



STATISTICS DIRECTORATE

National Accounts and Economic Statistics - Services

**REPORT OF THE JOINT OECD-EUROSTAT MEETING OF EXPERTS
ON TRADE-IN-SERVICES STATISTICS
Held on 10-11 December 2001 at the OECD**

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*OECD-EUROSTAT MEETING OF EXPERTS IN TRADE-IN-SERVICES STATISTICS
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**REPORT OF THE JOINT OECD-EUROSTAT MEETING OF EXPERTS
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10-11 December 2001, Paris

I. Opening session

1. The meeting was opened by Mr. Giovannini, Chief Statistician of the OECD and Head of the Statistics Directorate. He welcomed the participants, noting the increasing participation of national statistics offices (NSOs) at this event and emphasised the importance for many countries of good cooperation between NSOs and Central Banks, if trade in services is to be well measured.

2. He said that the main issue for the meeting was how to implement the recommendations of the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS), now that it had been approved by the United Nations Statistics Commission. Trade Directorate needed the data. He told Delegates of the new strategy for statistics at OECD including the greater focus on quality, improving efficiency, raising the profile of statistics with policy makers and strengthening the wider OECD statistical network. He wished delegates a fruitful and enjoyable meeting and passed the Chair to Dr Steger of the Deutsche Bundesbank.

3. Dr Steger thanked Mr Giovannini and said that these meetings posed two challenges to participants i) how to simplify the work of producers and users of statistics and ii) how to collect data and share responsibilities. Mr Barredo-Capelot (Eurostat) spoke of the importance of cooperation between OECD and Eurostat to meet their joint needs and to improve consistency of data and cited the example of the joint OECD-Eurostat publication on International Trade in Services.

II. Adoption of the Agenda STD/NA/SERV/A(2001)1rev1

4. The agenda was adopted without amendment and is attached at Annex 2.

III. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting STD/NA/SERV(2001)1

5. The report of the previous meeting was agreed.

IV. Reports on Recent Developments

a) The Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services

6. Mr Becker (United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)) reported on the conclusions of the United Nations Statistics Commission (UNSC) at its March 2001 meeting. The UNSC had approved the MSITS as an international manual and commended the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services for its work. The UNSC further had asked the Task Force to focus on a data compilation guide, and agreed outline proposals from the Task Force for a coordinated data collection by the international agencies.

7. Mr Cave (OECD/STD) gave a progress report on the finalisation of the MSITS publication, changes to the document since the last meeting and information about the additional annexes. The Task Force had submitted the agreed Manual to the UN editors in the first week of September 2001. The UN editor had now sent a list of proposed editing changes (all stylistic or presentational) to the Task Force for approval. Mr McGrath (Australia) asked whether there was to be an index in the MSITS as that would aid its use as a reference document. Mr Cave noted the request, saying the Task Force would reconsider the feasibility of adding an index.

8. Mr Becker described the situation with translations of MSITS. The English version would be published first, with Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish to follow later. He also asked if any other agencies planned to do any translations or if anyone would be willing to help review drafts then they should let him know. Dr Steger added that all the draft translations were available on the UNSD website and any comments were invited.

b) Progress report on OECD work on merchandise trade statistics and coordination with services

9. Mr Lindner (OECD/STD) reported on the meeting of International Trade Statisticians (ITS), which he said had been held just before the Services Meeting to facilitate attendance at both meetings for delegates who so wished and to provide a unique forum to focus on issues of common concern to both groups. At OECD it was felt that statistics on trade in goods and services should be seen together in a broad picture of trade, this meant considering common approaches, common presentational conventions etc. This meeting would consider concerns about measuring e-commerce and trade in software as had the ITS experts. It was planned to establish an e-commerce virtual interest group among the two groups of trade statisticians.

