



UNITED NATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
STATISTICS DIVISION

ESA/STAT/AC.190/7  
13 August 2009

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

**Review of the Implementation Guide for ISIC Rev.4**

UNSD

1. At its last meeting, the Expert Group discussed the development of documentation to complement the publications of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) and the Central Product Classification (CPC) to assist users (inside and outside of the national statistical offices) in the implementation and understanding of these classifications.
2. One of the documents suggested was to include information on the recoding of business registers, on sampling design and weight estimation as well as on backcasting, using documents developed by Eurostat for the implementation of NACE as basis. These documents were to be reviewed for applicability to the international context and amended if necessary.
3. After consultation with some country experts, UNSD has reviewed the existing materials and adapted the text to focus on the development and implementation of a national classification based on ISIC. Although initially intended for the implementation of ISIC Rev.4, the content of the document is more generally applicable and it should be possible to use this without major modifications in other situations.
4. During the review, the original texts have been substantially edited, expanded and reorganized. The original, separately written documents have been combined into a single document that may help to guide countries through the implementation process. The resulting document covers more general requirements for a classifications revision, like the institutional setup, but also more detailed guidance on when and how to develop a national classification and specific steps of the implementation.
5. The Draft *Implementation Guide for ISIC Rev.4* is submitted as Background document AC.190-Bk.2.
6. The Expert Group is invited to provide feedback on this document and discuss the following questions:
  - a) Is the overall scope of the document, i.e. the selection of chapters, adequate?
  - b) Does the Expert Group agree with the recommendations and other information provided in the document?
  - c) Do individual chapters of the document need to be expanded?