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STAT 219/1

2 July 2010

Dear Colleagues,

**Re: Worldwide consultation on the provisional draft of  
*International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES)***

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the second stage of a worldwide consultation on draft *International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES)* which are being developed in accordance with the decisions of the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its 36<sup>th</sup> and 37<sup>th</sup> sessions. UNSC, inter alia, recognized the significance of energy statistics, recommended their development as part of official statistics and called for the revision and further development of the relevant international standards.

During the first stage of the consultation (conducted in May-June 2008) countries strongly supported the proposed scope, content and structure of IRES and provided valuable comments and suggestions regarding their content. Over the two year period the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) supported by the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics (Oslo Group) and the Inter-agency Working Group on Energy Statistics (InterEnerStat) was making special effort to ensure drafting of the recommendations in line with the results of the consultation. This cooperative work resulted in the preparation of the provisional draft of IRES which is now available on the UNSD website at

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/energy/ires/consultation.htm>

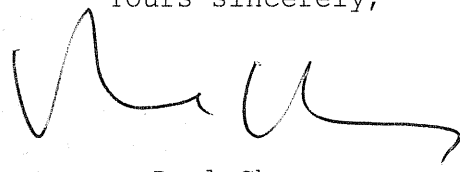
The provisional draft of IRES cover a broad range of issues from basic concepts to data sources, data compilation strategies, energy balances, data quality assurance and dissemination. Once adopted by the Commission, IRES will provide a firm foundation for a long-term development of energy statistics. Additional guidance will be provided in *Energy Statistics Compilers Manual* (ESCM) which will be prepared as a part of IRES implementation programme.

The second stage of a worldwide consultation is organized to ensure that all stakeholders have an opportunity to express their views prior to the submission of the draft to UNSC at its forty-second session, to be held on 22-25 February 2011, for adoption. Please see attached a brief questionnaire which is designed as a tool to obtain standardized responses in order to better reflect countries' views in the amended provisional draft. The amended draft will be presented to the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the United Nations Expert Group on Energy Statistics which will be convened by UNSD on 2-5 November 2010 in New York to review and endorse the final draft of IRES. Your response to the questionnaire and any additional comments you might have will be very much appreciated. If energy statistics, or any part of it, is not under the responsibility of your office, I would be grateful if you could forward a copy of this letter to the relevant agencies in your country and coordinate with them your response as much as possible.

I would appreciate it very much if you return to UNSD the completed questionnaire by **31 August 2010** using the following e-mail address: [energy\\_stat@un.org](mailto:energy_stat@un.org). Please, contact Ms. Ilaria DiMatteo, Chief of Energy Statistics Section ([dimatteo@un.org](mailto:dimatteo@un.org); fax 212 963 0623), for any questions regarding the organization of the IRES preparation and its content.

I thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Cheung  
Director  
Statistics Division/DESA