10. The ITS meeting had discussed – measurement issues; linking trade to business registers; classification issues; globalisation indicators; data quality and software. It was also envisaged to continue with back-to-back meetings and to organise a joint session of the two groups. Dr Steger mentioned the Eurostat work on multinationals and direct reporting. She thought that the development of effective IT solutions was very important. Mr Van Laanen (Netherlands) welcomed the idea of a joint session on trade in goods and services, bringing together different institutions. He expressed the view that in future questions of the possibility of linking different institutions' data on trade would increase.

c) Tourism statistics OECD/STI oral report mainly for information

11. Mr Dupeyras (OECD/DSTI) presented an oral report on the work of the Statistics Working Party of the Tourism Committee, which met in October 2001. He said that the Tourism Satellite Account: Recommended Methodological Framework (TSA) had been published at the beginning of 2001. It was jointly published by UN, World Tourism Organization, OECD and the European Commission. It was a complex tool kit for tourism statisticians, which was having a very positive impact, and would begin a lengthy development process for tourism statistics generally, that would eventually allow a clearer more internationally comparable picture to be painted of the economic impact of tourism. The Working Party had a series of country studies using a system of indicators for tourism and the environment. France had been the subject of the study in 2001. He drew delegates attention to the upcoming Sixth International Forum on Tourism Statistics, to be held in Budapest, 25-27 September 2002. More details could be found on the internet.

12. Dr Steger welcomed this development of a single framework for Tourism Satellite Accounts. Mr Barredo-Capelot told the group of the Eurostat Travel Report, which set out country methodologies and plans for changes in data collection. It provide a useful tool to look at good practice and to try to reduce

bilateral asymmetries. Eurostat had set itself the task of checking the quality of all its balance of payments (BOP) statistics, particularly in the light of the advent of the Euro, which was leading most EU Member States to adapt their data collection methods.

13. Mr Massieu (World Tourism Organization) asked about how it might be possible from a tourism perspective, and using the TSA, to improve statistics on travel in the balance of payments. A possible way forward could be the development of a common questionnaire to meet the needs of tourism and travel statistics. Mr Ortolani (Italy) said that much of the work done for the Travel Report, was done to meet changing data collection practicalities in related to adoption of the Euro, but the methods adopted in Europe could be very useful for non-EU countries. He agreed that discussions on data collection systems should be enlarged to consider both tourism and travel data needs. Mr Renard (France) was concerned about the impact of changing data collection methods on international tourism statistics and on basic macro-economic statistics such as the current account.

d) FDI/ Financial services progress reports

14. Mrs Bertrand (OECD/DAFFE) summarised for information the conclusions of the Workshop on Foreign Direct Investment Statistics held on 5-7 June 2001 (detailed in paper DAFFE/MC/STAT/M(2001)1). She said the meeting had been organised in close cooperation with the IMF. It had been very focused on harmonisation of statistics. Items discussed included i) the conclusions of the IMF-OECD Survey of Implementation of Methodological Standards for Direct Investment and the preparations for the follow up survey; ii) an analysis of international comparability of FDI statistics and iii) operational guidelines for good practice on a number of FDI methodological issues.

15. Mr Lequiller (OECD/STD) raised an OECD concern about harmonising the measure of insurance in the National Accounts and the Balance of Payments of Member countries subsequent to the 11 September attacks, given the magnitude of the sums involved. The US national accounts had treated these flows as negative production of insurance. Treating claims on an accrual basis had led to negative imports (claims) of insurance of \$11bnUS for Q3 in the US balance of payments. The adjustments were well explained by the US BEA. But he asked what other countries were doing?

16. OECD had decided to create a Task Force to look at measurement of insurance in the National Accounts and the Balance of Payments including treatment of catastrophic events. He invited the participation of experts on trade-in-services. Dr Steger agreed that a detailed discussion was needed in this difficult area.

