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**Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs
Statistics Directorate**

Working Party on Financial Statistics

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE WORKING PARTY ON FINANCIAL STATISTICS

**OECD Conference Centre, Paris
3 November (09:30 am) – 4 November (10:30 am) 2014**

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Session 1: Opening statement

1. Peter van de Ven, Head of the National Accounts Division (OECD/STD), gave a short opening address. He introduced himself, welcomed the participants to the meeting of the Working Party on Financial Statistics (WPFS) and thanked Delegates for their willingness to share their experience and for their contributions to the various sessions. Subsequently, Peter handed over the meeting to the chair of the WPFS Bureau, Michael Andreasch (Austrian National bank, Austria), to chair the WPFS meeting.

2. Jennifer Ribarsky, Head of the Sectoral National Accounts section (OECD/STD) and responsible for the Secretariat of the WPFS, welcomed the Delegates and thanked all those who contributed to this meeting as well as to the joint WPFS-WPNA meeting. She then provided information on the organisation of the meeting.

Adoption of the agenda

3. The chair proposed a slight rearrangement of the agenda by moving presentation number 9 after presentation 11, so that presentations 9 and 12 could be discussed together. Delegates adopted the draft agenda of the meeting of the WPFS [COM/STD/DAF/WPFS/A(2014)1] with this slight modification.

Adoption of the minutes of the 2013 WPFS meeting

4. The minutes of the 2013 meeting of the Working Party on Financial Statistics [COM/STD/DAF/WPFS/M(2013)1/FINAL] and the joint meeting of the Working Party on Financial Statistics and the Working Party on National Accounts [STD/CSTAT/WPNA/M(2013)2/FINAL] were approved without any further comments.

Session 2: Accounting for risk exposures

5. The session on Accounting for Risk Exposures began with a presentation from Daniel Carvalho (Banco de Portugal) on “*Risk transmission in sectoral balance sheets: leverage and pro-cyclicality.*” The research done by Banco de Portugal responds to the question whether institutions that more actively target a given leverage level generate pro-cyclicality, in that they respond to positive (negative) asset price changes by increasing (decreasing) investment, thereby putting additional upward (downward) pressure on asset prices and amplifying valuations. In this context, Daniel presented the results of a study into the dynamics of flows and stock-flow adjustments across OECD countries. The results of the analysis showed that there is an important interplay between flows and stock-flow adjustments in many OECD countries.

6. Patrick O’Hagan (Statistics Canada) commented that the presentation underlined the importance of the financial accounts framework for supporting this type of analysis as well as the need to continue the work on leverage and financial stability. He also shared Daniel’s concern over the need to distinguish

between other changes in volume of assets and holding gains or losses. Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) raised the point that other changes in volume of assets may not always be that significant for many financial assets and liabilities. Both Peter and Sanjiv Mahajan (Office for National Statistics, U.K.) sought clarification on the main reasons for the interaction between flows and stock-flow adjustments. Daniel provided further precisions, stating that he could only determine the co-movements at this point, but the underlying theory suggests that stock-flow adjustments cause the movement.

7. Yong Hyun Kim (Bank of Korea) presented “*Development of Shadow Banking Statistics as the financial stability indicator in Korea*”. Yong Hyun first described the conceptual framework of shadow banking statistics, before characterising the state of shadow banking in Korea. Finally, he provided the Bank of Korea’s methodology for compiling the data needed to measure this activity.

8. Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) asked how one could statistically capture an increase in systemic risk and whether it would be possible to develop a single indicator to show the evolution of risk associated with shadow banking. Michael Andreasch (Austrian National Bank) added to this by recommending that the development of a shadow banking indicator should also consider the implications for the counterpart sectors as well as the real economy. Yong Hyun informed that it is currently difficult to develop an indicator to capture systemic risk when many countries do not have the necessary data, but these efforts are currently under discussion within the Bank of Korea.

