

**MINUTES**  
**ISWGNA TELECONFERENCE 19 AUGUST, 2008**

**Participants**

Eurostat: G. Gueye (Chair)

IMF: K. Zieschang

OECD: N. Ahmad

UNECE: L. Bratanova

UNSD: H. Smith, G. Singh, A. Becker (Minutes)

1993 SNA Update project: P. McCarthy (Project Manager), A. Harrison (Editor)

**1. Progress on Volume 2**

The Editor reported that 6 (chapters 18, 19, 20, 22, 26 and 27) of the 12 chapters for Volume 2 are posted on the update website for world-wide review. Comments have been received already on chapters 20 and 27 by the deadlines of 31 May 2008 and 12 February 2007 respectively. Two more chapters (chapters 23 and 25) will be ready for posting by 22 August with a commenting deadline of 30 September.

**1.1. Chapter 23 - NPIs**

The Editor reported that the draft chapter was submitted to the ISWGNA for comments and that the feedback received indicated the draft needs to provide clearer guidance on the delineation of NPIs in the SNA and the NPI satellite account and the link between the two. The Editor informed the ISWGNA that she will meet with Lester Salamon and Helen Tice from Johns Hopkins University Centre of Civil Society Studies (JHUCCSS) on Wednesday, 20 August to discuss issues regarding the NPI satellite account.

The ISWGNA agreed that the revised version of the chapter, taking into consideration the comments of the ISWGNA and the JHUCCSS will be posted for world-wide review with a deadline for comments on 30 September without further review by the ISWGNA.

**1.2. Chapter 25 - Informal sector**

The Editor reported that there are a few issues that need to be resolved to finalise the draft for posting. The ISWGNA discussed the issues and agreed on the following:

The chapter should have a broader scope to include not only the informal sector, but also the NOE and provide guidance on the delineation of the concepts.

The term “informal activity” will be replaced by “activities of units in the informal economy” to align with the ILO concept of “informality” which is based on production units rather than enterprises in the SNA sense. The heading of section G will also be adjusted accordingly.

The Editor’s version of paragraph 25.49 should be used in the chapter.

The chapter should include information on data collection practices, but they should be presented as guidelines and not recommendations.

After informal consultation with the ILO it was decided that reference in the chapter will be made to ILO instead of ICLS with a clarification that ILO adopts the resolutions after member countries of the ICLS have endorsed them.

The revised version of the chapter, incorporating aforementioned ISWGNA decisions, will be posted for world-wide review with a deadline for comments on 30 September without further review by the ISWGNA

## 2. Consolidation of country comments

The ISWGNA agreed that the procedure established for the consolidation and assessment of country comments for draft chapters of Volume 1 should be followed. The procedure is as follows:

- Draft chapters are assigned to ISWGNA members who will consolidate the comments and assess them according to the following categories:
  - (i) Out of scope
  - (ii) For consideration by the Editor
  - (iii) For consideration by the ISWGNA by teleconference
  - (iv) For consideration by the ISWGNA at a face-to-face meeting
  
- The Editor and the responsible organization together will review and finalize the assessments of the country comments for each draft chapter before presenting them to the ISWGNA for discussion.

The ISWGNA agreed to the following distribution of responsibilities for the consolidation and assessment of country comments for the first set of draft chapters of Volume 2:

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Comments deadline</b>	<b>Responsible organization</b>
18: Elaborating the accounts	29 September 2008	World Bank
19: Population and labour inputs	26 September 2008	Eurostat
20: The role of capital services in the accounts	31 May 2008	OECD
22: The government and public sectors	13 September 2008	Eurostat
23: NPIs	30 September 2008	UNSD
25: Informal sector	30 September 2008	UNSD
26: The rest of the world account	26 September 2008	IMF
27: Links to monetary and financial statistics	12 February 2007	IMF

The consolidated country comments for these chapters need to be submitted to the Editor by 7 October (and copied to the other organizations) and will be discussed at the meeting of the

ISWGNA on 13 October in Paris. During this meeting the ISWGNA will also identify the issues arising from the country comments for consideration by the AEG. These issues will be added to the agenda of the AEG meeting of 12 – 14 November in Washington, DC.