V. Implementation of the MSITS's Recommendations

a) Country progress reports and case studies

17. Mr Mann (US Bureau of Economic Analysis) spoke to a report "US International Services" available as Room Document 3. It covered the measurement of cross-border services trade and services sales through majority-owned US and foreign affiliates. He drew attention to a new box on intra-firm trade and another one on delivery of computer services to foreign markets. There had also been some changes in methodology to bring reporting of cross-border trade closer to the IMF's 5th Balance of Payments Manual (BPM5) and the foreign affiliates trade in services (FATS) statistics presentation closer to the recommendations of MSITS. He cited as examples other trade-related services, business trade over the internet, launching of communication satellites; and an expanded survey on waste treatment and de-pollution services.

18. Issues raised included i) the need clarity in the definition of services in the presentation of international FATS statistics, e.g. how retail and wholesale were treated as they were selling goods not services and ii) information on the statistical units that are targeted for FATS statistics surveys.

19. Ms Pohjansaari (Statistics Finland) presented paper STD/NA/SERV(2001)2 about the new Enterprise Survey of International Trade in Services conducted in 2000 in Finland. Questionnaires were mailed in January 2000 to a sample of over 2500 enterprises. A response rate of 87% was achieved. Less than half of enterprises sampled said they did not buy or sell services internationally.

20. Mr Andersen (Danish National Bank) asked how Finland had managed the transition from a settlement-based system to a survey system in this area. Mr van Laanen commented on the large number of questions and high response rate. The Enterprise Survey represented a shift of reporting burden from banks to enterprises.

21. Ms Pohjansaari said the level of detail requested was an issue. Statistics Finland sought 800 combinations of type of service and partner country. More detail would likely lead to a reduction in quality. Transportation enterprises were the subject of a different inquiry and excluded from this questionnaire. Dr Steger said that countries had a general business register without knowing which enterprises have international transactions and this was a major problem. It would be useful if the trade-in-services survey results could be added in some way and be fed back to the general register. Mr Renard said that settlement systems could be expected to play a reduced role in Europe and registers needed to be improved. The level of detail needed in terms of services and partner countries was also problematic.

22. Introducing the question of frequency of data Mr Barredo-Capelot said that quarterly BOP data were needed by Eurostat and the European Central Bank were seeking key data monthly.

23. There followed a tour de table on national progress and plans. Australia reported development work on FATS and FDI – in particular to identify the inward and outward investors. They conducted quarterly trade-in-services surveys. Canada described an extensive development programme on trade in services, with increased service and country breakouts. Details were set out in Room Document 8. Spain reported an agreement between the Bank of Spain and the National Statistics Institute (INE) to transfer responsibility for data collection on trade in services within five years. Spain made a request for more information on country experiences in collecting such data through surveys. The United States said it collected trade-in-services data in a quarterly survey but made monthly estimates with the aid of relevant indicators.

24. France was continuing to develop FATS statistics. It planned to expand the number of variables collected for Outward FATS, as well as increase the information collected on foreign direct investment generally following a UBO approach and not based on the first foreign owner as at present. Implementation of an EBOPS data collection was not a priority for France. The Bank of Greece would continue to collect trade-in-services data. The settlement system would be supplemented by frontier surveys. Hungary had begun to implement a new data collection system for travel, which included the use of surveys.

25. Portugal was planning a mixed system by supplementing settlement data with direct reporting surveys. Norway expected to phase out the settlement-based system by 2004, while phasing in more surveys. A priority was to improve the information on the business registers. Netherlands said that the Central Bank planned to stop collection of settlements data in mid 2003, when responsibility would be transferred to CBS in a 'big bang' approach. The exception was travel, where CBS was already beginning a study, partly related to the advent of the Euro. CBS would focus on BOP trade in services with only two partners namely, EU and rest of the world.

