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Workshop on the Implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts

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Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL ACCOUNTS SYSTEM OF THE REPUBLIC OF
BELARUS**

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1. In august 1992 the Government of the Republic of Belarus approved Transition Programme to the internationally adopted accounting and statistics standards. Its major goals and objectives were to create statistical system allowing objective and reliable information about the economy based on the system of indicators applied in the developed market economies and recommended by international economic organizations. The main part of the Program was the implementation of National Accounts System at the place of the Material Product System.
2. The basis for building National Accounts of the Republic of Belarus was the international statistical standard System of National accounts 1993 (1993 SNA), developed by the UN, Eurostat, IMF, OECD and World Bank, and approved by the UN Statistical Commission.
3. Currently the Republic of Belarus compiles goods and services accounts, production, generation, distribution (primary and secondary) and use of income accounts, and capital account. All of the accounts have been developed by sectors of the economy, and production and generation of income accounts are also presented by economic activities.
4. Quarterly gross domestic product (GDP) by production and final use methods is computed since 1994 and by income components - since 1997. GDP is seasonally adjusted.
5. GDP production side estimates on short-term basis by branches of national economy are compiled since 1994 and by economic activity classification (ISIC) - since 2010.

6. The annual accounts and the quarterly GDP estimates are published in statistical books of the National Accounts of the Republic of Belarus and Quarterly Estimates of Gross Domestic Product of the Republic of Belarus in Russian and English. The bulletin of GDP and regional GDP is published on quarterly basis.
7. Input-Output tables are compiled annually.
8. Since 2008 the Republic of Belarus is developing a system of macroeconomic indicators at the regional (oblast) level. The main one is the gross regional product (GRP). The GRP is a close regional analogue of GDP in terms of economic content.
9. The GRP is calculated by the production method on annual, quarterly and monthly basis.
10. Annual GRP by economic activities is compiled since 2007 and quarterly GRP - since 2008. Since January 2010 GRP monthly estimates by economic activities in current and constant prices have been done.
11. Since January 1, 2011 the Republic of Belarus introduced the international classification of economic activities which is applied for the production, final use and generation of income methods for calculation of GDP, Supply and Use tables and GRP calculations.
12. In the framework of the Programme for the Development of State Statistics of the Republic of Belarus for 2011-2015 it is planned to focus on improvement of the National Accounts, and more specifically on phased implementation of SNA 2008. Most of the changes proposed in the 2008 SNA are reasonable and relevant for the Republic of Belarus from conceptual viewpoint. However, there are practical issues, mainly related to collection of source data, which need to be solved in order to implement the changes in the regular statistical practice of the country. The key priorities at the initial stage of 2008 SNA implementation be to address these issues which impact on GDP estimates in current and constant prices as well as on other major national accounts indicators compiled in the country.

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