

Unclassified

STD/CSTAT/WPNA(2009)5

Organisation de Coopération et de Développement Économiques  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

16-Oct-2009

English - Or. English

STATISTICS DIRECTORATE  
COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS

**Working Party on National Accounts**

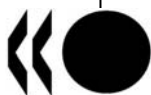
**THE SITUATION OF ANNUAL NATIONAL ACCOUNTS DATA AND METADATA IN 2009  
TRANSMISSION TO THE OECD AND NAWWE PROGRESS REPORT**

**To be held on 4-6 November 2009  
OECD Conference Centre, Paris  
Beginning at 9:30 a.m. on the first day**

*This document has been prepared by Esther Bolton, Dirk Kraan, Trevor Fletcher - OECD and Brent Moulton, BEA and will be presented under item 8 of the draft agenda*

JT03272171

Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine  
Complete document available on OLIS in its original format



STD/CSTAT/WPNA(2009)5  
Unclassified

English - Or. English

## **THE SITUATION OF ANNUAL NATIONAL ACCOUNTS DATA AND METADATA IN 2009 TRANSMISSION TO THE OECD AND NAWWE PROGRESS REPORT**

1. The objective of this paper is to inform experts participating in the 2009 OECD national accounts meeting of the situation regarding the collection and dissemination of annual national accounts data and metadata in the OECD and also to inform them of progress with NAWWE (National Accounts World-Wide Exchange)..

2. It has long been the case that all OECD member national statistical offices and other partner organisations have had access to most of the national accounts held by the OECD Secretariat on OLISnet. Since last year, a dissemination system, OECD.Stat, has been available to those users via OLISnet. This system provides access to nearly all OECD data, spanning many subjects, in one integrated system, national accounts data being updated on a daily basis. In addition, a sub-set of these data, including all the main national accounts aggregates, is available to anyone for free via the OECD's Statistics Portal. OECD.Stat contains complete SNA (System of National Accounts) databases. More detailed information about OECD.STAT is given below.

### **The situation of the annual national accounts database**

3. This database, which is central to the work of many users both within and outside of the OECD, contains a large set of consistent and comparable 1993 SNA annual data, using common classifications, for all OECD member countries. Priority has been given to full comparability, but slight inconsistencies may appear with the headline national presentation of data if the country does not apply 1993 SNA to the full extent or does not use the same classifications. The data are less timely than national data, due to the time it takes for countries to transmit the data and the time it takes for the data to be processed by the OECD.

4. A joint OECD-Eurostat national accounts questionnaire is used to collect the data. This questionnaire is sent by Eurostat to European countries and by the OECD Secretariat to non-European member countries of the OECD.

5. With respect to the accession of the five candidate countries to the OECD - Chile, Estonia, Israel, Russia and Slovenia – all are progressively sending the OECD Secretariat completed questionnaires.

### ***Transmission of data***

6. Transmission of annual national accounts data to the OECD is based on this common questionnaire and it should be sent to [sna.contact@oecd.org](mailto:sna.contact@oecd.org). For non European countries, it is highly recommended that data transmission to the OECD Secretariat is made the same day as the data are published by the national statistical institute. Release dates are closely followed by our desk-economists who expect to access the data on the OECD database when they are available in the databases of member countries.

7. European countries are asked to send their completed questionnaires to the OECD Secretariat by email as soon as they send them to Eurostat using Edamis or Stadium. In addition to GESMES files, the Secretariat would appreciate receiving Excel files when and if available.

8. For OECD member countries, any changes (minor or significant) in methodology should also be conveyed as an accompaniment to the data.

### *Availability of data*

9. The OECD database covers the following tables: *Gross value added at basic prices and gross domestic product at market prices to Final Consumption expenditure of households by durability* (0101 to 0117), *Simplified non-financial accounts by institutional sector* (0119), *Main aggregates of General Government* (0200), *Output and income to Employment by industry* (0301 to 0303), *Final consumption expenditure of households by purpose* (0501), *Final consumption expenditure of households* (0502), *Financial accounts by sector and Revaluation Accounts* (06), *Balance sheets for financial assets and liabilities* (07), *Non financial accounts by sectors* (0800), *Detailed tax and social contribution receipts by type of tax or social contribution and receiving subsector* (0900), *Expenditure of General Government by Function* (1100), *Cross-classification of fixed assets by industry and by fixed non-financial asset* (2000), *Cross-classification of gross fixed capital formation by industry and by non-financial fixed asset* (2200), and *Balance Sheet for non financial assets* (2600).