9. In the following presentation, “*Euro Area Investment Funds and Financial Vehicle Corporations: (dis)intermediation role and the need for statistics*”, Massimo Coletta (Banca d’Italia) provided a detailed analysis of the investment strategies and risk exposures of investment funds and financial vehicle corporations. He also discussed the current data limitations as well as the possible avenues for improving the current statistics on these financial institutions.

10. Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) commented that this presentation demonstrated the need for more detailed data on investment funds. In this respect, he raised the point that while there are increasing user demands for more granular data, international organisations must consider what level of detail can be reasonably demanded from national statistical institutes. He also inquired whether there were any striking developments observed under this analysis. Massimo remarked that the analysis showed the increasing role of emerging economies in financial intermediation. Therefore, he recommended that due to the close interconnectedness of financial markets, future work should study this issue from a global perspective. However, in order to do so, it would be necessary to collect more information on counterpart areas.

Session 3: Flow of funds

11. In the presentation “*Who-to-Whom detail in the German financial accounts – compilation and use for monetary policy purposes*”, Christine Annuss (Central Bank of Germany) presented the first publication of ‘from-who-to-whom’ tables for Germany in October 2014 and their use for economic analysis and monetary policy purposes. Indeed, these detailed tables provide insights not only on loans granted by monetary financial institutions (MFIs), but also on non-financial corporations financing options. The more detailed information may also provide some new insights into shadow banking by showing the inter-linkages of other financial institutions with MFIs and non-financial sectors. Additionally, Christine confirmed the availability and the reliability of primary statistics to build from-whom-to-whom details for deposits, debt securities, loans, listed shares and investment fund shares.

12. In his presentation “*Constructing a who-to-whom matrix for other accounts receivable/payable*”, Wouter Jonkers (Statistics Netherlands) shared the Dutch experience on the compilation of flow of funds matrices in general, while also addressing more specific problems in developing a matrix for other accounts receivable/payable. The research done to build this matrix mainly focused on the consolidation

and integration of available data. Wouter presented different methods used to estimate missing data from data sources for trade credits and advances and other accounts receivable/payable by institutional sector, and the various assumptions they made to arrive at estimates for counterparty sectors. The conclusion of the exercise was that the inclusion of the relevant data mainly affected the figures for MFIs (banks), non-financial corporations and general government. Figures for households, insurance companies, pension funds and other financial institutions were barely affected.

13. The two presentations on from-whom-to-whom details mentioned above were discussed together. On the first presentation, Sanjiv Mahajan (Office for National Statistics, U.K.) made the observation that, with the implementation of ESA 2010, EU countries are now obliged on a mandatory basis to provide an analysis of the stocks and flows of the various assets on a consolidated and a non-consolidated basis, including accounts on other volume changes and revaluation. This should also facilitate the compilation of from whom-to-whom tables and flow of funds accounts. On the second presentation, Sanjiv raised two questions. The first one was on the possibility for Statistics Netherlands to record the sale of used assets such as cars. The second question was on the time lags between payments and deliveries. Wouter explained that they do not have much data on second-hand cars sold by corporations to households, but that they assume these figures being quite negligible. On the time lags between payments and deliveries, they also do not have much information. For the households' consumption part of some products, they have some information on the time lag between payments and deliveries, but for other products they have to rely on rough assumptions.

14. Susan McIntosh (U.S. Federal Reserve) asked a question concerning the difficulty of knowing which sector is holding corporate bonds issued by non-financial and financial corporations when building from-whom-to-whom tables. Christine replied that in Germany they have very sophisticated security holdings statistics which offer all counterpart information on a security by security basis.

15. Patrick O'Hagan (Statistics Canada) confirmed the existence of from-whom-to-whom matrices for deposits, debt securities and loans in Canada. However, they have not yet started to build from-whom-to-whom tables for other accounts payable and receivable, and he wondered whether it is worth doing it from a cost/benefit perspective and whether Statistics Netherlands is happy with these estimates. Wouter confirmed it is worth doing it, especially for non-financial corporations and households.

