United Nations ECE/CES/2010/29



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General 3 June 2010

English only

Economic Commission for Europe

Conference of European Statisticians

Fifty-eighth plenary session

Paris, 8-10 June 2010

Item 4(b) of the provisional agenda

Progress reports and work of the Conference of European Statisticians Teams of Specialists

Database of International Statistical Activities in the UNECE region (DISA)

Note by the secretariat

Summary

The Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA) incorporates the statistical work programmes of more than 30 international agencies conducting statistical work in the UNECE region. DISA is organised according to a classification of statistical areas. The present note provides the latest update of the status with DISA and the DISA classification.

I. Database of International Statistical Activities, 2010 update

- 1. This integrated presentation started in 1991 and since 2004 is available in a database format. DISA provides a comprehensive picture of the statistical work undertaken in the region and allows for identification of possible duplication of work. The database is maintained by the UNECE secretariat and is available on the web and can be consulted at http://unece.unog.ch/disa/.
- 2. The 2010 issue of the Database is available online since 1 February 2010.
- 3. Thirty-five international organizations (including city groups) were contacted to provide contributions for 2010. The UNECE received inputs from **thirty-four** of them (Annex I). The contribution of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has been delayed. The information received from the contributing organizations has been classified, checked for consistency and uploaded in DISA.

II. DISA classification of statistical activities

- 4. In 2005 the CES Bureau adopted a revised version of the "DISA Classification of Statistical Activities" (Annex II) to reflect the emerging new statistical activities as well as their classification. This is a list of statistical areas that was developed by a Bureau Task Force with the main purpose to classify the statistical activities undertaken by the international organisations.
- 5. In recent years the DISA classification has been adopted for various other purposes. Thus, for example, it is used by the PARIS 21 group for reporting on technical assistance activities¹. The first three domains of this classification have been adopted as part of the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) Content-oriented Guidelines². The DISA classification is also being considered for possible use in developing an inventory of international statistical standards led by the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities (CCSA).
- 6. As the DISA classification is becoming more widely used, established procedure and responsibilities for its future development and maintenance was needed. Therefore, at its October 2009 meeting, the Bureau considered several issues related to the classification and its use. The Bureau confirmed that **the Conference of European Statisticians is the owner of the classification**. In addition, the Bureau approved the procedure for the maintenance of the list of statistical areas. Any revisions of the classification will be authorised by the Bureau. The revisions to the classification shall be proposed by the UNECE secretariat in agreement with the SDMX secretariat.
- 7. Whilst the Bureau is responsible for approving changes to the DISA classification itself, the UNECE secretariat, in collaboration with the SDMX secretariat, is responsible for maintaining the explanatory notes to the classification, and any other material needed to aid interpretation and implementation.

¹ http://unstats.un.org/unsd/accsub/2008docs-12th/SA-2008-19-Classification.pdf

² http://sdmx.org/?page_id=11

Annex I

List of organizations and groups included in the Database of international statistical activities (Status as of 26 May 2010)

CIS-STAT- Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States

ECB - European Central Bank

EFTA - European Free Trade Association

Eurostat- Statistical Office of the European Union

FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation

IEA - International Energy Agency

ILO - International Labour Organisation

IMF - International Monetary Fund

IOM - International Organisation for Migration

ITF on International Trade in Services

ITU - International Telecommunication Union

IWG-Price Statistics - Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics

London Group on Environmental Accounting

OECD - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Ottawa Group on Price Indices

Paris 21 - Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century

UNCTAD - UN Conference on Trade and Development

UNECE (STAT) (Statistics)

UNECE (TIM) (Timber)

UNECE (TRA) (Transport)

UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

UNICEF - CEE/CIS Region

UNICEF - Innocenti Research Centre

UNIDO- United Nations Industrial Development Organisation

United Nations Population Division

United Nations Statistics Division

UNODC - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (2010 information not yet received)

Voorburg Group on Services Statistics

WHO (Europe) - World Health Organisation Regional Office for Europe

WHO (Headquarters) - World Health Organization Headquarters

Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers

World Bank

World Tourism Organisation

World Trade Organisation

Annex II

DISA classification of statistical activities, rev. 1 (As approved by the Bureau at its October 2009 meeting)

Domain 1: Demographic and social statistics

- 1.1 Population and migration
- 1.2 Labour
- 1.3 Education
- 1.4 Health
- 1.5 Income and consumption
- 1.6 Social protection
- 1.7 Human settlements and housing
- 1.8 Justice and crime
- 1.9 Culture
- 1.10 Political and other community activities
- 1.11 Time use

Domain 2: Economic statistics

- 2.1 Macroeconomic statistics
- 2.2 Economic accounts
- 2.3 Business statistics
- 2.4 Sectoral statistics
- 2.4.1 Agriculture, forestry, fisheries
- 2.4.2 Energy
- 2.4.3 Mining, manufacturing, construction
- 2.4.4 Transport
- 2.4.5 Tourism
- 2.4.6 Banking, insurance, financial statistics
- 2.5 Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics
- 2.6 International trade and balance of payments
- 2.7 Prices
- 2.8 Labour cost
- 2.9 Science, technology and innovation

Domain 3: Environment and multi-domain statistics

3.1	Environment
3.2	Regional and small area statistics
3.3	Multi-domain statistics and indicators
3.3.1	Living conditions, poverty and cross-cutting social issues
3.3.2	Gender and special population groups
3.3.3	Information society
3.3.4	Globalisation
3.3.5	Indicators related to the Millennium Development Goals
3.3.6	Sustainable development
3.3.7	Entrepreneurship

Domain 4: Methodology of data collection, processing, dissemination and analysis

4.1 Metadata

3.4

- 4.2 Classifications
- 4.3 Data sources
- 4.3.1 Population and housing censuses; registers of population, dwellings and buildings
- 4.3.2 Business and agricultural censuses and registers
- 4.3.3 Household surveys
- 4.3.4 Business and agricultural surveys

Yearbooks and similar compendia

- 4.3.5 Other administrative sources
- 4.4 Data editing and data linkage
- 4.5 Dissemination, data warehousing
- 4.6 Statistical confidentiality and disclosure protection
- 4.7 Data analysis

Domain 5: Strategic and managerial issues of official statistics

- 5.1 Institutional frameworks and principles; role and organization of official statistics
- 5.2 Statistical programmes; coordination within statistical systems
- 5.3 Quality frameworks and measurement of performance of statistical systems and offices
- 5.4 Management and development of human resources

- 5.5 Management and development of technological resources (including standards for electronic data exchange and data sharing)
- 5.6 Coordination of international statistical work
- 5.7 Technical cooperation and capacity building