10. Table 0119 has been removed from the Eurostat questionnaire but still appears in the OECD questionnaire, as some non-EU countries provide only simplified sector accounts. Table 1, below, shows the situation of countries regarding the tables transmitted to the OECD Secretariat and the data coverage. This table is used as the input for the regular "Data transmission report" submitted to the OECD Committee on Statistics.

11. Tables 06 (*Financial accounts by sector*) and tables 07 (*Balance sheets for financial assets and liabilities by sector*) are not covered in this overview because they are addressed in a separate report to be discussed at the OECD Working Party on Financial Statistics held 2-4 November 2009.

12. Since last year's report, improvements have been achieved in terms of completeness, timeliness and, to a certain extent, in length of times series. Nevertheless, there is **still a lack of data for some tables**. In particular, among the G-7 countries, data on stocks of fixed assets, which are of considerable importance to users, are missing. Countries are invited to refer to Table 1 to check their submission.

13. Member countries are asked **to submit all their data in the format of the questionnaire** sent by the Secretariat or Eurostat. Those countries not currently able to send all of the tables in the questionnaire format are asked to consider adopting the **SDMX format**, which may overcome any difficulties.

Table 1 - RECEIVED DATA COVERAGE (Beginning October 2009)		AUS <sup>1</sup>	AUT	BEL	CAN	CZE	DNK	FIN	FRA	DEU	DEW	GRC	HUN	ISL	IRL	ITA	JPN
Quest. Table	Questionnaire SNA93/ESA95																
0101	Gross value added at basic prices and gross domestic product	59-07	76-08	70-08	<b>70-04</b>	90-08	66-08	70-08	49-08	91-08	70-91	70-08	91-08	73-07	90-08	70-08	80-07
0102	Gross domestic product identity from the expenditure side	59-07	76-08	70-08	70-07	90-08	66-08	70-08	49-08	91-08	70-91	60-08	91-08	70-08	95-08	70-08	80-07
0103	Gross domestic product identity from the income side	59-07	76-08	70-08	70-07	92-08	66-08	70-08	49-08	91-08	70-91	70-08	91-07	70-08	90-08	70-08	80-07
0107	Disposable income	59-07	76-08	70-08	70-07	90-08	66-08	70-08	49-08	91-08	70-91	60-08	95-07	70-08	90-08	70-08	80-07
0109	Real disposable income	59-07	76-08	80-08	71-07	95-08	88-08	70-08	49-08	91-08	70-91	60-08	..	<b>70-06</b>	90-07	70-08	80-07
0110	Population and Employment	85-07	76-08	80-08	61-07	90-08	66-08	70-08	49-08	91-08	70-91	95-08	92-08	70-08	95-08	82-08	70-07
0111	Employment and full time equivalents by industry	<b>85-03</b>	76-08	81-08	<b>61-06</b>	95-08	66-08	70-08	49-08	91-08	70-91	95-08	92-08	70-07	95-08	70-08	70-07
