



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
STATISTICS DIVISION  
UNITED NATIONS

---

**ESA/STAT/AC.238**  
UNCEE/6/4

**Sixth Meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on  
Environmental-Economic Accounting  
New York, 15-17 June 2011  
North Lawn Building – Conference Room C**

## **Minutes of the Meeting**

# **Sixth Meeting of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting**

## **Minutes of the Meeting (United Nations, New York, 15-17 June 2011)**

1. The Sixth Meeting of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) was hosted in New York on 15-17 June 2011. It was opened by Mr. Paul Cheung, Director of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) and chaired by Mr. Peter Harper, Chair of UNCEEA and Deputy Australian Statistician.
2. The Sixth Meeting of the UNCEEA discussed progress made in finalizing recommendations on the issues in the issue list and in drafting of chapters 1-6 of the revised SEEA. Progress in the work related to experimental accounts for ecosystems and examples of applications of the SEEA were discussed. The Committee considered the way forward on the implementation of the SEEA. The meeting discussed progress made in energy accounts and statistics. Furthermore, the meeting discussed the proposal for the development of environmental-economic accounts for agriculture. The meeting reviewed the status of the revision of the Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics. The Committee was informed about forthcoming major international events in the context of the SEEA.
3. During the adoption of the agenda, the Committee decided to devote a separate discussion to the process of finalization of the different parts of the SEEA after the consideration of agenda items 2, 3 and 4. (See paragraphs 30-32.) It also agreed to decide on a case-by case basis whether it would consider specific agenda items for information or for discussion.
4. A list of tasks and activities to be undertaken by the UNCEEA as agreed during the meeting is presented in Annex I. The organization of work and list of participants are included in Annexes II and III, respectively.

### **Agenda item 1 - Opening of the meeting**

#### **Summary of the statements:**

5. In their opening statements, Mr. Harper and Mr. Cheung thanked the UNCEEA and its Bureau for steering the work on environmental-economic accounting and expressed appreciation to the SEEA Editor and Editorial Board for their hard work under time pressure. The speakers noted with satisfaction the significant progress in the completion of chapters 1-6 of the SEEA and remarked that with the submission of the central framework of the revised SEEA to the Statistical Commission, the UNCEEA will begin to focus its attention on implementation.

6. Mr. Harper and Mr. Cheung acknowledged that new developments and new demands for statistics linking information on the environment and the economy have greatly increased the interest in SEEA. They reminded the Committee of the need to be fully engaged with the statistical community to demonstrate how SEEA can serve as an underlying conceptual framework for many key indicators related to green growth, green economy and sustainable development used for assessing environmental and economic policy. The global consultation process on the draft chapters and the complete document presents an opportunity to actively reach out to the broad community of stakeholders. Moreover, members of the UNCEEA have an important role to help building constituency for the support of the SEEA after its finalization.

7. Mr. Harper and Mr. Cheung acknowledged the increasingly urgent demand for statistics on ecosystems. Notwithstanding this clear policy demand, Mr. Harper and Mr. Cheung advised the Committee to proceed cautiously and to take a practical approach in response to these new demands. It is important to clarify the role of official statisticians in setting the ground for this emerging area and that the Committee work closely with other groups, such as geospatial information experts, environmental scientists, and economists. Citing a number of current international developments in the geospatial information field, Mr. Harper mentioned that such initiatives have clear relevance to SEEA.

8. The opening statements of both Mr. Cheung and Mr. Harper brought attention to the need for continued financial assistance from partners to support the process of revision and implementation of the SEEA.

## **Agenda Item 2 – Revision of the SEEA - Central framework *(for discussion)***

### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Expressed appreciation to the Editor, the Editorial Board and the Secretariat for the significant progress in the drafting of the chapters of the revised SEEA.*
- *Expressed strong support for the work plan and the timeline proposed for the finalization of the revised SEEA and was confident that the timetable is tight but achievable for the timely submission of the complete draft containing SEEA chapters 1-6 for adoption by the Statistical Commission in 2012.*
- *Supported the organization of broad-based and transparent global consultations on the draft chapters and the complete document with the involvement of stakeholders beyond the national statistical agencies requesting the assistance of NSOs to coordinate the consultation with other relevant stakeholders in their countries.*
- *Advised the Editorial Board to seek decision from the Bureau on outstanding issues that may arise from the global consultation and have not been resolved by consensus.*

- *Considered it important to discuss separately the relationship of the revised SEEA containing chapters 1-6 with the other two parts of the SEEA and the assigning of different status (standard, guidelines, etc.) to the three planned documents after concluding the consideration of agenda items 2, 3 and 4.*

### **Summary of discussion:**

#### **2.a Report of the SEEA Editor (Carl Obst, SEEA Editor)**

9. The presentation provided an update to the Committee on the progress made in the SEEA revision since June 2010 and highlighted the next steps of the work plan. After the recommendations on issues in the issue list were finalized and adopted by the Statistical Commission in February 2011, work between February and June focused on drafting of the chapters and organizing the global consultations on the draft chapters. Continuous active involvement and discussions by the Editorial Board supported the drafting process. The Editorial Board had 14 meetings (teleconferences and face-to face) and maintained continuous e-mail contact to resolve key technical issues and discuss the draft chapters. Drafts of chapters 3, 4 and 5 are available; global consultation on chapter 5 is in progress and chapters 3 and 4 are about to be circulated for global consultation.

10. The presentation outlined the next steps of work to include: (a) finalizing draft chapters 1, 2 and 6 by the Editor; (b) final review and agreement by the Editorial Board followed by global consultation on the remaining chapters by end of August 2011; (c) completing chapters 1-6 of the SEEA, including global consultation on the draft chapters and finalization of the drafts by December 2011; and (d) submission of the draft chapters 1-6 of the SEEA for adoption to the Statistical Commission 2012.

11. The UNCEEA congratulated the Editor and Editorial Board on the progress and expressed appreciation for their work and for the secretariat support provided by UNSD.

12. The UNCEEA expressed strong support for the planned process and the timeline proposed in the presentation. It was confident that the work was on track and, although the timeframes are challenging, the work plan for completion of chapters 1-6 of the revised SEEA is achievable by the set deadline. The Committee members did not identify major risks for the revised SEEA to be adopted by the Statistical Commission. It considered useful that the revised SEEA contain a glossary, although it noted that because of time constraints, the glossary may not be ready by the time the complete set of chapters is circulated for global consultation.

13. The UNCEEA agreed that the global consultation offered possibility for building support for the SEEA with stakeholders outside the statistical agencies. Therefore, it supported the organization of the broad-based and transparent consultation process with NSOs as focal points establishing a coordination mechanism within the countries to identify relevant groups and ensure inputs from stakeholders within the statistical community and beyond including other government agencies, technical experts and policy makers.

14. The UNCEEA encouraged the Editorial Board to take a pragmatic approach in resolving contentious technical issues that may arise in the global consultation. If a consensus has not been reached, the issue should be forwarded to the Bureau for decision.

15. The UNCEEA decided to discuss separately the issue of the status of the revised SEEA as international standard and the relationship of the three parts of the SEEA after the consideration of agenda items 2, 3 and 4. (See paragraphs 30-32.)

