

TT leads and ISWGNA meeting

24 September 2021

Minutes

Participants:

Ivo Havinga (chair), Herman Smith, Michael Stanger, Alessandra Alfieri, Benson Sim, Jonathan Gessendorfer, Pedro Farinas (UNSD), Nicola Massarelli (Eurostat), Jim Tebrake, Paul Austin, Jennifer Ribarsky (IMF), Sarah Barahona, Jorrit Zwijnenburg, John Mitchell (OECD), Catherine Van Rompaey, Eric Metreau (World Bank), Tihomira Dimova, Rami Peltola (UNECE), Michael Connolly (Ireland), Sanjiv Mahajan (UK), Erich Strassner (USA), and Celestino Giron (ECB).

Participants at the meeting:

1. Status of progress of the SNA and BPM update project

a) Progress report

- Welcomed the progress report.
- Recognized that the quality and usefulness of this month's progress report increased dramatically, due to the efforts of Task Teams to provide accurate short- and medium-term information on expected dates when guidance notes become available for consultation.
- Agreed that the main criteria for prioritizing guidance note for consultations are the complexity of the guidance note and its impact on i the BPM and SNA frameworks as when the TT leads and ISWGNA assess workloads for countries and/or expert groups. Additional factors that will be considered are the importance of an experimental estimate exercise for finalizing conceptual guidance.
- Agreed that final decisions on prioritization will be made in the monthly TT leads and ISWGNA meetings.
- Agreed that individual country responses to global consultations will be made available publicly with the country's consent.

b) Project Manager and Editor for the SNA Update

- Agreed that the two positions will be advertised on the website of the World Bank shortly, with other ISWGNA member organizations cross-referencing the announcements of the positions on their websites.
- Agreed that processing the applications, shortlisting and how to make the final selection will depend on the number of relevant applications.

2. Agendas of the BOPCOM and AEG meetings

- Agreed on the topics that will be discussed during the joint sessions of the BOPCOM meeting and the AEG meeting.
- Proposed to increase the efficiency of the discussions during the joint sessions of the AEG/BOPCOM meeting by designating an AEG member for each guidance note to present

- his/her own opinion from the national accounts perspective, to be followed by other AEG members supporting the position or sharing their views in the meeting chat, and recommended that this proposal will be discussed with the BOPCOM secretariat.
- Agreed that the dates of the next AEG meeting will be finalized through written procedure.
 - Recognized that the agendas should include information on whether guidance notes are to seek approval for global consultation, seek final endorsement or are on the agenda for information/discussion.

3. Collaboration agreement for the update of the 2008 SNA between UNCEEA and the ISWGNA/AEG

- Agreed that the collaboration between UNCEEA and the ISWGNA/AEG needs to be formalized to appropriately deal with overlapping issues under discussion in the SEEA and SNA communities.
- Agreed that comments on the collaboration agreement will be provided via written procedure.

4. Any other Business

- Congratulated Ivo Havinga on his upcoming retirement and outstanding contribution to the international programme on economic statistics.