

**7th Meeting of the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts,
23-25 April 2012, New York**

Agenda item: I

: Terms of reference and programme of work for the period up to 2014

Introduction

Following the decision of the United Nations Statistical Commission the Advisory Expert Group on National Accounts (AEG) was re-established in accordance with the terms of reference set out in the mandate and governance of the ISWGNA. These terms of reference indicate that the AEG assists the ISWGNA in developing the elements of the implementation programme of the 2008 SNA, in taking forward issues on the research agenda of the 2008 SNA and in addressing emerging national accounts related issues. The AEG will discuss issues through electronic communication facilities, such as internet, teleconferencing and electronic mail, and will also have physical meetings. The AEG would meet annually or as the need arises. Under this agenda item, the terms of reference, a more detailed proposal for the work programme up to 2014, and working arrangements will be discussed.

Guidance on documentation provided

Two documents are available for this agenda item:

- **Inter Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts: Mandate and Governance.** This document has been presented, as a background document, to the 2011 meeting of the UN Statistical Commission.
- **Programme of Work of the ISWGNA and AEG for the period up to 2014.** This document has been written by the ISWGNA. It also served as a major source of input into the “Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts” (Reference: E/CN.3/2012/4) to the 2012 meeting of the UN Statistical Commission.

In relation to the programme of work, it should be noted that the work on pension liabilities has been postponed, for reasons which will be discussed later on. It will also be clear that the dates of the first physical meeting of the AEG in its new constituency had to be postponed to April 2012.

Main issues to be discussed

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- Does the AEG agree with the postponement of the future research agenda, and the prioritization of issues related to the implementation of the 2008 SNA?
 - Does the AEG agree with the main priorities as set out in the work programme, especially those related to the provision of further guidance on the implementation of the 2008 SNA?
 - Does the AEG have ideas and/or suggestions for the further enhancement of the communication about (the implementation of) the 2008 SNA?
 - Would the AEG like to add other lines of work in the coming two years?
 - Are there any issues and/or clarifications needed in relation to the contents of the mandate and the governance of the ISWGNA/AEG?