

GUIDELINES ON INTEGRATED ECONOMIC STATISTICS UNWTO COMMENTS

1. I would suggest that the Guide refer to SDMX / 2009 Metadata Common Vocabulary for consultation.
2. In line with it, although not strictly referred to SDMX document, I find confusing the use of the terms standards and recommendations as being interchangeable (paragraph 55 as an example + the following heading “*Harmonization of business and sectoral statistics standards with macroeconomic standards*”, in page 45) ¹
3. I would also suggest more precise wording regarding the Tourism Satellite Account:
 - in pg 6 the index refers to “*Travel and tourism accounts*”. Also in pg 154
 - in pg 122 “*7.Principles into practice: examples of integrated economic statistics*”, reference is made to “travel accounts” (paragraph 3)
4. Regarding pg 154, paragraphs 72 and 73 should be improved taking into consideration the following issues:
 - the 2001 first text on the TSA has been updated in 2008 by the UNSC (the official text should read “*Tourism Satellite Account : Recommended Methodological Framework 2008*”)
 - Logos in such document includes UNWTO and OCDE as well as Eurostat and UNSD. These four organization should be mentioned
 - UNWTO is the official acronym for the World Tourism Organization
5. I would also suggest that mention to TSA should include two references regarding the reason why it has been selected as example of integrated economic statistics:
 - the fact that actual recommendations for basic tourism statistics (*International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008*) uses concepts, definitions and classifications common to the TSA; and
 - that the TSA is an extension of Supply and Use Tables
6. Finally, the “*International Recommendations for Tourism Statistics 2008*” makes clear the distinction between travel and tourism: “Tourism is therefore a subset of travel and visitors are a subset of travellers. These distinctions are crucial for the compilation of data on flows of travellers and visitors and for the credibility of tourism statistics” (paragraph 2.12). Consequently, reference to the “Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts”, as a generic term, should be replaced by “Tourism Satellite Account”

¹ I have learned from UNSD officials that the term standard should be used very selectively (to refer to SNA, BOP,...). See “What defines an international statistical standard and other types of international statistical publications in economic statistics” by A.Alfieri, R.Becker and I.Havinga, 2007