



UNITED NATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
STATISTICS DIVISION

ESA/STAT/AC.190/1  
27 August 2009

**Meeting of the Expert Group on  
International Economic and  
Social Classifications  
New York, 1-4 September 2009**

## **Provisional agenda**



Each topic will be organized as a discussion, following an introductory presentation.

## **Tuesday 1 September 2009**

### **09:00-09:30 Registration of participants**

*Pick up of grounds passes at 2 UN Plaza on East 44th Street between 1st and 2nd Avenue.*

### ***Morning (10:00-12:30)***

### **10:00-10:15 Opening**

### **10:15-10:30 Adoption of the agenda**

### **10:30-11:00 Report on work within the Family of International Economic and Social Classifications since last Expert Group meeting**

*UNSD will report on work carried out since the last meeting of the Expert Group and on actions taken with regards to previous recommendations by the group. (Responsible: UNSD)*

Documentation:

- *Report on UNSD activities since the last meeting of the Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications (ESA/STAT/AC.190/5)*

### **11:15-12:30 Review of the ISIC implementation Guide**

*Following the recommendations of the EG at its 2007 meeting, an ISIC Implementation Guide has been developed, using materials provided by Eurostat as a starting point. Extensive editing and additional drafting has been carried out to produce an ISIC-based document that provides countries with guidance for the ISIC implementation, covering institutional organization of a change in classification, the development of national versions of ISIC, the implementation of the new classification in the business register, the updating of survey and sampling frames based on the new classification, as well as guidance on backcasting. The Expert Group is expected to review and approve this document. (Responsible: UNSD)*

Documentation:

- *Review of the Implementation Guide to ISIC Rev.4 (ESA/STAT/AC.190/7)*
- *Implementation Guide for ISIC Rev.4 (Draft) (ESA/STAT/AC.190/Bk.2)*
- *Implementation Guide for ISIC and CPC – Experiences and views of India (ESA/STAT/AC.190/20)*

*Afternoon (14:00-17:00)*

**14:00-16:15 Review of the Companion Guide to ISIC and CPC**

*The Companion Guide to ISIC and CPC has been developed by the Technical Subgroup of the Expert Group to provide users of the revised classifications with detailed information on the structures and rationales for choosing the concepts embedded in the revised activity and product classifications, a detailed discussion of their application rules, as well as specific examples and discussions of areas with complex activity-product links that will further the understanding of the classification and its application. The current draft will be presented to the Expert Group. The Expert Group is expected to review and comment on this first complete draft and provide guidance, if necessary, for further improvement. (Responsible: UNSD)*

Documentation:

- *Review of the Companion Guide to ISIC and CPC (ESA/STAT/AC.190/6)*
- *Companion Guide to ISIC and CPC (Draft) (ESA/STAT/AC.190/Bk.2)*
- *Comments on the Companion Guide to ISIC and CPC and on the revision plans (ESA/STAT/AC.190/21)*

**16:15-17:00 Update on the status of the International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics (ICATUS)**

*UNSD will provide an update on the status of work on and use of the International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics (ICATUS). (Responsible: UNSD)*

Documentation:

- *TBA*

**Wednesday, 2 September 2009**

*Morning (9:30-12:30)*

**09:30-10:30 Revision of Health Classifications / International Classification of Diseases (ICD)**

*At its last meeting, the EG had been briefed on the start of the revision of ICD and the process and tools to be used in the revision. WHO will update on the progress in revising ICD and report on experiences gained in this process, such as with the use of open discussion forums. The EG should evaluate how such techniques can be used to improve the outreach and user participation in other classifications revisions. (Responsible: WHO)*

Note: This will be organized as a teleconference with WHO.

Documentation:

- *TBA*

### **10:30-11:30 Revision of the International Classification for Health Accounts (ICHA)**

*The International Health Accounts Team (IHAT) consisting of WHO, OECD, and Eurostat is currently revising the International Classification for Health Accounts (ICHA). This is part of the revision of the System of Health Accounts Manual. The EG is requested to review the report and provide feedback.  
(Responsible: OECD)*

Note: This will be organized as a teleconference with OECD.

Documentation:

- *Revision of the International Classification for Health Accounts (ESA/STAT/AC.190/22)*

### **11:30-12:30 Implementation of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-08)**

*The ISCO-08 structure was adopted in late 2007 and was endorsed by the Governing Body of the ILO in 2008. It was also presented in 2008 to the Statistical Commission. The full publication of the classification is expected soon. The Expert Group is invited to provide advice on priorities in providing support for implementation - in particular whether (in view of the impending round of censuses and the limited resources available) it is better to focus on developing a manual on adapting ISCO for national use, or on providing a series of workshops.  
(Responsible: ILO)*

Documentation:

- *ISCO-08 - Current Status and plans to support implementation (ESA/STAT/AC.190/19)*

### **14:00-17:00 Implementation tools for ISIC and CPC; maintenance of ISIC and CPC; plans for future revisions**

*The Expert Group will discuss and set priorities for the development of implementation tools for ISIC and CPC (indexes, correspondence tables, coding tools). In addition, mechanisms for the maintenance of the classifications should be reviewed and agreed upon. These mechanisms will also provide an input into future review processes.*

*Based on the previous mandate for the work on economic classifications, ISIC should be reviewed and CPC should be revised every five years. To keep this schedule, work on these projects should start soon. The EG should discuss a time line and admin arrangements (e.g. if there is a need for the TSG). The discussion should focus on boundaries for the review / revision. In case of ISIC, potential adjustments could be made based on country experiences in implementation (options: ISIC Rev.4.1 or just an amendment – the latter may be preferable given the efforts made to introduce ISIC Rev.4). In case of the CPC, the question of the overall CPC structure is still outstanding (industry-of-origin-based vs. demand-based vs. status quo vs. other). Do we have enough information to make a solid recommendation at this point?*

Other information related to the CPC revision include a presentation on adopted changes for the Harmonized System in the area of agricultural products, which reinforces changes made in CPC Ver.2 and should simplify the link to the next version of the HS.