26. Slovak Republic relied on a bank reporting system at present, but was involved in discussions regarding the development of a survey system in future. In the Czech Republic, the Central Bank used bank settlements and some specialised surveys. They were seeking to expand the detail along the lines recommended in MSITS. They planned to make data available on the Bank's website. UK ran an enterprise survey on trade in services and planned to increase the sample from 10,000 to 20,000. Enterprises who traded in services were identified by filter questions on other surveys. Collection of outward FATS statistics in the UK was prevented by a lack of legal authority to collect data concerning British-owned foreign affiliates operating abroad. Statistics Sweden were planning to take over measurement of travel, transport and other services from the Central Bank with quarterly and annual surveys. The bank settlement system was expected to finish by the end of 2002. However the Swedish Central Bank would still have overall responsibility for compiling BOP statistics.

27. In Switzerland the Central Bank is responsible for collection of data on trade in services, with the NSO collecting travel data. There were gaps in coverage and plans for a survey of business and professional services were being discussed. Insufficient resources were available at present to collect partner country data. Turkey had implemented BPM5 and conducted a tourism survey quarterly. In Germany the Bundesbank was solely responsible for data collection, mainly based on the settlement system with no NSO involvement. Direct reporting would be expanded for large companies and later for smaller firms. Germany already produced a large amount of partner country detail but changes in collection methodologies may lead to a reduction in detail that can be reported in future.

b) First results of the OECD trade in services by partner country data collection

28. Mr Cave presented the first results of the OECD trade in services by partner country data collection as set out in STD/NA/SERV(2001)3. He said there was a growing demand from analysts for such data, with a strong requirement for detail. Mirror statistics on bilateral flows were useful as a tool to begin to examine data quality and international comparability. OECD and other trade analysts had requested intra-EU bilateral flows. Apart from the countries presented Hong Kong had said that it was preparing partner country data for publication in 2002. OECD wished to use the most detailed partner country breakdowns and emphasised the importance of countries detailing trade with their main partners.

29. Mr Barredo-Capelot welcomed this development. He advocated that OECD release partner country data using EU data for EU Member states so that there was a consistent methodology including with the ECB. 2000 data had now been published on New Cronos. Intra-EU bilateral flow data were not published by Eurostat because of asymmetries and because of an agreement between Eurostat and Member States not to publish them. Dr Steger asked countries to comment on which of the two alternate presentations they preferred OECD to publish.

30. Mrs. Morales Gutierrez (Banco de España) said that Spain did not publish such data and what they provided to Eurostat was so provided on the understanding that most of it should not be published. She would prefer to see the same data for Spain in the OECD and New Cronos publications and she would send OECD the instructions that were sent to Eurostat.

31. Mr Mann said that US could not easily provide partner country data for the precise BPM5 categories of services. Mr McKenzie (British Invisibles) raised the information needs of the World Trade negotiations asking when worldwide data could be expected. Mr Cave said there was a clear requirement for a worldwide programme. The UN had agreed in principle to collect trade in services by partner country data, but that this would take time to establish.

32. Mr Henderson (Statistics Canada) approved of the presentation. The regional groupings and list of countries were not equally relevant to all country participants. He suggested consideration could be

given to a section for memorandum items. Canada was focusing on providing data for more countries, but with a limited service breakdown. Mr McGrath thought the data were useful and suggested that continental totals could be added at the top of the page. Ms Pohjansaari said that Finland did not plan to increase the partner countries identified but would focus on partner regions.

33. Mr Massieu questioned the meaningfulness of using the term 'mirror statistics' when methodologies were so different in different countries for example with travel data. He advocated a more proactive approach with a common questionnaire for travel/tourism especially in the EU where data collection is affected by the introduction of the Euro. Dr Steger supported the Secretariat's approach. Mr Lindner said that analogous problems existed with merchandise trade statistics at OECD. Analysts wanted national data for EU countries, which did not preclude a strong cooperation with Eurostat. It was what might be called a 'dual track' approach. It would be vital to include relevant metadata. Ms Fitzgibbon emphasised the need for good metadata.

34. Mr Karsenty (World Trade Organization (WTO/OMC)) drew delegates attention to WTO/OMC published origin and destination statistics for trade in services for EU, Japan, US and Canada, available on the internet. He said there was a very high demand for such data.

