

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS STATISTICS DIVISION UNITED NATIONS SEEA Revision Chapter 4 Cover Note

Global Consultation Cover Note

Chapter 4: Monetary flow accounts

The draft System of Environmental and Economic Accounts (SEEA) Chapter 4: Monetary flow accounts is the third draft chapter to be circulated for global consultation as part of the SEEA revision process. Global consultation on Chapter 3: Physical flow accounts is being conducted at the same time. Consultation on Chapter 5: Asset accounts commenced on 13 May with a deadline for comments of 24 June and consultation on the remaining chapters (1, 2 and 6) will commence in the coming weeks.

Together the six chapters constitute the central framework of the SEEA. It is intended that this central framework will become an internationally agreed conceptual statistical framework.

The draft chapter 4 focuses on identifying environmental transactions in the core national accounts framework outlined in the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA). The chapter first defines the set of environmental activities that form a base for the identification of environmental transactions. It then outlines two approaches to grouping relevant transactions: Environmental Protection Expenditure Accounts which come from a demand perspective and Environmental Goods and Services Sector statistics which come from a supply perspective.

The final sections of the chapter describe other environmentally related transactions including taxes, subsidies, other payments to and from government and permits to use environmental assets.

To facilitate the global consultation process a comment form is provided. The comment form has three parts:

Part I: Seeks general comments on the structure, balance and coverage of the chapter

Part II: Seeks feedback on specific topics

Part III: Provides the opportunity to provide any other comments

Deadline for responses: 29 July 2011