

MEETING OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS EXPERTS

To be held at the Château de la Muette, Paris,
from Wednesday, 23rd May to Friday, 25th May 1984
commencing at 10.00 a.m. on the first day.

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Adoption of the Agenda and organisation of the discussion.
2. Borderline problems in the sectoring of transactors

Room Document No. 1, prepared by Mr. E.J. Käär as consultant, is a background paper which describes the results of a survey among statistical offices of OECD countries concerning borderline problems in institutional sectoring. The United Nations Statistical Office has conducted a similar survey among its non-OECD Member countries, and a representative from the UNSO will present an oral report on their findings. The Secretariat paper Sectoring of Transactors in the System of National Accounts is the main discussion paper for this item. It deals with four specific problems raised in the Käär report, and contains some proposals for changes to the SNA.

3. Interest

The treatment of interest, with particular reference to the imputation for bank service charges, has been discussed in papers prepared by the statistical offices of Luxembourg and Canada for previous OECD meetings. The UNSO is preparing a paper which will draw on these and related studies, and will contain proposals for the treatment of bank interest in a revised version of the SNA.

4. Statistical Units

Room Document No. 2, prepared by Dr. A. Franz as consultant, is a background paper, which describes the results of a survey of OECD countries concerning the types of statistical units that provide the basic data for compiling accounts for "activity groups" and "institutional sectors". The Secretariat paper Statistical Units will summarize the main conclusions and indicate what changes may be needed to the present SNA guidelines in this area.

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5. Real income aggregates

The Secretariat paper Measurement of National Disposable Income in Real Terms summarizes recent work at the OECD, and in particular at the Statistical Office of the European Communities, on the measurement of trading gains and on the deflation of transfers with the rest of the world. It will contain proposals for the measurement of real national disposable income.

6. Production boundary

The production boundary in the present SNA is somewhat imprecise with regard to the treatment of illegal activities, the "underground" or "hidden" economy, subsistence income, and household production. A Secretariat paper, The SNA Production Boundary, will suggest a clearer and more appropriate delineation of the production boundary. Room Document No. 3 which is a report by Mr. P. Quirino as consultant, on the treatment of illegal activities in the national accounts, will serve as a background document

7. Other business(i) Inflation accounting

The EEC organised a meeting on inflation accounting in January 1984. The OECD Secretariat has prepared a note describing the main conclusions of this meeting.

(ii) Quarterly national accounts

The last OECD national accounts meeting discussed a number of questions relating to the uses of sub-annual accounts, priorities of compilation, and data requirements. The main conclusion arising from this discussion will be brought together in a short Secretariat paper which could eventually be incorporated into a revised version of the SNA.

These papers will be circulated before the meeting and participants will be invited to give their comments.