35. Mr Cave presented Secretariat proposals for a written procedure where countries would comment on the data to be published by OECD. Given analysts need for a detailed country breakdown and national source data, EU Member States would also be asked to decide whether they prefer OECD to publish New Cronos data updated to 2000 or national source data. Mr Andersen said that EU Member States had agreed to supply Eurostat with intra-EU bilateral flow data provided that it was not published, why then was OECD seeking to publish this. Mr Cave acknowledged a dilemma, but said OECD's analytical needs differed slightly from Eurostat's in some respects and OECD was asking simply for each country to provide clear guidance to OECD on what should be published regarding their country given the analytical needs. No change would be made to EU and Euro Area aggregates.

36. **Summing up, Dr Steger said that a written procedure had been agreed, which OECD would initiate, and it would be for countries to comment on what partner country data should be published by OECD for their country, based on the OECD proposals.**

c) Medium term data collections aims, priorities and organisational issues

37. Mr Barredo-Capelot gave an oral report on a proposed Eurostat Regulation on Balance of Payments Statistics. It was still at a preliminary stage, would take into account the needs of EU Institutions, the European Central Bank, and give particular emphasis to the information needs of trade policy, which required detailed data. The Regulation should be output oriented. Balance of Payments was the only major statistical field in the EU without a Regulation. It would be based on BPM5 and the MSITS. Candidate countries should have a clear framework within which to develop their statistics. A first discussion had been held at the September 2001 Eurostat Balance of Payments Working Party and Eurostat needed to finalise the framework fairly quickly. Eurostat invited OECD and IMF to its Balance of Payments and higher level meetings and would be willing for drafts to be available to these international organisations. Ms Fitzgibbon said that the future of BPM5 was being considered and there were tentative plans for a revision around 2007.

38. Mr Cave spoke to document STD/NA/SERV(2001)4, which presented a (proposed) strategy for OECD to promote implementation of the Manual's recommendations. It set out a three year plan for OECD to collect trade-in-services data with links to a common framework, agree questionnaires and coding systems. In OECD various Directorates are involved and a Coordination Group had been established. Mr Boccara (INSEE France) said that it was a challenge to work across established

directorates in organisations. For example, in the balance of payments in France, there was now a need to introduce the dimension of enterprises and create links with the Business Register Group. A change of culture was needed.

39. Mr Barredo-Capelot said that coordination challenges existed also in Eurostat where, unit B dealt with balance of payments and outward FATS, and unit D with enterprise statistics and inward FATS. This posed problems for development of a Regulation. The Eurostat Balance of Payments Technical Group on Direct Reporting were looking at the issue of Register data and confidentiality issues that could arise in sharing data on enterprise groups between statistics offices. Mr McGrath suggested that OECD identify a list of problem areas, for future discussion, with a view to developing compilation guidance. Mr Henderson supported the OECD Strategy proposals, which gave an excellent agenda for future work and would avoid duplication. There would also need to be cooperation between the international organisations in data collection.

d) FATS statistics and the OECD Manual of Economic Globalisation Indicators

40. Mr Hatzichronoglou (OECD) outlined plans for development of the draft OECD Manual on Economic Globalisation Indicators. He had received many comments on the previous draft and he would again invite comments from the Group when the next draft was ready. Regarding FATS statistics these were currently being updated and it was planned to publish "Measuring Globalisation" in 2002 in two volumes – one volume on manufacturing and, for the first time, a volume on services. He already had data for around twenty countries and hoped that more countries would soon be able to report such data.

41. Mr. Menghinello (Italy) questioned the way in which a broad economic concept of control of an enterprise was translated into strict statistical definitions. Perhaps the statistical definitions were biased to North American and North European circumstances, but could be less appropriate in Italy where large family firms were common. Mr Boccara said that it was necessary to distinguish the concept of control from the chosen measure of that concept, e.g. majority control of voting rights. Mr Hatzichronoglou agreed that there were a number of potential questions of international comparability and that these might be greatest in small countries.

e) Compilation Guidance

42. Mr Cave presented, mainly for information, paper STD/NA/SERV(2001)5, a draft outline of a compilation guide for MSITS. It would be discussed by the Interagency Task Force, and comments were invited from delegates.

