1. The Statistical Register (SR) in the Republic of Belarus is one of the most important and efficient statistical tools, a key source of metadata, a basis of statistical production.

The main functions and uses of the SR are:
- ensuring complete recording and identification of respondents and statistical units (SU),
- organizing and conducting statistical surveys,
- ensuring compilation of official statistical information,
- allowing for statistical analysis for comparable range of units,
- ensuring interaction with administrative data sources and others.

Since the beginning of 2013 our SR has consisted of two parts – an administrative part which contains legal units, and a statistical part which contains SUs.

The administrative part is based on the regulatory framework of Belarus and contains all legal units existing in administrative registers, while the statistical one contains all units necessary to conduct surveys as well as all characteristics of SUs necessary for organizing and conducting statistical surveys and compilation of official statistical information.

2. The administrative part serves to link with administrative data sources which are used for updating the SR and contain information of registration authorities on the state registration, reorganisation or liquidation (cessation of activity) of legal entities, information on founders (partners, owners of the property), on changes of constituent documents of legal entities, etc.

In fact, we maintain the administrative part of the SR to interact with external registers, databases of various state authorities and organisations (Ministry of Justice, Ministry for Taxes and Duties, Ministry of Economy, State Property Committee, etc.).
The objects of the administrative part of the SR are:
- officially registered legal entities of Belarus,
- separate subdivisions of legal entities of Belarus,
- representative offices of foreign organisations located in the territory of Belarus,
- simple partnerships.

The administrative part of the SR is the main source of updating of the statistical part (a smaller part of updates are made on the basis of statistical surveys), and the uniform source of all administrative data for updating of the statistical part.

3. The statistical part of the SR has been created as a component of the subsystem of metadata base within the framework of the Integrated Information System of State Statistics (IISSS) which implements the maintenance of SUs.

To carry out statistical surveys we use the following types of SUs:
- **Enterprise**, which is a SU corresponding to the smallest legal unit which carries out economic activity and enjoys a definite independence in decision taking;
- **Asset holder**, which is a SU corresponding to enterprise or its part which has a geographically defined location, carries out one or several economic activities, and authorized to compile a separate system of indicators reflecting its property and financial standing. This SU type is nationally specific for Belarus;
- **Local unit**, which is a SU corresponding to asset holder or its part which has a geographically defined location and carries out one or several economic activities.

A multi-level linear relation is established between the SU types. This dependence means that:
- each SU of lower level should belong only to one SU of the respective upper level;
- each SU of the “Enterprise” type always has at least one SU of the “Asset holder” type;
- each SU of the “Asset holder” type always has at least one SU of the “Local unit” type.

At the same time, any **asset holder** should belong only to one respective **enterprise**, while the **enterprise** can have one or several **asset holders**.

This dependence looks as follows:

```
Enterprise

Asset holder

Local unit
```

The links between different types of SUs represent a tree-type hierarchy in which any unit may have any number of subordinates, but itself is subordinated only to one unit.
The hierarchy of SUs can be simple or ramified. 

**The simple hierarchy of SUs** is the case when each subordinating SU has only one subordinate SU, and they have identical SU code:

```
E 1  
A 1  
L 1  
```

(E – enterprise, A – asset holder, L – local unit).

A legal entity from the administrative part of the SR which does not have any separate subdivisions (simple structure) exactly fits into this SU sequence of the simple hierarchy in the statistical part, where all three SUs have identical code and characteristics, but different SU types.

In this case three SUs of different types are necessary for the simple legal entity so that this legal entity could be surveyed by any statistical domains, the experts of which will conduct their statistical surveys using the units of only one of the three SU types.

**The ramified hierarchy of SUs** is the case when a SU itself and/or any of its directly subordinated SUs have more than one subordinate SU, for example:

```
E 1  
A 1  
L 1  
```

(E – enterprise, A – asset holder, L – local unit).

A complex legal entity (having separate subdivisions) fits in the SU sequence of the ramified hierarchy in the statistical part of the SR.
4. Both parts of the SR are interrelated. Relations and rules according to which SUs are included and updated are established between each of the objects of the administrative part (legal units) and SUs of the statistical part.

The software for updates of the statistical part of the SR uses the following correspondence between the objects of the administrative part and SU types:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object of the administrative part of the SR</th>
<th>Upper level of the SU type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>legal entities</td>
<td>enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>separate subdivisions having separate balance</td>
<td>asset holder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>separate subdivisions which do not have separate balance</td>
<td>local unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>representative offices of foreign organisations</td>
<td>enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>simple partnerships</td>
<td>enterprise</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. As I noted before, SUs of only one type (enterprises only, asset holders only, or local units only) can be used as units for each individual survey.

For example, the table below contains statistical surveys that are conducted on the certain SU type:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistical survey</th>
<th>SU type for statistical survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>foreign investment</td>
<td>enterprise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finance statistics</td>
<td>asset holder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>labour statistics</td>
<td>local unit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

That is to say, any object of the administrative part of the SR can be covered by any statistical survey which will use SUs of the certain type corresponding to this object.
If statistical analysis is required for a comparable range of units, the links between units and aggregation procedures of statistical values to a higher level of SU are used.

For example, to analyse the number of employees and revenue from sales (or other financial indicators) for a comparable range of units, the number of employees for each local unit is aggregated to the corresponding asset holder, and so on.

6. In conclusion I would like to note that the existing organisation of the SR in Belarus can be viewed as a further iteration of the development of the statistical information system which implies centralization of the maintenance of information about the objects of statistical surveys and metadata necessary for organizing and conducting statistical surveys.

With that, in the short term additional analysis will be needed for the issues related to the establishment of business process for conducting statistical surveys in general, beginning from planning stages up to dissemination of official statistical information taking into account the centralized model of metadata management and interrelations of microdata with information of the SR.