0117	Final consumption of households by durability	59-07	76-08	..	70-07	95-08	90-08	80-08	49-08	91-08	..	95-08	95-08	80-08	95-08	70-08	80-07
0119	Simplified non-financial accounts by institutional sector	<b>59-06</b>	..	..	70-07	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	90-07
0200	Main aggregates of General Government	<b>59-07</b>	76-08	70-08	70-07	92-08	90-08	75-08	78-08	91-08	70-91	88-08	95-08	90-08	90-08	80-08	90-07
0301	Value added and its components, by industry (A60)	59-07	76-08	95-08	<b>70-04</b>	90-08	66-08	75-08	59-08	91-08	70-91	95-08	95-07	90-07	95-08	70-07	80-07
0302	Capital formation by industry (A60)	59-07	76-08	95-08	<b>81-01</b>	95-08	66-08	75-08	95-08	91-08	70-91	95-07	95-07	97-06	95-08	70-07	..
0303	Labour input by industry (A60)	<b>70-03</b>	76-08	95-08	<b>61-06</b>	95-08	66-08	75-08	78-08	91-08	70-91	95-08	95-07	70-07	95-08	70-08	80-07
0501	Final consumption expenditure of households by purpose	59-07	76-07	95-08	70-07	95-08	66-08	75-08	59-08	91-08	80-91	95-08	95-08	80-08	95-08	70-08	80-07
0502	Final consumption expenditure of households (nc, dc)	59-07	76-07	95-08	70-07	95-08	66-08	75-08	59-08	91-08	80-91	95-08	95-08	80-08	95-08	70-08	80-07
0800	Non-financial accounts by institutional sector (detailed)	..	95-08	95-08	..	92-08	95-08	75-08	49-08	91-08	80-90	00-07	00-07	..	02-07	80-08	80-07
0900	Detailed tax and social contribution receipts by type and by subsector	98-02	70-08	70-08	70-07	95-08	95-08	75-08	78-08	91-08	..	95-07	95-07	90-08	95-07	80-07	90-07
1100	Expenditure of General Government by function	<b>98-02</b>	95-07	90-07	<b>90-06</b>	95-07	90-08	90-07	95-08	91-07	..	90-07	00-07	90-08	90-07	90-07	90-07
2000	Cross classification of fixed assets by industry (A60) and by non-financial fixed assets	59-07	76-07	<b>95-07</b>	..	95-07	..	75-06	78-08	00-07	..	..	00-07	..	..	80-07	96-07
2200	Cross classification of gross fixed capital formation by industry and by non-financial fixed assets	59-07	76-07	<b>95-06</b>	..	95-07	..	95-06	78-08	95-07	..	..	00-07	02-06	..	94-07	..
2600	Balance sheets of non-financial assets	59-07	..	95-07	<b>70-07</b>	95-07	..	..	78-08	95-08	..	..	00-07	..	..	..	96-07
..	Table not transmitted / data not available	<i>date: table newly transmitted.</i>															
.. t 03	Table not transmitted but derived from table 03	<b>In bold</b> : No updates have been provided since last year WPNA															
AUS <sup>1</sup>	tables 0900, 1100,303 and 0111 data only available for 2002/03 and 2006/7.	95-04 No detailed breakdown															