16. The Korean delegate, Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) and Amanda Seneviratne (Australian Bureau of Statistics) all stressed the importance to match financial accounts data with balance of payments and international investment position data, and wondered whether the Central Bank of Germany could reconcile the various sets of data when allocating the holders of debt securities to residents first and subsequently allocating the residual to the rest of the world. Christine stated that they paid specific attention to international investment positions and balance of payments statistics. But, in some cases, the full details of the data sources were not available due to restricted access. Therefore, in financial accounts, some of the differences were left unresolved.

17. Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) also stressed that having from-whom-to-whom tables can improve the quality of financial accounts and financial balance sheet data. On the Dutch presentation, Peter wanted to know whether the new method for estimating from-whom-to-whom matrices for other accounts receivable/payable has a value added in helping to address inconsistencies between net lending/net borrowing from the non-financial accounts and net lending/net borrowing from the financial accounts. For financial corporations, Wouter explained that estimates for trade credits and advances generally had no impact on statistical discrepancies. For households, the discrepancy might be affected, but they were not sure yet whether it had a positive or negative effect.

18. Paola de Rita (Italian Treasury) underlined the fact that flow of funds can help in the detection of imbalances in the accounts and wanted to know more about the role of non-financial corporations in Germany in terms of long-term investments, and in particular, which type of investment non-financial corporations undertake. Christine underlined that they are going to analyse investors' flows and positions to respond to such questions.

19. Michael Andreasch (Austrian National Bank) asked a question regarding the priority of the data sources that are used to develop from-whom-to-whom tables. Christine replied that security holdings statistics, balance sheet data of financial corporations and government are the primary data sources for the compilation of from-whom-to-whom tables. External statistics generally are not used as a starting point. Moreover, Michael wanted to know how the new method applied by Statistics Netherlands for estimating the matrices for other accounts receivable/payable fit in the automated process of financial accounts. Wouter replied that they did a lot of manual work for trade credits and advances. Michael was also interested in the treatment of prepaid gift cards for households. Wouter stated that these cards are registered at the moment they are purchased, but that they do not have any specific information for the prepaid gift cards.

20. In his presentation "*Intra-financial assets and credit information*" Daniel Carvalho (Banco de Portugal) proposed some rather straightforward indicators, extracted from existing datasets, to assess the developments of intra-financial sector positions. There is an increasing need to carefully monitor these inter-linkages between the various financial subsectors, given the growing size of market-based finance, as opposed to the more traditional bank-based finance, and the development of sizeable shadow banking industries. He also studied the relationship with the provision of credit to end-user sectors. The results showed that intra-financial positions displayed a co-movement with financial integration. Countries that have a large financial integration show faster growth. He also demonstrated that there was a positive correlation between intra-sector assets within financial corporations and household debt, but that such a correlation did not exist for non-financial corporations' debt and government debt. Moreover, the co-movement did not come from links between the MFIs but rather from inter-linkages between non-banks and banks. This was associated to activities like securitisation.

21. Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) underlined that focusing on domestic interconnectedness only, and not capturing cross-border inter-linkages may be fine for large countries but certainly not for smaller countries where cross-border inter-linkages may be more important. It would be interesting to add this to the analysis if possible. Daniel replied that this is indeed a limitation of the analysis, but that they did not have the required information on cross-border activities. Furthermore, Peter indicated that a distinction should be made between intra-company financial linkages and extra-company financial linkages, and Daniel agreed that studies at micro level should complement this analysis.

22. Michael Andreasch (Austrian National Bank) was surprised by the positive correlation between financial corporations' indebtedness and household debt and that this correlation did not exist with non-financial corporations' debt. Daniel replied that household loans are more often securitized and standardized than other loans. Michael also stressed that when looking at intra-financial sector positions, it may be useful to see whether the country has a three-tier banking system, because this may explain the increasing interconnectedness. He also wondered whether Banco de Portugal expected that the analysis would show the same results with ESA 2010 data, in particular for captive financial institutions. Daniel replied that at this stage he does not have any information on the possible impact of ESA2010.

