

# Classifications *Newsletter*

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)

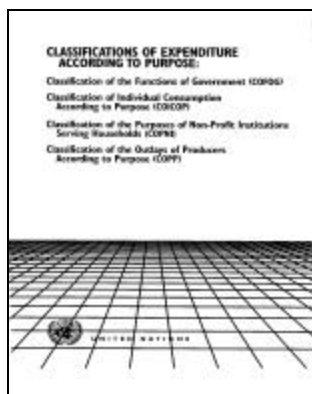
Number 4  
April 2000

## Classifications of Expenditure According to Purpose (COFOG, COICOP, COPNI and COPP) published in English

*These four new  
classifications are  
also available on-line  
at the Classifications  
Website.*

Printed publication document  
symbol:  
ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/84

Sales No.: E.00.XVII.6.



This new United Nations publication entitled **Classifications of Expenditure According to Purpose: Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG); Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP); Classification of the Purposes of Non-Profit Institutions Serving Households (COPNI); Classification of the Outlays of Producers According to Purpose (COPP)** presents four international economic classifications in one new volume. COFOG, COICOP, COPNI and COPP are primarily designed to classify transactions according to their purpose, as undertaken by government, households, non-profit institutions and producers. They may be used to classify data on the purpose of expenditure, in the compilation and analysis of statistics on national accounts, consumer price indexes, household and expenditure surveys, government finances, non-profit institutions and producers and have been specifically recommended for use in the implementation of the 1993 System of National Accounts. COFOG is a revised and expanded version of an earlier United Nations document entitled *Classification of the Functions of Government* (Statistical Papers, Series M, No.70). This is the first time that the revised and elaborated versions of these classifications are being published in full detail.

The Introduction to this new publication provides a useful overview of the characteristics and main uses of the four classifications. Each classification includes comprehensive lists of the hierarchical structure of divisions, groups and classes and contains detailed descriptions of its classes. Translations into Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish and Russian are in progress.

## Statistical Commission actions on classifications and the ISIC review

The *United Nations Statistical Commission* at its thirty-first session on 29 February-3 March 2000 in New York took the following actions on international economic and social classifications. The Commission:

- (a) endorsed the recommendations for future work on the International Standard Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC), as outlined in the Secretary-General's report and based on the proposals of the Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications made at its November 1999 meeting;
- (b) noted that the concerns raised regarding the appropriate level of detail of an international classification are determined by the need to allow for international comparison at aggregated levels as well as the need for detailed development of national classifications; also noted that a 2-digit ISIC with regional adaptations could possibly serve these needs and referred the matter to the Expert Group for further consideration;
- (c) recommended that the definition and use of alternate aggregations in ISIC receive more attention as a way to satisfy analytical needs of users;
- (d) emphasized the need for training materials and noted the already existing support of member countries in this field;
- (e) noted that during the revision process of ISIC more attention has to be given to the definition and use of statistical units and the definition of core units as building blocks;
- (f) noted UNSD ongoing efforts in making crucial information and materials available, such as provisional indices, using the internet; and

(g) noted that, although now focused on economic classifications, the Expert Group will also bring forward items relating to social classifications to the Commission.

The reports and background documents considered by the Commission in the context of classifications are available at [www.un.org/Depts/unsd/statcom/sc2000.htm](http://www.un.org/Depts/unsd/statcom/sc2000.htm).

Further work on the planned update and the next revision of ISIC has begun and will be undertaken by the Technical Subgroup to the United Nations Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications. The work includes the revision of the Introduction to ISIC Rev.3 with the goal to make it more operational and applicable to the changed economic reality. It also includes the introduction of an Information Sector into ISIC and the discussion of other alternate aggregations for analytical needs.

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## Classifications website updated

The classifications website has been redesigned to provide more extensive and innovative services to users. Among its new capabilities are a sitemap providing easy and direct access to the classifications, as well as access to textual information, products and resource services and practical search mechanisms.

All UNSD classifications are presented in detail, complete with corrections and latest updates. Correspondences are now provided between ISIC Rev.2 and 3 and also between Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 1.0 and Provisional CPC. The CPC Ver.1.0-Prov.CPC correspondence includes supplementary information on subclasses with partial correspondence.

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## Forthcoming Meetings

*Meeting of the Technical Subgroup to the United Nations Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications, Luxembourg, 22-25 May 2000.*

*United Nations Expert Group Meeting to Review the Draft Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services, New York, 10-12 July 2000.*

*Regional Workshop for Africa on Statistical Classifications, Addis Ababa, November 2000.*

For the provisional agenda and documents of the meetings please check our classifications website.

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## Errata sheets issued to CPC V.1.0

Errata sheet No.2, dated 4 February 2000, has been prepared for Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 1.0. This information has already been incorporated into the on-line version of CPC that appears on our website. The list includes amendments to Part Three, *Detailed Structure and Correspondences*, of the CPC Ver.1.0 (ST/ESA/STAT/SER.M/77/Ver.1.0) printed publication. The amendments mainly affect the corresponding SITC codes that appeared incorrectly in the CPC Ver.1.0 printed publication. For a full list of corrections (English only) see the attachment to this *Newsletter* or request it electronically through the Classifications Hotline.

