

**Comments on draft SNA chapter:
Chapter 13: The balance sheet**

**Deadline for comments: 12 February 2007
Send comments to: sna@un.org**

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This three-part template allows you to record your comments on draft chapter 13 easily and, at the same time, makes it easy for us to use your comments in considering revisions to the draft chapter. You may complete any one, any two, or all of the three parts of the template.

Save this template and send it as an attachment to the following e-mail address:
sna@un.org

Part I: General comments

In the space below, please provide any general comments, such as about the clarity with which the new recommendations were incorporated (30 words or less).

Comment:

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| <p>This chapter deals with a three dimensional issue. The first dimension corresponds to the operations, the second dimension corresponds to the assets and the third dimension corresponds to the sectors. So, the presentation in two dimension tables is not always easy and we consider that the introduction of asset accounts is interesting. We have some specific comments presented below.</p> |
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Part II: Comments on specific draft paragraphs or passages

In your review of draft chapter 13, you may wish to devote particular attention to the passages listed below. There is space after each issue for any comment you wish to make.

1. Do you find it helpful to have the definitions of assets included as the assets are introduced rather than assembled in an annex to chapter 13? (A comprehensive glossary, drawing on the definitions in the text, will be available.)

Comment:

No. We consider it preferable to have the definitions in an annex

2. Section A: Do you find it helpful to describe asset accounts in this chapter to explain the links between balance sheets and stock of assets as used for PIM calculations and as used in the SEEA?

Comment:

Yes but it also could be interesting to present the impact of PIM calculations on net worth, especially when the economic situation is bad, since, in this case, PIM calculations generally overvalue the assets of the corporations and, therefore, the net worth.

3. Is the relationship between the balance sheet entries and the entries in the capital account, the financial account, the other changes in the volume of assets account and the revaluation account sufficiently clear?

Comment:

Yes.

Part III. Other specific comments

You are welcome to make other comments. Please do so by using Adobe Acrobat Version 6 or 7 to comments directly on the PDF of the draft chapter.

If you don't have Adobe Acrobat Version 6 or 7 and would like to make very detailed comments please send a message to sna@un.org requesting to receive a version of the

draft chapter permitting you to comment. To optimize your commenting tools please download Adobe Reader 7.0 for free from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

Specific comments:

13.8: It could be preferable to explain explicitly the treatment of the consumption of fixed capital in the links between opening and closing balance sheets.

13.42: There is a contradiction with 10.139. The transportation costs paid to a transport enterprise must be included in the purchaser's price.

13.82: It is important to ensure that equalization provisions are treated consistently in chapter 13 and chapter 17.

13.97: It could be useful to explain in relation with 10.185 that, since the value of the goodwill is generally not estimated, the net worth of a corporation is normally negative. By consequence, it also could be useful to modify the numerical example of table 13.1 so that the net worth for S11 and S12 is negative.