

Annex 1 – DRAFT REPORT

STATISTICAL COMMISSION

28 February 2007

Thirty-eighth session
27 February – 2 March 2007

item 3(h)

Environmental Accounting

DRAFT REPORT

Discussed on: 28 February 2007, morning and afternoon

Documents considered: E/CN.3/2007/9 “Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting”, background documents “System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water” and “Global Assessment of Environment Statistics and Environmental-Economic Accounting”.

The Commission:

- (a) Commended the work of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEA) and stressed the importance of the work of the Committee in the elevation of the handbook *Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting 2003*, commonly referred to as SEEA-2003, to the level of an international statistical standard based on an agreed issues list and taking into consideration consistency with the 1993 SNA Rev.1 and other revised macro-economic standards;
- (b) Adopted Part 1 of the *System of Environmental-Economic Accounting for Water* (SEEAW) as an interim international statistical standard recognizing significant demand from the users’ community and encouraged its implementation in countries;

- (c) Requested that the SEEAW be re-evaluated by the Commission at the time the revised SEEA is submitted to the Commission for adoption as international statistical standard;
- (d) Requested the UNSD to develop and submit to the next Statistical Commission an implementation strategy for SEEAW, taking into account the fact that countries are at different stages of development of environment statistics and environmental-economic accounting;
- (e) Called upon countries and international agencies to allocate sufficient resources to the revision of the SEEA-2003 in their work programme in view of the urgency of revising the SEEA-2003;
- (f) Requested the UNCEEA to develop and submit to the next Statistical Commission a Project Management Framework for the revision of SEEA 2003 consisting of principles of the revision process, governance structure and funding;
- (g) Called upon the UNCEEA to continue, within its mandate, coordination with the city groups and other expert groups working in environmental-economic accounting and related statistics;
- (h) Encouraged UNSD and the UNCEEA to continue organizing user-producer conferences building on the success of the User-Producer Conference on Water Accounting for Integrated Water Resources Management;
- (i) Took note of the results of Phase I of the Global Assessment of Environment Statistics and Environmental-Economic Accounting, confirmed its application for assessing the present and planned scope of implementation of SEEA in countries and welcomed Phase II of the Global Assessment in 2007, with a focus on specific subject areas identified by countries in Phase I.