### **Agenda item 3 – Revision of the SEEA - Experimental accounts for ecosystems** *(for discussion)*

#### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Recognized the high policy demand for information compiled in ecosystem accounts.*
- *Expressed general support for the need to undertake work in the area of ecosystem accounts.*
- *Stressed the need to clarify the underlying concepts of ecosystem accounts and the relationship and links between ecosystem accounts and the other parts of the SEEA.*
- *Requested a paper with more specific proposal on the direction of work for discussion at the next UNCEEA meeting in 2012 to decide on the kind of document, whether a progress report or other type of deliverable, would be submitted to the Statistical Commission in 2013.*
- *Stressed the importance of bringing together the different relevant communities with expertise in this complex and specialized field, and clarifying the role of official statisticians, scientists, geospatial experts, and economists in developing ecosystem accounts.*
- *Welcomed the willingness of many members of the UNCEEA to contribute to the development of ecosystem accounts and encouraged the partnership to follow up on the possible contributions.*
- *Noted the progress of ongoing work by the World Bank WAVES project, the European Commission, the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists and new initiatives of UNEP, OECD and others.*
- *Appreciated that the UNCEEA was invited to join the Steering Committee of the WAVES global partnership.*

#### **Summary of discussion**

##### **3.a SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounts: A Proposed Outline and Road Map** *(Ivo Havinga, UNSD)*

16. The presentation summarized the proposal from the partnership of UNSD, EEA and World Bank on an outline and road map for development of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounts. The proposal is to prepare a relatively general and brief description of ecosystem accounts, allowing for the possibility of following up with a more detailed

manual on land and ecosystem accounts later. The output would have the character of a statement of the state-of-the-art and is not intended to have the status of international statistical standard. The presentation included the proposal to put forward the SEEA experimental ecosystem accounts conceptual framework to the UN Statistical Commission in 2013.

17. The UNCEEA acknowledged the strong policy demand for the information from ecosystem accounts and many members stressed that the SEEA as a system would be incomplete without it. It was noted that the experimental ecosystem accounts could help to build the important link between the SEEA and the ecological and environmental science user communities, which sometimes feel excluded from the scope of the central framework. The ecosystem accounts could also further help to meet the demands for information at the sub-national level, which is currently seen as a limitation of SEEA implementation in some countries.

18. Members of the UNCEEA expressed a range of views on the outline, scope of work and road map as put forward in the proposal. The UNCEEA expressed general support for continuing the work on developing experimental ecosystem accounts stressing the experimental and pilot nature of the work. The UNCEEA supported developing a document on ecosystem accounts that is not rigid and represents the state-of-the-art rather than having the character of a manual. The Committee suggested that efforts be made to keep the framework relatively simple, focusing on the key building blocks.

19. Several members questioned the feasibility of the timeframe and target date of the roadmap. The UNCEEA stressed that various theoretical questions and challenges need to be addressed before the Committee can further assess what could be delivered within the next 18 months considering that ecosystem accounts are a complex area of work. It requested the partnership to prepare for the next meeting of the Committee in 2012 a paper with further clarity on the scope, concepts and direction of work. It was also requested that further clarification be provided on the perspective of ecosystem accounts as compared to the SEEA central framework and the relationships and links between the different parts of the SEEA. The Committee will then make a proposal for the deliverable for the 2013 Statistical Commission e.g. a progress report or other deliverable. Committee members raised the issue whether the document on ecosystem accounts needs to be submitted for adoption to the Statistical Commission considering that it is not intended to be a statistical standard and many felt that it was too early to tell whether a provisional draft document will be available by February 2013. These issues were discussed further after the consideration of agenda items 2, 3 and 4 (See paragraphs 30-32.)

20. The UNCEEA asked to clarify the role of official statistics in regard to the development of ecosystem accounts and their implementation. It was also noted that the problems of data availability for compiling ecosystem accounts at a macro scale should be addressed and a strategy should be developed for strengthening capacity in countries in this area. The Committee encouraged the development of an agreed set of main indicators or measures that could be used to explain the general direction and purpose of the ecosystem accounts. It was also requested that the scope and aim of work on valuation be further clarified and the extent to which the accounts are attempting to

provide information on well-being, economic welfare, and sustainability should be explicit.

21. Many members of the Committee expressed willingness to contribute to the work on the development of ecosystem accounts. The Committee requested the partnership to engage possible contributors to move expeditiously forward the process on developing the concepts.

**3.b Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES): A global partnership programme** (*Glenn-Marie Lange, World Bank*)

22. The Committee was informed on the status of the WAVES global partnership programme. The presentation announced the confirmed pilot countries and developments in regard to funding arrangements, the process of implementation, and expected outcomes.

23. The UNCEEA acknowledged, with appreciation, the work at the World Bank to initiate the WAVES project and expressed its general continued support for the work programme. The Committee noted that WAVES embraces SEEA as the underlying framework and acknowledged the project as a good opportunity for promoting the implementation of SEEA. The Committee agreed with the need for a common general approach to valuation. The UNCEEA appreciated the invitation to join the Steering Committee of the WAVES global partnership.

**3.c Approach to Simplified Ecosystem Capital Accounts** (*Jean-Louis Weber, European Environment Agency*)

24. The UNCEEA was informed of the state-of-the-art in regard to ecosystem accounting for Europe developed through EEA's Fast Track implementation of Simplified Ecosystem Capital Accounts. An explanation of the conceptual basis for undertaking this work and some examples of preliminary outputs for a short-list of indicators for Europe were presented. The Committee considered the work of the EEA a very important input into the development of SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounts.

**3.d The 'Australian Experience': A common currency for building environmental (ecosystem) accounts – Land and ecosystem accounting in Australia** (*Peter Cosier, Wentworth Group, and Michael Vardon, Australian Bureau of Statistics*)

25. The Committee was informed of the experiences with land ecosystem accounting at the Australian Bureau of Statistics. It mentioned government interest in Australia in environmental accounting and that in the 2009 Review of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act a chapter is devoted to national environmental accounts. Environmental accounts provide an improved information basis for decision making and strengthen the capacity of local government land use planning. The presentation informed about a regional pilot land account that integrated environmental, economic and social data. The Committee acknowledged ABS as an important potential contributor to the

development of experimental ecosystem accounts in the SEEA given their unique experience in this area.

26. The Committee also heard from the Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists, providing insights on the users' perspective and informing the Committee on the current developments in the scientific community in Australia related to ecosystem accounts. The presentation stressed the importance of a framework for integrating information on ecosystems. The Wentworth Group has been developing a concept for a common currency for ecosystem accounts based on introduction of a benchmark state of ecosystem health or capacity. The Committee acknowledged the potential political sensitivities of this type of work, and noted the Australian example that there is broad support for the general aim of managing ecosystems so that they can continue to provide the maximum value of services. The Wentworth Group announced that it is preparing two manuals on the process for developing ecosystem accounts and would be interested to remain engaged with the work on ecosystem accounts in the SEEA.

#### **Agenda item 4 – Applications of the SEEA** *(for discussion)*

##### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Recognized the need for different types of products on applications to meet the needs of various audiences.*
- *Recognized the benefit to provide guidance on the possible applications as integral part of the SEEA presenting the state of the art and the best practices in the application and extension of the accounts.*
- *Requested UNSD to seek contributions of case studies from countries to include in the archive of publications posted on the UNSD website.*
- *Recommended to speed up the preparation of selected material to be disseminated during the Statistical Commission in 2012 to demonstrate the benefits of implementing the SEEA. Such material could be used for promotional purposes in various international meetings and events leading up to Rio+20.*

##### **Summary of discussion:**

###### **a. *Elaboration on SEEA for the part on Extensions and Applications*** (UNCEEA subgroup)

27. The UNCEEA expressed its satisfaction with the work carried out by the subgroup of the UNCEEA and agreed that the status of the SEEA on Extensions and Applications would not be a standard. From the discussion, the need for different products presenting the applications and extensions of the SEEA emerged. The UNCEEA recognized the benefit of producing a document on applications which would be integral part of the SEEA but views were divided whether it would need to go through global consultation and endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission, some members reasoning that it would give legitimacy to the typology of applications and extensions that can be done using the SEEA framework.



