

Minutes

ISWGNA TELECONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 11, 2007

Participants:

Eurostat: Gallo Gueye, Christian Ravets

IMF: Kim Zieschang (Chair)

OECD: Paul Schreyer, Charles Aspden, Bill Cave

UNSD: Ivo Havinga, Viet Vu, Herman Smith, Patrick Mueller (Minutes)

UNECE: Tihomira Dimova, Lydia Bratanova

World Bank: Barbro Hexeberg

1993 SNA Update Project: Carol Carson (Project Manager), Anne Harrison (Editor)

1. Goods for processing and merchanting issues

Various initiatives are ongoing in developing operational guidelines on the new treatment of goods for processing and merchanting (UNSD, OECD, IMF, UNECE, Eurostat). In consultation with the responsible staff of the initiatives, the ISWGNA will determine at the end of 2007 whether a coherent strategy for the drafting of operational guidelines has emerged.

2. Comments received on Chapters 4, 5, and 17

The number of comments received was somewhat better than for the other chapters with 21 comments on chapter 4, 20 on chapter 5 and 21 on chapter 17. From the comments it seems that only chapter 17 needs special attention.

The summary of comments on draft chapters will be ready as indicated in the To-do list:

Chapter 3	OECD	October 12
Chapter 4	Eurostat	September 28
Chapter 5	World Bank	September 28
Chapter 16	IMF	September 28
Chapter 17 – Insurance	UNSD	September 28
Chapter 17 – Loans	World Bank	September 28
Chapter 17 – Financial assets	IMF	September 28
Chapter 17 – Contracts/leases	OECD	September 28
Chapter 17 – Pensions	Eurostat	September 28

3. SNA revision work program through the end of the year

It is expected that agreement on the codes can be reached by September 28. The final version should be sent to the Editor. OECD, IMF and UNSD will add their comments on the SNA code file prepared by Eurostat.

The Editor had several concerns about the treatment of insurance that were quite complex and difficult to explain without a note. The Editor will distribute a note preparatory to discussion at the next face-to-face meeting of the ISWGNA. This issue needs to be resolved before the add-on for chapter 6 can be completed.

The Project Manager indicated that a ISWGNA Management Group meeting was held on August 23 (in the margin of the ISI conference, Lisbon). The Management Group had indicated that the first deliverable of the 1993 SNA Rev.1 to the Statistical Commission should contain chapters 1-17 of which chapters 3-17 should be prepared and posted by mid December. Moreover, the ISWGNA:NA longitudinal review (across 17 chapters) is planned for January 2008.

A room document will be prepared for the Statistical Commission if needed with the findings of the ISWGNA review across the 17 chapters. Only with a concerted effort of ISWGNA, Editor and Project Manager the envisaged timetable seems feasible.

4. Next meetings

The next teleconference will be held on September 25, 9:30 h. UNSD will call participants for connections.

The next face to face meeting will be held on 2 October from 9:00 -12:30 h. at the OECD, followed by another meeting on 1-2 November at the IMF in Washington, DC.

5. To-do list

Action	By when	Responsible	Status
Plan for delivering a set of revised codes to the Editor by end-September	September 28	Christian Ravets (Eurostat) Charles Aspden (OECD) Kim Zieschang (IMF) Ivo Havinga (UNSD)	In process
Chapter 6: Disposition of comments on treatment of central bank output	End-August 2007	Kim Zieschang (IMF)	Pending
The Project Manager will prepare a draft letter to the ECB about ECB's comments on the mapping of taxes from the classification in the GFSM and the OECD's Revenue Statistics	End-July 2007	Carol Carson (Project Manager)	On hold
Chapter 12. Draft text on the properties of the "general price index" for distinguishing real and nominal holding gains in the holding gains and losses account for the research agenda.	End- September 2007	Ivo Havinga (UNSD) Kim Zieschang (IMF)	Pending
Update of the Full Set of Consolidated Recommendations (44 issues document) to incorporate changes and UNSC decisions	When possible	Anne Harrison (Editor)	Pending
Add-ons to draft chapters 6 and 17	Before Paris	Anne Harrison (Editor)	In process
Prepare a document for discussion on insurance	Before Paris	Anne Harrison (Editor)	In process
Organize an informal meeting with the AEG members present at the OECD meeting	Mid- September 2007	KimZieschang (IMF) Charles Aspden (OECD)	Done

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