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Item 1(a) of the provisional agenda

MEASURING THE NON-OBSERVED ECONOMY IN NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES

MEASURING NON-OBSERVED ECONOMY IN TAJIKISTAN

SUMMARY¹

Note by the State Committee on Statistics of the Republic of Tajikistan

1. Until now, the State Committee on Statistics of the Republic of Tajikistan estimated the non-observed economy only using the integrated method, i.e. assessing the unregistered activities of enterprises based on information from sample surveys. During the last years this estimate has been between 20 and 25% of GDP. NOE as such had not been estimated in Tajikistan.

2. The first evaluation of the non-observed economy was carried out in 2007 in the framework of the TACIS-9 programme. A pilot survey of misreporting by enterprises and

¹ An unofficial English summary prepared by the secretariat. For final results of the project, please see document ECE/CES/GE.20/2008/SP.7 Add.1.

private entrepreneurs was carried out. Furthermore, an attempt was made to estimate the drug trafficking and production of illegal alcohol.

3. The pilot survey to estimate the misreporting by enterprises was implemented in cooperation with the Tax Office and with the help of an international consultant under the TACIS-9 programme. It focused on misreporting (underreporting of output, overreporting of intermediate consumption) with the aim of avoiding the payment of income tax, value-added tax (VAT) and other taxes. A more detailed overview of the survey and its results is given in paper no. ECE/CES/GE.20/2008/7. A full survey is planned to be implemented in the framework of a multi-year statistical programme financed by the International Development Association of the World Bank and a trust fund (grants from UK and Sweden).

4. However, the State Committee on Statistics is aware that data obtained from these surveys can not be used directly for estimating the volume of non-observed economy. A systematic analysis of the non-observed activities based on a regular analysis, confrontation and reconciliation of data from different sources is necessary.

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