28. The UNCEEA considered important to establish a knowledge base that would serve as web-based repository of the SEEA applications to be updated on a regular basis. It was recommended that UNSD actively seeks contributions from countries to include country case studies in the existing archive of publications on its website. Furthermore, it considered urgent to present examples of applications in particular related to the central framework to the Statistical Commission in 2012 when the adoption of the central framework will be tabled. This would help the promotion of the SEEA among the chief statisticians.

29. The discussion on the status of the relationship of the Extension and Applications of the accounts to the central framework and the experimental accounts for ecosystems continued further when the status and content of the three parts of the revised SEEA was discussed.

### **Agenda items 2, 3 and 4 – Consolidated discussion**

#### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Requested the Bureau of the UNCEEA to prepare a proposal clarifying the different options discussed during the UNCEEA meeting on the process of completion and naming of the three parts of the revised SEEA.*

#### **Summary of discussion:**

30. After concluding the consideration of agenda items 2, 3 and 4, the UNCEEA discussed the linkages of the different parts of the SEEA, their proposed status (international statistical standard, guidelines, best practices, experimental etc.) and the process of their finalization.

31. On the issue of the status of the different parts of the SEEA, the UNCEEA concluded to submit draft chapters 1-6 to the UN Statistical Commission in 2012 for proposed adoption as “international statistical standard”. The UNCEEA reached the consensus that the parts containing the experimental accounts for ecosystems and the SEEA extensions and applications were not intended to have the status of “international statistical standard” having a character of presenting the state-of-the-art and providing guidelines.

32. The UNCEEA members expressed differing views on the process of completion and naming of the three parts of the revised SEEA. The UNCEEA discussed a range of options for having a single volume, or three separate volumes of the same publication or three separate volumes that constitute a series of the same family of publications, or even three unrelated volumes. The UNCEEA also considered whether to label the three parts as “Volume 1-2-3”, “Part 1-2-3” or refer to them by their working titles. It was discussed whether the title of the part containing chapters 1-6 should include “central framework” or “international standard”. In the absence of a clear conclusion on these issues, the Bureau was requested to consider the outcome of the discussion for further clarification.

## **Agenda item 5 – Examples of applications of the SEEA (for discussion)**

### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Welcomed the analysis of the relationship between the indicators of three initiatives mentioned in para. 34 below with the SEEA accounts and encouraged analysis undertaken in a more systematic way, acknowledging that this requires resources.*
- *Stressed the importance of promoting the SEEA as a multipurpose organizing framework for statistical information on the environment and warned against the risk of the SEEA becoming identified as the statistical framework for one specific policy initiative.*
- *Agreed that it has a role to work in partnership with the various indicator initiatives to demonstrate to them the value of the SEEA and ensure that the definitions of indicators in existing and soon-to-emerge indicator initiatives within the scope of the SEEA are consistent with the concepts and classifications of SEEA.*
- *Noted with satisfaction that the SEEA was presented as the measurement framework for the derivation of green growth indicators, however, it cautioned that some of the indicators for the green economy and green growth are not within the scope of the SEEA.*
- *Welcomed the work done by Eurostat Task Force 2 on Environmental Sustainability and requested Eurostat to keep the UNCEEA informed on progress with the objective of possibly extending the work by the task force to the international level.*
- *Welcomed the presentations on the progress of work by UNEP and the Task Force Measuring Sustainable Development.*
- *Welcomed the plans of the CBD Secretariat to work with the statistical community to develop a set of indicators that can be derived from the SEEA in response to Target 2 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and reach out to the expert groups working under its auspices to contribute to the development of the SEEA on ecosystem accounts.*
- *Noted with satisfaction that the SEEA was becoming an important tool for researchers carrying out input-output analyses and requested the Bureau to develop a proposal on how to collaborate with the research community working on input-output models and intensify discussions with the academic community for filling data gaps to ensure that researchers have the necessary data to carry out input-output analyses.*

## **Summary of discussion:**

### **5.a *The SEEA and indicator initiatives: A preliminary note* (Alessandra Alfieri, UNSD)**

33. The presentation by UNSD noted several indicator initiatives that are emerging on the international agenda. Many of the indicators that arise from these initiatives are firmly grounded in the SEEA. This presents an opportunity to promote the SEEA as the underlying statistical framework for deriving the indicators and thus integrating the statistical production process for environmental data with economic data using concepts and classifications presented in the SEEA. Even for those countries that are starting with the compilation of selected indicators, the paper underlines the advantages in ensuring that the concepts used for those indicators are consistent with those of the SEEA thus allowing for integration at a later stage.

34. The paper analyzes three of existing indicator initiatives, namely, the OECD Green Growth Report, UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Taskforce on Measuring Sustainable Development and Global Bioenergy Partnership and concludes that the majority of the indicators can be derived directly from SEEA.

### **5.b *Towards Green Growth: Monitoring progress* (Myriam Linster, OECD)**

35. The presentation focused on work by OECD on indicators that measure progress towards Green Growth. The Committee was informed that the indicators are based on existing work and experience. Indicators are chosen based on policy relevance, analytical soundness and measurability, and about 20 of the 25 selected indicators are currently measurable. A number of challenges such as improving the quality of measurements along with getting the indicators right were mentioned in the presentation. The Committee was also made aware of the next steps which include a meeting of CSTAT in June 2011 and WPEI in November 2011.

### **5.c *Report of the Issue Management Group on Green Economy "Supporting the Transition to a Green Economy"* (Derek Eaton, UNEP)**

36. The presentation discussed the measurement agenda of UNEP, in particular the general conceptual framework for assessing progress toward a green economy. Rather than elaborating a list of indicators, the proposed framework identifies three broad categories for indicators: (a) green investments, jobs and sectors; (b) decoupling impacts and resource productivity/efficiency; and (c) aggregate indicators of progress and well-being. A report summarizing a common view among the UN agencies is being prepared by the Issue Management Group for submission to the Prep Com for Rio+20 in November featuring SEEA as a central statistical framework for organizing data and generating indicators for green economy purposes.

### **5.d *Measuring environmental sustainability: Draft report of the Eurostat Task Force 2* (Pedro Diaz, Eurostat)**

37. The Committee was informed of the on-going work by Eurostat Task Force 2 which was given the mandate by the Sponsorship Group to address the issue of environmental sustainability. The task force is working on a number of principles and recommendation that should be followed by statistical organizations undertaking the task of developing, maintaining, assessing and disseminating indicators of environmental

sustainability. An overview of the current situation presented a non-exhaustive inventory of the indicators currently used to measure environmental sustainability in the countries represented in the task force.

**5.e Task Force on Measuring Sustainable Development** (*Mark de Haan, Statistics Netherlands*)

38. The Committee was given an update on some of the issues considered by the Task Force Measuring Sustainable Development which is the successor of the Working Group for Statistics of Sustainable Development (WGSSD) with a mandate to work on three areas of indicators: human capital, social capital and sustainable development. The Committee was provided with a timeline of the work being done and took note of the deadline for the completion of work being extended to June 2012. It was noted that many indicators come from satellite accounts and can be derived from the SEEA.

**5.f CBD and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020** (*Markus Lehman, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity*)

39. The presentation gave an overview of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, with an eye toward synchronization with SEEA. The Committee was informed about the important events leading up to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its targets, in particular Target 2 which requires that by 2020 biodiversity values be incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate. It was noted that SEEA could provide an orientation framework and guidance for moving toward the target.

