics also considered the comments on the 2025 SNA that affected the seventh edition of the *Manual* at its meeting in November 2024. Following those meetings, the draft chapters were subsequently updated with generally minor changes.

15. In addition to the chapters, the 2025 SNA also contains five annexes. Work on preparing these commenced in the later part of 2024. As they are generally technical in nature, with one exception, they have not undergone global consultation, but rather have been prepared under the oversight of the Working Group and the Advisory Expert Group.

16. The sole exception relates to the annex setting out the post-2025 SNA research agenda, which has been drawn from a broader research agenda covering both SNA and the *Manual*. Following approval from the Advisory Expert Group and the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics, this joint research agenda underwent global consultation in December 2024, and annex 5 to the 2025 SNA incorporates the feedback from that consultation.

17. The 2025 SNA glossary is drawn from a master glossary of terms and definitions that has been compiled for both the 2025 SNA and the seventh edition of the *Manual*. The master glossary, approved by the Advisory Expert Group and the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics, harmonizes terms with those used in other macroeconomic statistics standards and was developed in collaboration with the relevant stakeholders.

18. A key feature of the 2025 SNA will be its availability in a digital format, in addition to the traditional paper version. Now that the content of the 2025 SNA has been established, work on developing the digital version will progress in 2025. For technical reasons and because of different institutional arrangements for the publication of the two standards, it is not possible to have a joint digital version of the 2025 SNA and the updated *Manual*. However, relevant text from the two publications will be shared to maximize consistency. A digital version of the glossary will be an essential component of the digital 2025 SNA and the seventh edition of the *Manual*.

19. The Working Group is pleased to present the 2025 SNA<sup>1</sup> for adoption by the Commission. Soon after adoption, the Working Group will make available an unedited white cover version in English on the project website so that producers and users of national accounts will have immediate access to the updated international statistical standard. This will be done simultaneously with the release by the IMF of the white cover version of the seventh edition of the *Manual*. Following the release of the white cover version, the Working Group will arrange for formal editing and translation into the official languages of the United Nations. As a precursor, the glossary will be translated. To expedite the translation and publication of the 2025 SNA, Member States are invited to provide monetary or in-kind contributions.

20. The 2025 SNA presented to the Commission for adoption is consistent with the recommendations for the update of the 2008 SNA approved by the Commission in 2024, apart from the selected specific issues listed below. These changes resulted from the request by the Commission to provide additional guidance on some conceptual and practical uncertainties. This has been addressed through the development of practical compilation guidance (on which more details are provided in section III.B). Compilation guidance includes recommendations based on best practices currently available, which ensure international comparability. The process of developing compilation guidance also allowed for the clarification of some conceptual aspects, in particular on the recording of natural resources, which have been incorporated into the 2025 SNA:

(a) Several minor changes were made to the recommendations on natural resources. The term “natural resources”, instead of “natural capital”, will be used in the integrated framework of national accounts. The distinction between cultivated and non-cultivated biological resources yielding once-only products has been modified slightly, by not setting this distinction on par with the distinction between migrating versus non-migrating resources. Furthermore, in the case of the regeneration of cultivated biological resources yielding once-only products, the regeneration of the

<sup>1</sup> Available as a background document on the web page of the fifty-sixth session of the Commission at <https://unstats.un.org/UNSDWebsite/statcom/documents/56>.

asset is now recorded as negative depletion and not as gross fixed capital formation. Lastly, some minor adjustments have been made to the breakdown of natural resources;

(b) Regarding the treatment of cash collateral, the 2025 SNA now provides guidance on the treatment of cash collateral other than cash margins for financial derivatives and the supply and receipt of cash under reverse transactions as being the same as that for cash margins for financial derivatives;

(c) The 2008 SNA treatment of the renewal of long-term leases of land under buildings has been adjusted. While in the 2008 SNA such renewals were recorded as gross capital formation and the acquisition of an asset (similar to costs of ownership transfer), it has now been agreed that these payments should be recorded as transactions in land;

(d) The calculation of interest on bonds issued at a premium or discount with regular coupon payments has been adjusted. In the 2025 SNA, the single effective interest rate approach is recommended as the preferred approach for calculating accrued interest on these bonds. The 2008 SNA approach, which separates the interest due on the discount and the interest due to the coupon, is noted as an acceptable alternative;

(e) Clarifications were made to the 2008 SNA treatment of negative equity and uncompensated asset seizures;

(f) Additional guidance was provided on crypto lending and related transactions.

