



**OECD SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC STATISTICS EXPERT GROUP MEETING, 24-25 June 2002
DRAFT AGENDA**

Monday, 24 June

09.30 – 09.40 1. Welcome and background to the creation of the OECD Short-term Economic Statistics Expert Group

Presenter: Enrico Giovannini (10 minutes)

09.40 – 11.15 2. Future of OECD short-term economic statistics

Session leader and presenter: Denis Ward (8 minutes)

(OECD background paper: “The Future of Short-term Economic Statistics Disseminated by the OECD”) [STD/STESEG(2002)21]

Aim of this brief session is initial scene setting only, definitely not final or prescriptive. The Group will come back to the themes outlined in the background paper and others that arise during the meeting at conclusion of meeting when the future activities of the Expert Group task forces are discussed.

3. Overview of short-term economic statistics and emerging trends from the perspective of:

(a) the producer

- Statistics New Zealand
Presenter: Nairn MacGibbon (15 minutes)

- Eurostat
Presenter: Gunter Shaefer (15 minutes)
(Eurostat background paper: “Eurostat’s role in the production of data”) [STD/STESEG(2002)18]

(b) the user

- OECD Economics Department
Presenter: Niels Westerlund (15 minutes)
(OECD background paper: “The Use of Short-term Indicators in the OECD Economics Department”) [STD/STESEG(2002)19]

- Bank of Italy
Presenter: Roberto Sabbatini (15 minutes)
(Presentation title: “Information requirements for the assessment of short-term developments in the euro area: a minimum harmonisation proposal”)

- European Central Bank
Presenter: Henning Ahnert (15 minutes)
(ECB background paper: “ECB Requirements for short-term economic statistics”) [STD/STESEG(2002)9]



Discussion: 15 minutes

11.15 – 11.45 Break

11.30 – 13.00 4. Demand and output indicators

Session leader and presenter: Denis Ward

(OECD background paper: “A Review of Concepts and National Experiences in the Compilation of Demand Indicators and Output Indicators”)

After a 15 minute introductory presentation, the aims of the session are to discuss:

- *the availability of demand and output indicators across member countries;*
- *issues that impact on the comparability of the indicators across OECD Member countries, including the methodological transparency of current practices;*
- *areas where recommendations, guidelines need to be developed, concepts clarified, etc;*
- *possible future work with respect to output indicators for services;*
- *how to complement work being undertaken by other international organisations and groups (e.g. Voorburg).*

Discussion: 3 hrs 45 minutes (including sessions after lunch break)

Discussion before lunch: Availability of indicators; comparability issues

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch break

14.30 – 16.00 - Demand and output indicators (continued) – Comparability issues (continued); further development of guidelines

16.00 – 16.30 Break

16.30 – 17.30 - Demand and output indicators (continued) – Output indicators for services; future work on demand and output indicators

18.30 - 20.30 Cocktails – Salle Marshall



Tuesday, 25 June

- 09.30 – 09.40 5. Introduction and overview of cross-cutting issues for short-term economic statistics
- (a) Brief overview of main cross cutting issues and their significance for short-term economic statistics in general
- Session leader: Enrico Giovannini (10 minute introduction – no paper)
- 09.40 – 11.00 (b) Current national practices and best practice for seasonal adjustment
- In addition to a review of current national practices in seasonal adjustment and opportunities for further harmonisation of those practices across the OECD, this session will cover the future evolution of seasonal adjustment techniques and software.*
- i. Overview of current national practices in seasonal adjustment
- Presenter: Ronny Nilsson (20 minutes)
- (OECD room document: “Harmonising Seasonal Adjustment Methods in European Union and OECD Countries”) [STD/STESEG(2002)22]
- ii Latest developments on seasonal adjustment
- Presenter: David Findley – US Bureau of Census (30 minutes)
(Presentation title: “Census Bureau Seasonal Adjustment Software Development and Research”)
- Discussion: 60 minutes (including continuation after break)
- 11.00 – 11.30 Break
- 11.30 – 12.00 Seasonal adjustment (continued)
- 12.00 – 13.00 (c) Processes for ensuring consistency between short-term economic statistics and annual data
- Issues to be discussed during this session include:*
- *the coherence between short-term indicators and structural indicators and national accounts; and*
 - *the use of benchmarking techniques to produce more timely data, including consideration of what is the exact meaning of output produced from these techniques.*
- Session leader and presenter: Fenella Maitland-Smith (10 minutes)
- (OECD background paper: “Use of Benchmark Data to Align or Derive Quarterly/Monthly Estimates”) [STD/STESEG(2002)23]
- Discussion: 50 minutes
- 13.00 – 14.30 Lunch Break
- 14.30 – 16.00 (d). Presentation of indicators (paper and electronic) – visibility and access, methodological transparency
- After a 15 minute introduction, the aim of the session is to discuss:*
- *current national practices in relation to the availability of on-line databases and the use of websites*



- for the dissemination of data and metadata;*
- *current data presentation practices;*
- *opportunities for future work to expand the use of on-line data bases both as a means of data dissemination to general users and as a tool for dissemination of data to international organisations, in particular to ensure that any work of the Expert Group in this area complements related work being done (or planned) elsewhere;*
- *opportunities for the formulation of a set of data presentation standards for application across OECD countries.*

Session leader and presenter: Denis Ward (15 minute introduction)

(OECD background paper: “Presentation of Short-term Economic Statistics”) [STD/STESEG(2002)20]

Discussion: 75 minutes

16.00 – 16.30

Break

16.30 – 17.30

6. Identification of task force topics for work over next twelve months, other business, date for 2003 meeting of the Expert Group

Session leader: Enrico Giovannini (5 minute introduction)

(a) Brief review of national priorities outlined in papers and issues raised at meeting

Presenter: Denis Ward (5 minutes)

(OECD background paper: “Summary of Possible Future Work of the Expert Group Compiled from National Papers”)

(b) Task force topics for future work

Discussion: 50 minutes

Other papers submitted for meeting

Country/ international organisation	Title	OLIS document number
Austria	Short-term Indicators Compiled by Statistics Austria	STD/STESEG(2002)17
Belgium	Short-term statistics in Belgium: state of affairs	STD/STESEG(2002)12
Canada	Some Short Term Economic Indicators at Statistics Canada	STD/STESEG(2002)2
Czech Republic	Short-term surveys in Czech Republic	STD/STESEG(2002)16
Finland	Background paper of Finland for OECD Short-term Economic Statistics Expert Group, June 2002	STD/STESEG(2002)15
Germany	Background paper for the 1 st meeting of the OECD Short-term Economic Statistics Expert Group – Federal Statistical Office, Germany	STD/STESEG(2002)11
Hungary	Methodological notes	STD/STESEG(2002)8
Korea	Short-term Economic Indicators in Korea	STD/STESEG(2002)6
Netherlands	Short-term indicators; their role in the statistical system and recent developments; the Dutch case	STD/STESEG(2002)4
New Zealand	Statistics New Zealand Background Paper	STD/STESEG(2002)10
Slovak Republic	The implementation of STS in the Slovak Republic	STD/STESEG(2002)3



Sweden	Statistics Sweden Report for the meeting in June 24 and 25	STD/STESEG(2002)14
Switzerland	Switzerland: Short-term indicators of demand and output	STD/STESEG(2002)7
United States	U.S. Census Bureau's Principal Economic Indicator Programme	STD/STESEG(2002)13
Bank for International Settlements	Short-term Economic Statistics in the BIS Data Bank – Overview prepared for the OECD Short-term Economic Statistics Expert Group	STD/STESEG(2002)5