40. The discussion highlighted the need for collaboration with the scientific community. Specifically, the group of experts working under the auspices of CBD to develop indicators need to work closely with the statistical community through the UNCEEA. Although there is a clear interest in developing indicators consistent with the SEEA framework, there is a lack of statistical expertise within the CBD group of experts. The UNCEEA responded positively to the initiative of the CBD for collaboration with the statistical community to develop a set of indicators that can be derived from the SEEA. At the same time, the Committee would welcome the contribution of CBD group of experts to the work on experimental ecosystem accounts of the revised SEEA.

**5.g EXIOPOL and CREEA: Towards a global Multi-Regional Economic and Physical Supply and Use tables with Environmental Extensions** (*Arnold Tukker, TNO, Netherlands and NTNU, Industrial Ecology Program, Norway*)

41. The UNCEEA was informed on the progress of two complimentary databases containing data for many variables of interest. In particular project EXIOPOL (A New Environmental Accounting Framework Using Externality Data and Input-Output Tools for Policy Analysis) and the resulting database contains data on 30 emissions, about 80 resource extractions, is broken down by 130 sectors and products for 43 countries. The Committee was also made aware of the follow up project called Compiling and Refining Environmental and Economic Accounts (CREEA) that will expand the database to include water, land use and other resources. Furthermore methods and potential uses were discussed.

42. The presentation stressed the need for further collaboration between the statistical community and the researchers, in particular, with regard to filling the data gaps on a priority basis to ensure that researchers have the necessary data to carry out input-output type of analyses.

## **Agenda item 6 – Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics** *(for discussion)*

### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Expressed support for the work on the revision of the FDES and the initiative to develop the core set of environment statistics and expressed interest in the good outcome and successful completion of the project.*
- *Welcomed the involvement of the UNCEEA in the process through the participation of its Chair in the Expert Group on the Revision of the FDES and emphasized the relationship and the need to maintain coordination and consistency with the SEEA revision.*
- *Expressed concern that the timeframe was extremely tight considering the importance and difficulty of the project. It noted that the next EGM meeting in November 2011 would provide opportunity to assess progress.*

### **Summary of discussion:**

#### **6.a Report of the Second Meeting of the Expert Group on the Revision of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (Eszter Horváth, UNSD)**

43. The presentation of UNSD covered the progress in the work on the FDES revision and the outcome of the Second Meeting of the Expert Group (EGM) on the Revision of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics held in May 2011. The EGM reached agreement on the objective, scope and provisional outline of the revised FDES as well as the criteria for the selection of the core set of environment statistics that is a new mandate given by the 2011 Statistical Commission. The EGM also agreed on the process and timetable of the project with the aim to finalize and submit the revised FDES and the core set of environment statistics for adoption to the Statistical Commission in March 2012 so that it could be considered as a tool to be presented to the Rio+20 Conference in 2012.

44. In the discussion UNCEEA members expressed support for the work on the revision of the FDES and the new mandate of the EGM to develop the core set of environment statistics. The UNCEEA stressed the need for close coordination of the FDES revision with the revision of the SEEA to ensure coherence between environment statistics and environmental accounts. It welcomed the representation of the UNCEEA in the FDES revision process for ensuring coordination and consistency with the SEEA.

45. The UNCEEA stated its interest in the good outcome of the project and was concerned that the timeframe was extremely tight for the completion of such an important and complex task. It noted that the next EGM meeting planned for November 2011 would provide good opportunity to assess progress and, if necessary, adjust plans and the target date.

## **Agenda item 7 – Implementation of the SEEA (for discussion)**

### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Expressed support for developing a minimum required core set of accounts for countries to implement. These accounts should be simplified and cover primarily issues of global importance. Water and energy together with air emission accounts were considered priority areas although it is acknowledged that for some countries other issues may be more relevant.*
- *Stressed the importance of encouraging countries to adopt the SEEA in their national statistical development plans recognizing the difficulties that countries may face due to conflicting priorities.*
- *Agreed that the establishment of a clear institutional framework was necessary for the implementation of environmental accounts considering their multidisciplinary nature.*
- *Requested the Bureau to consider possible improvements of the paper on initiating a SEEA implementation programme and requested Statistics Netherlands to revise the paper on the basis of this outcome.*

### **Summary of discussion:**

#### **7.a Initiating a SEEA Implementation Program - A First Investigation of Possibilities (Mark de Haan, Statistics Netherlands)**

46. The presentation focused on a possible SEEA implementation programme. The initial request to UNCEEA came from the forty-second session (2011) of the Statistical Commission. The presentation gave an overview of policy demands for environmental accounting. Using the results of the global consultation on environment statistics and environmental-economic accounts, the paper classified the SEEA accounts into 3 categories spanning from a minimum required core set of accounts, a recommended set of accounts and desirable set of accounts. Overall, the Committee considered the proposal a good approach for further development of the SEEA implementation strategy.

47. The Committee discussed thoroughly the problems of setting minimum requirements for the implementation of environmental accounts and supported flexibility and a careful approach allowing for local, regional and global priorities in developing the implementation strategy. The role of translations of the technical manuals, availability of

compilation guides, organization of regional workshops and, in general, need for technical assistance for the implementation were emphasized.

**7.b Strategic approach to national implementation programmes for SEEA (Ivo Havinga, UNSD)**

48. The presentation gave an overview of the general elements that an implementation programme should consider starting from the inclusion of the SEEA in National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). The Committee was made aware of the main elements of NSDS and a five-phase process to successful implementation of SEEA. Three tools were proposed for the implementation of SEEA in support of NSDS: country fact sheet, diagnostic tool and statement of strategy. An example was given of a country fact sheet and all the elements that it includes. Further details were also presented on the other two tools. Finally, a discussion of funding was provided.

**Agenda item 8 – Extension of the integrated economic statistics manual to environmental information (for information)**

**Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Followed with interest the presentation by BEA providing an overview of the statistical process of integrating environmental and economic data.*
- *Took note of the update on the preparation of the Guidelines on integrated economic statistics that gives consideration to the integration of environmental statistics and accounts in its text and the included case studies.*

**Summary of discussion:**

**8. SEEA and integration (Dennis Fixler, U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis)**

49. The presentation provided an overview of the integration of the statistical process emphasizing the requirements of harmonization and coherence for creating statistics within one statistical framework. Since statistical information describing the state of the environment is generally not collected with the needs of national accounts in mind, the integration of environmental data with national accounts presents coordination and consistency problems that must be confronted. It is important to distinguish between actual data and model-based data for deciding whether or not and how to use them in the accounts. The presentation focused on the practices of BEA exploring the integration of environmental data and economic data since the 1990s.

50. The UNCEEA received an update on the current status of the drafting of the Guidelines on Integrated Economic Statistics developed by the Friends of the Chair Group moderated by the Director of BEA. It noted that the Guidelines are available in draft and, after a global consultation as well as the following review and endorsement by the Statistical Commission in February 2011, the manual is currently under finalization.

51. The UNCEEA was informed that the scope and statistical domain structure of the Guidelines include the domain “Environment” and the manual includes among its case studies an example of country experience of integrating environment data and national accounts. The presentation explained that some of the issues that are addressed in the manual on harmonization and coherence from the viewpoint of decentralized statistical systems are relevant for the implementation of environmental accounts, since coordination of environmental statistics is decentralized in many countries.

