Towards Standard International Energy Classification

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Background

Standard International Energy Classification **(SIEC) is a part of the preparation of the *International Recommendations for Energy Statistics* (IRES) as endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission at its 40th session (24-27 February 2009)**

* **Due for submission to the 42nd session of the Commission (February 2011)**

- **Collective effort of UNSD, InterEnerStat (convener – IEA) and the Oslo Group on energy statistics (convener – Statistics Norway)**

- **We are approaching the end of initial discussions; the first full draft of SIEC in expected to become available in Q2 of 2010 including all the necessary documentation.**

- **Mid 2010 the worldwide consultation on IRES including SIEC**

- **We would like the EG on Classification to review SIEC before submission to the Commission (in May-September 2010)**

SIEC will be based on internationally harmonized definitions of energy products which are currently under discussion within InterEnerStat and provide their correspondence with the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) and Central Product Classification (CPC).

Purpose

- Facilitate further improvements in national energy statistics programmes by providing internationally recognized standards for definitions of energy products and their aggregates;
- Facilitate national and international energy data processing by providing the coding system which is numerical and hierarchical;
- Ensure better international comparability of the disseminated national data;

- **Facilitate linking of data on stocks and flows of energy products with data on international trade in energy products and other economic statistics;**

- **Provide a correspondence of energy products with the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) and Central Product Classification (CPC).**

Scope of SIEC

- **While it is agreed that SIEC will cover all energy products there are boundary issues which need to be discussed further.**

- **In general, energy products are understood as "combustible fuels, heat, renewable energy, electricity, or any other form of energy " (EU Regulation 2008)**

- **A number of products are included in energy statistics only when they are used for energy purposes and only the part used for energy purposes is included (for example, combusted waste). The issue is how to reflect such products in SIEC.**

- **A draft list of products considered for classification in SIEC, and their hierarchy, is provided in Annex A.**

- **The boundary issues will be further discussed by both the InterEnerStat and the Oslo Group later this year.**

Classification criteria and structure

While developing the list of basic headings and their definitions the following is taken into account as much as possible:

- Definitions should be based on physical/chemical characteristics of products;
- Definitions should be as simple as possible;
- The correspondence between headings of SIEC, HS, CPC and ISIC should be established;

The work on the harmonization of definitions in energy statistics by InterEnerStat will be the basis for the development of the SIEC coding system, which will provide the unique identification of a given product (product group) in the data collection, processing and dissemination;

The OG took note on the difficulties of providing a definition for renewable and nonrenewable energy and recommended that, at the minimum, IRES would provide a listing of renewable and non-renewable energy products.

The Group suggested to work on a definition of renewable and nonrenewable in a larger context and suggested to work in close cooperation with the London Group on Environmental-Economic Accounting

The OG

Suggested that the concept of primary and secondary energy products will not be a classification criterion of SIEC. A listing of primary and secondary energy products will be provided.

Recommended that given the complexity of the nuclear life cycle, the scope of nuclear fuels in IRES will be limited to the recording of heat and electricity generated from nuclear processes.

The basic headings of SIEC are to be grouped into a hierarchy of the higher level classification headings to provide analytically important information by reflecting the agreed classification criteria. The classification criteria relevant for energy statistics are still under discussion within the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics and InterEnerStat.

- **It is envisaged that SIEC will provide a correspondence table with the HS and CPC. An example of such a draft correspondence for Coal and some other related energy products is provided in Annex B.**

The Expert Group is invited to comment on the intended scope of SIEC, possible classification criteria and structure of SIEC.

Thank you very much for your attention!