21. All the changes and clarifications noted above were agreed to by the Advisory Expert Group and, where relevant, the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics, and none were considered significant enough to warrant further global consultation. However, based on feedback from the Advisory Expert Group, points on negative equity and crypto lending have been included on the post-2025 SNA research agenda for ongoing refinement.

### **III. Implementation of the System of National Accounts 2025**

#### **A. Implementation strategy**

22. A strategy for the implementation of the 2025 SNA has been developed, and is presented as a background document, for endorsement by the Commission. Reflecting the close collaboration in the update processes for the 2025 SNA and the seventh edition of the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual*, the strategy pertains to the implementation of both standards. The overall aim is for a coordinated implementation process with the desired outcome that all countries implement the standards within the same or similar time periods. The strategy proposes a target window of the years 2029 to 2030 for the implementation of both standards. It also acknowledges that other international statistical standards will be implemented within a similar time frame, such as the revised Central Product Classification and the revised International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities and possibly updated versions of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Central Framework and the IMF *Government Finance Statistics Manual*, and that the implementation of the 2025 SNA and the seventh edition of the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual* must be coordinated appropriately.

23. The strategy was developed under the guidance of the Advisory Expert Group and the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics and underwent global consultation in December 2024.

24. In the strategy, six aspects considered fundamental for implementing the 2025 SNA and the seventh edition of the *Manual* are set out: (a) a strategic approach; (b) communication and outreach, including advocacy; (c) training; (d) technical assistance; (e) preparing manuals and handbooks; and (f) ongoing research. To support these aspects, the strategy contains five proposed programme modalities: (a) planning, monitoring and evaluation; (b) assessment of country preparedness; (c) implementation stages; (d) timing of implementation; and (e) coordination and governance. The strategy also provides a model high-level plan for the implementation of the standards in countries, as well as a high-level plan for international statistical organizations to support countries in their implementation.

25. Key features for countries include: embedding the implementation of the standards into the strategic plans of responsible institutions; establishing appropriate government mechanisms within countries for a coordinated approach for implementing the standards; obtaining high-level support for implementation, including the necessary funding; engaging with key stakeholders and users; ensuring that staff are adequately trained; ensuring that the necessary technical and statistical infrastructure is in place; and ensuring that existing data sources are adapted to meet new information requirements or new data sources are identified, including novel or non-conventional sources.

26. Key activities for international organizations include: developing advocacy and other materials to support implementation; continuing to organize outreach events to assist countries with implementation; providing training, in particular online; identifying donor funding coordinating efforts to support technical assistance; continuing the development of handbooks and similar materials to provide compilation support; coordinating research on implementation issues as part of the broader post-2025 SNA research agenda; assisting countries in assessing their preparedness; providing countries with opportunities to share implementation plans and best practices; and developing appropriate mechanisms for monitoring progress. It is also important that international statistical organizations coordinate reporting requirements for statistics compiled on the basis of the updated standards.

27. As there will be a regional focus to many activities, the United Nations regional commissions will play a key role in supporting implementation.

28. It is proposed to use existing governance mechanisms to oversee and coordinate the global implementation of the 2025 SNA. The Working Group will oversee the implementation, assisted by the Advisory Expert Group. The Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat will have operational responsibility for coordination. There will be close cooperation with the IMF Statistics Department and the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics to ensure a coordinated approach to the implementation of the 2025 SNA and the seventh edition of the *Manual*, building on the close cooperation that has been a hallmark of the development of the updated standards.

29. An important initiative to support implementation is the compilers' hub, currently under development by IMF. It will be a repository for the range of reference materials available, as well as providing a portal for training materials and a platform for organizations to share experiences and collaborate on issues of interest. An important feature of the compilers' hub will be the ability to apply artificial intelligence to query reputable sources by providing a direct interface to the new standards and associated compilation guidance.

30. The Commission will be updated annually on implementation progress.

## **B. Development of implementation guidance**

31. A fundamental aspect of ensuring the successful implementation of the 2025 SNA is the development of practical implementation guidance. This was stressed by the Commission during its 2024 meeting.

32. It should be noted that a significant amount of material is already available to assist countries in implementation. For example, many of the guidance notes prepared as part of the update process provide implementation guidance and there are some handbooks already produced by international statistical organizations, in collaboration with country experts, that provide compilation advice on specific aspects of the 2025 SNA.