### **Agenda item 9 – SEEA and major international events** *(for information)*

#### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Recognized the relevance of major international events in 2011 and 2012 for the work of the Committee, particularly in regard to its coordination role in the continued promotion of SEEA.*
- *Encouraged its members to communicate in clear and practical terms with the broader community of users beyond the accounting community to gain support for the implementation of an internationally agreed methodology for environmental-economic accounting in the countries and focus on explaining how it can be useful for international policy development.*
- *Agreed to consider the possibility of preparing a statement that could be used by the Rio+20 Preparatory Committee for high-level recognition and acknowledgement of the revised SEEA as a significant accomplishment and relevant tool in monitoring the state of the environment and progress towards sustainable development and the green economy.*

#### **Summary of discussion:**

##### **9.a Towards Rio+20** *(Brice Lalonde, UN Rio+20 Secretariat and Tariq Banuri, UN/DESA Division for Sustainable Development)*

52. The Committee heard from two senior members of the Secretariat to the preparatory process for the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), Mr. Brice Lalonde, Executive Coordinator of the Rio+20 Secretariat, and Mr. Tariq Banuri, Director of the Division on Sustainable Development of UN/DESA.

53. The Committee was encouraged to prepare materials intended for distribution at the Rio+20 conference on the SEEA in simple language that can assist the non-technical readers to understand and appreciate the practical benefits of the system. The Committee was reminded of the need to present SEEA as a methodological tool with direct relevance to monitor progress of societies and individual well-being. It was also suggested that a minimum or “core set” of accounts or data items would facilitate creating political support at the Conference for SEEA implementation in the countries. It was further mentioned that ongoing work on ecosystem accounting will help promoting the SEEA to policy makers as a more complete system. The representative of the Rio+20 Secretariat raised the possibility of presenting a statement through the Rio+20 Preparatory



Committee to the delegates of the Conference for high-level recognition and acknowledgement of the revised SEEA as a significant accomplishment and its promotion in the countries as a relevant tool in monitoring the state of the environment and progress towards sustainable development and the green economy. The UNCEEA was reminded that it needed to take action and prepare a draft statement by November 2011 if it wishes to take advantage of this opportunity.

**9.b International Seminar on Green Economy and Official Statistics** (*Ivo Havinga, UNSD*)

54. The UNCEEA was informed of the International Seminar on Green Economy and Official Statistics that will take place in the Republic of Korea in July 2011. A number of UNCEEA members will participate and contribute to items on the agenda. The Committee acknowledged the clear relevance of the event to the promotion of SEEA.

**9.c World Water Forum and ISI Conference Water Theme Day** (*Ricardo Martinez-Lagunes, UNSD*)

55. The UNCEEA took note of two major upcoming international events relevant to the SEEA water accounts and water statistics: the World Water Forum and the Water Theme Day of the ISI Conference. The events will take place in August 2011. The Committee was informed of the planned activities of UNSD, Eurostat and other partners and UNCEEA members in preparation for these events and acknowledged the importance of engagement with these and other similar events with the aim to promote and coordinate implementation of SEEA.

**Agenda item 10 – Institutional arrangements in Finland** (*for information*)

**Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Expressed appreciation for the presentation sharing the national experience of Finland on institutional arrangements in environmental accounting and environment statistics.*

**Summary of discussion:**

**10.a Organization of environmental accounting in Finland** (*Leo Kolttola, Statistics Finland*)

56. The presentation provided information on the institutional organization of environmental accounting in Finland and the role of Statistics Finland. Since the 1980s Statistics Finland has carried out or participated in pilot studies in several areas of environmental accounting, e.g. energy accounts, air emissions accounts, water accounts and waste accounts, and it is the National Authority for Finland's greenhouse gas inventory. Air emissions accounts will be part of the regular statistical programme in the near future. For the compilation of the Environmental Statistics Yearbook containing many data from governmental and non-governmental organisations the coordination of

the statistical information services of governmental organisations is an important part of the work of Statistics Finland. Statistics Finland is using an integrated data system for environment and energy statistics. The presentation provided an overview of the most important surveys and external data sources for environmental accounting.

57. The Committee was informed on further planned institutional arrangements in Finland to promote the use of environmental accounts and help in the presentation of the results. Development projects on different modules of environmental accounts will have steering groups with members from energy statistics, environmental statistics, environmental accounts, greenhouse gas inventory and national accounts representing the most important ministries and research organisations. Environmental accounting will also have its own Internet site in the near future.

### **Agenda item 11 – SEEA-Agriculture** *(for discussion)*

#### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Expressed support for continued work to develop methodology on Environmental Economic Accounting for Agriculture (SEEA-AGRI) and requested that a more concrete proposal on the scope, concepts and process for its development be presented to the next meeting of the UNCEEA.*
- *Welcomed the initiative on the involvement of the London Group, possibly through the establishment of sub-groups engaging additional experts on key agricultural statistics issues, such as soil accounting.*

#### **Summary of discussion:**

##### **11.a Towards a System of Environmental Economic Accounting for Agriculture (SEEA-AGRI)** *(Pietro Gennari, Food and Agriculture Organization)*

58. The presentation informed the Committee on the proposal for development of an integrated accounting framework, the System of Environmental and Economic Accounting for Agriculture (SEEA-AGRI). Within this framework, agriculture is interpreted in the broad sense as all activities related to crops, livestock, forestry and fisheries. The development of SEEA-AGRI will be led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the FAO would seek technical assistance, where relevant, from the London Group.

59. The Committee agreed that the concept of SEEA-AGRI is of high importance. There was general support for continued work in this area, noting that further clarity on the scope and concepts was needed as the project progresses. It requested a more concrete proposal for the development of SEEA-AGRI to be presented to the UNCEEA in 2012. The Committee emphasized that the content of SEEA-AGRI needs to be consistent with the rest of SEEA.

60. The Committee welcomed the willingness of FAO to lead the work on this subsystem of the SEEA, noting that agriculture together with forestry and fisheries make up a large portion of ecosystem services. It was suggested that SEEA-AGRI be used to help establish a hub between SEEA and the wealth of statistics available at FAO.

61. While it was noted that currently the London Group does not have extensive expertise in some particular issues of SEEA-AGRI, it is interested to contribute in certain areas such as accounting for soil. Its involvement could possibly be facilitated by the establishment of special sub-groups that would include additional experts.

## **Agenda item 12 – Energy accounts and statistics** *(for discussion)*

### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Welcomed the progress in drafting the chapters of the SEEA-Energy.*
- *Noted that an expert group meeting is planned for the review of the draft SEEA-Energy on 5-7 October 2011.*
- *Expressed strong support for holding the global consultation on the draft chapters of SEEA-Energy after the expert group meeting to avoid overlap with the SEEA consultations.*
- *Expressed concern that the timeframe for submission of the SEEA-Energy to the Statistical Commission in February 2012 was very tight and recommended the consideration of an alternative process for the adoption, with a later deadline, seeking the involvement of the Bureau of the Statistical Commission.*
- *Stressed the need to ensure that IRES and the SEEA-Energy are consistent to the extent possible and that the texts of SEEA-Energy and SEEA are fully aligned.*
- *Supported the plans for the development of the Energy Statistics Compilers Manual (ESCM) and requested the draft chapters and the final draft to be circulated to UNCEEA. It welcomed that the ESCM will also support the implementation of SEEA-Energy.*

### **Summary of discussion:**

#### **12.a SEEA-Energy: Progress report** *(Alessandra Alfieri, UNSD)*

62. The UNCEEA received an update on the current status of the drafting of the SEEA-Energy. Since the fifth meeting of the UNCEEA work on the drafting of the SEEA-Energy resumed with the contribution of the consultant and financial support received from the Federal Statistical Office of Germany. At present all chapters of the SEEA-Energy are available in draft form including the Annexes and the Glossary.