43. Mr Becker presented the UN web pages on trade in services, which provided a central information point on MSITS and had links to other international organisations' web pages, the OECD helpline email address, to relevant documents, information on meetings etc. It would be further developed. One suggestion was that this might include links to some country web pages, where relevant. Dr Steger said that this was a valuable contribution to information dissemination on work on trade in services.

VI. Further Development Issues

a) ICT related issues

44. Mr Montagnier outlined the OECD work on measuring ICT and the difficulties of obtaining good statistics on trade in software. Mr Cave presented a questionnaire on measuring trade in software, which was part three of wider questionnaire in STD/NA/SERV(2001)7 on how countries estimated software capital expenditure in their national accounts. It had been developed by an OECD-Eurostat National Accounts Task Force on Software. The questionnaire had been distributed to countries participating in this

task force at the end of October 2001. It was important to discuss the issue with trade statisticians because of the very poor level and quality of information about trade in an important product that could be traded separately as a good, a service or through royalty payments or bundled with other products. Mr Lindner said that it had been discussed at the trade in goods meeting and an email group of interested parties established. Service experts were also invited to join this email group.

45. Mr Henderson described some Canadian software related work – a recent household survey with questions on digital products purchased online included in Room Document 7. Canada also broke down royalty and license fee payments to separately identify software payments in the regular trade-in-services surveys. Mr Mann said that the US had some success at identifying software royalties, which constituted a substantial part of US software exports. Regarding downloading of products by households, music was important but was not always paid for. Other delegates mentioned intra-firm transactions (e.g. between the parent company and its foreign affiliates) in software and the difficulty of unbundling software transactions from these, as these may not be declared as exports but perhaps just as a management charge.

46. Mr Lequiller invited more responses from countries to part three of the questionnaire and said that OECD would aim to summarise these responses by the end of January 2002, with the aim of reporting conclusions by September 2002.

47. Dr Steger summed up by saying this Group would try to contribute to the inquiry in coordination with the national accountants. The volunteer informal email group on software and e-commerce was welcome.

b) *Measuring trade in other services*

48. Mr Larsen OECD/CERI introduced Room Document 6 “Trade in Educational Services: Trends and Emerging Issues”. The report presented a view of the size of some aspects of the international market of education services. It considered the modes of supply. He noted that there was a substantial divergence of view concerning trade liberalisation in this area. Points raised by delegates included suggesting splitting educational travel expenses into living expenses and tuition, for mode 4 that gross earnings was a key variable. The question was raised of whether it was only the commercial aspect of education that was being considered as relevant to trade negotiations.

49. Ms Lipson World Health Organization (WHO) said there was increasing interest in trade in health related services and how to monitor these. There was interest in the modes of supply – new kinds of cross-border services, health tourism packages, foreign-owned clinics, and the movement of health professionals. But in practice traded health services did not fit exactly the GATS modes. WHO were seeking to measure the size of such trade and its impact on the economies and health systems of countries. WHO planned to hold a seminar on trade in health services in Geneva in January 2002.

50. Mr Huber OECD/ELS said the health data team had been developing a system of health accounts that were compatible with the Manual. There was a “rest of the world” account. A first set of health account tables were being prepared for eventual publication. There was political interest in trade partly because of increasing numbers of patients are prepared to travel to other countries for treatment. In response to a question on health products, Mr Huber said that the accounts sought to separate health goods and health services.

