1. Opening

Martine Durand (OECD) welcomed all participants to the conference call: Laurs Norlund and Gallo Gueye (Eurostat), Kim Zieschang (IMF), Ivo Havinga (UNSD), Shaida Badiee (World Bank), and Peter van de Ven (OECD).

2. Draft Report of the ISWGNA to the UN Statistical Commission

All members of the ISWGNA:MG welcomed the draft report to the Statistical Commission, and complimented UNSD for drafting the report. Participants noted the importance of paragraph 14 in the draft that points to the lack of progress in implementing the (2008) SNA in developing countries. It was agreed that further thought should be given between now and February 2013 to the articulation of the elements for the scaling up of the global programme and that these elements should be part of the oral presentation to the Statistical Commission. It was also agreed to mention the adoption of the 2010 ESA in the oral presentation. A small additional comment related to a sentence on regular physical meetings of the AEG in paragraph 15; although included in the minutes of the AEG-meeting, it was agreed to remove the sentence, in order to avoid confusion, as the ISWGNA:MG has decided at its June meeting that AEG meetings would only be convened if and when necessary.

All members agreed to send final, more detailed comments on the draft report within 24 hours after the meeting.

3. Organisation an AEG-meeting in May 2013

Peter van de Ven introduced the topic, by stating that the meeting of the ISWGNA:NA held on 4 October 2012 in Paris (see relevant minutes) concluded that there is a sufficient number of issues on the SNA research agenda for the discussion by AEG at a physical meeting in May 2013. The following main items were put forward by the ISWGNA:NA: global production; FISIM; holding companies, head offices and SPEs; and issues pending with respect to the recording of pension liabilities.

It was agreed that the OECD, in co-operation with the UNSD, would draft and circulate an annotated agenda to the ISWGNA:MG in the coming days, reflecting the comments made in relation to extending the agenda to issues of implementation, and adding additional days to allow for a broader interregional orientation to implementation and compilation issues for AEG members from developing countries. ISWGNA members should subsequently express their views on holding a physical meeting of the AEG.

4. Any other business

It was agreed to have a physical meeting of the ISWGNA:MG in the margins of the meeting of the UN Statistical Commission, probably during breakfast on Monday or Tuesday. It was also
reconfirmed to have a meeting with the regional commissions, for which the UNSD would look at possible dates.

Peter van de Ven noted that the ISWGNA:NA had an audioconference on 5 December, to discuss the (at least seemingly) divergent treatment of central bank output in the 2010 ESA and the 2008 SNA. It was agreed that the IMF (Manik Shrestha) and the OECD (Peter van de Ven) would prepare a draft short note on this topic for publication in SNA News & Notes.