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Now that your final retirement date comes close, I want to join the colleagues who wrote to you and to thank you for everything.

You have led the Statistics Division at ESCWA with vision and determination. Together we built a strong and trusted relation with the Statistical Offices in Arab Countries, worked closely with the UN statistical departments and defended the role of official statistics, your team and the UN ethical values despite difficulties that come with that. We were proud of you, when you stood at the podium to give an opening statement, you were always prepared and astonished us with your attention to the details.

Most of us owe you. I admired how much genuine respect and care you showed to all staff at ESCWA. You showed us the UN values every day, and we learned a lot from you.

Time to enjoy your time with your family and friends at home.