**Table 1 - RECEIVED DATA COVERAGE (Beginning October 2009)**

Quest. Table	Questionnaire SNA93/ESA95	KOR	LUX	MEX	NLD	NZL <sup>2</sup>	NOR	POL	PRT	SVK	ESP	SWE	CHE	TUR	GBR	USA
0101	Gross value added at basic prices and gross domestic product	70-08	85-08	88-07	69-08	71-07	70-08	95-08	88-08	93-08	80-08	80-08	90-08	70-08	50-08	87-07
0102	Gross domestic product identity from the expenditure side	70-08	85-08	88-07	69-08	71-07	70-08	95-08	88-08	93-08	80-08	50-08	90-08	70-08	50-08	70-08
0103	Gross domestic product identity from the income side	70-08	85-08	88-07	69-08	71-07	70-08	95-08	<b>95-04</b>	93-08	80-08	80-08	90-06	<b>87-06</b>	50-08	70-08
0107	Disposable income	70-08	85-08	88-07	69-08	71-07	70-08	95-08	88-08	93-08	95-08	80-08	90-08	<b>70-06</b>	50-08	70-08
0109	Real disposable income	70-08	..	88-07	69-08	87-07	70-08	95-08	..	93-08	<b>95-03</b>	80-08	91-08	..	70-06	70-08
0110	Population and Employment	70-08	85-08	95-07	80-08	85-07	70-08	92-08	95-08	94-08	95-08	80-08	90-08	<b>70-06</b>	80-08	70-08
0111	Employment and full time equivalents by industry	70-08	85-08	95-07	69-08	85-07	70-08	92-08	95-08	94-08	80-08	93-08	91-07	..	78-08	70-06
0117	Final consumption of households by durability	70-08	..	88-07	80-08	71-07	70-08	95-07	05-08	96-08	95-08	93-08	..	<b>87-06</b>	70-08	70-08
0119	Simplified non-financial accounts by institutional sector	70-08	..	<b>93-04</b>	..	86-00	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70-08
0200	Main aggregates of General Government	70-05	90-08	<b>93-04</b>	69-08	86-07	78-08	95-08	77-08	92-08	95-08	95-08	90-07	..	70-08	70-08
0301	Value added and its components, by industry (A60)	70-07	85-07	88-07	69-08	86-04	70-08	95-07	<b>95-04</b>	93-07	95-07	93-07	97-07	<b>98-07</b>	<b>70-05</b>	87-07
0302	Capital formation by industry (A60)	70-07	95-07	93-06	69-08	86-02	70-08	95-07	95-06	95-07	95-07	93-07	..	..	<b>70-04</b>	..t 22
0303	Labour input by industry (A60)	70-08	85-07	<b>03-07</b>	69-08	89-08	70-08	92-07	95-06	94-07	95-07	93-07	91-08	..	79-08	70-07
0501	Final consumption expenditure of households by purpose	70-07	85-07	88-07	80-08	87-07	70-06	95-07	<b>88-06</b>	95-97	95-07	95-07	90-07	98-08	70-08	70-08
0502	Final consumption expenditure of households (nc, dc)	70-08	85-07	88-07	80-08	87-07	70-08	95-07	<b>88-06</b>	95-07	95-07	95-07	90-07	98-08	70-08	70-08
0800	Non-financial accounts by institutional sector (detailed)	70-08	<b>95-07</b>	93-04	80-08	..	<b>78-07</b>	95-07	95-07	95-07	95-07	93-08	90-07	..	87-08	..
0900	Detailed tax and social contribution receipts by type and by subsector	75-07	70-08	<b>93-04</b>	95-07	97-07	95-08	95-07	95-07	93-07	95-07	93-08	90-07	..	70-07	70-08
1100	Expenditure of General Government by function	70-07	90-08	<b>93-04</b>	95-08	<b>97-05</b>	90-07	90-07	90-07	95-07	95-07	95-07	..	..	90-07	70-07
2000	Cross classification of fixed assets by industry (A60) and by non-financial fixed assets	59-07	<b>76-07</b>	..	87-08	..	70-08	00-06	<b>99-05</b>	04-07	..	00-06	..	..	..	70-07
2200	Cross classification of gross fixed capital formation by industry and by non-financial fixed assets	<b>59-07</b>	<b>76-07</b>	03-07	95-07	..	70-08	95-06	05-06	04-07	..	93-06	..	..	..	70-07
2600	Balance sheets of non-financial assets	59-07	95-07	..	95-08	..	..	95-06	..	95-07	..	95-06	..	..	..	..

.. Table not transmitted / data not available

*date: table newly transmitted.*

.. t 03 Table not transmitted but derived from table 03

**In bold** : No updates have been provided since last year WPNA

**NZL<sup>2</sup>** table 119: data only available for 2000 and 2004.

**95-04** No detailed breakdown

*Dissemination of data*

14. Currently, annual national accounts of OECD countries are published in three separate volumes. Two are dedicated to the core national accounts. The third, but referred to as, Volume IV relates to General Government annual data, and will no longer be separately published as from next year, but, instead, the most commonly requested tables will be integrated in Volume 2.

15. All data is updated daily in OECD.Stat, and is available free of charge to all member national statistical offices and other partner organisations via OLISnet.

16. Several additional changes are to be made from 2010 onwards. In particular a new publication, National Accounts at a Glance (NAAG) will be released at the beginning of 2010. To accompany this change the current Volume 1 will be released simultaneously, in the middle of the year, with a slimmed-down version of Volume 2. In the past Volume 1 tables were released prior to Volume 2 tables, so Volume 2 included an update of all Volume 1 information in addition to more detailed tables. Because both volumes will be released simultaneously from 2010 it will not be necessary to duplicate these tables.

