

# DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS STATISTICS DIVISION UNITED NATIONS

Ninth Meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting New York, 25-27 June 2014

# PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA UN Secretariat Building, Room S-1522

# 9:00-9:30 Registration of participants

Wednesday, 25 June 2014, 9:30AM – 5:30PM

1. Opening and objectives of the meeting (9:30AM – 9:50 AM)

Stefan Schweinfest, Director, UNSD Ian Ewing, Interim Chair of UNCEEA and Deputy Australian Statistician

- **2. Election of chair** (9:50AM 10.00AM)
- 3. Post-2015 UN Development Agenda and broader measures of progress (for discussion) (10.00AM 12:15 PM)

The Statistical Commission recognized the SEEA as an important statistical framework for the Post2015 Development Agenda and the SDG indicators. The Committee will be informed of the on-going processes in the development of indicators in the context of the Post 2015development agenda and in Europe and discuss a set of recommendations on the benefits of using the SEEA and more broadly a system approach for the derivation of the SDG indicators. The UNCEEA is requested to adopt these recommendations and discuss the modalities to inform the Friends of the Chair group on the broader measures of progress and the open working group process on how the SEEA can inform the SDG indicators process.

#### Presentations (10:00AM – 10:45AM):

- DSD update on the progress of the Open Working Group (David O'Connor, DSD)
- Sustainable Development Solutions Network (Jessica Espey, SDSN)

# **Coffee break 10:45 AM – 11:15 AM**

### Presentations (11:15AM – 12:30PM):

- Friends of the Chair group on the broader measures of progress (Claire Plateu, INSEE)
- Eurostat indicator initiative (Anton Steurer, Eurostat )
- The system approach for the derivation of SDG indicators (Ian Ewing, Chair UNCEEA and Deputy Australian Statistician)
- Discussion

#### Lunch break 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM

# 4. Towards aligning the measures and indicators at the corporate, national and international level - The role of the SEEA (1:45PM-3:00PM)

The Committee will discuss the importance of developing coherent measures at the corporate level aligned with the international macro standard of the SEEA Central Framework in order to facilitate the collection of high quality data from the business sector. It will also discuss how the statistical community can contribute and harness existing initiatives to measure the environment and its relationship with the economy using non-conventional data sources. The Committee is invited to discuss the proposal of establishing a subgroup consisting of statistical offices, representatives from the business sectors and major initiatives working on sustainability reporting.

#### Panel discussion (1:45PM – 3:00PM)

- Natural Capital Coalition (Nicolas Bertrand)
- World Business Council (Jessica McGlyn)
- United Nations Global Compact (Ana Blanco)
- Global Reporting Initiative (Bastian Buck)
- Statistics Netherlands (Gerard Eding)

#### Coffee break 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

# **5.** Towards the harmonization of basic statistics and mainstreaming the SEEA (for discussion) (3:30PM-5:30PM)

The implementation of the SEEA relies heavily on the supporting statistics compiled. Often these statistics are collected and compiled using different concepts, definitions and classifications. In order to advance the implementation of the SEEA it is important that a process of harmonization of basic statistics is put in place. Some international agencies will discuss issues in the harmonization of basic statistics with the SEEA and efforts to mainstream the SEEA in their statistical production (e.g. FDES, SEEA-Agri, etc.). An integrated statistical production process will facilitate the mainstreaming of the SEEA and the coordination of activities at the country level with a clear understanding of the role and contribution of each activity in the development of an integrated statistical programme supporting the SEEA implementation. The UNCEEA will also discuss its role in the coordination of a global partnership among international agencies in support of the implementation of the SEEA. This will ensure complementarity of activities and projects implemented at the country level.

# Harmonizing basic statistics with the accounts (3:30PM-3:45PM)

- The Integrated Business Statistics Program at Statistics Canada (Andre Loranger)

Panel discussion on issues in harmonizing basic statistics with the accounts (3:45PM - 4:30PM)

- Malaysia (Zarinah Mahari)
- Mongolia (Badamtsetseg Batjargal)
- Russia (Andrei Tatarinov)

#### Mainstreaming the SEEA (4:30PM – 5:30PM)

- Paper on mainstreaming the SEEA in the programme of work of international agencies (UNSD)
- Integrated statistics (Ivo Havinga)

- Template for technical notes and examples of core tables and accounts (Alessandra Alfieri on behalf of the Technical Committee on the SEEA Central Framework)

# Reception DC2-15<sup>th</sup> floor 6:00 PM hosted by UNSD

# Thursday, 26 June 2014, 9:00AM - 5:30PM

Mainstream the SEEA as part of international organizations operations (9:00AM – 10:30AM):

