

**Comments on draft SNA chapter:
Chapter 25: Informal aspects of the economy**

**Deadline for comments: 30 September 2008
Send comments to: sna@un.org**

Your name:	United Nations
Your country/organization:	UNSD
Contact (e.g. email address):	sna@un.org
Submission date:	2 October 2008

This template allows you to record your comments on draft SNA chapter 25 “Informal aspects of the economy” 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 or all parts of the template.

There is no file comparing existing text with draft text for this chapter because there is no equivalent chapter in the 1993 SNA.

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. This may cover e.g. the structure of the chapter, issues missing and (lack of) consistency with other chapters of the 2008 SNA.

General comments:

General comment	<p>The title of the chapter “Informal aspects of the economy” looks odd especially when it is not clearly defined as to what the “informal aspects” of the economy are.</p> <p>Along with the discussion on informal sector the chapter includes discussion on other production concepts like illegal production, underground production, non-observed production, giving an impression as though these are necessarily parts of informal sector. With inclusion of these, the emphasis of the chapter on informal sector appears to have been diluted specially when these topics have already been discussed elsewhere, for example, illegal and underground production in chapter 6 and “non-observed economy” in Chapters 6, and 19.</p>
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Part II: Comments on specific draft paragraphs and sections

All comments on specific draft paragraphs are welcome. They can be about e.g. scope, content and clarity. Proposing a concrete alternative text or table is also possible. For the paragraphs in separate sections, separate forms are used for providing and collecting comments (see below).

A. Introduction (paragraphs 25.1-25.13)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
25.10	The second sentence “The ILO work focuses only on production activities and not the whole of the unit within which they are undertaken”, does not appear to be correct in view of the fact that the informal sector is defined by the ICLS according to the types of production units of which it is composed and not on the economic activity undertaken by these units.
*	Click here and start typing.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

B. Characteristics of units in the informal economy (paragraphs 25.14-25.23)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
25.14	Click here and start typing.
*	Click here and start typing.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

C. The non-observed economy (paragraphs 25.24-25.30)

General comment	The non-observed economy has already been discussed in chapters 6 and 19
25.24	Click here and start typing.
*	Click here and start typing.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

D. The informal sector as defined by the ILO (paragraphs 25.31-25.42)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
25.40	Second sentence talks about the possibility of partitioning the household unincorporated enterprises by economic activities, to be included in the informal sector. This appears odd for two reasons, (a) the informal sector

	comprises the production unit and not economic activities, and (b) there is hardly any information available to partition the household unincorporated enterprises.
*	Click here and start typing.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

E. Informal employment (paragraphs 25.43-25.48)

General comment	Table 24.1 should be relabelled Table 25.1. It would be useful to include the foot notes) to table 25.1 relating to items “informal sector enterprises” (appearing in row 3 and col. 1) and “households” (appearing in row 4 and col. 1) as it was appearing in the earlier version of the paper. The cell below the cell numbered “9” should be dark and in mid-tone.
25.43	Click here and start typing.
*	Click here and start typing.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

F. Work of the Delhi Group (paragraphs 25.49-25.51)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
25.49	Click here and start typing.
*	Click here and start typing.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

G. Deriving data on the informal economy from the SNA accounts (paragraphs 25.52-25.61)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
25.54	Words “own use” should be replaced with words “own final use.”
25.60	In the last sentence “own use” should be replaced with “own final use.”

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

H. Approaches to measuring activities undertaken in the informal economy (paragraphs 25.62-25.69)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
25.62	Click here and start typing.
*	Click here and start typing.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

I. Studies and handbooks on the informal sector (paragraph 25.70)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
25.70	Click here and start typing.

Part III. Other specific comments

You are welcome to make other specific comments. To assist you in doing so, the following points are provided as a guide to the types of points on which you might wish to comment. Note, though, that you are not restricted to commenting on only these points.

1. Is the description of the non-observed economy (NOE) and “exhaustiveness” sufficient given the existence of manuals devoted to the subject?
2. Is the concept of the “informal sector” as defined by the ILO clear?
3. Is the definition of informal employment clear and sufficient?
4. Are the suggestions in section G to identify the units of interest sufficiently clear?
5. Do you have any comments on the data collections descriptions in section H?
6. Are there any other references you think should be added to the last section?

Specific comments:

Specific comments	Click here and start typing.
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You are also welcome to comment directly on the PDF file of the draft chapter. Please do so by using Adobe Acrobat Version 6 or 7.

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