



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION
UNITED NATIONS

ESA/STAT/AC.108
UNCEEA/Prelim/1

**Preliminary Meeting of the UN Committee on
Environmental-Economic Accounting
New York, 29-31 August 2005
Two United Nations Plaza, Conference Room 23rd floor**

PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Monday, 29 August 2005

Registration of participants (9:00-9:30)

Morning Session (9:30 – 12:30)

1. Opening of the meeting
 - a. Opening statement by Paul Cheung, Director, United Nations Statistics Division
 - b. Adoption of the agenda
2. Operational guidelines and Terms of Reference of the UN Committee– Background document (UNCEEA/Prelim/5)

Afternoon Session (2:00 – 5:30)

3. Promotion of the environmental-economic accounts
 - a. Strategy paper. Paper prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNCEEA/Prelim/6)
 - b. Sustainable Development Indicators and Accounting: Two Separate Worlds or a Dialogue Process by Statisticians, Politicians and Modellers? Paper prepared by the Federal Statistical Office Germany (UNCEEA/Prelim/7)
4. Implementation of the accounts
 - a. Strategy paper. Paper prepared by the Earth Institute at Columbia University and the World Bank Environment Department (UNCEEA/Prelim/8)
 - b. UN Water. Presentation by the UN Division for Sustainable Development

Reception (5:30PM – 7:30PM)

Tuesday, 30 August 2005

Morning Session (9:00 – 12:30)

5. Research agenda – Preliminary list of issues (UNCEEA/Prelim/9 - forthcoming)
Issues have been grouped on the basis of the SEEA-2003 Chapters.
 - a. Chapter 3 - Physical flow accounts. Presentation by Statistics Denmark (Background paper UNCEEA/Prelim/9a)
 - b. Chapter 4 - Hybrid flow accounts. Presentation by Statistics Netherlands (Background paper UNCEEA/Prelim/9b)
 - i. Material Flow Accounts. Paper by OECD (UNCEEA/Prelim/10)
 - ii. Material Flow Indicators and Related Measurement Tools. Paper by OECD (UNCEEA/Prelim/10i)
 - iii. Material Flows and Related Indicators-OECD Approach and Work Plan for 2005-2006. Paper by OECD (UNCEEA/Prelim/10ii)
 - iv. Material Flows and Related Indicators-Inventory of Country Activities. Paper by OECD (UNCEEA/Prelim/10iii)
 - c. Chapters 5 and 6 – Accounting for economic activities and products related to the environment and Accounting for other environmentally related transactions. Presentations by Statistics Sweden and Eurostat
 - d. Chapters 7 and 8 - Asset accounts and the valuation of natural resource stocks. Specific Resource Accounts. Presentations by Statistics Denmark and UNSD.
 - e. Chapters 9 and 10- Valuation techniques for measuring degradation. Making environmental adjustments to the flow accounts. Presentation by the Federal Statistical Office Germany. (Background paper UNCEEA/Prelim/9e)
 - f. Other issues
 - i. Expanding the SEEA framework to social aspects. Presentation by Statistics Sweden (Background paper UNCEEA/Prelim/9f.i)
 - ii. Measurement of Ecosystems. Presentation by European Environment Agency (Background paper UNCEEA/Prelim/9f.ii)

Afternoon Session (2:00 – 5:30)

5. Research Agenda (Cont' d)
6. Harmonization of data collection activities with environmental accounting
 - a. Strategy paper. Paper by OECD Environment Directorate (UNCEEA/Prelim/11)
 - b. Energy Statistics – the newly established Oslo Group and Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics. Presentation by Statistics Norway and UNSD
 - c. Links between Water Accounting and UNSD/UNEP and OECD/Eurostat Questionnaires on Water Resources – Towards the Harmonization of Water Statistics and Accounting. Paper prepared by UNSD (UNCEEA/Prelim/12)

Wednesday, 31 August 2005

Morning Session (9:00 – 12:30)

7. Conclusions and recommendations
 - a. Terms of reference of the UN Committee on Environmental-Economic Accounting to be submitted to the Bureau of the Statistical Commission
 - b. Governance and work programme
 - c. Election of the Chair and membership of the Committee
 - d. First meeting of the UN Committee

Afternoon Session (2:00 – 4:00)

8. Thematic Session on Water
 - a. Handbook of National Accounting – Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting for Water. Paper by UNSD. (UNCEEA/Prelim/13a and draft handbook UNCEEA/Prelim/13b – Background paper)
 - b. Water Framework Directive and its implementation. Paper by Statistics Netherlands (UNCEEA/Prelim/14)
9. Closing