



United Nations  
Economic Commission for Africa



## Fifty-seventh session of the Economic Commission for Africa: Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

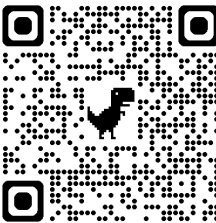
Advancing the implementation of the Agreement Establishing the African Continental Free Trade Area:  
proposing transformative strategic actions  
12 March, 2025 18 March, 2025  
Addis Ababa

# Report of the Statistical Commission for Africa on the work of its ninth session

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# Overview of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Statistical Commission for Africa



## 9<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF STATISTICAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Unleashing the  
potential of African  
innovation in statistical  
development

### • StatCom | Facts and Numbers

- ❖ Tenth Session of UN-GGIM: Africa
- ❖ Eleventh FASDEV (Forum on Statistical Dev.)
- ❖ Fourth Forum on Disaster-related Statistics
- ❖ 14 Side-events
- ❖ 10 statutory reports discussed

### • Attendance

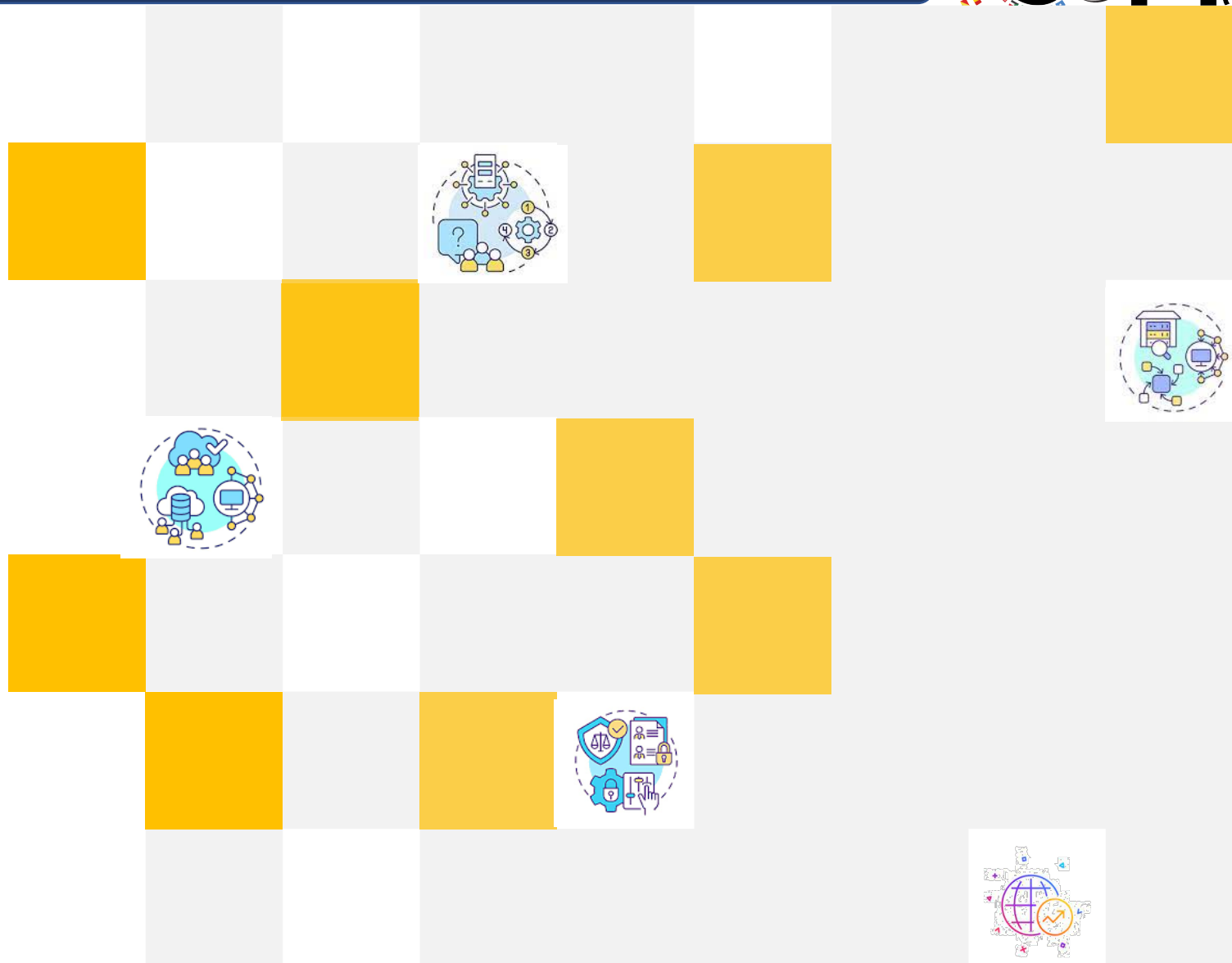
- ❖ Delegates from 48 African Member States
- ❖ Observers from 6 other UN Member States
- ❖ 12 UN System entities
- ❖ 45 global, regional organizations, Partners
- ❖ 399 in-person participants.



