UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION

Expert Group Meeting on International Statistical Classifications
New York, 13-15 May 2013

Questionnaire on National Agriculture and Food Product Classifications

FAO

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FOOD AND
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QUESTIONNAIRE ON

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCT CLASSIFICATIONS

Name of your Country
………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Name of your Organization
………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Name of your Unit/Office
………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Your contacts
Surname (family name)……………………………………………………………...…………
First name …………………………………………………………………………………………
Position …………………………………………………………………………………………….
Email address …………………………………………………………………………………
Phone number …………………………………………………………………………………

OBJECTIVE OF THE SURVEY

By collecting information on the classifications used at national level for agriculture and food products (both primary and processed), the present survey is aimed at:

● Assessing countries' practices and the extent to which international standards are implemented, with a particular reference to the *Central Product Classification (CPC) of the United Nations*;

● Understanding how classifications are managed, i.e. stored, maintained and disseminated;

● Identifying country needs on technical assistance in this domain.

The results of the questionnaire will provide a useful tool for appraising and enhancing the harmonization of data on agriculture and food production at the international level and will allow a more targeted assistance to the implementation of international standards at the country level.

GUIDELINES FOR COMPLETING THE QUESTIONNAIRE

- This questionnaire should be completed by the National Statistics Office or the Ministry of Agriculture or any other authority in charge of the adoption and maintenance of the classifications used to collect and disseminate statistics on agriculture and food products.

- The questionnaire covers classifications applying to the following product: primary crops and livestock; agriculture and food processed products[1].

- In case two separated classifications are used by your Organization to classify agriculture primary products and processed food products, then two separate questionnaires should be filled in by the concerned units.

- Abbreviations:

  - **CPC**: Central Product Classifications (United Nations)

  - **ISIC**: International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (United Nations)

  - **HS**: Harmonized System (World Customs Organization)

  - **NOPEMA**: Nomenclature des produits des Etats membres d'AFRISTAT (Products Nomenclature of AFRISTAT Member States)

  - **PRODCOM**: Production Communautaire (Community Production) (EUROSTAT)

  - **CPA**: Statistical Classification of Products by Activity (EUROSTAT)

  - **SDMX**: Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange

  - **DDI**: Data Documentation Initiative

Should you require further information and clarification, please send your request to Ms Valentina Ramaschiello (Prod-Statistics@fao.org).

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[1] e.g. oils (crude and refined); frozen meat; meat preparations; shelled nuts; flours; groats and pellets of cereals and other crops etc.

GENERAL

1. **Your Organization produces production statistics on:**
   - ☐ 1A. Primary agriculture products only (go to question 2)
   - ☐ 1B. Primary and processed agriculture and food products ** (go to question 3 and 4)
   - ☐ 1C. Processed food products only (go to question 5)

> ** Please note that in case two different classifications are used by your Organization, one to classify agriculture primary products and one for processed food products, then two separate questionnaires should be filled in by the concerned Units/Offices

2. If you replied 1A
What is the name of the classification(s) you use for agriculture products?
(Full name and acronyms in both national tongue and in English should be given)
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………

3. If you replied 1B
The classification(s) used by your Unit covers/cover:
   - ☐ Primary agriculture products
   - ☐ Primary and processed agriculture and food products
   - ☐ Processed food products

4. If you replied 1B
What is the name of the classification(s) used by your Unit for agriculture and/or food products?
(Full name and acronyms in both national tongue and in English should be given)
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5. If you replied 1C
What is the name of the classification(s) you use for food products?
(Full name and acronyms in both national tongue and in English should be given)
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6. If your Organization only collects data on primary products, please nominate the Institution(s) in charge of collecting/disseminating data on processed products in your country

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………
………
………
………

7. Is the classification(s) accessible on the internet?
- □ Yes
- □ No

If Yes, please provide the web link

……
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If No, please send the classification(s) along with the questionnaire filled out at Prod-Statistics@fao.org

8. Is the classification available in one or more official languages of the United Nations?

- □ Arabic
- □ Chinese
- □ English
- □ French
- □ Russian
- □ Spanish

If NOT, in which languages is the classification available?
……
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Any other language in which the classification is available
……
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RELATIONSHIP TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

9. Is your classification coherent with international or regional** (supra-national) classifications?
- ☐ 9A.Yes (even if not identical) (go to question 10 and then 11)
- ☐ 9B. No (go to question 11)

