

ISWGNA Meeting (Teleconference)
08 May 2019
Minutes

Participants: John Verrinder (Chair) and Nicola Massarelli (Eurostat); Jorrit Zwijnenburg (OECD); Barbro Hexeberg and Eric Métreau (World Bank); Thomas Alexander, Michael Stanger, Jennifer Ribarsky and Margarida Martins (IMF); and Herman Smith, Benson Sim and Jonathan Gessendorfer (UNSD).

1. Update on the progress of the work on the three priority workstream subgroups

The secretariats for each of the subgroups (IMF for globalization, Eurostat for digitalization and OECD for economic wellbeing and sustainability) gave an update on the progress with establishing the groups. For all subgroups, most of the co-chairs who had been approached have confirmed their role and potential members have been identified.

The list of potential members of each subgroup will be sent to the respective co-chairs for feedback. The work on well-being and sustainability will be further divided into subgroups of 3-6 experts, to draft the guidance notes for the specific underlying topics. The steering group will consist of the co-chairs and the lead authors.

UNSD will be responsible for the overall coordination between the workstreams of the subgroups and provide an online wiki platform for the various subgroups to establish workplans, monitor progress, post background documents and collect contributions from the members of the subgroups for discussion and review.

ISWGNA members are requested to nominate their representatives for each subgroup and to provide comments on the current list of potential candidates.

2. AEG membership and preparation of the next AEG meeting

Amina Khasib, of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, has joined the AEG.

The ISWGNA discussed the draft annotated agenda of the thirteenth AEG scheduled for 1-3 October in Washington D.C. It is expected that the subgroups will provide specific SNA research agenda topics for substantive discussions at the AEG meeting by mid-June 2019.

3. Other work streams for the ISWGNA Management Group

The ISWGNA Management Group requested feedback by end June on the progress of the three subgroups and possible topics for the ISWGNA report to next year's Statistical Commission. UNSD will explore a suitable meeting date for the ISWGNA:MG meeting for this purpose.

The meeting also noted the need to ensure coordination with the work of the Friends of the Chair group on economic statistics and consistent reporting to next year's UNSC.

4. Any other business

The ISWGNA discussed the results of the consultation on the treatment of crypto-assets in the National Accounts. Interim guidance on the matter will be published in a future edition of the SNA News and Notes.

In addition, the meeting briefly discussed the introduction of IFRS 16 on leases and the possible resulting practical issues and decided to include it as an agenda item in the next ISWGNA teleconference.

5. Next ISWGNA meeting

The date of the next meeting will be scheduled for the middle of June 2019.