

Inter-Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts Management Group Meeting

Monday, 5 March 2018, UN Head Quarters, New York

Summary Record

Louis Marc Ducharme (Chair, IMF) opened the meeting.

Present: Silke Stapel (Eurostat), Gabriel Quiros (IMF), Claudia Dziobek (IMF), Margarida Martins (IMF), Paul Schreyer (OECD), Ivo Havinga (UNSD), Herman Smith (UNSD), Benson Sim (UNSD), Ilaria di Matteo (UNSD), Grant Cameron (World Bank), and Barbro Hexeberg (World Bank).

1. Side Event on 10 Years of the 2008 SNA: Looking Forwards Looking Back

The final arrangements for the side event were discussed and agreed. Information on the side event is available on <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/side-events/20180306-1M-10-years-of-the-2008-sna/>.

The ISWGNA:MG agreed to organize a side event during next year's United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) to promote and communicate the work of the ISWGNA to the wider statistical producer and user community.

2. SNA update

The ISWGNA:MG endorsed the recommendations of the AEG to establish two ISWGNA task forces on: a) organizing the research agenda under three priority areas (globalization, digitalization, and economic well-being and sustainability) taking into consideration current issues under discussion in the AEG, the list of issues presented in Annex 4 of the 2008 SNA, and the BOPCOM research agenda and distinguishing between issues that likely can be dealt with within the 2008 SNA framework and those that may require changes to the framework; b) SNA capacity building with the objective of "leaving no country behind". The ISWGNA:MG noted that the mandates and timelines of the work of the two task forces should be clearly specified and that the task forces should only focus on technical issues. UNSD will prepare the draft terms of references for the two task forces for review by the other ISWGNA members by the end of March 2018.

3. Next AEG meeting

The ISWGNA:MG endorsed the proposal to organize the next AEG meeting from 27-29 November 2018 in Luxemburg and requested that the two task forces on the research agenda and on SNA capacity building "leaving no country behind" report on the progress of their work at that meeting.

4. Task Force on Financial Statistics

The ISWGNA:MG agreed to the request of the IMF to support the Inter Agency Working Group on Debt Statistics (IAWGDS) with its methodological issues, if and when the IAWGDS deems it necessary.

5. Introduction of the ISWGNA report to the UNSC

ISWGNA members broadly agreed with the introduction to the UNSC with subject to some minor amendments.

6. AEG membership

The ISWGNA:MG discussed the status of the search for candidates for the two AEG vacancies and requested the ISWGNA to actively work to identify suitable candidates.

7. Handover of chair of ISWGNA

The ISWGNA:MG agreed based on existing practices that the IMF will hand over the chair of the ISWGNA to Eurostat at the end of the 49th session of the UNSC and that Eurostat would chair the ISWGNA for a period of two years until March 2020.