

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE THIRTIETH SESSION

Report of the Bureau Meeting
New York, 9 May 1996

1. The Bureau met on 9 May 1996, immediately after the thirtieth session of the Subcommittee, to initiate action on the tasks assigned to it by the Subcommittee during that session. Bureau took the following actions:

- (a) Policy on provision of copies to other organizations of methodological publications in more than one language, where available

2. Following the agreement reached during the thirtieth session, "that each organization should provide one free copy of each statistical methodological publication to other members of the Subcommittee on request and provide additional copies at normal prices" the Bureau decided to recommend to the Subcommittee, "that each organization should also provide one free copy of any available language version of their statistical methodological publications to other members of the Subcommittee on request". The Bureau noted that the latter recommendation, like the former, if accepted by the Subcommittee, would not prevent organizations from having a more generous approach.

(A) Need SCHe acceptance

- (b) The statistics part of the ACC Programme Classification

3. The Bureau decided to take up this issue when ILO, ESCAP and ISI provided the revised draft proposal that the Subcommittee had requested them to prepare. - done at Bureau Feb 97

- (c) Further development of the coordination tools and how to make them available

4. The Bureau decided to take up this issue when UNSD provided the proposals that the Subcommittee had requested it to prepare. done at Bureau Feb 97

- (d) Integrated presentation of work programmes

5. The Bureau welcomed an offer from the IMF to prepare a "first cut" of an integrated presentation, which would be discussed with UNSD, and which would be the basis for a proposal to be jointly developed by the two organizations, for consideration by the Bureau at its next session. The "first cut" would be derived from the ECE/OECD/EUROSTAT integrated

presentation, with appropriate additions, deletions and modifications aimed at meeting the needs of the Statistical Commission, which would be the primary client for the product. The aim is to provide the Commission with an overall view, a "vista", and not to concentrate on the details of organizations plans, such as their plans for meetings.

done at Bureau Feb 97

- (e) Coordination issues arising from implementation of the Special Standard and development of the General Standard

6. The Bureau considered that the basic tasks included coordination of the work on implementation and further development of the IMF Special Data Dissemination Standard, development of the IMF General Data Dissemination Standard, the application and further development of the UNSD Common Code of Statistical Practice in the United Nations System, and the development of the code of best practice for official statistics being developed by a Voorburg-type group in the context of work on critical issues in economic statistics. A review was needed to see what should be done in terms of coordination. The Bureau decided to consider the matter at its next meeting, on the basis of the report that the Subcommittee had requested IMF to prepare, and information from UNSD on developments related to the Common Code.

done at Bureau Feb 97

- (f) Identify any coordination problems in coordination of the follow-up of statistical implications of recent major United Nations conferences

7. The Bureau agreed that the best approach would be to see what work will be done internationally in the coming year, see if coordination problems are involved, and consider any appropriate action at the next meeting of the Bureau. The Bureau noted the coordination mechanisms that had been put in place by the ACC (groups on Basic Social Services for All, led by UNFPA; Employment and Sustainable Livelihoods, led by ILO; and the Enabling Environment for Social and Economic Development, led by the World Bank, (with a subgroup on Statistical Indicators, led by DESIPA)), and agreed to add to the agenda of the next session of the Subcommittee, an item entitled "Coordination mechanisms that the ACC has put in place and how they apply to international statistical work". The Bureau requested UNSD to prepare a report for this item.

*- done at Bureau Feb 97 → 6(b)
- Added to current agenda - NO DOCUMENT*

- (g) Determine if there are any coordination issues emanating from the work of the Voorburg-type groups

8. The Bureau agreed that the determination would be made on the basis of reports and other communications to be made available to UNSD by the Voorburg-type groups. The UNSD indicated that it would endeavour to get all available reports from these groups and circulate them to members of the

Subcommittee. The Bureau requested UNSD to report to the Bureau on the matter at its next session.

9. The Bureau also agreed that the Chairman of the Subcommittee would write to all members of the Subcommittee and inquire if they were experiencing any coordination problems under items (e), (f) and (g) above, and report back to the Bureau at its next session. *done at Bureau Feb 97*

- (h) Act on behalf of the Subcommittee in relation to the planned report for the Statistical Commission "containing a review of the efforts aimed at strengthening international statistical cooperation since 1992"

10. The Bureau agreed that UNSD would report to the members of the Bureau, any initiatives taken by the convener of the ad hoc group that will prepare the above report. *- report done too late for any reporting also no draft was seen.*

- (i) To review proposals concerning occasional part-day sessions on a special topic with invited guest

11. The Bureau decided to consider the suitability of any proposals as and when they are made by members of the Subcommittee. *done at Feb 97 Bureau*

- (j) Review and finalize the agenda of the thirty-first session

12. The Bureau requested UNSD to prepare a draft agenda for the thirty-first session of the Subcommittee for review at the next meeting of the Bureau. *done at Bureau Feb 97*

- (k) Next meeting of the Bureau

13. The Bureau agreed that its next meeting would be held at the time of the twenty-ninth session of the Statistical Commission (February 1997).