- SEEA-Agri linking agricultural statistics with accounts (Carl Obst, consultant to FAO)
- FDES –Linking environment statistics with accounts (Eszter Horvath)
- OECD Task Force on the implementation of the SEEA, harmonization of statistics for producing green growth indicators (Pierre-Alain Pionnier)
- Eurostat work on harmonization (Anton Steurer)

### Coffee break 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM

Panel discussion on the needs to establish national coordination - - country perspectives (11:00 AM- 12:00PM)

- Indonesia (Kechuck Suhariyanto)
- Philippines (Lisa Bersales)
- Uganda (Chris Mukiza)
- Colombia (Monica Rodriguez)

# 6. Towards a medium-term programmed of work for the implementation of the SEEA Central Framework (for discussion) (12:00AM-1:00PM, 2:30PM - 3:30PM)

The Committee will discuss a proposal for a medium-term programme of work for the implementation of the SEEA. The programme of work reflects the demand from the Post 2015 Development agenda as well as the need for harmonization of basic statistics with the accounts and the linkages with the corporate reporting to ensure integrated reporting moving away from the silo approach of obtaining data. The Committee will also discuss the work programme of the technical committee on the SEEA Central Framework, including proposals for core set of tables and accounts and process to finalize them, training of trainers, compilation guidelines and other materials supporting the implementation of the SEEA.

### Presentations by UNSD (12:00PM – 1:00PM):

- Medium-term programme of work for the implementation of the SEEA Central Framework (Alessandra Alfieri on behalf of the Technical Committee on the SEEA Central Framework)
- Training of trainers (Sokol Vako, UNSD)

# **Lunch break 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM**

- SEEA implementation guide (UNSD) (2:30 -3:00)
- Compilation guidelines on water statistics (UNSD) (3:00PM 3:30PM)

Coffee break 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM

7. Communication strategy of the SEEA (for discussion) (4:00PM-5:30PM)

The Committee will discuss a proposal for establishing a branding identity for the SEEA, including logo, core messaging, infographics, illustrative visuals, etc. It will also discuss the way forward in defining the branding identity.

Interactive discussion (4:30PM – 5:30PM):

- Communication strategy of the SEEA (SEEA Communication consultant)

# Dinner at the Perfect Pint located at 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave and 45<sup>th</sup> St--6:30 PM

# Friday, 27 June 2014, 9:00AM - 4:00PM

8. Towards a medium-term programme of work for the SEEA-Experimental Ecosystem Accounting (for discussion) (9:00AM-11:15AM, 11:45AM-1:00PM)

The Committee will discuss the programme of work to advance the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting and coordination with existing activities working on related areas (e.g. TEEB, IPBES, UNEP ProEcoserve, Expert Group on linking geospatial information and statistics). The Committee is invited to discuss modalities of coordination among the different initiatives.

Presentations (9:00AM-9:30AM):

 Medium term programme of work for the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting, including the Advancing the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) Experimental Ecosystem Accounting in pilot countries project (UNSD)

Panel discussion on country experiences in ecosystem accounting (9:30AM-11:15AM):

- US (Dixon Landers)
- Australia(Mark Eigenraam)
- Brazil (Antonio Sena do Nascimiento)
- Mauritius (Jean-Louis Weber)

## Coffee break 11:15 AM - 11:45 AM

Panel discussion on activies at international level (11:45AM - 1:00PM)

- MAES (Jock Martin )
- WAVES Policy and Technical Experts Committee (Sofia Ahlroth)
- UNEP-TEEB and other UNEP initiatives (Nicolas Bertrand)
- UNDP (Tim Scott)
- Expert Group on linking geospatial information and statistics (Gregg Scott)

# Lunch break 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

9. International Input Output Tables (for discussion) (2:00PM-3:30PM)

The Committee will discuss the proposal of establishing a project on establishing a community of practitioners dealing with International Input Output Tables including the environment. The proposal includes the establishment of a website to serve as a repository of different practices.

# Presentations (2:00PM – 3:30PM):

- Toward the UN Handbook on Supply and Use Tables (Ilaria DiMatteo, UNSD)
- Toward the development of global database for international supply and use tables (joint presentation by Arnold Tukker, TNO and Arne Geschke, University of Sidney)
- Statstics Netherlands (Gerard Eding)

# **10.** Report of Groups working under the auspices of or in collaboration with the UNCEEA (for information) (3:30PM-3:45PM)

The Committee will be informed on the programme of work of those bodies working on environmental-economic accounting and supporting statistics for which the UNCEEA plays a role of coordination. The Committee will have before it reports presenting progress of work of the various groups working under the auspices of or in collaboration with the UNCEEA to ensure coordination among the groups.

## **11.** Closing (3:45PM-4:00PM)