- Volume 1 “Main aggregates” provides the main aggregates of national accounts: GDP by expenditure, GDP by output, GDP by income, disposable income, saving and net lending, population and employment. The content of Volume 1 corresponds to tables 0101 to 0111 of the national accounts questionnaire. It is available in paper and CD-ROM versions in January of each year. The latest edition, January 2009, covers the period 1996-2007.

- **CONTENTS of National Accounts of OECD Countries, Volume I**

The paper publication is divided in the following four parts:

**1. Main aggregates**

**Table 1.** Gross domestic product: expenditure approach, current prices and 2000 prices.

**Table 2.** Gross domestic product: output approach, current prices and 2000 prices.

**Table 3.** Gross domestic product: income approach.

**Table 4.** Disposable income, saving and net lending.

**Table 5.** Population and employment in persons, national concept.

**Table 6.** Employment in persons and in hours worked by industry, domestic concept.

**2. Comparative tables based on exchange rates**

- **Gross domestic product** – US dollars and indices

- **Household final consumption expenditure** – US dollars and indices

**3. Comparative tables based on PPPs (purchasing power parities).**

- **Gross domestic product** – US dollars and indices

- **Household final consumption expenditure** – US dollars and indices

**4. Exchange rates, PPPs (Purchasing power parities), Population (to be dropped from 2010 and included in NAAG)**

- Volume 2 “Detailed tables” has been changed this year to stick more closely to readers’ needs. It now provides the following subjects: in addition to the main aggregates, value added, compensation of employees, gross operating surplus and gross mixed income, gross fixed capital formation by industry, employment by industry in persons and **hours**; detailed final consumption

expenditures also **reporting the new breakdown of the final consumption of households by durability**, simplified accounts for three main sectors (general government, corporations and households & non-profit institutions serving households) and a new table presenting the **General Government expenditure by function**. The content of Volume 2 corresponds to tables 0101 to 0117, 0119, 0200 (only Sector S13), 0301 to 0303, 0501, 0502, and 1100. It is available on paper and CD-ROM versions in July of each year. The latest edition, July 2009, covers the period 1996-2007 and includes provisional data for 2008. The CD-ROM covers, in addition, detailed non-financial accounts by institutional sectors (corresponding to table 0800 of the questionnaire): non-financial corporations, financial corporations, general government, central government, state government, local government, social security funds, households and non-profit institutions serving households and the rest of the world.

## CONTENTS of National Accounts of OECD Countries, Volume 2

This paper publication is divided into the following 14 tables:

### Detailed tables

**Table 1. Gross domestic product: expenditure approach, current prices and 2000 prices.**

**Table 2. Gross domestic product: output approach, current prices and 2000 prices.**

**Table 3. Gross domestic product: income approach.**

**Table 4. Disposable income, saving and net lending.**

**Table 5. Population and employment in persons, national concept.**

**Table 6. Employment in persons and in hours worked by industry, domestic concept.**

**Table 7. Gross value added at basic prices by industry, in 31 industries, current prices and 2000 prices.**

**Table 8. Components of value added by industry, in 31 industries:**

- Compensation of employees,

- Gross operating surplus and gross mixed income,

**Table 9a. Employment by industry, in 31 industries, in persons.**

**Table 9b. Employment by industry, in 31 industries, in hours worked.**

**Table 10. Gross fixed capital formation by industry, in 31 industries, current prices and 2000 prices.**

**Table 11. Final consumption expenditure of households, current prices and 2000 prices.**

**Table 12. Simplified general government accounts.**

**Table 13. Simplified accounts for households and NPISH and for corporations.**

**Table 14. General government expenditure by function**

**Supplementary tables: Non-financial accounts by institutional sectors.**

- Available only on CD-ROM.

