Towards the 2025 SNA

SNA 2025 Implementation Procedures for Agreeing Compilation Handbooks

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Introduction

- Three key questions for consideration:
  - What should be the consultation process for the development of the compilation handbooks?
  - Who should approve the handbooks?
  - Under whose auspices should the handbooks be published?

Consultation

- The group responsible for developing the handbook should have the necessary expertise to produce a quality document.

- Broader consultation processes enable potentially different approaches to be identified and can help 'polish' a product

- Furthermore, broad consultation can provide a greater sense of 'ownership' of the finished product and enhance its validity in the eyes of those who will be using it.

- However, broad consultation processes – in particular global consultation – require time and effort

- It is proposed that a two-step process be adopted for consultation
  - In the first step, an interim version of a handbook would be produced. This interim version would only be subject to consultation within the group responsible for its development. It would be clearly labelled as an interim version, but would be available for any country that wished to use it. There would be no translation of this version into languages other than English.
  - In the second step, the interim version would be subject to global consultation (organised by the UNSD)

Approval

- Interim version signed off by AEG and ISWGNA
  - May also require BOPCOM sign-off if involves significant BOP issues
- Final version (post global consultation) signed off by AEG and ISWGNA, as well as any specific approvals process required by the sponsoring organization
- The handbooks would be subsequently submitted to the UNSC for information. The final versions would be translated into other languages according to the practices of the publishing organization(s)

Auspices

- It is proposed that the publication of the handbooks be organised by the organization(s) leading their development

- Whilst the exact format of the handbooks may vary according to specific organisational rules, it is proposed that each handbook should have a standard and prominent form of recognition of the contributions of other organisations to their development
    - This would include references to the ISWGNA and AEG, so that the handbooks establish a close linkage to the SNA update process, and its outcomes

Other issues

- An issue is should the handbooks be stand-alone products, or should they be integrated with other handbooks?
  - For example, it may be sensible to create an overarching "Handbook on the compilation of intellectual property products", which would bring together the work on developing compilation guidance for data and marketing assets with existing work
  - However, this would be a significant undertaking and would probably take several years to produce.
  - Furthermore, relevant international organisations would need to commit to the work
  - Accordingly, it is proposed that the handbooks on data and marketing assets be developed as 'stand-alone' products in the interim, with any decision on integrating them taken in due course
- There is also the issue of methodological guidance that is produced for broader purposes, but will be used to support SNA 2025 implementation
  - For example, the IMF is developing a compilation guidance for crypto assets. This guidance will cover both national accounting and balance of payments requirements, as well as support the G20 DGI-3 Recommendation 11 on Digital Money, which will develop a common data collection framework for measuring crypto assets among the G20 and FSB countries
  - As this work is not being undertaken under the direct auspices of the SNA update program, it is not possible for the update program to impose conditions on the development of the guidance materials
  - However, it is suggested that the SNA update program work with the task team to ensure that any materials developed are subject to broad consultation (which is likely to be the case anyway)

Questions for AEG

- The AEG is invited to provide comments on the proposed approach

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST