

**Comments on draft SNA chapter:
Chapter 22: The general government and public sectors**

**Deadline for comments: 13 September 2008
Send comments to: sna@un.org**

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Submission date:	15.9.08

This template allows you to record your comments on draft SNA chapter 22 “The general government and public sectors” 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 or all parts of the template.

There is no file comparing existing text with draft text for this chapter because the draft is all new text.

Save this template and send it as an attachment to the following e-mail address:
sna@un.org

Part I: General comments

In the space below, please provide any general comments. This may cover e.g. the structure of the chapter, issues missing and (lack of) consistency with other chapters of the 2008 SNA.

General comments:

General comment	The chapter is a very useful addition, brings the relevant issues from other chapters together to get a good overview.
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Part II: Comments on specific draft paragraphs and sections

All comments on specific draft paragraphs are welcome. They can be about e.g. scope, content and clarity. Proposing a concrete alternative text or table is also possible. For the paragraphs in separate sections, separate forms are used for providing and collecting comments (see below).

A. Introduction (paragraphs 22.1-22.12)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
22.1	Click here and start typing.
22.2	Wouldn't say that government has a "motivation" – instead "purposes or objectives".
22.3	Instead of "require the intervention of" would say "involve actions of". The explanation that certain operations are quasi-fiscal activities seems to appear twice.
22.11	Would it not be true to say that the recent decisions by the IPSAS board brought the accounts closer to national accounts.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

B. Defining the general government and public sectors (paragraphs 22.13-22.66)

General comment	The issue of market and non-market production could be introduced earlier in the chapter than in 22.28
22.13	Click here and start typing.
22.15	Change "make most of their output at prices" to "make most of their output available at prices"
22.28	If I understand well, the criterion given here: "a minimum, covering capital and other costs" is excellent in my view, but isn't it different from the current Eurostat criterion and has it been accepted?
22.29	Here the criterion seems different "at least half of the production costs over a sustained multi-year period"
22.30	"this should never result in..."? - if one classifies a group there may be single cases, where it could happen..

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

C. The government finance presentation of statistics (paragraphs 22.67-22.92)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
22.67	Click here and start typing.

22.86	Could explain, why consolidation is discouraged in SNA, and why there are cases, where it is useful.
22.90	The same difficulties arise if data are not consolidated – it is perhaps even true that the confrontation of data for consolidation helps solve problems.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

D. Accounting issues particular to the general government and public sectors (paragraphs 22.93-22.168)

General comment	The issues are described well, although some of them are very complicated. For PPP's it could perhaps help to have at least one illustrative example showing the registration in national accounts, even though it is true that there are so many variations of PPP's
22.147 22.149	Restructuring appears both under the heading of privatization in 22.147 and separate under a new heading in 22.149

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

E. The public sector presentation of statistics (paragraphs 22.169-22.175)

General comment	Click here and start typing.
22.169	Click here and start typing.
*	Click here and start typing.

* Insert rows in this Word table for each paragraph on which you wish to comment.

Part III. Other specific comments

You are welcome to make other specific comments. To assist you in doing so, the following points are provided as a guide to the types of points on which you might wish to comment. Note, though, that you are not restricted to commenting on only these points.

1. Are the extended examples about how to decide when a unit supplying to government is market or non-market helpful/too extensive?
2. Is the relationship between the SNA and GFS clear?
3. Is the description of privatisation and nationalisation helpful/sufficient?
4. Is the section on debt sufficiently comprehensive given the existence of other manuals e.g. external debt guide?
5. Do you have comments on the treatment of tax credits?

Specific comments:

Specific comments	Click here and start typing.
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You are also welcome to comment directly on the PDF file of the draft chapter. Please do so by using Adobe Acrobat Version 6 or 7.

If you don't have Adobe Acrobat Version 6 or 7 and would like to make detailed comments, please send a message to sna@un.org requesting a version of the draft chapter that permits you to comment. To optimize your commenting tools, please download Adobe Reader 7.0 for free from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>