33. The current focus has been on developing compilation guidance in four priority areas: (a) data as an asset; (b) natural resources; (c) crypto assets; and (d) calculating the rate of return on capital in the estimation of non-market production. Progress has been made in those areas as follows:

(a) For data as an asset, a Eurostat-IMF task team has developed a Handbook on Measuring Data in the System of National Accounts. That Handbook is presented to the Commission for information as a background document;

(b) For natural resources, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, with the assistance of an expert group, is preparing a guide entitled “Measuring natural resources in the national accounts: a compilation guide”. An interim version of the guide is presented to the Commission for information as a background document. Following global consultation on the guide during 2025, it will be finalized by the end of 2025;

(c) For crypto assets, IMF is developing compilation guidance, which is expected to be finalized by mid-2025;

(d) For calculating the rate of return on capital in the estimation of non-market production, guidance has been developed and is presented to the Commission for information as a background document. That guidance was subjected to global consultation.

34. In addition, an IMF task team is developing guidance on measuring knowledge-based capital (marketing assets). While the Commission did not support including these assets within the asset boundary of the integrated framework of national accounts at this time, several countries have expressed a strong desire to develop extended accounts that treat marketing assets as produced assets. The guidance is consistent with the Commission’s request that further research be undertaken on measurement issues in this area and is expected to be finalized in early 2026.

35. During 2025 and into 2026, attention will be given to developing guidance in other areas where it will be helpful to support implementation, such as improving the visibility of artificial intelligence in SNA, measuring cloud computing, incorporating digital intermediation platforms into SNA, recording and valuing “free” products.

36. It is important to ensure that guidance supporting the implementation of the 2025 SNA is easily accessible. In this regard, a “guide to the guidance” will be developed in the coming months, so that compilers are aware of all available guidance. That “guide to the guidance” will take the form of an electronic document that will be updated as new information becomes available. It will be hosted on the compilers’ hub.



## C. Outreach

37. During 2024, there were several events to keep countries informed of the update process and receive feedback. These included a meeting of the Group of Experts on National Accounts of the Economic Commission for Europe, which was focused on issues associated with the update; the Conference of European Statisticians, which looked at implementation issues; a Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments Statistics workshop on the review of international standards; and a conference of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development on national economic and financial accounts, of which a substantial part was devoted to discussion on update issues.

38. In the lead-up to the fifty-fifth session of Commission, a presentation on the SNA update was made at a high-level webinar entitled “Beyond GDP”. This provided a good opportunity to inform chief statisticians – the target audience of the webinar – of how SNA can contribute to an understanding of well-being and its sustainability, and how the proposed changes will enhance this. In addition, presentations on the SNA update were made to the European Central Bank Working Group on Financial Accounts and Government Finance Statistics.

39. A regional programme of online seminars aimed at explaining the proposed changes and clarifications commenced in December 2023 and concluded in April 2024. The updates of both SNA and the *Manual* were presented jointly with the *Manual* update team. The programme covered Arab States (co-hosted with the Arab Monetary Fund), Central Asian countries (co-hosted with the Caucasus, Central Asia and Mongolia Regional Capacity Development Centre), Non-European Union European countries (co-hosted with the Economic Commission for Europe), European Union countries (co-hosted with the European Central Bank and Eurostat), Asian countries (co-hosted with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific), Pacific countries (co-hosted with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific) and African countries (co-hosted with the Economic Commission for Africa). The target audience was national accounts and balance-of-payments compilers. In addition, presentations on the SNA update were made to the annual national accounts meetings of: the African Group on National Accounts, organized by the African Union Institute for Statistics in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa; and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

40. Two articles relating to the update were issued in *SNA News and Notes* during 2024: one on progress made in the update process and the other on the development of compilation guidance.

41. Continued outreach is an important component of the 2025 SNA implementation strategy described above. A high-level webinar on the 2025 SNA will be held in January 2025 as a side event during the fifty-sixth session of the Commission. A round of outreach events, starting later in 2025, will include high-level events and regional seminars involving senior officials and national accounts and balance-of-payments compilers, at which the broad strategy for implementation will be discussed and support needs identified.

42. To support outreach, easy-to-read and accessible guides on the 2025 SNA and the changes since the 2008 SNA will be developed as a priority in the upcoming months.

## D. Post-2025 System of National Accounts research agenda

43. A consolidated list of SNA research issues was developed for the update of the 2008 SNA based on issues under discussion by the Advisory Expert Group, the list of issues presented in annex IV to the 2008 SNA, and the research agendas related to balance-of-payments statistics, government finance statistics, environmental-economic accounting, and trade and business statistics.

44. In an assessment presented to the Commission at its fifty-third session, potential issues were identified that could be included in the post-2025 SNA research agenda. In the process of drafting the 2025 SNA chapters and reflecting on the comments received during the global consultation, additional issues for the post-2025 SNA research agenda were identified. Continuing with the excellent cooperation between the SNA and *Manual* update teams, it is proposed to have a joint SNA-*Manual* forward-looking research agenda.