23. The chair provided a short summary of the three presentations in this session. He stated that it is important to have consolidated and non-consolidated from-whom-to-whom tables with intra-sector and inter-sector positions, not only for deposits, debt securities and loans, but also for other accounts receivable

and payable. Having more detailed and better flow of funds data is helpful for investigating debt ratios, shadow banking activities and for monetary policy.

Session 4: Breaking down changes in assets and liabilities into transactions, holding gains and losses, and other changes

24. The session started with two presentations on how to separate revaluations from other changes in volume, after which a discussion on both presentations followed.

25. Elizabeth Holmquist (U.S. Federal Reserve) presented "*Parsing economic flows in the U.S. financial accounts*". She explained that in the previous method the stock-flow adjustments were not separately identified in their database, but special coding allowed the U.S. to publish 'revaluations' and 'other changes in volume' in the Integrated Macroeconomic Accounts and the balance sheet reconciliation tables. Elizabeth presented the new methodology, which adopted certain rules for the initial separation of the stock-flow adjustments into revaluations and other changes in volume. She noted that other changes in volume are rare but may have a significant impact, and discussed specific flows that were recorded as other changes in volume, such as (catastrophic) disaster losses and residential mortgage charge-offs, as well as the parsing of foreign holdings of long-term treasury securities into transactions, revaluations, and other changes in volume. Susan McIntosh (U.S. Federal Reserve) added that documentation on how to interpret other changes in volume is available on the U.S. Federal Reserve's website.

26. Henning Ahnert (European Central Bank) made a presentation on "*Other changes in volume and revaluation in the euro area accounts*". He explained that, in order to derive good data on revaluations, there was a need to have improved guidelines on the delineation of other changes in volume. In this respect, the EU Working Group on the Euro Area Accounts came up with some recommendations, amongst others to ensure consistency with other international guidelines, and to arrive at methods that lead to high quality transactions, revaluations and balance sheets.

27. Robert Dippelsman (International Monetary Fund) complimented both speakers on their presentations and asked how users responded to this new data. Elizabeth answered that it led to fewer questions by users for clarifications of remarkable developments in the combined item of revaluations and other volume changes.

28. With respect to the U.S. presentation, Sanjiv Mahajan (Office for National Statistics, U.K.) was interested to know how the cut off for disasters was determined. Elizabeth responded that this cut off is being determined by the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). She will ask them how they exactly determine the cut off rate. With regards to dwellings, Sanjiv would also like to know more about the distinction between the valuation of land and of dwellings. Elizabeth explained that revaluations are determined by using appropriate price indexes and that the other changes in volume are derived as a residual. With regards to the presentation of the ECB Sanjiv was interested to know whether asymmetry analyses are conducted with the countries involved in the case of mergers. Henning confirmed that this kind of exercises is conducted occasionally, mostly on an ad hoc basis.

29. On the topic of deriving revaluations as a residual, Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) commented that he is in favour of also making autonomous estimates, at least as a benchmark for the estimates according to the other methodology. Elizabeth responded that in the new method it is also envisaged to come up with autonomous estimates for revaluations. Henning pointed out that the ECB also tries to come up with autonomous estimates for the various items when possible. However, as the ECB mainly collects the data from the member states, it is easier for the countries to come up with these kinds of estimates.

30. After the discussion, Peter mentioned that in the beginning of December the OECD will organise its annual workshop with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) of China. The agenda will mainly consist of items related to the compilation of balance sheets, for which NBS China was looking for documentation and metadata on how countries compile their financial accounts and balance sheets. Countries were kindly requested to see if they have documentation available that could be useful for the workshop.

31. The chair concluded that both presentations clearly pointed out that, although the SNA 2008 and the ESA 2010 have guidelines on how to record other changes in volume, there can be differences in how countries deal with them. The first presentation showed this from a practical point of view for the U.S. The second presentation focused more on the conceptual point of view. Although the methods may differ across countries, they both lead to numbers which are of great interest to users. Because it will probably be difficult to develop a fully detailed, internationally comparable methodology, countries are encouraged to provide metadata on national practices so that users as well as other compilers are better informed.

