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**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**  
Committee on Statistics

**Fourth session**

Bangkok, 25-27 March 2015

Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

**Strategic direction of the Committee on Statistics**

**A world that counts: mobilizing the data revolution for sustainable development\*\* — report of the Secretary-General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development\*\*\***

*Summary*

The Secretary-General's Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development, consisting of more than 20 international experts, has been convened to improve data for achieving and monitoring sustainable development. The report of the Independent Advisory Group highlights two big global challenges for the current state of data: firstly, data not being available when they are needed; and, secondly, unequal access to high-quality, timely data.

The report of the Independent Advisory Group contains specific recommendations on how to address these challenges, calling for a United Nations-led effort to mobilize the data revolution for sustainable development by: fostering and promoting innovation to fill data gaps; mobilizing resources to overcome inequalities between developed and developing countries and between data-poor and data-rich people; and improving leadership and coordination to enable the data revolution to play its full role in the realization of sustainable development.

The recommendations of the Advisory Group were integrated into the synthesis report of the Secretary-General on the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

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\* E/ESCAP/CST(4)/L.1.

\*\* Available from [www.undatarevolution.org/report](http://www.undatarevolution.org/report).

\*\*\* This document has been issued without formal editing.