



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION

ESA/STAT/AC.289/1
13 May 2015

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

Provisional agenda

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

(All papers are expected to be introduced by a corresponding presentation)

All documents are available on

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/class/intercop/expertgroup/2015/ac289-2.asp>

Tuesday, 19 May 2015

09:30-10:00 Registration of participants

Session 1: Opening

10:00-10:15 Opening statements

10:15-10:30 Election of officers, introduction of participants and adoption of agenda

10:30-11:00 Review of decisions and recommendations made at the previous meeting of the Expert Group

Documentation:

- Report of the Bureau of the Expert group on work carried out in 2013-2015 (ESA/STAT/AC.289/17)

Session 2: Mandate and Family of International Classifications

11:00-11:30 Mandate of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications

The EG will discuss the mandate to ensure that the terms of reference and the items to be progressed are still appropriate for improving cooperation on international statistical classifications, and for ensuring harmonisation and convergence among classifications in the International Family of Statistical Classifications.

The EG may discuss whether there be membership statuses for the EG.

Documentation:

- Mandate document (ESA/STAT/AC.289/Bk.1)

11:30-11:45 Coffee break

11:45-12:30 Criteria for Inclusion into the International Family of Statistical Classifications

The EG will approve the revised document which outlines the criteria that is needed to be fulfilled for a classification to be recognised as a member of the Family of International Statistical Classifications.

Documentation

- Criteria to become a Member of the International Family of Classifications (ESA/STAT/AC.289/5)

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:30 Composition of the International Family of Statistical Classifications

The EG will review and approve a paper detailing those International Statistical Classifications to be included in the International Family of Statistical Classifications. The EG will discuss the application of the Classification of Statistical Activities (CSA) to clarify how international statistical classifications are classified within the CSA structure.

Documentation:

- Review of the International Family of Classifications (ESA/STAT/AC.289/29)
- Grading Criteria for International Statistical Classifications (ESA/STAT/AC.289/6)

15:30-15:45 Coffee break

15:45-16:30 Cont'd - Composition of the International Family of Statistical Classifications

16:30-17:00 Assessment of implementation of international statistical classifications in national statistical systems

The EG will review a report on the implementation of ISIC, CPC and other classifications, based on the results of the questionnaire on national classifications.

Documentation:

- Status of survey on national classifications practices [Presentation only (19)]

17:00 Closing

Wednesday, 20 May 2015

Session 3: Reports from Technical Sub-Groups

09:30-11:00 International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) Rev.4

The EG will discuss the outcomes and recommendations of work undertaken by the Technical Sub-Group on ISIC, and approve issues that were resolved by the TSG.

The EG will discuss the work undertaken on resolving how to classify Factoryless Goods Production, review progress on the Implementation Guide for ISIC Rev 4, and determine whether there are issues requiring a revision to ISIC Rev 4. The use of ISIC for non-statistical purposes will also be discussed.

The EG will discuss the work undertaken by the EU Task Force on the treatment of holding companies and head offices.

The EG will discuss issues raised by Statistics Germany regarding the appropriateness of retail sales being distinguished by sales channels (in (specialized) shops, via stalls and markets, via mail order houses or via internet, other) rather than by the range of products.

The EG will discuss issues raised by IBGE regarding the treatment of seed production, mixed production in agriculture, the need to split crop and animal production, and manufacturers of sugar cane.

Documentation:

- Report of the meeting of the Technical Subgroup on ISIC (ST/ESA/STAT/AC.289/13)

- Classification of Holding Companies and Head Offices according to NACE Rev.2 (ST/ESA/STAT/AC.289/11)
- Appropriateness of retail sales distinguished by sales channels (ST/ESA/STAT/AC.289/8)
- Brazilian remarks on the need for a revision or update of ISIC Rev.4 (ST/ESA/STAT/AC.289/7)
- Use of ISIC for non-statistical purposes - National experiences (ESA/STAT/AC.289/9)
- Remarks of Morocco on the necessity of a revision or an update of the ISIC Rev.4 (ESA/STAT/AC.289/10)
- Global Production - Factoryless Goods Producers (ESZ/STAT/AC.289/Bk.7)

11:00-11:15 **Coffee break**

11:15-12:30 **Cont'd - International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) Rev.4**

12:30-14:00 **Lunch break**

14:00-15:30 **Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP)**

The EG will discuss the outcomes and recommendations of work undertaken by the Technical Sub-Group on COICOP, and approve issues that were resolved by the TSG.

The EG will discuss and determine whether a full review of COICOP should be undertaken and in addition, consider the need to review the other functional classifications of the System of National Accounts (SNA).

Documentation

- Review of the Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (COICOP) (ESA/STAT/AC.289/12)

15:30-15:45 **Coffee break**

15:45-17:00 **Central Product Classification (CPC)**

The EG will discuss the outcomes and recommendations of work undertaken by the Technical Sub-Group on CPC, and approve issues that were resolved by the TSG.

The EG will also consider for approval work undertaken on linking the Extended Balance of Payments Services Classification (EBOPS) to CPC.