32. In the document “*Analytical measures of income, savings, and wealth*” [COM/STD/DAF(2014)2], Amanda Seneviratne (Australian Bureau of Statistics) provided analytical measures of gross disposable income and net savings published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) in their annual and quarterly national accounts, which also encompasses changes in real net wealth. They put these household analytical measures together to try to illustrate the wealth effect on household consumption and savings behaviour, by showing the links between the income accounts and the balance sheets, with a particular emphasis on holding gains and losses for both financial and non-financial assets. Amanda concluded that in order to obtain more conclusive information on the drivers of households’ behaviour, it would be needed to also study some of the changes in household behaviour at the micro level.

33. Patrick O’Hagan (Statistics Canada), supported the work done by ABS on holding gains and losses and underlined the fact that this presentation confirmed the need to develop other changes in assets account and to analyse the impact of holding gains and losses on expenditures. Patrick would like to know whether the ABS has already explicit estimates for the other changes in the volume of assets account. Amanda replied that they do not publish these accounts separately.

34. Sanjiv Mahajan (Office for National Statistics, U.K.) was concerned about the measurement of real holding gains and losses, because he is not convinced that there is an appropriate “price” component and an appropriate “volume” component. Wouter Jonkers (Statistics Netherlands) informed the group that in the Netherlands a political debate on income inequality has emerged recently. According to national accounts, income inequality has not changed that much in the Netherlands over the last decade. However, looking at inequality of the wealth, and taking into account holding gains and losses, inequality has risen. He wondered whether the ABS observed the same patterns in Australia. Amanda replied that their analysis on households’ income and wealth showed similar results.

35. The session was closed with a presentation by Yoshiko Sato (Central Bank of Japan) on the “*Measurement of retained earnings of mutual funds and distributions from holding gains*”, based on a paper by Naoto Osawa [COM/STD/DAF(2014)1]. According to the 2008 SNA, retained earnings of mutual funds have to be recorded as if they were distributed and then reinvested by the investors. In the presentation, Yoshiko explained how this new treatment will be applied in Japan. She presented the methodology that has been adopted in Japan to make a split between the retained earnings versus capital gains (which should not be recorded as retained earnings). In Japan, mutual funds have continuously recorded a financial deficit since 2004, because mutual funds pay out more income than the amount of income, excluding holding gains, generated from their assets. Thus the methodology has identified four sources of distributable funds: (a) income generated during the current period; (b) capital gains generated during the current period; (c) part of the principal (own funds) that can be distributed; and (d) retained earnings accumulated up to the previous period. From their research, it show that from 2008 to 2011

income distributed from the principal and from capital gains accounted for a large portion of the total income distributed. Because the income distributed by mutual funds not only comes from the income earned, but also from the principal and capital gains, Yoshiko raised the question as to whether capital gains should also be recorded as income.

36. Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) stated that the presentations of Amanda and Yoshiko led to the question whether the income concept should be reconsidered. He explained that this question will remain on the research agenda with regards to updating the SNA and should be discussed extensively. Michael Andreasch (chair) concluded that both presentations clearly showed how holding gains affect income and that it is important to have a look at micro data (and more granular data) to get a better understanding of what is actually happening on a macro level.

Session 5: OECD-requirements for financial assets and liabilities by institutional sector

37. Federico Giovannelli (OECD/STD) introduced the “*OECD data collection for Institutional Investors data and Household assets and liabilities data*”. He first provided a brief review of the SNA 2008 data collection requirements for financial accounts and balance sheets, before proposing the two re-designed questionnaires to be used in the collection of data on institutional investors’ assets and households’ assets and liabilities.

