ISWGNA Meeting (Teleconference)

2 December, 2015

Minutes

Participants: Jorrit Zwijnenburg (OECD), John Verrinder (Eurostat), Tihomira Dimova (UNECE), Claudia Dziobek, Rob Dippelsman, Thomas Alexander (IMF), Herman Smith, Benson Sim (UNSD), and Barbro Hexeberg (World Bank, Chair).

1 Report to the United Nations Statistics Commission

The ISWGNA:NA agreed on a few final revisions to the report, which had already incorporated materials and suggestions from ISWGNA:NA members and the UN regional commissions. The UNSD will make the agreed changes, send it for clearance to the ISWGNA:NA on December 3, in order to provide the final draft to the ISWGNA: MG on December 4 for their review and approval.

2 Satellite Accounts

Prompted by a reference two new satellite account manuals in the report to the UNSC, the ISWGNA members had a short discussion about satellite accounts in general.

It was noted that satellite accounts based on SNA principles are positive additions to national accounts statistics. The ISWGNA furthermore agreed that the report to the UNSC should make reference to new suggested satellites in the list of forthcoming publications (and, if available, provide a link for further information). The group also agreed to include a broad discussion on the role of Satellite accounts and potential involvement in the preparation of such accounts by the ISWGNA and AEG at the next AEG meeting.

3 AEG

The meeting did not discuss the forthcoming AEG meeting (but decided to dedicate its next meeting in January for this purpose). It was, however, agreed that the draft agenda be revised so as to include Satellite accounting as an item for discussion (rather than information), and allow time for a broad based discussion (- the role of Satellites, their relative importance (all equal?), and the potential role of ISWGNA/AEG in ensuring their quality.)

4 Next Meeting

A next teleconference is scheduled for January 26, 2016 @ 10 am EST/4 pm Europe.