FAOSTAT Forest Product Production Statistics – Data Structure

Question: What are the most important attributes of a flagging system for aggregated values?

1. Aggregation across types of wood (coniferous / non-coniferous) within a product type.
2. Aggregation across product types.
3. Aggregation across countries – Currently labeled as "Aggregate, may include official, semi-official, estimated or calculated data"

https://www.fao.org/forestry/49962-0f43c0da7039a611aa884b3c6c642f4ac.pdf

Types of Solutions	Pros	Cons
If an item is aggregated (official, estimated etc.), flag as aggregated.	Maximally transparent; forces data user to investigate components and develop custom solution.	Adds an additional flag not in SDMX; forces custom solutions that may not be comparable across data streams, organizations, or analyses.
If an item has any estimated values, flag as estimated.	Conservative, in that only fully official data are labeled as such.	Information submitted officially is labeled as an estimate; dataset appears less reliable than it is.
If an item has any official values, flag as official.	Data set looks maximally reliable.	Sources of uncertainty are hidden; information not submitted officially is flagged as official.
Use a threshold (e.g., 67%) to determine flag as estimated or official.	Compromise approach; in-line with some other national organizations.	The flag itself depends on the accuracy of the data estimation; threshold is arbitrary; Information submitted officially is labeled as an estimate; sources of uncertainty are hidden; information not submitted officially is flagged as official.
Other …		