



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION

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**Meeting of the Expert Group on
International Statistical Classifications
New York, 19-22 May 2015**

Status of work on the International Classification for Time-Use Surveys

Extract from the report to the Statistical Commission 2015 (E/CN.3/2015/32)

B. International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics

35. The Statistics Division continues to work on the finalization of the International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics (ICATUS) based on: the outcomes of the United Nations Expert Group Meeting on the Revision of the United Nations Trial International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics, convened in New York from 11 to 13 June 2012; the adoption of the resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization by the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, held in Geneva from 2 to 11 October 2013; and comments received from national statistical offices.

36. The finalization of the International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics was delayed owing to the ongoing work shared jointly between the Statistics Division and ILO on reconciling and aligning the International Classification with the new ILO definition of work. In particular, challenges include: (a) aligning the concepts of productive/ non-productive activities of ICATUS (based on the SNA framework, as requested by countries and experts) with the different forms of work identified by ILO in the new resolution, and the fact that subsistence production is no longer part of employment; (b) listing/classifying activities undertaken by persons working in their own economic units for the production of goods and services intended for the market, in such a way as to ensure that the type of activity that they have engaged in is still visible in the classification, instead of being labelled simply as employment. Given the difficulties in capturing/estimating household production (also for the main SNA accounts), countries that have adopted/adapted ICATUS in its trial version have stressed the importance of giving full visibility in ICATUS to activities undertaken in this sector of production, even when those activities produce goods and services intended for pay or profit.

37. Once finalized, the International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics will be reviewed by the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications to ensure its alignment with the criteria for international classifications as well as with other relevant international classifications. It is expected that the International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics will be submitted, for adoption, to the Statistical Commission at its forty-seventh session in 2016.