

MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE UN COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTING

12th May 2017, via WebEx

- **Present:** Bert Kroese (Chair), Lisa Wardlaw-Kelly (Australia Bureau of Statistics), Carolyn Cahill (Statistics Canada), Raul Figueroa (INEGI, Mexico), Joe de Beer (Statistics South Africa), Francesco Tubiello (FAO), Peter van de Ven (OECD), Alessandra Alfieri and Sokol Vako (United Nations Statistics Division)
- **Regrets:** Romeo Recide (Philippines Statistics Authority), Anton Steurer (Eurostat), Stig Johansson (World Bank)

AGENDA FOR THE UPCOMING UNCEEA MEETING

The Bureau agreed that:

1. The structure of the meeting should be the same as in the prior meeting: 1 day seminar and 2 days management meeting.
2. The proposed agenda for the 3 day meeting, based on the programme of work of the Committee, needs to be further detailed.

Seminar (Day 1)

3. The aim of the seminar is to provide members of the UNCEEA with the skills and tools to increase the uptake of the SEEA at the country and international level. There will be a training element to the seminar, as well as hands on, interactive elements as well as presentation of inspiring case studies where the SEEA has been applied to emerging policy issues.
4. The discussion at the seminar will serve as an input in the discussion on the type of communication and promotion products to be developed as part of the programme of work of Area E.

Action: Development of a detailed agenda and inform participants on the expectations of the seminar.

Management Meeting (Days 2 and 3)

Area A: Coordination

5. During the session, the creation of a committee to guide the work will be discussed. Members will also discuss how to support the various reporting initiatives, priorities and concrete steps for the next 12 month. Members will get an update on the Progress made on the new SEEA website.

Area B1: SEEA Central Framework

6. This session will include a presentation on the global work plan and progress made so far. The Committee will also discuss a number of issues related to classifications. Lastly progress made with alignment with BIOFIN and sustainable tourism as well as the way forward will be discussed.

Area B2: SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Account

7. A strategy and a programme of work with timelines and deliverables, for the revision of the SEEA EEA will be presented to the Committee. The Committee will also discuss its engagement in the development of methodologies and global databases for indicator 15.3 on land degradation.

Area C: Global Databases

8. The Committee will be invited to provide its views on the detailed programme of work of the group on global databases being led by OECD. The group will have its first meeting in early June and outcomes of that meeting will be shared with the UNCEEA. It was noted that there is a need for all international agencies working on SEEA Global Data bases to be part of the OECD led group.

Area D: Capacity Building

9. Given that the results of the global assessment will not be available before the meeting of the UNCEEA, this session will focus on the capacity building needs of countries in implementing the SEEA. Regional commissions and other international organizations will also provide a summary of the demands they have in the area of SEEA capacity building

Area E: Practical Strategy

10. This session will focus on the outcomes of the seminar and how to move forward in this area of work.

Actions:

Area leads to prepare a short document providing some background, introducing any background documents and the questions to guide the discussions of the UNCEEA, similar to what was done at the last UNCEEA meeting. The papers should be posted on the UNCEEA website the latest on 5 June to allow enough time for the members to seek inputs from within their institutions.

UNSD to prepare a revised agenda with time to be circulated to the area lead for inputs. The agenda would be re-organized as requested by some members of the UNCEEA. Area B1 would move to Wednesday. It was also noted that the discussion of the work programme of Area E would stay on Wednesday to give enough time to prepare a proposal after the discussion during the Seminar. While each session is expected to last about 2 hours, there is some flexibility.