

ACC SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES
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ISSUES RELATED TO THE WORK OF THE TASK FORCES AND
INTERSECRETARIAT WORKING GROUPS

TASK FORCE ON NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

Report on coordination issues by the Inter-Secretariat Working
Group (ISWGNA), Convener of the Task Force

1. The ISWGNA meets twice annually to coordinate issues related to the implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts (1993 SNA).
2. The members of the working group are IMF, EUROSTAT, OECD, World Bank and the UN secretariat, represented by UNSD and the Regional Commissions. In addition the Working Group is in close contact with other specialized agencies, inter-secretariat groups and city groups, insofar as the work of these organizations relates to the area of national accounting.
3. The ISWGNA has a rotating chair, that changes in March of each year right after the Statistical Commission session. The current chair is the World Bank. In addition, the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) acts as permanent Secretariat of the Working Group.
4. The ISWGNA has also been entrusted by the Statistical Commission with keeping the 1993 SNA up-to-date according to a well defined process endorsed by the Statistical Commission. Accordingly at present two concrete proposals for updates are being considered by the ISWGNA: (1) the treatment of financial derivatives and (2) the revision of chapter 18 relating to functional classifications.
5. Regarding further proposals on methodological revisions, the ISWGNA has created 3 electronic discussion groups, in order to engage experts around the world in a broadly based debate.
6. There are at this point no further outstanding issues on co-ordination.
7. The report of the last meeting of the ISWGNA (Washington, 15/16 April 1999) is being distributed as background material. The next meeting of the ISWGNA will take place in Paris on 16/17 September 1999.