The country comments for the remaining four draft chapters (chapters 21, 24, 28 and 29) and the two annexes (annex 3 and 4) will be discussed at the face-to-face meeting of the ISWGNA on 10 - 11 November in Washington, DC.

### **3. Future ISWGNA face-to-face meetings**

The Project Manager confirmed the dates for the two scheduled ISWGNA face-to-face meetings on 13 October in Paris and on 10 - 11 November in Washington, DC to discuss the country comments for the draft chapters of Volume 2 and proposed that a third face-to-face meeting of the ISWGNA should be considered to discuss the final draft of Volume 2. The ISWGNA agreed to schedule the meeting for 15 - 16 December either in New York or Washington, DC. If no substantive issues remained unresolved during the final drafting of the chapters of Volume 2 this meeting will be cancelled.

### **4. AEG meeting/Luxembourg Recommendations (LRs)**

The Project Manager informed the ISWGNA:NA that the ISWGNA:MG has confirmed 12 - 14 November as the date for the AEG meeting and 17 - 18 November as the date for the meeting of the High Level Group on National Accounts.

An announcement of the AEG meeting scheduled to be held on 12 - 14 November 2008 in Washington, DC will be sent by UNSD to the members of the AEG by cob 21 August.

The Project Manager further reported that the ISWGNA:MG will discuss issues related to the Luxembourg Recommendations during their next meeting 9 -12 September in Tunisia.

### **5. Next teleconference**

The next teleconference is tentatively scheduled for 24 September 3 PM Luxembourg time.

### **6. To-do-List**

<b>Action</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Actions for Volume 1</b>			
White-cover version to be submitted for UN-editing. Electronic version posted on the web site; hard copy to be prepared for dissemination	End July	UNSD	Done
UN light edit	20 August	UN	In progress

<b>Action</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Actions for Volume 2</b>			
Draft chapters 19 and 26 to ISWGNA for review in 7 days	1 Aug	Editor	Done
Posting of chapters 19 and 26	11 Aug	Editor/UNSD	Done
Draft chapters 18, 23 and 25 to ISWGNA for review in 7 days	15 Aug	Editor	Done
Posting of chapters 18, 23 and 25	23 Aug	Editor/UNSD	
Draft chapters 21, 24, 28, 29, A3 and A4 to ISWGNA for review in 7 days	late Sep	Editor	
Posting of chapters 21, 24, 28, 29, A3 and A4	3 Oct	Editor/UNSD	
Summary of comments from world-wide review on chapters 18 to 27 (except 21 and 24) submitted to the Editor	7 Oct	ISWGNA	
ISWGNA meeting to discuss comments on chapters 18 to 27 (except 21 and 24)	13 October	ISWGNA	
Conclusion of the world-wide review on Volume 2	31 October		
Summary of comments from world-wide review on chapters 21, 24, 28, 29, A3 and A4 submitted to the Editor	7 Nov	ISWGNA	
ISWGNA meeting to discuss comments on chapters 21, 24, 28, 29, A3 and A4 and AEG meeting	10/11 November	ISWGNA	
Prepare papers for AEG			
Prepare material for HLG			
AEG meeting	12-14 Nov		
HLG meeting	17-18 Nov		
Revised Volume 2 for submission to the UNSC in 2009 to ISWGNA for comments	Mid-December	Editor	
Revised volume 2 posted for UNSC	Late December		

*Items marked as 'Done' in this to-do list will be omitted in the following to-do list.*

## **7. Schedules for national accounts meetings**

<b>Type</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Where</b>
ISWGNA meeting	13 October	Paris
OECD NA meeting	14-16 October	Paris
ISWGNA meeting	10 and 11 November	Washington, DC
AEG meeting	12-14 November	Washington, DC
High Level Forum on NA	17-18 November	Washington, DC
Eurostat NA meeting	20-21 November	Luxembourg
ISWGNA meeting (tentatively)	15-16 December	NY or Washington, DC