



INDIA
भारत

Statement by

Mr. Pravin Srivastava, Chief Statistician of India cum Secretary,
Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

at

Fifty first Session of UN Statistical Commission Discussion on
Agenda 3(a): Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development

New York

March 3, 2020

Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, 235 East, 43rd Street,
New York 10017.

Chairman and Distinguished Colleagues,

It is an honour and privilege for me to participate in the 51st Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission and to share India's views.

At the very outset, we would like to place on record our deep appreciation for the UNSD and Inter-Agency and Expert Group for Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG) towards their efforts for improvement of global indicator framework including tier classification updates, the 2020 comprehensive review of the global indicator framework for the SDGs. Their works on proposed replacement indicators, revisions to existing indicators and proposal for additional indicators are commendable.

Mr. Chairman,

UNSD, in partnership with Custodian Agencies (CAs), are continuously working on development of methodologies and assisting NSOs in compilation of data for the SDGs. However, there still exist a good number of indicators which are difficult to compute for large economies. Further these methodologies are often pilot tested in smaller countries and are not directly scalable in large countries which have different limitations in their data systems as also technical capacities. UNSD may like to address these issues as well.

Mr. Chairman,

As mentioned in 50th Session, we reiterate our stand to extend India's support for the 2020 comprehensive review. Further both the proxy indicators and additional indicators need to be relevant to the target; have clear methodology and standards; and satisfy the criteria of Tier-I indicator.

Mr. Chairman,

In order to ensure availability of timely data on SDGs, which are internationally comparable, India recommends the development of guidelines and training modules which will facilitate the adoption of SDMX-based data and metadata exchanges by countries and CAs.

Mr. Chairman,

India has been member of the IAEG-SDGs representing South Asia since the beginning. Presently, India participates as an observer in proceedings of the Group. India's request for renewal of membership on the IAEG-SDGs is reiterated. India also seeks to be represented as a member on various expert/technical groups, task teams, working committees etc. constituted by UNSC for revolving and finalising statistical standards so that the diversities in developing economies is adequately captured.

Thank you Chair.