# Why a statistical commission matters



The **Statistical Commission for Africa** is the highest decision-making body in Africa and is responsible for setting statistical standards and promoting the adoption of best practice in data and statistical concepts and methods. It supports the implementation of those standards, concepts and methods at the national, sub-regional and regional levels. It also ensure a coordinated effort and synergies between global and regional statistical development initiatives.



# Key Issues Tackled

1



### Data Governance

We still lacking a cooperative management of data in many countries, with an underlying competition for power among institutions. We then need a strong institutional arrangement within the national data ecosystem.

2



### Data usability (Data for Good)

The power of data and emerging technology can allow African governments to make informed decisions. How do we harness the enabling capabilities of emerging technologies such as AI? How do we translate complex cycle of data acquisition, processing, analysis, visualization and decision making into real time planning, management and monitoring processes.

3



### Data omnipresence (Data Ubiquitousness)

Data is not always available for the wider community of users. How do we make our societies statistically enabled so that planning, delivering and exploiting process can access statistical data seamlessly – without additional effort.

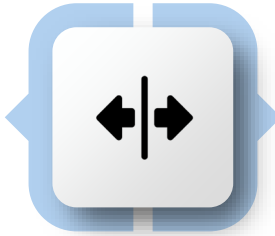
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### Capacity development

Adequate and skilled human capital is not always available in African statistical systems for them to be able to produce quality statistics for evidence-based policy-making.

5



### Modernization and transformation of statistical systems

How African countries can embrace the development of new technologies (such as artificial intelligence) and new data sources, and the emergence of new priorities in the national, regional and international development agendas.

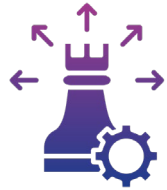
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### Methodological Challenges

Inadequate Methodologies: Statistical methods often do not reflect African realities, leading to data that may not accurately represent local conditions.

# Key conclusions and recommendations of the StatCom



## Strategy development

Member States to continue developing strategies for statistical capacity sustainability

Member States to adopt the strategic pathways for the modernization of geospatial information in Africa



## Financial support

Development partners to continue providing financial support for the African statistical system

ECA to assist in determining innovative funding mechanisms



## Technical support

ECA, UN and partners to provide technical support, trainings, and assistance on various statistical domains of applicability including: 2025 SNA, Geospatial information Management, gender, 2030 Round of Censuses, CRVS and Digital Identity, The monitoring and tracking of the SDGs, and emerging technologies.

## Partnership & Collaboration

Strengthen the collaboration between all parties of national data ecosystem in the areas of statistics and geospatial information.



# Key messages of the StatCom



## Leverage technologies, innovation to transform national statistical systems

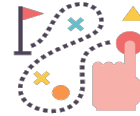
- ❖ Incorporating innovative technologies, new data sources, Artificial intelligence
- ❖ Cocreation with a wide array of stakeholders : universities, private sectors, CSOs, etc.



## Mobilize sustainable national resources

To support the transformation and modernization of national statistical systems in the actual context of scarcity of international funding.

## Enhance strategic planning



- ❖ Continue to align national statistical strategies with the national development plans and budgeting processes.



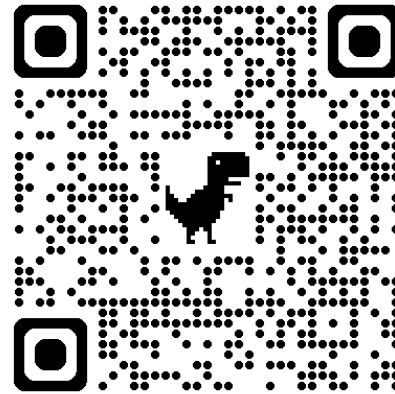
## Prepare for the 2030 Round of PHC and 2025 SNA

- ❖ Implementation of the 2025 System of National Accounts
- ❖ Increase participation in the current round of census (2025-2034)



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<https://www.uneca.org/eca-events/cfm2025>

Ideas  
+ Action