51. Mr Karsenty introduced STD/NA/SERV(2001)6 “Telecommunication Services and Negotiations: A Focus on BOP and FATS Statistics”. There was a problem of availability and interpretation of telecoms trade data. There was a need for price or volume data to understand trends, more metadata, FATS data, and an indicator “exports + imports” was advocated. Delegates raised the issue of confidentiality, when a

single or dominant national telecoms provider existed. With the increase in multinational telecommunications firms there was an increasing complexity in services provided and the way they were accounted for.

c) Trade related movement of natural persons

52. Mr Guellec OECD/DSTI reported on analytical work on the movement of highly skilled workers and the outcome of a seminar on International Mobility of Highly Skilled Workers held at OECD on 11-12 June 2001. The proceedings of the seminar would be published early in 2002. There were three components to the work – i) statistics; ii) economic analysis iii) public policy issues. Migration had been rising since the early nineties especially amongst skilled workers. Almost all OECD countries have introduced easier immigration rules for highly skilled workers. DSTI was interested in the impact of these people flows on innovation, research and economic growth. Statistics sought would include items such as stocks and flows of skilled workers across borders, structure (occupation, age /gender etc), duration of stay and return rate. It was problematic to match occupation data between countries. While a lot of data are available, international comparability is poor. Inflows are generally better monitored by countries than outflows.

53. Planned future tasks included taking a census of administrative sources and relevant surveys with the aim of moving towards a harmonised approach within OECD countries. Similar work was planned with some non-member countries. Work was also planned on the revision of the Canberra Manual of which international mobility would be an important aspect. There was an overlap of interest with trade in services on movement of natural persons. Delegates suggested the importance of making good use of population censuses, and in certain countries social security data.

VII. Trade negotiations and policy needs

54. Mrs Nielson OECD/ECH provided an update on services trade negotiations, which had restarted in 2000. Progress was steady because of a lot of technical work. The objective was to get countries to make commitments.

55. The Doha Ministerial agreement had mandated negotiations on services and other subjects and set an overall deadline for negotiations of First January 2005 on most subjects. We were now to enter a period of assessments. Statistical needs of negotiators were still the same as before i.e., partner country data, detailed types of service, modes of supply, to increase the number of countries submitting data and a better understanding of the statistics. Delegates asked whether the need for statistics was constant or changed from year to year, to which she replied that there were basic constant needs and at the same time particular services could become hot topics for short periods. Countries should focus on the services that were most important in their economies first. There were no plans to revisit the link between the GNS/W/120 negotiating list with provisional CPC, although there was intermittent interest in classifications e.g. energy services.

VIII. The Joint OECD-Eurostat publication

a) Feedback on 2001 edition

56. Mr Magdeleine OECD/STD provided a short report on the 2001 edition of the Joint OECD-Eurostat Publication. Cooperation had worked better than before and he thanked Eurostat for their contribution. More detail and analysis had been added. It was agreed that the next edition would be broadly on the same basis and in a similar format.

b) *OECD policy on publishing historical statistics for Eurozone countries in Euros*

57. Mr Cave spoke to document *STD/NA(2001)8* for information, which set out the OECD policy to publish historical statistics for Eurozone countries in Euros with the irrevocable exchange rate at the time entry to the Eurozone kept constant for previous years. The effect was to preserve the profile of national currency time series, but presented problems of aggregation across countries.

IX. Other Business

58. It was agreed that the programme of work outlined at the meeting provided was full enough for the time being.

X. Date of Next Meeting

59. The OECD Secretariat proposed that the next meeting be held back to back with the meeting on International Trade Statistics with a joint session on matters of common interest to both groups. Dr Steger said the Delegates may wish to review this arrangement at the next meeting. The date was still to be arranged but would probably be either late 2002 or early 2003. This was agreed and the meeting was closed.