Documentation:

- Status of work on the Central Product Classification (CPC) Ver.2.1 [Presentation only (21)]
- New issues requiring guidance in the CPC (ESA/STAT/AC.289/20)
- CPC implementation and other activities on classifications in FAO (ESA/STAT/AC.289/16)
- International Trade in ICT Services and ICT-enabled Services (ESA/STAT/AC.289/Bk.5)

17:00 **Closing**

Session 4: Review of new classifications developments and/or revisions

09:30-10:30 Broad Economic Categories (BEC)

The EG will be informed of progress on the revision of the Broad Economic Categories (BEC) classification and approve the revised classification as an international statistical standard.

Documentation:

- Revision of the Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC) (ESA/STAT/AC.289/23)
- Results of the Global consultation on the draft manual of the 5th Revision of the BEC (ESA/STAT/AC.289/24)
- Draft Manual of the Fifth Revision of the BEC - June 2014 (ESA/STAT/AC.289/Bk.4)

10:30-11:15 Integration of statistical and geospatial information, frameworks and standards *

The EG will discuss the impact of approaches in integrating statistical and geospatial information in relation to existing and future international statistical classifications.

Documentation:

- Report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information (ESA/STAT/AC.289/27)

11:15-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-12:30 Harmonised System (HS)

The EG will discuss the 2017 review of the Harmonised System and consider the implications for CPC, SITC, BEC and ISIC. Discussion will also consider the need for better relationships and communications between the World Customs Organisation (WCO), and international and national statistical agencies. Discussion on the availability of the HS explanatory notes and contributions to future HS revisions may take place.

The EG should also discuss the existing relationships between HS and CPC and ISIC (and its regional adaptations) and implications of rulings based on criteria that are not equally applicable.

Documentation:

- tbd
- FAO Contribution to the Harmonized System 2017 (ESA/STAT/AC.289/15)
- Impact of interpretations in product classifications on ISIC-CPC-HS linkages and consistency [Presentation only (18)]

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:15 International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO08)

The EG will review the status of implementation of implementation of ISCO and any plans for future revision.

Documentation:

- The status of implementation of implementation and plans for future revision of the International Standard Classification of Occupations, 2008 (ISCO-08) (ESA/STAT/AC.289/34)

15:15-15:30 **Coffee break**

15:30-16:30 **International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93)**

The EG will discuss the outcomes of the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians and the impact of the change in definitions for the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment, and their impact on international statistical classifications.

The EG will discuss the need for a review of the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93) given the changes to labour standards, and/or consider the development of a new suite of labour related classifications to replace ICSE.

Documentation:

- Review of the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE) (ESA/STAT/AC.289/35)

- Issues to be addressed in the revision of the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93) (ESA/STAT/AC.289/Bk.6)

16:30-17:00 **International Classification of Activities for Time Use Statistics (ICATUS)**

The EG will discuss progress on the review of ICATUS and discuss options for future work on this statistical classification.

Documentation:

- Status of work on the International Classification for Time-Use Surveys (ESA/STAT/AC.289/30)

17:00 **Closing**

Friday, 22 May 2015

Session 4 (cont'd): Review of new classifications developments and/or revisions

09:30-10:30 **International Classification for Crime Statistics (ICCS)**

The EG will be informed on the work that was undertaken on ICCS and discuss plans for international implementation.

Documentation:

- Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes (ESA/STAT/AC.289/28)

10:30-11:15 **Big Data ***

The EG will discuss why and how Big Data is important for official statistics. The EG will consider the impact of innovations in technology on the collection and integration of administrative data with statistical data, and the impact on future classification methodology or processes.

Documentation:

- Results of the UNSD/UNECE Survey on organizational context and individual projects of Big Data (ESA/STAT/AC.289/25)
- Classification of Types of Big Data (ESA/STAT/AC.289/26)

11:15-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-12:30 Other classifications and areas of interest to the work of the EG

The EG will discuss options for supporting work on other classifications that may be part of the International Family of Statistical Classifications, such as the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) and related classifications used in environmental statistics, or Disaster Risk Reduction frameworks.

The EG will discuss the feasibility of better coverage of indigenous requirements within international statistical classifications and what approaches or guidelines can be supplied or statistical standards developed for national statistical agencies to use.

The EG may consider discussing approaches to measuring homelessness, and gender identity.

Documentation:

- Homelessness in New Zealand - Towards a Standard Definition and Classification [Presentation only (14)]
- Gender identity - Developing a statistical standard (ESA/STAT/AC.289/Bk.2)
- (no SEEA-related presentation scheduled)

Session 5: Metadata standards, Geospatial integration and Big Data

12:30-14:00 Lunch break

14:00-15:45 Discussion on metadata standards and information models

The EG will discuss the role of international metadata standards such as SDMX for the management of classifications, and review work done by the EG and links with the Global Inventory of Statistical Standards. Updates on GSIM and other initiatives will be considered.

Documentation:

- Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM): Statistical Classifications Model (ESA/STAT/AC.289/22)
- Status of the Global Inventory of Statistical Standards [Presentation only (31)]
- New Zealand classification management system [Presentation only (32)]

15:45-16:00 Coffee break

Session 6: Future work

16:00-16:45 Future Work

The Expert Group will discuss the future work programme for the period 2015-2017 and beyond, and confirm the action items identified at the meeting.

16:45-17:00 Election of the Bureau members and Chair

The EG will elect the Bureau members and Chair.

17:00-17:15 Closing of the meeting

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Last update: 13 May 2015 (topics marked with * have been moved to accommodate participants and may appear under a different section header now)