38. Many delegates welcomed this initiative. Both Patrick O’Hagan (Statistics Canada) and Jürg Bärlocher (Swiss National Bank) underlined the importance of providing more detailed instrument breakdowns, especially for the breakdowns of equity and investment fund shares as well as for households’ loans. Jürg further suggested that the OECD should consider including a breakdown by counterpart area and counterpart sector for the sub-instruments of equity and investment funds separately. Dirk van der Wal (Statistics Netherlands) noted that by dropping the detailed breakdown of pension entitlements managed by non-autonomous pension funds and by insurers, important information regarding households’ entitlements among various financial institutions would potentially be lost. He inquired about the rationale for excluding these breakdowns. Federico clarified this point by stating that the selection of instruments was based on the data availability survey carried out by the OECD in the previous year.

Session 6: Panel discussion: User demands and priorities for financial statistics

Panellists: Michael Andreasch, Ana Margarida Almeida, Susan McIntosh, Henning Ahnert, Rob Dippelsman

39. Peter van de Ven (OECD) introduced this panel discussion by pointing out that this is a novelty for the Working Party on Financial Statistics. Five panellists were selected to give their views on the question how they look upon the most promising way forward for the financial accounts and balance sheets, what they see as main priorities and how they think statistics should be dealing with the increasing demands for granular data [COM/STD/DAF(2014)3]. Also a discussant had been invited to shed some light on these issues from a user’s perspective.

40. All panellists were asked to briefly introduce their viewpoints. Henning Ahnert (ECB) pointed out that there is a need for more strategic thinking on which statistics serve which purposes. What is the main role for the financial accounts and what information could be derived from other statistics? There is an increasing demand for more granular data, more detail on transactions, revaluations and other changes in volume, on from-whom-to-whom information, and on items that are currently not covered by the financial accounts, such as on asset-backed securities and holdings of government bonds. We have to look which of these demands could and should be tackled by the financial accounts.

41. Michael Andreasch (Austria) pointed out that the current financial accounts data is too late, too global, and does not meet the user demands for measuring risk exposure. The question that it raises is whether there is a need to improve on these three issues. In his opinion, one should not primarily focus on financial accounts to fulfil all these demands. The financial accounts should be regarded as a kind of umbrella, with micro-macro linkages to other, more detailed statistics underneath, for instance Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) or Balance of Payments (BoP) statistics.

42. Rob Dippelsman (International Monetary Fund) stressed that the financial crisis pointed out that there is a clear need for new or additional information to prevent future crises. For instance, data on currency splits, maturity mismatches and on contingent liabilities is still missing. Next to that, information is needed on possible spill over effects, contagiousness and vulnerability of the economy as a whole and of specific sectors in the economy. For this purpose counterpart sector information as well as country-by-country information would be very valuable. Next to that, it would be interesting to look at possibilities for combining information from multiple statistics to come up with more detailed and relevant indicators.

43. Ana Margarida Almeida (Banco de Portugal) stressed the importance of providing users with more detail, quality, tailor-made products and flexibility. She foresees a twofold strategy. First of all, investing in highly granular and detailed micro databases, and secondly, integrating and linking macro-data to various micro databases. In her view, this should be included in the financial accounts framework which should be expanded to include additional detail, covering different dimensions like counterpart sectors, maturity, etc.

44. Referring to the ‘umbrella’ metaphor, Susan McIntosh (U.S. Federal Reserve) explained that she thinks that the umbrella should be big, covering all kinds of topics in an integrated way. In the aftermath of the financial crisis, this was one of the main goals in improving the U.S. financial accounts. For that purpose extra resources were made available. Next to that, some efforts have been made to combine private and official (re)sources in order to put together the data. The U.S. Federal Reserve has also put more focus on dissemination and communication to users. The main purpose of this is to make the financial accounts the go-to-place for all users.

