

United Nations



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CALL FOR ISSUES

It is our pleasure to announce to you that the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) has been established with the approval of its Terms of Reference the Bureau by the Statistical Commission. With its creation, the international statistical community has established an important vehicle to direct, coordinate and manage its broad objectives, namely (a) to mainstream environmental-economic accounting and related statistics, (b) to elevate the *System of integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA)* to an international statistical standard, and (c) to advance the implementation of the SEEA in countries. Further information about the UN Committee could be found on the website:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/envAccounting/ceea/default.asp>.

One of the components of the work programme of the UNCEEA is the advancement of the research agenda so as to allow for the SEEA to become a standard by 2010. The UNCEEA would oversee the research agenda by prioritising the issues, identifying working groups to resolve them, monitoring progress of the working groups, reviewing their recommendations and reporting to the UN Statistical Commission on the proposed solutions. To this end, the UNCEEA will be assisted by various expert groups and in particular by the London Group on Environmental Accounting.

The UNCEEA has agreed at its Preliminary meeting on a tentative list of issues to be addressed. The issues in the list have been tentatively classified as being "long term" or "short term" depending on whether they can be resolved by the of 2008 or will require longer time for an agreement to be reached. The preliminary list of issues is attached for ease of reference.

In its capacity of Secretariat of the UNCEEA, UNSD is extending this general call for issues so as to develop a comprehensive research agenda by mid-2006. UNSD will compile an annotated list of short-term and long-term issues. We would appreciate it receiving your contribution by 28 April 2006 so that the annotated list of issues can be discussed at the next London Group meeting scheduled in June 2006. Please send your reply to Ms. Alessandra Alfieri (alfieri@un.org and seea@un.org).

We look forward to further cooperation with you.



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