ANNEX 1

**OECD-EUROSTAT MEETING OF EXPERTS
IN TRADE-IN-SERVICES STATISTICS**

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Annex 2

OECD-EUROSTAT MEETING OF EXPERTS IN TRADE-IN-SERVICES STATISTICS

AGENDA

Château de la Muette
10-11 December 2001
Beginning at 10 a.m. on the first day

1.	Welcome/opening by Enrico Giovannini (OECD Chief Statistician)	
2.	Adoption of the agenda	STD/NA/SERV/A(2001)1 rev1
3.	Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting	STD/NA/SERV(2001)1
4.	<p>Reports on recent developments:</p> <p>a) Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">i) Conclusions of the Meetings of the UN Statistical Commission and the Interagency Task Force (for information) UNSD and OECD Secretariat oral reports</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">ii) Final English version of the MSITS (new additions) Secretariat oral report (for information)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">iii) French and other translations of the MSITS - UNSD oral report (<i>Delegates comments are invited- subject to UN timetable</i>)</p> <p>b) Progress report on OECD work on merchandise trade statistics and coordination with services OECD/ STD oral report mainly for information</p> <p>c) Tourism statistics OECD/STI oral report mainly for information</p> <p>d) FDI/ Financial services progress report</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- Summary conclusions of FDI workshop OECD/DAFFE report mainly for information</p>	<p>RD1 - Internet only</p> <p>RD2 - Internet only</p> <p>DAFFE/MC/STAT/M(2001)1 (OLIS only)</p>
5.	<p>Implementation of the MSITS's Recommendations</p> <p>a) Country progress reports and case studies</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- Presentation by US Bureau of Economic Analysis</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- Presentation by Statistics Finland</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- Tour de table on national progress and plans (delegates will be invited to summarise any national developments)</p> <p>b) First results of the OECD trade in services by partner country data collection Secretariat report <i>tour de table discussion and decision on publication strategy. delegates are invited to comment on:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- accuracy</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- geographical groupings</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- methodological and data problems</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- wider dissemination/publication</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">- data collection proposals for 2002 OECD presentation</p> <p>c) medium term data collections aims, priorities and organisational issues</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">-Eurostat report on plans for a new Regulation - mainly for information (<i>questions are invited</i>)</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">-OECD/ STD report on medium term strategy for discussion</p>	<p>RD3 - Internet only STD/NA/SERV(2001)2</p> <p>STD/NA/SERV(2001)3 (OLIS only)</p> <p>RD7</p> <p>RD4</p> <p>STD/NA/SERV(2001)4</p>

Tuesday 11th December

5. (contd)	<p>Implementation of the MSITS's Recommendations:</p> <p>d) i) New FATS statistics presentation OECD/STI ii) Update on Manual of Economic Globalisation Indicators OECD/ STI</p> <p>e) Compilation Guidance Discussion paper on compilation guidance OECD/Eurostat Presentation of UN trade in services website (delegates suggestions on national information needs and offers of content are invited) - Eurostat Travel report is made available for information</p>	<p>STD/NA/SERV(2001)5</p> <p>RD5</p>
6.	<p>Further development issues</p> <p>a) ICT related issues: - measurement of international trade in software – OECD STD for discussion <i>tour de table-delegates are invited to comment on the approach, provide any evidence and also to report on any national software, e-commerce or ICT related studies that relate to trade in services</i></p> <p>b) Measuring trade in other services:- education services - OECD/CERI oral report health services - WHO and OECD/ELS oral reports</p> <p>telecoms services – presentation by the WTO</p> <p>c) Trade related movement of natural persons: Seminar on movement of highly qualified persons - OECD STI oral report on the seminar, current work and future plans</p>	<p>STD/NA/SERV(2001)7</p> <p>RD6</p> <p>STD/NA/SERV(2001)6</p>
7.	Trade negotiations and policy needs update – oral presentation by OECD/ECH	
8.	<p>The joint OECD-Eurostat publication</p> <p>a) feedback on 2001 edition OECD/STD b) OECD policy on publishing historical statistics for Eurozone countries in Euros - Secretariat report for information</p>	STD/NA(2001)8
9.	Other business	
10.	Date of next meeting	
11.	Close	