63. The UNCEEA acknowledged the progress in the drafting of the SEEA-Energy since its last meeting. The Committee noted that the draft chapters SEEA-Energy were posted on the UNSD website and an expert group meeting was planned for the review of the draft SEEA-Energy on 5-7 October 2011. It expected that the EGM will signal if there are outstanding technical issues relevant for the finalization of the SEEA.

64. The UNCEEA expressed strong support for organizing the global consultation on the draft SEEA-Energy after the planned EGM in October 2011 when national experts can engage in substantive commenting on the document considering that the originally proposed schedule would coincide with the SEEA global consultation.

65. The UNCEEA expressed concern that the timetable for adoption of the SEEA-Energy by the Statistical Commission in 2012 was very tight and provided advice for the best process for finalizing the SEEA-Energy. It proposed an alternative adoption process by reporting progress to the 2012 session of the Statistical Commission and exploring the possibility of submitting the completed SEEA-Energy to the Bureau of the Statistical Commission with a later deadline.

66. The UNCEEA recognized that SEEA chapters were not available at the time the draft SEEA-Energy was completed. Therefore, it felt necessary to ensure once the chapters of SEEA are finalized that the texts of SEEA-Energy and the SEEA are fully aligned and use, where applicable, the same text. The UNCEEA also stressed the need to ensure that the SEEA-Energy and IRES are consistent to the extent possible. The Committee was informed about ongoing efforts to resolve the difficulties in developing correspondence between CPC and SIEC and noted that certain aggregations of one classification with the other will be linkable although it will not be possible at any level to have a correspondence of the two classifications.

**12.b Process and outline for the Energy Statistics Compilers Manual (Ilaria DiMatteo, UNSD)**

67. The UNCEEA received briefing on the plans for developing the Energy Statistics Compilers Manual (ESCM) and reviewed the outline of the ESCM. The presentation emphasized the multipurpose character of the manual as being part of the implementation process of both IRES and the SEEA-Energy. The Committee was informed that the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics will be the main content provider for the ESCM with contributions from the London Group on Environmental Accounting to reflect the needs and practices of countries compiling energy accounts.

68. The presentation included the timeline for the completion of ESCM indicating that the first complete draft will be available by February 2012 and drafts will be discussed in meetings of the Oslo Group and London Group in 2012 and 2013.

69. The UNCEEA supported the plans for the preparation of the ESCM and welcomed that the manual will provide guidance also for the compilation and implementation of the SEEA-Energy. The Committee requested that the draft chapters and the complete draft be circulated to the UNCEEA before finalization.

## **Agenda item 13 – Policy documents** *(for discussion)*

### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Welcomed the progress in the preparation of the “glossy” publications on water and green economy policies.*

### **Summary of discussion:**

**13.a Environmental accounting applications for Green Economy policies** *(Rocky Harris, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, United Kingdom)*

70. The UNCEEA received an update on the work about the glossy publication on sustainable consumption and production evolving to a publication with new content on green economy policies. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), with UNEP, UN/DESA Division on Sustainable Development and OECD, comprising an editorial board, will be working on the glossy publication with revised content. It will be provided to the London Group for comments before finalization. The Committee expressed satisfaction with the outlined work plan.

**13.b Water Policies Monitoring Framework: Draft Text for the UNSD-WWAP “Glossy” Publication** *(Ricardo Martinez-Lagunes, UNSD)*

71. The UNCEEA was informed about the status of preparation of the glossy publication on water policies monitoring framework that will be published on the occasion of the World Water Week in late August. The main target audience of the publication are users of water accounts and statistics. In response to a question, the relationship between the glossy publications and the part of the SEEA on applications was clarified, explaining that these are independent but closely linked publications.

## **Agenda item 14 – Programme of work of the UNCEEA** *(for discussion)*

### **Outcome and actions:**

The UNCEEA:

- *Supported the proposal to maintain the programme of work as a live document on the UNCEEA website.*
- *Re-elected Mr. Peter Harper as Chair of the UNCEEA for a period of 3 years in accordance with the Operational Guidelines of the Committee.*
- *Proposed 6-8 June 2012 for the dates of the Seventh Meeting of the UNCEEA.*
- *Emphasized that documentation intended for discussion at the UNCEEA meeting should be available 2 weeks in advance.*

**Summary of discussion:**

**14. Programme of work of the UNCEEA** (*Alessandra Alfieri, UNSD*)

72. The document containing the updated programme of work of UNCEEA was presented by UNSD. The UNCEEA supported the suggestion to maintain the programme of work as a live document on the Committee's website and requested to provide a list of changes when the document is updated. It also requested the groups working under the auspices or in collaboration with UNCEEA to continue providing input for the updating of the work programme.

73. The UNCEEA noted that the references to the different parts of the SEEA in the work programme were in line with the evolving discussion on the titles and once these are finalized the work programme will be updated.

74. The Committee unanimously elected Mr. Peter Harper as Chair of the UNCEEA for a renewed term of 3 years in accordance with para. 14 of the Operational Guidelines of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting. The UNCEEA was very satisfied with the work and dedication of Mr. Harper in the capacity of Chair of the UNCEEA and expressed appreciation for his efforts and commitment.

75. The Chair of UNCEEA announced 6-8 June 2012 as the proposed dates of the Seventh Meeting of the UNCEEA.

## Annex I Time schedule and tasks

The table below outlines the detailed time schedule agreed at the Sixth Meeting of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting and the tasks of countries and organizations.

	<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Countries/ organizations</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
1.	Continue global consultations on remaining draft chapters and the combined chapters 1-6 coordinating the consultation with the assistance of NSOs for involvement of stakeholders beyond the national statistical agencies.	UNSD	June-October 2011
2.	Seek decision from the Bureau on outstanding issues that may arise from the global consultation and have not been resolved by consensus.	Editorial Board, Bureau	December 2011
3.	Submit the complete draft containing SEEA chapters 1-6 for adoption to the forty-third session (2012) of the Statistical Commission.	UNSD Editorial Board, Editor, Bureau	December 2011
4.	Prepare a paper with more specific proposal on the direction of work on ecosystem accounts for discussion at the next UNCEEA meeting in 2012 and for the consideration of the kind of document to be submitted to the Statistical Commission in 2013.	World Bank, European Environment Agency, UNSD	June 2012
5.	Follow up on the possible contributions by members of the UNCEEA and other collaborators to the development of ecosystem accounts.	World Bank, European Environment Agency, UNSD	June 2012
6.	Follow up on the invitation to join the Steering Committee of the WAVES global partnership.	Chair of the UNCEEA	September 2011
7.	Collect material from countries for the web-based repository of SEEA applications.	UNSD	Ongoing
8.	Prepare material with examples of applications for dissemination to the Statistical Commission in 2012 when the adoption of the central framework will be tabled.	UNCEEA subgroup	December 2011

