

**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:
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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:

<p>Click here and start typing.</p>

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:

We would prefer having an annex with the definitions of assets.
As an intermediate solution a small reduce table could replace the present table 13.1.

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:

Click here and start typing.

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:

13.37: There seems a contradiction to chapter 10 (10.78). To be consistent, the wording should be changed to:

„The costs of ownership transfer on *produced assets* are not shown separately in the balance sheets. These costs are always included in the value of the asset to which they relate. The costs of ownership transfer on *non-produced assets* are categorized as produced assets.”

13.40: It is almost impossible to comment this on paragraph without having an overview concerning general way of recording originals and copies.

In our view it is not clear if it is referred to tangible or intangible copies of originals. Concerning tangible copies of Original, there is no reason to make an exception in their treatment compared to any other tangible goods recorded as fixed assets in the SNA. The conditions stipulated in 13.40 may lead to the misunderstanding that tangible goods containing copyrights have to be treated differently from other tangible goods free of copyrights (even if the SNA criteria for fixed assets are met). Such tangible copies have further to be recorded as output on the production side (in addition to the production of the originals).

So possibly the paragraph addresses intangible copies of originals, i.e. without any tangible carrier. If this is the case, it would be helpful to make it clear. But in this case parts of the original have been sold and further recordings are needed in the SNA. We suggest to include a link to such complementary recordings.

13.47 the last sentence needs to be changed:

Land (...), excluding written-down costs of ownership transfer, which are associated with produced assets.”



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>