> ** Example of regional organizations are AFRISTAT, EUROSTAT, ECLAC etc

10. <u>If you replied 9A</u>
To what extent your classification is coherent with international or regional (supra-national) classifications? (please, rank only those relevant for you)

	Identical	Very similar	Similar	Only minor similarities
CPC Ver.2	☐	☐	☐	☐
CPC Ver.1.1	☐	☐	☐	☐
FAOSTAT	☐	☐	☐	☐
ISIC	☐	☐	☐	☐
HS (any version)	☐	☐	☐	☐
AFRISTAT NOPEMA	☐	☐	☐	☐
EUROSTAT Regulation	☐	☐	☐	☐
EUROSTAT CPA or PRODCOM	☐	☐	☐	☐
OTHER, please specify	☐	☐	☐	☐

If your replied "Very similar", "Similar" or "Only minor similarities", how your classification differs from international or regional ones?
………
………
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………
………
………

11. Are there any plans at country level to implement/use international/regional (supra-national) schemes in the future?
- □ Yes
- □ No
- □ Don't know
- □ Already in use

If Yes, which one(s)?

…………………………………………………………………………………………

12. Are data converted from the national classification to international or regional (supra-national) product classifications?
- □ Yes
- □ No
- □ Don't know
- □ Yes, OTHER (please specify)

  ………………………………………………………………………………………………
  ………………………………………………………………………………………………
  ……………………………………………………………………………………………

13. If Yes, to which classifications?
- □ CPC Ver.2
- □ CPC Ver.1.1
- □ FAOSTAT
- □ ISIC
- □ HS
- □ AFRISTAT NOPEMA
- □ EUROSTAT CPA or PRODCOM
- □ Other (please specify)

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SUPPORTING MATERIAL

14. Do correspondence tables exist between your classification and international or regional (supra-national) classifications?
- □ Yes
- □ No
- □ Other (please specify)

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If the correspondence tables are available online please provide the web link, otherwise please send them along with the questionnaire filled in at Prod-Statistics@fao.org

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15. Is the classification supported by explanatory notes?**
- □ Yes
- □ No
- □ Don't know
- □ Other (please specify)

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If the explanatory notes are available online please provide the web link, otherwise please send them along with the questionnaire at Prod-Statistics@fao.org

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** The explanatory notes are definitions and descriptions of the class content. For example, the explanatory note of the class "Wheat seed" may be: "this class includes wheat species of *Triticum*, mainly *aestivum* and *durum*, grown specifically for seed purposes, whether or not processed. This subclass does not include wheat not grown specifically for seed purposes"

This section should be filled in by people in charge of information systems

16. How do you store your classification?
- □ Database
- □ Spreadsheet
- □ Document
- □ XML file
- □ Don't know/Not applicable
- □ Other (please specify)……………………………………………………………………

If database, please specify type, (e.g. Access, MySql, Oracle, SQLServer)
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17. How do you disseminate your classification?
- □ Web page
- □ Downloadable spreadsheet, document or XML file
- □ Attached to time series data tables
- □ Don't know/Not applicable
- □ Other (please specify)……………………………………………………………………

18. How do you edit your classification?
- □ Directly in Database
- □ Web-based editing tool
- □ Directly in spreadsheet, document or XML file
- □ Don't know/Not applicable
- □ Other (please specify)……………………………………………………………………

19. Do you disseminate classification using web services?
- □ Yes
- □ No
- □ Planning to
- □ Don't know/Not applicable

20. Do you update and maintain different versions of your classification (is there some form of version control or is version labeling used)?
- □ Yes
- □ No
- □ Don't know/Not applicable

21. Do you use the information management standards SDMX or DDI in storing, exchanging or disseminating statistical data and/or metadata?
- □ SDMX
- □ DDI
- □ SDMX and DDI
- □ Neither

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

22. Would you like to receive technical assistance from FAO in this domain?
- □ Yes
- □ No

23. If Yes, what type of technical assistance?
- □ Information (e.g. conferences, seminars, workshops etc.)
- □ Trainings
- □ E-learning and training material available online
- □ Easier communication with FAO through the identification of FAO classification focal points
- □ FAO online classifications registry
- □ Other (please specify)……………………………………………………………………

24. On what content?
- □ International classifications principles and features
- □ Classifications good practices
- □ Correspondences between national and international classifications
- □ How to develop, structure and implement your classification for agriculture and food statistics based on international classifications
- □ How to manage your classifications (store, disseminate, update and maintain)
- □ Other (please specify)……………………………………………………………………

OTHER COMMENTS

25. Please, let us know any other comment or input you deem relevant

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION!