

**TT leads and ISWGNA meeting
8 December 2021**

Minutes

Participants:

Herman Smith (Chair), Michael Stanger, Benson Sim, Pedro Farinas (UNSD), John Verrinder, Nicola Massarelli (Eurostat), Jennifer Ribarsky (IMF), Sarah Barahona, John Mitchell (OECD), Catherine van Rompaey (World Bank), Tihomira Dimova, Rami Peltola (UN ECE), Amina Khasib (State of Palestine), Sanjiv Mahajan (UK), Celestino Giron (ECB), Michael Connelly (Ireland).

1. Status of progress of the SNA update project

1. Welcomed the update on the progress with the guidance notes (GN) and noted the following:

- a) G8 The typology of global production has been incorporated in C4 Merchanting and Factoryless Producers, Clarifying Negative Exports in Merchanting, and Merchanting of Services where it seems to be more appropriate.
- b) The work on DZ.1 Price and volume measurement of goods and services affected by digitalization has been concluded. It is expected that any outstanding volume measure issues will be addressed in DZ.3 Clarifications the existing SNA treatment of “free” products, DZ.4 Recording and valuing “free” products in an SNA satellite account, and DZ.6 Recording of data in the national accounts.
- c) Although the AEG approved the GN for global consultation WS.5 Health and social conditions will be revised to be more specific about the outputs that were being proposed because that was not quite clear enough in a guidance note.
- d) F.17 Treatment of master risk participation agreements has been dropped.
- e) F.18 Treatment of crypto assets in macroeconomic statistics should be circulated to the AEG for a three-week review to decide on approving the GN for global consultation.
- f) Several GNs are expected to be circulated for global consultation during December 2021 and January 2022 which will subsequently submitted for consideration by the AEG either through written consultation or at the forthcoming AEG meeting in March 2022 (see annex I).

2. Noted, that in accordance with the SEEA collaborative arrangement, that the SEEA community also need to be consulted on the environmental accounting related GNs.

3. Agreed to conduct the consultation with the GFS community on the GN *Accounting for the economic ownership and depletion of natural resources* in January 2022.

4. Emphasised the need to coordinate the review of recommendations of GNs that may have an impact of ISIC and CPC with the classifications expert group; and noted that UNSD and Eurostat will review the GNs, in consultation with the task teams, to identify any classification issues that need to be broad to the attention of the classifications expert group.

5. Agreed that following the endorsement of GNs after global consultation (the GN life cycle is presented in annex II) these GNs should be published on the SNA update website reflecting the final recommendations to be incorporated in the updated SNA subject to the outcome of experimentation and testing of the recommendations.

6. Agreed to update the information on the status of the guidance notes in the monitoring tool to facilitate an updated and accurate progress report.

2. Experimental estimates

7. Welcomed the update on the progress with the programme for the experimentation and testing of the guidance notes; recognised that the programme requires close coordination between the ISWGNA member organizations, regional commissions and other regional organizations; and noted the following:

a) It is important to be opportunistic by bringing forward work that's already in the course and being done such as in the area of wellbeing and sustainability where a lot of information is already being compiled.

b) Engage with particularly developing countries to get a reasonable number of countries testing the recommendations.

c) To also collect existing experience from those countries already been experimenting with some of the issues and the guidance notes.

d) To have a clear timetable for those GNs that require testing about the feasibility of the recommendations of the GNs in order to finalize them and those that would be considered early implementation of the GNs.

e) Requested the task teams to identify which GNs, or recommendations of GNs, requires experimentation or testing.

3. Arrangements for the March 2022 AEG meeting

8. Agreed to arrange a joint AEG and BOPCOM meeting in the week of 7-9 March to consider the GNs presented in annex I.

Statistical Commission

9. Agreed to arrange a side event at the fifty-second session of the United Nations Statistical Commission which picks up on the beyond GDP theme of the ISWGNA report to the UNSC.

10. Noted that UNSD will request inputs for the background document of the ISWGNA report to the UNSC, which aims to provide more detailed information about the progress of the task teams, activities of the ISWGNA member organizations and the regional commissions.

4. Any other business

11. Noted that a few names were proposed to replace Mark de Haan on the AEG and that UNSD will follow up with the ISWGNA on the selection of suitable candidates to fill the vacant positions for Asia and Europe.

12. Welcomed the appointment of Peter van de Ven as lead editor and Peter Harper as project manager of the 2008 SNA update and that they will also participate in the monthly TT leads and ISWGNA meetings.

13. Noted that the ISWGNA:MG also approved the appointment of supporting editors which will be engaged once the governance arrangements, prepared by World Bank and UNSD, describing exactly the accountabilities, roles and responsibilities of everyone involved in the update project is approved.