For the Spanish translation of CPC Ver.1.0 (United Nations publication, Sales No. S.98.XVII.5) an errata sheet, issued 1 March 2000, can be obtained through the Classifications Hotline.

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## Attention: CPC/French users

The French translation of the Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 1.0 (United Nations publication, Sales No. F.98.XVII.5) will be re-printed due to technical errors. Those who already obtained a printed copy should use it with extra caution until the new translation becomes available and until then, are advised to refer to the English original as the authentic CPC source.

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### Editorial note

The *Classifications Newsletter* summarizes recent developments and events in international classifications and draws attention to the availability of such information on the Internet. It announces newly issued publications and technical materials related to *United Nations* statistical classifications, updates, new rulings, revision plans of classifications and classification meetings. This *Newsletter* is published and disseminated by the *United Nations Statistics Division* in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

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### For comments or further information contact the Classifications Hotline:

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Fax: 1 212 963 4116 or 1 212 963 1374

### Classifications Website:

[www.un.org/Depts/unsd/class](http://www.un.org/Depts/unsd/class)

**ERRATA SHEET No. 2**  
(Issued: 4 February 2000)

**CPC VERSION 1.0: DETAILED STRUCTURE AND CORRESPONDENCE**

| Group | Class | Subclass | Title   | C o r r e s p o n d i n g |   |  | Amended<br>publication page <sup>1</sup> |
|-------|-------|----------|---|---------------------------|---|--|--|
|       |       |          |   | ISIC                      | HS  | SITC   |  |
|       | 0123  | 01231    | Locust beans  | 0112                      | 1212.10   | <b>054.89</b>  | <i>page 33</i>                           |
|       | 0134  | 01341    | Melons  | 0112                      | 0807.11 - .19   | <b>057.91</b>  | <i>page 33</i>                           |
|       | 0323  | 03230    | Lac; other natural gums, resins and other vegetable saps and extracts   | 0200                      | 1301  | <b>292.2</b>   | <i>page 36</i>                           |
|       | 1429  | 14290    | Other non-ferrous metal ores and concentrates (other than uranium or thorium ores and concentrates)                                       | 1320                      | 2602, 2605<br>2607 - 2611<br>2613 - 2615, 2617  | <b>287.4 - .9</b>  | <i>page 38</i>                           |
|       | 2112  | 21122    | Meat and edible offal of poultry, frozen  | 1511                      | 0207.12, .14, .25, .27,<br>.33, .36   | <b>012.32, .35</b>                                       | <i>page 40</i>                           |
| 215   |       |          | Prepared and preserved <b>fruit and nuts</b>  |                           |   |  |  |
|       | 2399  | 23999    | Other food products n.e.c.  | 1549                      | 1302, 1901.90,<br>2106  | 098.94, .99,<br><b>292.94 - .96</b>                      | <i>page 46</i>                           |
|       | 3214  | 32143    | Paper and paperboard coated with kaolin or with other inorganic substances  | 2101                      | 4810  | 641.32 -.34,<br><b>.74 - .77</b>                         | <i>page 60</i>                           |
|       | 3440  | 34400    | Activated natural mineral products; animal black; tall oil; terpenic oils .....   | 2411                      | 3802.90, 3803,<br>3805 - 3807   | 598.11, .13 -.18,<br><b>.65</b>                          | <i>page 68</i>                           |
|       | 4299  | 42992    | Padlocks and locks, of base metal; clasps and frames with clasps, incorporating .....   | 2893                      | 8301, 8302  | <b>699.11, .13-.19</b>                                   | <i>page 93</i>                           |
|       | 4299  | 42999    | Metal goods n.e.c. (including anchors, grapnels and parts thereof, of iron or steel; grinding balls and similar articles for mills, ..... | 2899                      | 7316, 7325, 7326,<br>7419.91, .99, 7508,<br>7616.91, .99, 7806,<br>7907, 8007, 8306.10,<br>8307, 8310 | <b>699.51, .52,</b><br><b>.54, .6,</b><br><b>.73-.79</b> | <i>page 94</i>                           |

<sup>1</sup> Amendments to Part Three, Detailed Structure and Correspondences of CPC Version 1.0 Subclasses to ISIC Rev.3, HS96 and SITC Rev.3, *Central Product Classification (CPC) Version 1.0, Series M No.77, Ver.1.0*. Corrected items are reflected in bold.

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| Group | Class | Subclass | Title                                 | C o r r e s p o n d i n g |                              |                        | Amended<br>publication page |
|-------|-------|----------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
|       |       |          |                                       | ISIC                      | HS                           | SITC                   |                             |
|       | 4392  | 43924    | Gaskets of metal sheeting             | 2919                      | 8484                         | 749.2, .99             | <i>page 98</i>              |
|       | 4760  | 47600    | Cards with magnetic strips or<br>chip | 3210                      | 8523.30, 8524.60,<br>8542.12 | 776.41, 898.59,<br>.79 | <i>page 114</i>             |

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