

INFORMATION NOTE

ENGLISH ONLY

**UNITED NATIONS STATISTICAL COMMISSION
and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC
COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT
(OECD)**

STATISTICS DIRECTORATE

Expert Meeting on the Update of 1993 SNA: Canberra II Group
(Geneva, 14-16 September 2005)

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

DATE AND VENUE OF THE MEETING

1. Expert Meeting on the Update of 1993 SNA: Canberra II Group will be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, from Wednesday 14 September until Friday 16 September 2005. The meeting will commence at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday 14 September and will finish on Friday 16 September when business has been concluded.

THE CANBERRA II GROUP

2. The UNECE is proud to be hosting this meeting of the Canberra II Group. The Group was created in 2002 by the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) under the auspices of the United Nations Statistical Commission. Its key objective is to examine and improve the measurement and treatment of non-financial assets as part of the update of the 1993 System of National Accounts (SNA). This is the 6th and final meeting of the Group.
3. Canberra Group II membership is open to anyone wishing to make a contribution. Its membership includes members of national statistical offices, regional and international organisations, other public servants, academics and private individuals. Although it has an electronic discussion forum, most of the debate and development of recommendations takes place at twice-yearly meetings. Members have exclusive access to the Canberra II Group Electronic Discussion Group (EDG) database online.
4. The Group is chaired by Peter Harper from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). The OECD (Charles Aspden, charles.aspden@oecd.org) provides secretariat support and maintains the EDG.
5. Previous meetings of the Canberra II Group have taken place in Voorburg (April 2003), Paris (October 2003), Washington D.C. (March 2004), London (September 2004) and Canberra (March-April 2005).

AGENDA OF THE MEETING (as of 21 May 2005)

IMPORTANT NOTE: this will be the final meeting of the Canberra II Group. The aim is to reach a conclusion on all outstanding issues.

The location of papers on the EDG is indicated by the category (SG1 signifies Sub group 1, etc.) and the date.

Session times: mornings 9.30 – 12.45; afternoons 2.15 – 5.30

14 September, morning session

1.	Introduction and adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting – Chairman (Peter Harper)
2.	Administrative matters – Peter Harper
3.	Implications of the ISWGNA and AEG meeting in July 2005 for Canberra II – Charles Aspden
4.	Research and development <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Response from NESTI to request from Canberra II Group for additional data (see Letter to NESTI chair from Canberra II chair, SG2, 11/3/05)
5.	Inventories <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Report of written consultation relating to whether all, or only some, inventories give rise to capital services, and how changes in inventories should be valued by Anne Harrison and Charles Aspden.
6.	Amortisation of non-produced assets (issue 28) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Proposals for changing the current treatment by Brent Moulton and Carl Obst

14 September, afternoon session

7.	Public-private partnerships (issue 24) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Draft text giving guidance on how to deal with PPPs by John Pitzer, Christoph Maier, Brett Kaufman and Robin Lynch
8.	Leases and licences (issue 21 and 17, part) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Draft issues paper by Anne Harrison (which will incorporate a component dealing with payments to government to undertake an activity with no underlying asset prepared by John Pitzer and Brent Moulton. Anne's paper will also address the outstanding Mineral Exploration issue concerning attribution of ownership of the mineral deposit.)▪ In its consideration of the issue paper Mineral exploration, the AEG agreed that in principle payments by the extractor to the owner of the deposit are property income. However, when the owner is government and the payments are described as taxes, adhering to this principle introduces a discrepancy between taxes in the SNA and in government accounts. Canberra II and TFHPSA were asked to review this recommendation. The report of a written consultation of the TFHPSA will be presented for discussion.

15 September, morning session

9.	Leases and licences <i>continued</i>
10	Use of natural resources by non-residents (issue 18, referred to Canberra II by BOPCOM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft issues paper by Anne Harrison
11	Asset boundary of non-produced intangible assets and Other intangible fixed assets (issues 29 and 13) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft issues paper (based on written consultation) by Charles Aspden
12	Definition of an economic asset (issue 30) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft issues paper (based on written consultation) by Anne Harrison

15 September, afternoon session

13	Classification and terminology (issue 27) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft issues paper by Anne Harrison (This paper will cover the naming of “land improvements” and “unimproved land”, the renaming of consumption of fixed capital with “depreciation” and the question of where “purchased goodwill and marketing assets” should be recorded – produced, non-produced, something else?.)
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16 September, morning session

14	Any issues referred back to Canberra II from the July AEG meeting.
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ACCOMMODATION, PASSPORTS, VISAS AND TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

6. All participants attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa for Switzerland. Applications for visas should be made to the embassy or consulate of Switzerland in the country in which the participants reside. Visa applications should refer to the Expert Meeting on the Update of 1993 SNA: Canberra II Group to be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva. If a formal invitation letter is required by the embassy, this can be requested from the UNECE secretariat (fax: +4122 917 0040; e-mail: josephine.rauss@unece.org).

7. **Participants are requested to make their own hotel and travel arrangements.** The UNECE secretariat in Geneva is not in a position to provide such services to delegates. Participants are advised to book hotel accommodation well in advance of the meeting, since available rooms may be limited because of other meetings taking place in Geneva during the month of September. **Maps of Geneva, list of hotels and information for visitors to the Palais des Nations are available on the UNECE Statistical Division’s website at: <http://www.unece.org/stats/>** (click on ‘Geneva’ at the left side of the page).