(Responsible: UNSD)

Documentation:

- *Comments on the revision plans for ISIC and CPC (ESA/STAT/AC.190/12)*
- *Supporting ISIC Rev.4 and CPC Ver.2 / Preparing for future revisions of ISIC and CPC (ESA/STAT/AC.190/14)*
- *Terminology for classifications revisions (ESA/STAT/AC.190/15)*
- *General considerations for updating categories in economic classifications (ESA/STAT/AC.190/16)*
- *Revision of Industrial classification of all economic activities and product classification of AFRISTAT Member States (ESA/STAT/AC.190/17)*
- *Comments on the companion guide to ISIC and CPC and on the revision plans (ESA/STAT/AC.190/21)*
- *Options for an Aggregation Structure for the North American Product Classification System (NAPCS) (ESA/STAT/AC.190/23)*

### **Thursday, 3 September 2009**

*Morning (9:30-12:30)*

#### **09:30-12:30 Classifications of waste**

*The London Group on Environmental Accounting is considering the classification of physical flows relating to solid waste for the purposes of the revision of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA 2003) and its elevation to an international statistical standard. As part of the process of the revision of the SEEA the outcome of the discussions by the London Group on the classification of physical flows was to be brought to the Expert Group on Classifications for review. While the London Group's recommendations have not yet been finalized, for the purposes of the revised SEEA it has been proposed to use the CPC framework for non-waste material flows and the European Waste Commission statistical classifications for dealing with solid waste classifications, because those classifications allow solid waste outputs to be tracked in greater detail than do the CPC classifications alone. The Expert Group is asked to review the proposal and to comment on the feasibility and desirability of concurring the CPC classifications for non-waste materials with the EWC-stat classifications for solid waste.*

(Responsible: UNSD)

Documentation:

- *Classification of Physical Flows and Related Solid Wastes (ESA/STAT/AC.190/9)*

*Afternoon (14:00-17:00)*

**14:00-15:00 Classifications of resource management expenditures**

*The Expert Group on Classifications approved the Classification of Environmental Protection Expenditure (CEPA). The custodian of CEPA is Eurostat. The London Group on Environmental Accounting agreed on a classification that extends CEPA to cover also natural resource use and management expenditures. The Expert Group is requested to approve the proposed classification on environmental protection and natural resource use and management expenditure.  
(Responsible: ISTAT)*

Documentation:

- *Outcome paper on Natural resource use and management expenditure accounts (ESA/STAT/AC.190/8)*

**15:00-16:00 Definitions of an “environment industry”**

*Eurostat has developed a Handbook on Environmental Goods and Services Sector. The Handbook proposes a definition and delimitation of the environment sector including the activities and the producers. The Expert Group is invited to review the approach proposed by Eurostat and the link to existing definitions and classification.  
(Responsible: ISTAT)*

Documentation:

- *TBA*

**16:00-17:00 Classification of energy products**

*UNSD in cooperation with the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics and the Intersecretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics (InterEnerStat) has embarked in the preparation of "International Recommendations for Energy Statistics" (IRES). IRES is intended to cover a broad range of issues from basic concepts, definitions and classifications, to data sources, data compilation strategies, energy balances and dissemination. As part of this work, it is envisaged the development of a standard international classification of energy products - based on internationally harmonized definitions. The development of such classification is still at an early stage. The Expert Group is invited to provide comments to the criteria and possible structure for such classification.  
(Responsible: UNSD)*

Documentation:

- *Towards a Standard International Energy Classification (ESA/STAT/AC.190/13)*

## **Friday, 4 September 2009**

### ***Morning (9:30-12:30)***

#### **09:30-12:30 Review of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED)**

*The UNESCO Institute for Statistics will present the strategy for the ISCED review mandated by the UNESCO General Conference which is to be accomplished by 2011 and the progress made to date. The review focuses on the following main areas of work as identified by the ISCED technical advisory panel: non-formal education, ISCED 4, 5 and 6, review of the criteria by ISCED level and ISCED coverage, review of the definition and use of orientation and destination, and educational attainment. The UNSD Classification Experts meeting is a good opportunity to get feedback on the ISCED review work from the perspective of the national statistical offices which can be integrated in the regional ISCED discussions to be held in the fall of 2009 and in the global consultation scheduled for 2010.*

*(Responsible: UIS-UNESCO)*

#### **Documentation:**

- *ISCED Review Concept Note (ESA/STAT/AC.190/10)*
- *Review of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) - Draft Recommendations on the Measurement of Educational Attainment (ESA/STAT/AC.190/11)*

### ***Afternoon (14:00-17:00)***

#### **14:00-15:30 Discussion of future EGM activities and role of EGM**

*Based on the outcome of previous discussions at this meeting, the Expert Group should review its anticipated work programme for the years ahead and agree on timelines, responsibilities for work elements (including possible setup of subgroups) and reporting mechanisms, as well as resource requirements.*

*The Expert Group should review its original mandate (which was given 10 years ago), and discuss a governance structure that would allow it to carry out the work programme in the coming years.*

*In light of classifications work carried out by other entities (organizations, Expert Groups etc.), the Expert Group should develop a position summarizing international classifications work that can be submitted to the UN Statistical Commission.*

*(Responsible: UNSD)*

#### **Documentation:**

- *Mandate and Organization of the Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications - 1999 version (ESA/STAT/AC.190/Bk.3)*