9th SESSION OF STATISTICAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Unleashing the potential of African innovation in statistical development

UN ECA

Document E/ECA/STATCOM/9/2024/8

Progress report on the implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts and related statistical systems in Africa

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30 October – 1 November 2024
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Introduction

- The report aims to cover the progress in implementing the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA) in Africa, and

- Related statistics:

    - Rebasing Gross Domestic Product (GDP rebasing)

    - The 2025 System of National Accounts (2025 SNA)

    - Quarterly National Accounts (Quarterly GDP)

    - System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)

    - International Comparison Programme (ICP)

    - Price Statistics and Alternative Approaches to Consumer Price Index Data Collection (CPI)

    - Compilation of Supply and Use Tables and Trade in Value Added Statistics (TiVA)

Key messages and results

- 95% of African countries have either adopted or are in the process of adopting the 2008 SNA. This is significant compared with the last round, where only 20% of African countries adopted the 1993 SNA (in 2005)*.

- Significant strides have been made in updating GDP base years and integrating modern practices into national accounts.

- African countries have begun preparations for testing and adopting the upcoming 2025 SNA.

- Ongoing efforts to implement the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) in 21 African countries, with expansion plans.

- Capacity-building workshops, technical assistance missions, and regional cooperation have been vital for advancing SNA and related systems.

- Notable initiatives include training seminars on backcasting methodologies and supporting missions for supply-use tables and TiVA indicators.

Points for discussion by the Statistical Commission for Africa

1. How can international organizations and regional bodies better support the remaining African countries that have not yet fully adopted the 2008 SNA?

2. How can African countries be encouraged to actively participate in the testing and experimental implementation of the forthcoming 2025 SNA?

3. What are the key steps for ensuring that African countries also adopt updates to related frameworks such as the Balance of Payments, 2025 SNA, and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA)?

4. How can countries optimize supply-use tables and TiVA indicators for compiling and analyzing regional and global value chains, particularly in support of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)?

5. What role can AI and machine learning play in improving the production, dissemination, and capacity-building activities related to the SNA and SEEA? How can African statistical systems adapt their frameworks to integrate these technologies better?

6. How can regional cooperation be strengthened to facilitate knowledge sharing and capacity-building for the continued implementation of the 2008 SNA and the upcoming 2025 SNA?

Thank You