

ISWGNA Meeting (Teleconference)

20 April 2017

Minutes

Participants: Claudia Dziobek, (IMF, Chair), Robert Dippelsman, Marco Marini, Cornelia Hammer (IMF), Peter van de Ven, Jennifer Ribarsky (OECD), Herman Smith, Ilaria DiMatteo, Benson Sim (UNSD), Eric Métreau (World Bank), John Verrinder, Paul Konijn (Eurostat).

1. Report on the AEG consultations on pension funds and the recording of negative interest rates.

Not all AEG members have responded yet. UNSD will follow up with them and provide a summary of the comments on the consultation papers at the next meeting.

2. Follow-up to the side event on Globalization during the UN Statistical Commission, 7 March 2017

All ISWGNA members agreed that the side-event was successful in showcasing the work of the ISWGNA on globalization and proposed to organize another event next year.

3. New manuals/guides and ISWGNA review

It was noted that there is a proliferation of publications on national accounts and related statistics at the regional level. Often the ISWGNA is approached to review these handbooks only when they are at the final stage of preparation. It was agreed that to meaningfully contribute to such publications and to coordinate the preparation of handbooks and guidelines that are relevant to all countries, the ISWGNA should be engaged at the early stage of preparation.

4. Next AEG Meeting

UNSD and IMF will prepare a draft annotated agenda for comments by the ISWGNA to be circulated to the ISWGNA:MG by the end of May. In addition to the topics mentioned in the last UN Statistical Commission report, the following topics were also suggested: Balance and Payments and SNA, Big Data, COICOP, satellite accounts, and future update of the SNA.

5. Nomination of replacement AEG members

Possible candidates for the vacancies in the AEG were discussed. The issue will be discussed again at the end of May.

6. Other business

The ISWGNA took note of the progress on: establishing the Task Force on Statistical Units and the Task Force on Islamic Banking; and the revision of COICOP. The impact of the COICOP revision on COFOG and COPNI will be discussed at the next meeting of the ISWGNA.

7. The next ISWGNA meeting

The dates for the next ISWGNA teleconference will be determined at a later stage.