

ISWGNA Meeting 9 November 2014

Minutes

Participants: Peter van de Ven, Jennifer Ribarsky (OECD), Jens Gruetz, John Verrinder (Eurostat), Tihomira Dimova (UNECE), Rob Dippelsman (IMF), Herman Smith (UNSD), and Barbro Hexeberg (World Bank)

1 Report to the UN Statistical Commission

The ISWGNA agreed on the outline, as presented by UNSD, and contributors (table below).

	Outline	Contributor(s)
I	Introduction – verbatim 2014 UNSC decisions	UNSD
II	Guidance on issues emerging from the implementation of the SNA	UNSD
	A Report of the AEG	UNSD
	B Research Agenda of the SNA (Resolved; Current; and New issues)	UNSD
	C Manuals and handbooks	All
III	Activities of ISWGNA and Regional Commissions – Summary (Details in Annex)	All, WB to summarize
IV	Reporting of national accounts data	UNSD to summarize
	MRDS and timeliness (from NAQ)	UNSD
	2008 SNA (from NAQ plus additional info)	UNSD, IMF, OECD, EU
	SDMX	OECD
	TFIDC	EU, IMF
V	Points for discussion	
	Annexes	

To ensure the most up to date information regarding the number of countries having implemented the 2008 SNA, all organizations will provide information on countries that have moved and reported data on 2008 SNA basis since June.

The final document is due December 3. To meet this deadline, a first draft should be ready by 21/11/2014 and the final draft for ISWGNA:MG review by 28/11/2014.

2 Follow up from the AEG meeting (September 2014)

(i) The **minutes of the AEG meeting** will be ready for posting on the ISWGNA web-site, after comments from ISWGNA and AEG members have been incorporated.

(ii) Following up on the AEG decision to address the **classification of imputed property income between a pension manager and a defined benefit pension fund** through an electronic consultation, the UNSD will draft a note that will form the basis for the consultation. The draft note should be ready for ISWGNA review by end November.

(iii) The OECD offered the lead in establishing a **task force on statistical units**, and will draft a TOR for ISWGNA review by end December. It was noted that the task force would need global representation, as well as participants from a broader community of experts (incl. business register and classification experts).

(iv) The outcome of the AEG discussion on **factoryless goods producers** stated that the AEG “Recognized the difficulties in identifying the correct recording of the transactions between FGPs and the contractors; Recommended to follow, for the time being, the previous decisions of the AEG, but also to collect more practical experience on the recording of these transactions, after which reconsideration may need to be given to this issue; and Noted that the issue will be discussed at the next BOPCOM meeting and the meeting of the expert group on international statistical classifications, and encouraged the Task Force on Global Production (TFGP) to continue its work on this issue.”

With the outcome of the BOPCOM discussion in late October being much in line with the outcome of the AEG (“no decision on classification”, and “further work needed”), the question is who can take this issue further. The TFGP will submit the Guide on measuring Global Production to the CES Plenary in June 2015 together with concrete proposals for further work reflecting the outcomes of the global consultation. The CES will agree on priority areas for research and paths to bring the work further. Thus, the ISWGNA will discuss the issue further at its next meeting, when more is known about the outcome of the global consultation and the CES decision.

(v) Regarding the **questions of the Task Force on Guidelines for Statistical Business Registers** on the treatment of specific institutional units, UNSD will send out the revised document and questions to launch the electronic consultation. The ISWGNA response should reach the Task Force before end November.

(vi) The UNSD will take the lead in updating the web-site dedicated to the

Research Agenda.

General AEG related

The meeting briefly discussed when a next AEG meeting should take place, but agreed that it was premature to decide until a list of issues for discussion and decision emerges. As for the AEG membership and composition, it was noted that there are still a couple of spots to be filled. The group will aim to have a list of names ready for endorsement by the ISWGNA:MG when they meet in February/March on the margins of the UNSC.

3 SNA News and Notes

The draft of the **November issue of the SNA N&N** has been sent to all members of the ISWGNA **for comments by November 14.**

As the SNA N&N is the ISWGNA's main vehicle for communicating updates to and clarifications of the 2008 SNA, as well as other news and information related to national accounts, it was agreed to pursue a more active distribution of the newsletter. Thus, the electronic version will be sent to heads of national accounts, regional TA and training centres etc.