

Public-private partnerships

Summary conclusion

Questions

- (a) Are PPPs sufficiently important to include a description of them in the revised SNA? Is the description included [in paper SNA/M1.06/10] acceptable?
- (b) Given that there is no consensus on how to decide which unit is the economic owner of the fixed assets associated with a PPP, is it sufficient to list several of the indicators that are likely to be important in making that decision? Is the list suggested here acceptable?
- (c) Given that there is no consensus on the accounting treatment to apply to certain events that are likely to occur with PPPs, is a broad description of these events sufficient?

Outcomes

1. The AEG acknowledged John Pitzer's contribution in advancing the work on this complex topic in the difficult situation of not having any firm international accounting standards to draw on.

- (a) The AEG agreed that a description is required and the one included in the paper is satisfactory.
- (b) The AEG agreed that a list of indicators would be useful. However, the AEG also agreed that it is necessary to examine specific arrangements on a case-by-case basis.
- (c) The AEG acknowledged that although a general description of the issues would be useful, this issue is very complex, with the development of this type of partnership spreading rapidly and with many different variations being introduced. It was therefore proposed that the material might appear in an annex to the updated SNA. It will be noted that the annex may need updating within a relatively short time of the update being released. The ABS, ONS and IMF offered to draft text for an annex on this subject and to keep abreast of developments in international accounting standards.