Draft resolution on data and statistics

The Conference of Ministers,

Recognizing the importance of transforming and modernizing national statistical systems to support the development process adequately and respond to official statistics and data needs for planning and decision-making and monitoring of progress towards achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union, and national development plans,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 71/313, in which the Assembly welcomed the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data, which provides the framework for discussion, planning, implementation and evaluation of statistical capacity-building pertaining to the 2030 Agenda, with a focus on the modernization of national statistical systems,

Taking note of the progress made on the transformation and modernization of national statistical systems in Africa and appreciating outputs and deliverables produced to date,

Noting that several countries are undertaking digital censuses in the current 2020 round of the population and housing census, which runs from 2015 to 2024, with support from the Economic Commission for Africa and partners,

Acknowledging the need to use new data source and alternative methods of data collection, leveraging technological progress, to respond to the need for data in monitoring progress towards achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda, Agenda 2063 and subregional and national development plans,

1. Calls upon member States to continue to support work on the transformation and modernization of official statistics by the African group created by the Statistical Commission for Africa of the Economic Commission for Africa and comprising heads of national statistical offices in Africa, and to adopt and implement a national statistical system transformation and modernization road map;

2. Calls upon pan-African organizations and partners to steer and coordinate their support towards modernizing national statistical systems;
3. **Urges** member States to devote adequate financial resources to building modern statistical systems that adequately respond to official statistics and data need for planning and decision-making;

4. **Calls upon** Governments, entities of the United Nations system and development partners to provide financial, material and technical support to member States that have not undertaken a census in the 2020 round to undertake censuses before the end of the 2020 round in 2024 and to support the implementation of the fully technologically driven censuses in Africa during the 2030 round (2025–2034);

5. **Requests** the Economic Commission for Africa, working with other key regional partners, including the African Union Commission and the African Development Bank, to continue its support for the Commission’s member States in strengthening the capacity of their statistical and data systems.