

## MINUTES

### ISWGNA TELECONFERENCE JANUARY 30, 2007

#### Participants

Eurostat: G.Gueye, C. Ravets

IMF: A. Bloem (Chair), K. Zieschang, L. Rivas (minutes)

OECD: F. Lequiller, C. Aspden

UNSD: I. Havinga, V. Vu

UN ECE: L. Bratanova

World Bank: B. Hexeberg

1993 SNA Update project: C. Carson (Project Manager), A. Harrison (Editor).

#### 1 Drafting and posting chapters

The Inter-secretariat Working Group on National Accounts, National Accountants (ISWGNA: NA) discussed the progress on the drafting and posting of chapters of the 1993 SNA Rev. 1. The Project Manager reported that priority was focused on having chapters 6 (The production account) and 7 (The distribution of income accounts) posted on the UN website, on preparing the template for comments on chapter 8 (The redistribution of income accounts), and on drafting the remaining parts of chapter 17 (Cross-cutting and other special issues). These chapters are going to the AEG with 30-day review period and 60-day review period for worldwide comment.

Regarding the template inviting comments on the chapters, the meeting agreed that the Editor would send comments for the template to the ISWGNA for review with a window of 24 hours to provide comments.

#### 2 Government-owned assets

The Project Manager informed the meeting there were 15 sets of comments on this issue on the UN website and each respondent had 10 points to allocate among the four options: A. Leave the SNA unchanged; B. Once again put the issue on the long-term research agenda; C. Recommend in the updated SNA that, in principle, a return on capital owned and used by non-market producers should be included when summing costs to measure output, but acknowledge that some flexibility would be needed in implementation; and D. Other—"write in" proposals. The majority favored option C with 108 points; option A got 23 points; option B got 18 points; and option D got 1 point for a total of 150 points.

The ISWGNA agreed to analyze the results of the consultation and send to the Project Manager their interpretation of the results, the recommendation to the Management Group, and the text that should be included in the room document on issue 16 by Friday February 2. The Project Manager suggested having a teleconference to discuss this issue on Monday February 5 since the goal was to distribute the room document on February 16.

### **3 Preparation for the Statistical Commission**

On the Full Set of Consolidated Recommendations, the ISWGNA agreed to send their proposals for corrections by January 31 indicating whether they agree with the proposals of the other organizations. These corrections will be discussed during the next teleconference.

The Project Manager proposed to have a meeting with the ISWGNA members that attend the Statistical Commission (SC) on Wednesday February 28 at 8:00 am and involve by telephone the ISWGNA members that cannot attend the SC.

### **4 Comments on the draft chapters: update on process of assembling and analyzing**

The Project Manager informed the meeting that Mr. Havinga and she had worked on the comments on chapters 9 (The use of income account) and 14 (Summarizing and presenting the accounts), but focused on the ones on chapter 9 to test the template for collecting and analyzing the comments. She said that the ISWGNA needed to categorize and analyze the comments and make a proposal on the ones that should be taken to the AEG. She mentioned that at least one other person should look at the proposals from each organization.

The Project Manager explained the categorization of comments in the template and mentioned that she would prepare guidelines for categorizing the comments. The ISWGNA agreed to review the template prepared by the UNSD with comments on chapter 9, include their views, and send them around by cob Wednesday February 7. The categorization of comments will be discussed during the teleconference of February 8.

The Project Manager commented that she would send a newsletter to the AEG when the remaining chapters (6, 7, and 17) are available for comment. She said that the cover notes on the chapters should be available two weeks before the AEG meeting. All members of the ISWGNA will analyze the comments on two chapters. The Editor and another person will look across all chapters. The ISWGNA will take one week after February 12 (until February 19) to categorize the comments, analyze them, and fill out the internal column with the proposals. The second institution that looks at the same chapter will have its views ready by February 26. The cover notes to the AEG are to be ready by March 5.

### **5 Preparation for the AEG meeting**

Mr. Havinga informed the meeting that the invitation letters for the AEG meeting in March had been sent, the room had been reserved, and UNSD was preparing the information document. The ISWGNA discussed the agenda proposed by the Project Manager.

### **6 Next teleconference**

The meeting decided to have its next teleconference on February 5 at 9:30 am Eastern American time. The following teleconference will be on February 8 at 9:30 am.

## 7 To-do list

<b>Action</b>	<b>By when</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Status</b>
Revise note on own funds and reinvested earnings	In due course	Editor	In progress
Proposals for corrections on Full Set of Consolidated Recommendations	January 31	All	
Interpretation of results of consultation on issue 16 Government-owned assets	February 2	All	
Categorization of comments on chapter 9	February 7	All	
Categorization of comments of two assigned chapters	February 19	All	
Categorization of comments by second institution	February 26	All	
Cover notes to chapters	March 5	All	