

ISWGNA Meeting (Teleconference)

19 January 2017

Minutes

Participants: Claudia Dziobek, (IMF, Chair), Robert Dippelsman, Cornelia Hammer, Marco Marini and Thomas Alexander (IMF), Peter van de Ven, Jennifer Ribarsky (OECD), Herman Smith, Ilaria DiMatteo, Charlotte French, Benson Sim and Kebebush Welkema (UNSD), Barbro Hexeberg (World Bank), Paul Konijn (Eurostat).

1. Report of the ISWGNA to the United Nations Statistics Commission (UNSC)

The ISWGNA report is now available on the UNSC website at (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/48th-session/>). The report is scheduled to be discussed on Wednesday, 8 March 2017, from 5pm to 6pm (see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/48th-session/documents/2017-L1-Timetable-E.pdf>).

2. ISWGNA Side event at the United Nations Statistics Commission

Further refinements to the concept note for the event were discussed. Final comments and proposals for speakers and panellists should be provided to the IMF by 30 January. The side event is provisionally scheduled for lunch time on 7 March.

3. Next AEG Meeting

The next AEG Meeting is planned for 5-7 December 2017 in New York. UNSD will inform the AEG of the dates of the meeting.

4. Nomination of replacement AEG members

There are currently three AEG vacancies following the recent retirements, of which the latest is Mr. Brent Moulton (BEA). More concrete proposals for the filling of the AEG vacancies were discussed. It was agreed to have further consultation in the next couple of weeks with the objective of finalising the proposals before or during the UNSC.

5. ISWGNA:MG meeting

The next ISWGNA:MG meeting will be held during the UNSC, which is provisionally scheduled for Monday 6 March at 6:15pm.

6. Consultations with the AEG

It was agreed to conduct two consultations with the AEG: one on the issue of the accrual recording of property income related to claims between a sponsor and a defined benefit pension fund, and the other on the recording of negative interest rates (which was requested by the BOPCOM). UNSD will circulate the relevant papers to the AEG members and post these documents and the replies on the AEG restricted website.

7. Other business

UNSD proposed the creation of a Task Force on Islamic Banking to follow up on the conclusion of the AEG that further research on the statistical implications of Islamic Banking in the national accounts is required and that practical guidance on the treatment of Islamic Banking transactions needs to be developed. UNSD will circulate the ToR for the Task Force on Islamic Banking.

The next issue of the SNA News and Notes will include an abstract of the IMF working paper on fixed base year vs. chain linking in national accounts.

UNSD will prepare a proposal for consideration of ISWGNA to play a role in the development of software for the compilation of national accounts (new version of ERETES). The proposal will be circulated before the next ISWGNA meeting.

8. The next ISWGNA meeting

The next ISWGNA teleconference will be on Thursday 16 February 2017.