45. The discussant, Gert Wehringer (OECD, Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, DAF), started his comments by stating that he was impressed with the advances that already had been made in the statistical field. He then explained that in his view monitoring of the markets is the key issue and that in order to do that, a lot of information is needed. Looking at the umbrella, he stated that a mix of data is needed, data from national accounts and private data on very specific issues. As resources are normally limited, it is important to set priorities, for instance with regards to timeliness and coverage. For this purpose, it is very important for the users and compilers to stay in close contact. Peter van de Ven (OECD/STD) agreed and mentioned that in this respect, it would be good to re-establish the relationship between the WPFS and the CMF.

46. A discussion followed the first panel round and the main points raised related to the need to prioritise and to the need for more strategic thinking on how big the ‘umbrella’ of financial statistics should be and what it should cover (including new needs of users).

47. The panel discussion ended with responses to the question of how big the umbrella should be. Some panellists responded that the umbrella should be small but with links to other information that may be available outside the financial accounts and balance sheets. Other panellists advocated a bigger umbrella that will help data users to understand what is actually happening. Whether a national statistical institute (NSI) has a mandate for a big or small umbrella is highly dependent on the NSI’s capacity, organisation, and funding; some panellists stated that the new user demands can be used as leverage to get funding.

48. At the end, Peter summarised the discussion with the main conclusions. Firstly, there is a need for some kind of strategic thinking on a way forward and on what the umbrella should look like. Doing so, one also needs to think about the link between the financial accounts and various micro data sources, and the link with non-financial accounts as well. In the strategic thinking, also the timeliness and the details of the various vintages should be taken into account, for instance having a small set of macro-data within a short period after the reference period, and publishing more details on a later point in time. Secondly, communication is to be considered as a very important topic. We have to think about ways to further improve our communication efforts, and how to engage more with our users. Thirdly, we may also have to look into the possibilities of cooperating with private data compilers. Can they help us with the production of statistics? What is our position on that? Fourthly, we have to extend the globalisation discussion to the financial accounts. Up to now, the focus is mainly on the impact of globalisation on non-financial accounts, but it also has a major impact on financial accounts. In this respect, the development of global from-whom-to-whom-tables and having a better understanding of the financial flows and positions of multinationals is very important. As a direct follow up from this discussion, it seems good to have a session in next year's WPFS on how countries deal with these strategic questions. Peter thanked the panellists and the discussant for their contributions and closed the session.

Session: Concluding remarks

49. The chair Michael Andreasch (Austrian National Bank) thanked the delegates for participating in a very successful meeting. He summarised the various sessions and provided the following concluding remarks.

Main conclusions from an analytical point of view:

- Linkages between sectors, provided by “from-whom-to-whom” matrices, and intra-sector linkages within the financial sector can provide useful information for the analysis for both monetary policy and financial stability aspects. The relevant data can especially provide more granular information on financial developments with spill-over effects to the real economy (co-movements).
- The role of shadow banking (or near-bank activities) can be investigated by taking into account more detailed financial accounts data (and market data as well as off-balance sheet information).
- The split of changes into transactions, revaluations, and other changes in volume allows for an alternative and more detailed view on developments in net worth and net saving (including the income account), and its higher granularity may provide more explanations on the growth of financial assets and liabilities.

Main conclusions from a conceptual point of view:

- The breakdown of changes in stocks into transactions, revaluations and other changes in volume work has to be made using a clear conceptual framework which is driven by the recommendations in SNA 2008/ESA 2010, albeit that the starting point may differ from country to country.
- The “from-whom-to-whom” approach requires more granular information (including a split of non-resident counterparties by economic sector in an extended version), and may actually improve the quality of data as a consequence of the more detailed horizontal balancing process.
- The definition of shadow banking from a macro-economic viewpoint is under consideration.

Main conclusion from a presentational point of view:

- Given the fact that a harmonised treatment for several conceptual questions like the definition of shadow banking or revaluation is not easy to achieve, the request of providing metadata has been highlighted on several occasions.

50. The PowerPoint-presentation with Michael's concluding remarks is available on the OECD Clearspace. In addition, the report of the second in-depth evaluation of the OECD's CMF is available on Clearspace.