

**Comments on draft SNA chapter:
Chapter 14: Summarising and presenting the accounts**

**Deadline for comments: 03 December 2006
Send comments to: sna@un.org**

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This three-part template allows you to record your comments on draft chapter 14 easily and, at the same time, makes it easy for us to use your comments in considering revisions to the draft chapter. You may complete any one, any two, or all of the three parts of the template.

Save this template and send it as an attachment to the following e-mail address:
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Part I: General comments

In the space below, please provide any general comments, such as about the clarity with which the new recommendations were incorporated (30 words or less).

Comment:

In general we agree with the idea of having this kind of chapter, but it is difficult to evaluate the content before the other chapters have been written. We would therefore propose that the chapter will be reopened for comments at a later stage in the process.

Part II: Comments on specific draft paragraphs or passages

In your review of draft chapter 14, you may wish to devote particular attention to the passages listed below. There is space after each issue for any comment you wish to make.

1. Sections B and C describe the derivation of the most common macro-economic aggregates.

Comment:

The creation of the artificial “closed” economy in section B was a severe challenge to our intellectual capacity. We are not quite convinced that this is the right way forward in making a popular, easy read introduction to the accounts.

A general comment of specific nature: The use of inclusive and exclusive in relation to subsidies is confusing: Inclusive tax means the purchasers’ price, that is the higher price. If a subsidy is seen as a negative tax, then by analogy, inclusive subsidy means the purchasers’ price, that is the lower price. However, the farmer (or any other producer benefiting from a subsidy) will always think of the high price as being the price inclusive the subsidy. The conclusion is: Don’t use inclusive or exclusive in relation to subsidies.

Par. 14.8: Why are taxes less subsidies not mentioned?

Par. 14.20: Delete ex-post in the first line.

Par. 14.21: Basic prices is the preferred price level for output, cf. chapter 6. The description of taxes and subsidies in the identity should reflect that and not assume that some countries use producers’ prices. If it is found necessary to describe the identity if the preferred price level is not used, this should be done in 14.25.

Par. 14.25: When producers’ prices are used taxes less subsidies on imported products have to be added unless they are imported via the trade industry and are part of that industry’s producers’ price.

2. Section D mentions the need to present the accounts in time series format.

Comment:

Par. 14.44 – 14.48: We propose to delete these paragraphs.

3. Section E describes the place of volume measures in the accounts.

Comment:

Click here and start typing.

4. Sections F to I describe briefly other possible dimensions to the accounts.

Comment:

Click here and start typing.

5. Section J describes alternative presentations of the accounts.

Comment:

Click here and start typing.

Part III. Other specific comments

You are welcome to make other comments. Please do so by using Adobe Acrobat Version 6 or 7 to comments directly on the PDF of the draft chapter.

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