

AGENDA

High Level Forum for the Long-Term Development of the SNA

17-18 November 2008,
World Bank, Washington, D.C.

Monday, 17 November 2008

8.00 - 9.00 Registration

9.00 – 10.00

Session 1: Opening of High Level Forum

Welcoming remarks

Shaida Badiee, Director, Development Economics Data Group, World Bank

Katherine Wallman, Chief Statistician, Office of Management and Budget, USA

Introduction of issues

Walter Radermacher, Director General, Eurostat and Chair of the ISWGNA

Key note: The role of the SNA as an international statistical standard, now and in the future

Rob Vos, Director, Development Policy and Analysis Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

10.00 – 1.00

Session 2: Are the theoretical foundations of the 2008 System of National Accounts still relevant today?

Chair: Paul Cheung, Director, Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

10.00 -11.00 Invited Speakers

The SNA: some outstanding issues

Peter Hill, Professor, Main author of the 1993 SNA

Bridging Theory and Practice in National Accounting

Bart van Ark, Chief Economist, Conference Board

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee/Tea break

11.30 -12.00 Discussants

Wolfgang Strohm, Head of Department, National and Environmental Accounts and Employment, DESTATIS, Germany

Ian Ewing, Deputy Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics

12.00 – 1.00 General Discussion

1.00– 2.30 Lunch

2.30 – 6.00

Session 3: Does the 2008 System of National Accounts meet today's policy needs?

Chair: Walter Radermacher, Director General, Eurostat

2.30 – 4.00 Invited Speakers

The System of National Accounts and Policy Development - with a Special Focus on Fiscal Policy

Munir A. Sheikh, Chief Statistician, Statistics Canada

SNA User Needs for Monetary and Financial Policy-making

Steven Keuning, Director General Statistics, European Central Bank

The Global Financial Crisis: What are we learning about policy-makers' data needs?

Tessa van der Willigen, Senior Advisor, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF

4.00 - 4.30 Coffee/tea break

4.30 – 5.00 Discussants

Steve Landefeld, Director, Bureau of Economic Analysis, USA

Pronab Sen, Chief Statistician, Central Statistical Office, India

5.00 – 6.00 General Discussion

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9.00 – 12.00

Session 4: Organizing future revisions

Chair: Adelheid Bürgi-Schmelz, Director, Statistics Department, IMF

9.00 – 10.00 Invited Speakers

Considerations regarding future revisions of SNA
Kirsten Wismer, Director of Economic Statistics, Statistics Denmark

Justification, criteria, implementability considerations for revisions – developing country perspective
Omi Kelsom Elias, Director, National Accounts Statistics Division, Department of Statistics, Malaysia

Governance, mandate and functions
Karen Wilson, Director General, System of National Accounts Branch, Statistics Canada

10.00- 10.30 Discussants

Shlomo Yitzhaki, Director General, Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel
Rashad Cassim, Head of Economic Statistics, Statistics South Africa

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee/tea break

11.00- 12.00 General Discussion

12.00 – 4.00

Session 5: Research agenda for future SNA development

Chair: Charles Aspden, Statistics Directorate, OECD

Invited Speakers:

Criteria for setting priorities for the SNA research agenda
Joe Grice, Executive Director, Economic, Labour Market and Social Analysis, Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom

Fundamental Issues Relating to Data Gathering and Data Quality and Related Resource and Response Burden Consideration
Joseph Aruna Lawrence Kamara, Statistician General, Sierra Leone

Dealing with external challenges in the compilation of national accounts: The Dutch response
Peter van de Ven, Head of National Accounts, Statistics Netherlands

1.00- 2.30 Lunch

2.30 – 3.00 Discussants

Michel Mouyelo-Katoula, Division Manager, Statistical Capacity Building,
African Development Bank

Steven Keuning, Director General Statistics, European Central Bank

3.00- 4.00 General Discussion

4.00 - 4.30 Coffee/tea break

4.30 - 6.00

Session 6: Conclusions and recommendations for action

Chair: Pronab Sen, Chief Statistician, Central Statistical Office, India

Wrap-up session.

Summaries by Chairs and ISWGNA Rapporteurs to be followed by discussion.