45. The full list of SNA-*Manual* post-2025 research agenda items was subjected to a global consultation. Annex 5 to the draft 2025 SNA contains the research agenda approved by the Advisory Expert Group after incorporating feedback from that process. While new issues could still arise, the objective of annex 5 is to list those that have emerged but could not be feasibly resolved in the course of the present update. Some may result in greater clarification on specific issues rather than changes to SNA. The list of research issues will be published on the Statistics Division website and updated as new items emerge and recommendations on existing items are finalized.

46. It is expected that priorities for resolving SNA research issues will be set in accordance with the principles for identifying issues for consideration, as set out in the update procedures established by the Commission. Those principles are guided by three key questions: (a) how urgent and important the topic is to ensure the continued relevance of SNA to users; (b) how widespread the consequences of the change would be and how complicated implementation would be; and (c) whether the topic is completely new or whether much of the preparation for considering the item has been completed. The process of selecting items for investigation will involve broad consultation and engage the involvement of both compilers and users in the review process.

47. At its fifty-first session, in 2020, the Commission endorsed the option of a continuous SNA revision cycle that provides for the drafting of guidance notes on emerging research issues for experimentation by both developed and developing countries. The elements of the continuous SNA revision cycle are:

(a) Once priority areas have been identified, dedicated task teams would be established to develop issue notes to provide summaries of existing research related to the issue, lay out various options and provide the basis for developing a consensus recommendation;

(b) The consensus recommendation would be reflected in a guidance note endorsed in accordance with the consultation procedure adopted by the Commission for SNA updates;

(c) As part of the consultation process, countries would be encouraged to develop experimental estimates following the release of the guidance notes. Experimental estimates prior to the adoption of the recommended changes would serve two purposes. First, they would allow compilers to test the practical implications; and, second, they would put fit-for-purpose information in the hands of data users as soon as possible;

(d) Once a critical mass of guidance notes has been endorsed, a new version of SNA could be considered;

(e) A key benefit of the approach is that once the new version has been adopted, countries would have the experience to implement the new recommendations.

48. Following the successful coordinated update programmes for SNA and the *Manual*, the Advisory Expert Group, at its meeting in October 2024, considered a proposal for maintaining and updating international macroeconomic statistical standards. Those standards include SNA, the *Balance of Payments and International Investment Position Manual*, the *Government Finance Statistics Manual*, the *Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual*, the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting and the *Consumer Price Index Manual*, which are used by countries to produce macroeconomic and environmental-economic accounts and statistics. The aim is to: (a) improve the relevance of international macroeconomic statistical standards by ensuring that they reflect current economic developments; (b) improve the timing and sequencing of updates across the international macroeconomic statistical standards to ensure consistency and comparability over time; and (c) improve the efficiency of the update process and the implementation of the updated standards. The Advisory Expert Group advised that an updated version of the proposal be subjected to further consultation and subsequent consideration by respective governing bodies of the individual standards.

#### **IV. Work programmes of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts and of the regional commissions**

49. The Working Group and the regional commissions continue to support the implementation of SNA and other internationally agreed standards in economic statistics in accordance with the global implementation programme of SNA and supporting statistics. In that regard, the activities undertaken cover various aspects of the statistical production process for national accounts, as reflected in the various training workshops and seminars organized. A summary of activities related to economic statistics and national accounts undertaken in 2024 and to be undertaken in 2025 by the Working Group and the regional commissions is provided in a background document.

#### **V. Reporting of annual national accounts data**

50. In accordance with a request of the Commission, the Statistics Division regularly evaluates the conceptual compliance of official national accounts data, reported by Member States to the Statistics Division, with the recommendations of the System of National Accounts. In addition, the availability and scope of the national accounts data are also evaluated. Although the need for quarterly national accounts to facilitate appropriate policy responses is recognized, only about 110 Member States are compiling national accounts data on a quarterly basis; the report is therefore based on only the annual data. The outcome of the assessment, based on replies to the United Nations national accounts questionnaire for the last five reporting periods, that is, in the period from 2019 to 2023, is provided in a background document.

## **VI. Action to be taken by the Statistical Commission**

51. The Commission is invited:

(a) To adopt the 2025 SNA as the updated international statistical standard for national accounts statistics, as presented in section II above;

(b) To endorse the proposed 2025 SNA implementation strategy as presented in section III above;

(c) To express its views on the work programmes of the Working Group and of the regional commissions, as presented in section IV above;

(d) To express its views on the reporting of annual national accounts data, as presented in section V above.

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