9.	Prepare a proposal clarifying the different options discussed during the UNCEEA meeting on the process of completion and naming of the three parts of the revised SEEA.	Bureau	December 2011
10.	Work in partnership with the various indicator initiatives to ensure that the definitions of indicators are consistent with the concepts and classifications of SEEA.	UNCEEA	Ongoing
11.	Provide information to UNCEEA on progress of work of Task Force 2 on Environmental Sustainability.	Eurostat	June 2012
12.	Develop a proposal on how to collaborate with the research community working on input-output models.	Bureau	June 2012
13.	Remain involved in the process on the revision of the FDES through the participation of the Chair of the UNCEEA in the EG on FDES.	Chair of the UNCEEA	February 2012
14.	Prepare revised paper on the SEEA implementation (Statistics Netherlands) based on the outcome of the Bureau's consideration of possible improvements of the paper.	Bureau, Statistics Netherlands	June 2012
15.	Consider the possibility of preparing a statement for the Rio +20 Conference for high-level recognition of the revised SEEA and promotion for implementation in the countries as relevant tool for monitoring progress; send draft statement to the Rio +20 Preparatory Committee.	Bureau	November 2011
16.	Present a more concrete proposal on the scope, concepts and process for the development of SEEA-AGRI to the meeting of the UNCEEA in 2012	FAO	June 2012
17.	Explore the possibility of a later submission of the SEEA-Energy for adoption through the Bureau of the Statistical Commission and preparing a progress report to the UNSC in 2012.	UNSD	November 2011
18.	Circulate the draft chapters and the final draft of the Energy Statistics Compilers Manual (ESCM) to UNCEEA for its review and comments.	UNSD, UNCEEA	December 2012
19.	Work on the glossy publication on green economy policies and provide it to the London Group for comments.	DEFRA, UNEP, UN/DSD, OECD, London Group	Spring 2012



20.	Maintain the programme of work as a live document on the UNCEEA website.	UNSD	Ongoing
21.	Provide information on work plans and progress reports for updating the programme of work of UNCEEA.	Groups working under the auspices/ in collaboration with the UNCEEA	May 2012
22.	Finalize and make available all documentation for discussion at the Seventh meeting of the UNCEEA 2 weeks in advance.	UNCEEA, UNSD	22 May 2012

## **Annex II      Organization of work**

**Wednesday, 15 June 2011**

*Morning Session (10:00 – 1:00)*

- 1. Opening of the meeting**
  - a. Opening statement by Paul Cheung, Director, United Nations Statistics Division
  - b. Opening statement by Peter Harper, Chair UNCEEA and Deputy Australian Statistician
  - c. Adoption of the agenda (UNCEEA/6/1)
- 2. Revision of the SEEA – Central framework** *(for discussion)*
  - a. Report of the SEEA editor (UNCEEA/6/5)
- 3. Revision of the SEEA – Experimental accounts for ecosystems** *(for discussion)*
  - a. SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounts: A Proposed Outline and Road Map, Paper by UNSD, EEA and the World Bank (UNCEEA/6/6)
  - b. WAVES project: Objectives and activities, Paper by World Bank (UNCEEA/6/7)

*Afternoon Session (2:30 – 5:45)*

- 3. Revision of the SEEA – Experimental accounts for ecosystems** *(Cont'ed)*
  - c. EEA Fast Track Implementation of Simplified Ecosystem Accounts in Europe, Presentation by EEA (UNCEEA/6/33)
  - d. The 'Australian Experience':  
A Common Currency for Building Environmental Accounts, Paper by Wentworth Group (UNCEEA/6/8a)  
  
Land and Ecosystem Accounting in Australia, Presentation by Australian Bureau of Statistics (UNCEEA/6/8b)
- 4. Applications of the SEEA** *(for decision)*
  - a. Elaboration on SEEA for the part on Extensions and Applications, Paper by UNCEEA Sub-group (UNCEEA/6/9)
- 5. Examples of applications of the SEEA** *(for discussion)*
  - a. The SEEA and the new indicator initiatives, Paper by UNSD (UNCEEA/6/10)
  - b. Measuring Progress towards Green Growth through indicators, OECD (UNCEEA/6/11)

- c. Report of the Issue Management Group on Green Economy "Supporting the Transition to a Green Economy", UNEP (UNCEEA/6/12)
- d. Measuring environmental sustainability, Draft Report by Eurostat Task Force (UNCEEA/6/13)

*Reception hosted by the United Nations Statistics Division- Two United Nations Plaza 15<sup>th</sup> floor (6:00PM)*

**Thursday, 16 June 2011**

*Morning Session (9:30 –1:00)*

**5. Examples of applications of the SEEA (Cont'ed)**

- e. Measuring sustainable development, Paper by UNECE (UNCEEA/6/14)
- f. Convention on Biodiversity and SEEA, Presentation by Convention on Biodiversity (UNCEEA/6/15)
- g. EXIOPOL and CREEA: Towards a global Multi-Regional Economic and Physical Supply and Use tables with Environmental Extensions, Paper by Arnold Tukker (UNCEEA/6/16)

**6. Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (for discussion)**

- a. Report of the Second Meeting of the Expert Group on the Revision of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, Paper prepared by UNSD-Environment Statistics Section (UNCEEA/6/18)

*Afternoon Session (2:00 – 5:30)*

**7. Implementation of the SEEA**

- a. Initiating a SEEA Implementation Program - A First Investigation of Possibilities, Paper by Statistics Netherlands (UNCEEA/6/19)
- b. Implementation tools for the SEEA, Presentation by UNSD, World Bank and Paris 21 (UNCEEA/6/20)

**8. Extension of the integrated economic statistics manual to environmental information (for discussion)**

- a. Presentation by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (UNCEEA/6/21)

**9. SEEA and major international events (for information)**

- a. Towards Rio +20, Presentation by Brice Lalonde, UN Rio +20 Executive Coordinator, and Tariq Banuri, Director of UN Division for Sustainable Development, and sharing experiences on national preparations (UNCEEA/6/22)

- b. International Seminar on Green Economy and Official Statistics, Presentation by Rob Edwards (UNCEEA/6/23)
- c. World Water Forum and the ISI Conference – Water Theme Day, Presentation by UNSD (UNCEEA/6/24)

**Friday, 17 June 2011**

*Morning Session (9:30 – 1:00)*

- 10. **Institutional arrangements in Finland** (*for information*)
  - a. Presentation by Statistics Finland (UNCEEA/6/26)
- 11. **SEEA-Agriculture** (*for decision*)
  - a. Presentation by FAO (UNCEEA/6/27)
- 12. **Energy accounts and statistics** (*for discussion*)
  - a. SEEA-Energy: Progress report, Paper by UNSD (UNCEEA/6/28)
  - b. Energy Statistics Compilers Manual, UNSD-Energy Statistics Section (UNCEEA/6/29)

*Afternoon Session (2:30 – 4:00)*

- 13. **Policy documents** (*for discussion*)
  - a. Environmental Accounting applications for Green Economy policies, Paper by United Kingdom Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) (UNCEEA/6/30)
  - b. Water Policies Monitoring Framework: Draft Text for the UNSD-WWAP “Glossy” Publication, Paper by UNSD (UNCEEA/6/31)
- 14. **Programme of work of the UNCEEA** (*for discussion*)

Programme of work of the UNCEEA and the activities of other bodies that work in areas related to environmental accounting and environment statistics for which the UNCEEA plays a coordination role (UNCEEA/6/32)

- a. London Group on Environmental Accounting
- b. Oslo Group on Energy Statistics
- c. UNECE work related to the work programme of the Committee of Experts
- d. OECD work related to the work programme of the Committee of Experts
- e. Eurostat work related to the work programme of the Committee of Experts
- f. UNEP work related to the work programme of the Committee of Experts
- g. Other groups

## **Annex III List of participants**

### **Countries**

#### **Australia (Chair)**

Mr. Peter Harper  
Deputy Australian Statistician  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
ABS House, 45 Benjamin Way  
Locked bag 10 Belconnen  
ACT 2616, Australia

Mr. Peter Cosier  
Director  
Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists  
Suite 3, 3B Macquarie Street  
Sydney Australia 2000