14. Agreed to schedule the monthly task team leads and ISWGNA meeting on the first Wednesday of the month.

Annex I Guidance note expected to be circulated for global consultation during December 2021 and January 2022 and subsequently to be considered by the AEG

1. For discussion at the Joint AEG/BOPCOM meeting in March 2022

Financial and Payment Systems task team (FITT)

F.1 More disaggregated definition of the financial sector and financial instruments

F.2 Asymmetric treatment of retained earnings: Presentation on the results of testing

F.7 Impact of FINTECH and other financial innovations

F.18 The recording of crypto assets in macroeconomic statistics

Current Account task team (CATT)

C.7 Treatment of travel packages, health-related travel, and taxes and fees on passenger tickets

Globalization task Team (GZTT)

G.7 Global value chains and trade in value-added

G.5 Economic ownership and recording of intellectual property products

G.9 Payments for “knowledge-based capital”

Informal economy task team (IETT)

IE.1 Statistical framework and classification of informal economy

Islamic finance task team (IFTT)

IE.1 Islamic finance in the System of National Accounts and External Sector Statistics

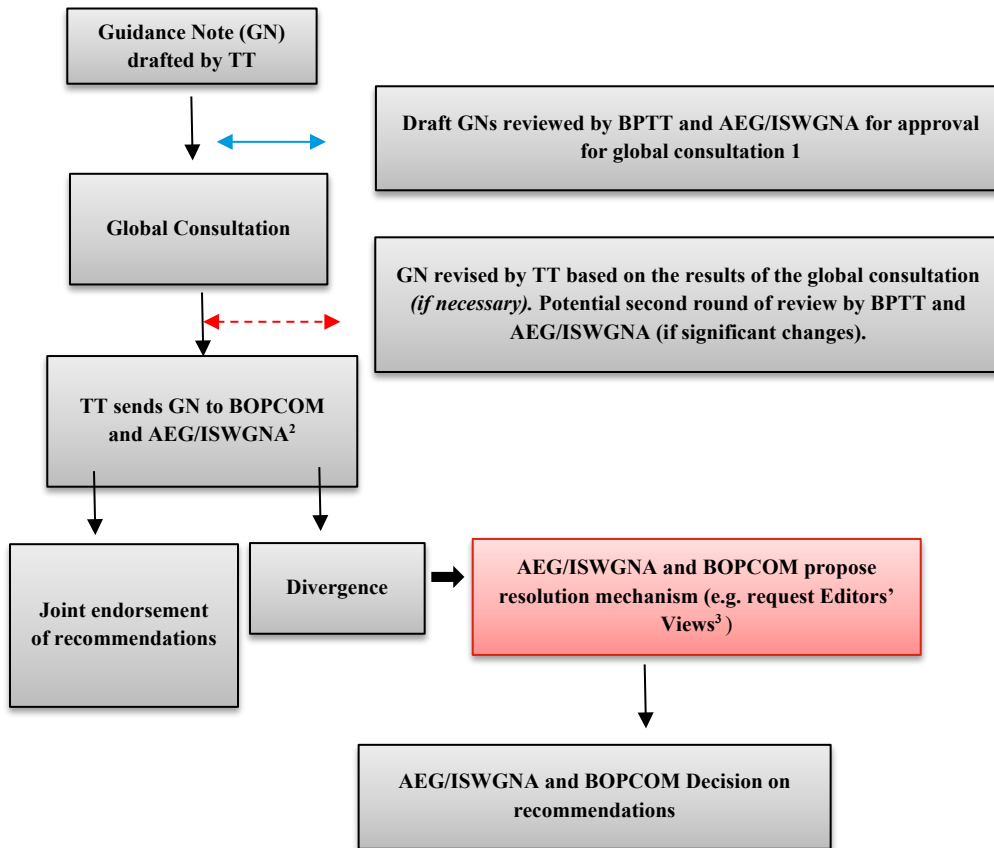
2. For written AEG/BOPCOM consultation

F.13 Measurement of margins on buying and selling of financial instruments

F.14 Treatment of factoring transactions

F.15 Debt concessionality

Annex II Guidance note life cycle



1. BPTT and AEG/ISWGNA review a draft guidance note primarily for overall consistency of the proposals. First review by BPTT and AEG/ISWGNA of GNs required only for those of: (i) joint groups (FITT, IETT, IFTT, GZTT and CMTT); and (ii) GNs of BPTT, CATT, DITT, DZTT and WSTT if proposed recommendation impacts both BPM and SNA.
2. BPTT and other BPM TTs send to AEG/ISWGNA only those GNs that impact the SNA, while joint TTs send their GNs to both the Committee and the AEG/ISWGNA.
3. GNs of Joint TTs as well GNs that impact the BPM and SNA, the Committee and AEG/ISWGNA may utilize this option if it has reservations about the TT's recommendations.