REGISTRATION, ACCESS TO THE UN BUILDING

8. **Participants are kindly requested to send the completed registration form**, which is attached as the last page, **to the UNECE secretariat by 15 August** (fax no. +41 22 917 0040 or e-mail to josephine.rauss@unece.org). The information will be used to register participants with the UN Security Section and to obtain ID badges from the Security offices located at Villa les Feuillantines on the first day of the meeting (please see map on the website: 'Geneva', 'Plan of the UN building'). Delegates should arrive at the UN Security offices at about 8:30 a.m. to allow time for security clearance and registration.

9. For identification and security reasons, participants are requested to wear their security badges at all times while inside the Palais des Nations. Please also note that, due to new security procedures in place in the Palais des Nations, we advise delegates not to bring large luggage (e.g. suitcases) to the Palais. Such luggage is not permitted into the building, and there is only limited storage space for it at the Pregny entrance.

10. The easiest way to get to Palais des Nations from Gare Cornavin (the Central Station) is by tram. Trams No 13 and No 15 will take you in 7-8 minutes to Place des Nations from where you can access Villa les Feuillantines for registration. The plan of the UN building and explanations how to reach it are available at the above mentioned website.

11. After collecting your badge at the Villa les Feuillantines, you can enter the UN premises through the gate at Place des Nations. Walk past the flags of the UN member countries, through the passage and enter the building through the last door on your right (Door 6). There is an electronic bulletin board announcing the numbers of the rooms where meetings are taking place. The number of the meeting room and the instructions how to get there will be communicated to all registered participants about two weeks prior to the meeting.

DOCUMENTATION AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

12. The meeting will be held in English only.

13. All documents for the meeting will be available on the Canberra II EDG. If you are not a current member of the Canberra II Group and you wish to participate, please contact Charles Aspden (charles.aspden@oecd.org) and he will arrange access for you.

14. **Members are kindly requested to bring their copies of the documents with them, as there will be no documents available in the meeting room.**

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

15. The social programme includes a reception on Wednesday, 14 September evening and a subscription dinner on Thursday, 15 September evening. Please use the registration form on page 6 to register for the social events.

16. **The reception** will be organised at the UN Delegates restaurant at the 8th floor of the Palais des Nations on Wednesday, 14 September at 18:00. If weather permits, the reception

is on the terrace of the restaurant with a view on Lake Geneva and Mont Blanc. The reduced fee for participants is 10.- CHF (payment will be collected during the day on 14 September).

17. **An aperitif and a dinner** will be organised on Thursday, 15 September at 19:00 at the Hotel d'Angleterre (Quai du Mont-Blanc 17, Geneva). The restaurant is situated at the lakeside in the center of town and offers good quality food and service in an elegant setting. The cost for the aperitif and dinner (wine and drinks included) is 105-110 CHF per person (payment will be collected at the restaurant).

CONTACT DATA

18. For further information, please contact:

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Expert Meeting on the Update of 1993 SNA: Canberra II Group
(Geneva, 14-16 September 2005)

REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE SOCIAL EVENTS
(please send by fax +4122 917 0040 or e-mail to josephine.rauss@unece.org
by 15 August 2005)

Please complete personal details below:

Full Name	
Country/Organisation	
E-mail address:	
Mobile number	
Hotel during stay in Geneva	

Reservation numbers: (please enter the number of places you would like to reserve)

RECEPTION

I would like to book place(s) at the reception on 14 September 18:00 at the Delegates Restaurant, 8th floor, Palais des Nations, Geneva (payment 10.- CHF per person).

Note: accompanying persons will need to fill in the registration form on the next page to get a UN entry badge.

DINNER

I would like to book place(s) at the aperitif and dinner on 15 September 19:00 at Hotel d'Angleterre (Quai du Mont-Blanc 17, Geneva). Appr. cost 105-110.- CHF per person (wine and drinks included).



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA *Please Print*
Conference Registration Form Date

Please fax or e-mail this completed form to the Host Secretariat **by 15 August 2005:**
 4122 9170040 / josephine.rauss@unece.org and **BRING THIS ORIGINAL** with you to Geneva.
 An additional form is required for spouses.

Title of the Conference

Expert Meeting on the Update of 1993 SNA: Canberra II Group, 14-16 September 2005, Geneva

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organisation or Agency

Participant	Family Name	First Name
Mr. <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mrs. <input type="checkbox"/>		
Ms <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Of Birth <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/>	(DD/MM/YYYY)

Participation Category

Head of Delegation Members <input type="checkbox"/>	Observer Organisation <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Delegation Member <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO (ECOSOC Accred.) <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text"/>
Observer Country <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Please specify below) <input type="checkbox"/>	From <input type="text"/>
		Until <input type="text"/>

Do you have a badge issued as a Mission diplomat or employee, NGO card issued in Geneva or a Long Duration conference badge issued at Geneva if so PLEASE TICK HERE

Document Language Preference English French Other

Origin of Identity Document	Passport or ID Number	Valid Until
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Official Telephone No.	Fax No.	Official Occupation
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Permanent Official Address		
<input type="text"/>		
Address in Geneva		
<input type="text"/>		
Email Address		
<input type="text"/>		

<p>On Issue of ID Card</p> <p>Participant Signature</p> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <p align="center">Date</p> <input type="text"/>	<p align="center">Participant photograph if form is sent in advance of the conference date.</p> <p align="center">Please PRINT your name on the reverse side of the photograph</p>	<p align="center">PLEASE NOTE ONLY CERTAIN CONFERENCES REQUIRE A PHOTO, IF YOU ARE NOT ASKED TO PROVIDE ONE BY THE CONFERENCE STAFF YOUR CONFERENCE IS NON PHOTO</p>	<p align="center">Security Use Only</p> <p align="center">Card N°. Issued</p> <input type="text"/> <p align="center">Initials, UN Official</p> <input type="text"/>
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