Mr. Michael Vardon  
Director  
Centre of Environment and Energy Statistics  
Australian Bureau of Statistics  
ABS House  
45 Benjamin Way  
Belconnen ACT 2617  
Australia

#### **Canada**

Mr. Robert Smith  
Director  
Environment Accounts and Statistics Division  
Statistics Canada

#### **Colombia**

Ms. Luz Dary Yepes Rubiano  
Adviser, Climate Change and Accounting  
Environment  
Departamento Administrativo Nacional  
de Estadística (DANE)  
Carrera 59 #26-70  
Can, Via El Dorado  
Bogota, Colombia

#### **Denmark**

Ms. Kirsten Wismer  
Director  
Economic Statistics  
Statistics Denmark  
Copenhagen, Denmark

#### **Dominican Republic**

Mr. Roberto Blondet Hernandez  
Technical Coordinator of the Department of  
National Accounts and Economic Statistics

Central Bank of the Dominican Republic  
Ave Pedro Henriquez Ureña  
esq. Leopoldo Navarro,  
Distrito Nacional,  
Dominican Republic

#### **Finland**

Mr. Leo Kolttola  
Senior Adviser  
Environment and Energy Statistics  
Statistics Finland  
Box 6A F1-00022  
Finland

#### **Germany**

Mr. Michael Kuhn  
Head of Division  
Environmental-Economic Accounting  
Statistisches Bundesamt  
Gustav-Stresemann-Ring 11  
65180 Wiesbaden, Germany

#### **India**

Mr. Shri V.Parameswaran  
Deputy Director General  
Ministry of Statistics and Programme  
Implementation  
Government of India  
West Block 8, Wing 6  
R.K. Puram New Delhi  
110066, India

#### **Indonesia**

Mr. Slamet Sutomo  
Deputy Chief Statistician for National Accounts  
and Statistical Analysis  
Badan Pusat Statistik  
JI. Dr. Sutomo No. 6-8  
Jakarta, 10710  
Indonesia

#### **Italy**

Mr. Cesare Costantino  
Head  
National Accounts  
Environment Account and System of Satellite  
Accounts  
National Statistical Institute  
Via Cesare Balbo 16  
00186 Rome, Italy

**Netherlands**

Mr. Peter van de Ven  
Head of National Accounts  
Statistics Netherlands  
2492 JP Den Haag  
Henri Faasdreef 312  
The Netherlands

Mr. Mark de Haan  
Head of Unit and Chair of the London Group  
Statistics Netherlands  
2492 JP Den Haag  
Henri Faasdreef 312  
The Netherlands

Mr. Arnold Tukker  
Manager Program Societal Innovation &  
Economy, TNO  
PO Box 49, 2600AA  
Van Mourik Broekmanweg 6  
2618 XE, Delft  
Netherlands  
and  
Professor of Sustainable Innovation  
NTNU Industrial Ecology Program  
Department of Product Design  
Gloschaugen, NO-7491  
Trondheim, Norway

**Norway/Oslo Group**

Mr. Torstein Bye  
Director  
Statistics Norway  
Kongensgate 6  
PO 8131 DEP.  
NO-0033-Oslo 1, Norway

**Philippines**

Mr. Raymundo Talento  
Director, Economic Statistics Office  
National Statistical Coordination Board  
403 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave.  
Makati City 1200  
Philippines

**Russia**

Mr. Andrey Tatarinov  
Director  
National Accounts Department  
Federal State Statistics Services (Rosstat)  
39, Myasnitskaya St, 107450  
Moscow, Russia

**South Africa**

Mr. Joe de Beer  
Deputy Director General

Statistics South Africa  
Private Bag X44  
Pretoria  
South Africa  
0001

**Sweden**

Ms. Inger Eklund  
Director  
Statistics Sweden  
Regions and Environment Department  
Box 24300  
SE 10451 Stockholm, Sweden

Ms. Viveka Palm  
Head of Unit  
Statistics Sweden  
Box 243 00  
SE 104 51 Stockholm, Sweden

**United Kingdom**

Mr. Rocky Harris  
Department for Environment, Food  
and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)  
Zone 6E Ergon House  
c/o 17 Smith Square  
London SW1P 3JR  
United Kingdom

**USA**

Mr. Dennis Fixler  
Chief Statistician  
Bureau of Economic Analysis  
1441 L Street NW  
Washington, DC  
20230, USA

**International Organizations****European Environment Agency (EEA)**

Mr. Jean- Louis Weber  
Special Adviser on Economic Environmental  
Accounting  
European Environment Agency (EEA)  
Kongens Nytorv 6  
105 0 Copenhagen K  
Denmark

**Eurostat**

Mr. Pedro Diaz  
Director  
Directorate Sectoral and Regional Statistics  
Statistical Office of the  
European Communities (EUROSTAT)  
European Commission

Boite Postale 1907  
L-2920, Luxembourg

**International Monetary Fund (IMF)**

Mr. Manik Shrestha  
Deputy Chief, Real Sector Division  
Statistics Department  
International Monetary Fund  
700 19th Street, NW  
20431 Washington DC, USA

**Organisation for Economic Co-operation  
and Development (OECD)**

Ms. Myriam Linster  
Principal Administrator  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation  
and Development (OECD)  
2 rue André Pascal  
75775 Paris CEDEX 16, France

**United Nations Division for Sustainable  
Development/ Department of Economic and  
Social Affairs (UNSD)**

Mr. Tariq Banuri  
Director  
Division for Sustainable Development (UNSD)  
Department for Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations  
UN Plaza, DC2-2220  
New York, NY 10017  
USA

**United Nations Environment Programme  
(UNEP)**

Mr. Derek Eaton  
Programme Officer  
Economics and Trade Branch  
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics  
United Nations Environment Programme  
(UNEP)

**United Nations Food and Agriculture  
Organization (UNFAO)**

Mr. Pietro Gennari  
Director  
Statistics Division  
Economic and Social Development Department  
Food and Agriculture Organization (UNFAO)  
of the United Nations  
Room C-404  
Via delle Terme di Caracalla  
00153 Rome, Italy

**United Nations Statistics Division/  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs**

Mr. Paul Cheung  
Director  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1670  
New York, NY 1001, USA

Mr. Ivo Havinga  
Chief, Economic Statistics Branch  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1520  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Ms. Eszter Horvath  
Chief, Environment and Energy Statistics Branch  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1418  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Mr. Robert Edwards  
Inter-regional Adviser  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1662  
New York, NY 1001, USA

Ms. Alessandra Alfieri  
Chief  
Environmental-Economic Accounts Section  
Economic Statistics Branch  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1518  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Mr. Carl Obst  
Editor, SEEA  
Environmental-Economic Accounts Section  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Mr. Ralf Becker  
Chief  
Industrial and Energy Statistics Section  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1414  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Ms. Ilaria Di Matteo  
Industrial and Energy Statistics Section  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1406  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Ms. Magdolna Csizmadia  
Economic Statistics Branch  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1506  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Mr. Ricardo Martinez-Lagunes  
Interregional Adviser on Environmental  
Economic Accounts  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1526  
New York, NY 10017, USA

Mr. Daniel Clarke  
Environmental-Economic Accounts Section  
United Nations Statistics Division  
Two UN Plaza, DC2-1524  
New York, NY 10017, USA

**The World Bank**

Ms. Glenn-Marie Lange  
Senior Environmental Economist  
Environment Department  
1818 H St. NW  
Washington, DC 20433, USA

Ms. Marian S. delos Angeles  
Senior Environmental Economist  
Policy and Economics Team  
Environment Department  
The World Bank  
1818 H St. NW, MSN MC5-507  
Washington DC 20433 USA