<b>Table S1.</b>	<b>Accounts for total economy</b>
<b>Table S11.</b>	<b>Accounts for non-financial corporations.</b>
<b>Table S12.</b>	<b>Accounts for financial corporations.</b>
<b>Table S13.</b>	<b>Accounts for general government.</b>
<b>Table S14-S15.</b>	<b>Accounts for households and non-profit institutions serving households.</b>
<b>Table S14.</b>	<b>Accounts for households.</b>
<b>Table S15.</b>	<b>Accounts for non-profit institutions serving households(NPISHs).</b>
<b>Table S2.</b>	<b>Accounts for the rest of the world (external transactions accounts).</b>

- Volume IV will not be issued anymore. This decision was based on the fact that the needs of readers were focused on the main aggregates of general government and on the COFOG (classification of the functions of government). This information will hitherto be included in the Volume 2 publication.
- National Accounts at a Glance (NAAG). This new publication presents information using an indicators approach focusing on cross country comparisons; the aim being to make the accounts more accessible and informative whilst at the same time, taking the opportunity to present the conceptual underpinning of and comparability issues inherent in, each of the indicators presented. It will be released as from 2010. A pre-release version of the publication is available as STD/CSTAT/WPNA(2009)7.

### *Methodology*

17. At the beginning of October 2009 the situation among OECD member countries regarding changes in methodology is as follows:

Apart from: Japan (currently in a testing phase), Mexico, New Zealand, and Turkey, all countries report allocated FISIM data.

Last year Turkey moved from 1968 SNA to 1993 SNA, so all OECD countries are now compiling their accounts as per 1993 SNA.

### *Linkages in the OECD annual national accounts database:*

18. Linkages are used for countries which have recently changed their methodology and have sent new sets of data with a shorter time series.. In order to meet the demands of users for long and continuous time series and to avoid breaks in the annual accounts database, these new series have been linked to the old series and an estimation mark has been added to estimated data.

19. To link the new series to the old series, the Secretariat needs to differentiate data, relating to the old definition, from data related to the new one. Therefore, it is essential that **countries attempt to provide metadata (via footnotes or supplementary information) that highlights breaks in series..** Indeed, the Secretariat prefers **to receive no data from the old definition** if no changes (corrections or revisions) are included.

20. The method used by the Secretariat to link two time series from two different definitions is as follows: for each individual series, the ratio between the new definition data and the old definition data in

the first common year is calculated. This ratio is then multiplied by old definition series for the time period that data have not been provided. The same method is applied to both current and volume estimates data.

Example of calculations for the GDP of Luxembourg at current prices:

code serie	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
LUX.B1_GE.C.New						15,110	15,797	16,421	17,415	19,887	22,001
LUX.B1_GE.C old	9,180	10,155	10,725	11,843	12,731	13,215	13,928	15,491	17,007	18,739	21,279
LUX.B1_GE.C mixed	9,180	10,155	10,725	11,843	12,731	15,110	15,797	16,421	17,415	19,887	22,001
LUX.B1_GE.C linked	10,496	11,611	12,264	13,542	14,557	15,110	15,797	16,421	17,415	19,887	22,001

21. These estimated data are presented in OECD paper publications and electronic releases with an estimation mark attached to each datum estimated.

Extraction from OECD.STAT of the Luxembourg GDP data at current prices:

Dataset: 1. Gross domestic product											
Country	Luxembourg										
Measure	C: National currency, current prices										
Frequency	Annual										
Time	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Transaction											
B1_GE: Gross domestic product (expenditure approach)	(€) 10496.245	(€) 11611.429	(€) 12263.595	(€) 13541.99	(€) 14557.456	15110.3	15796.6	16420.7	17414.6	19886.8	22000.6

data extracted on 06 Oct 2009 12:17 UTC (GMT) from OECD.Stat

Legend:  
E: Estimated value

## Co-operation between Eurostat and OECD

22. Correspondence between the OECD and European countries is shared as much as possible with Eurostat by ensuring that Eurostat is copied on all correspondence, and vice versa. This saves the two organisations time in editing the data and avoids duplicating queries with countries.

23. The OECD, in most cases, has stopped editing the data for Table 8 received from European countries, and instead takes the amended data from Eurostat. The OECD is considering adopting the same procedure for some other tables that are costly to edit and are not so time critical.

## Accession countries

24. In May 2007, Ministers adopted the Council resolution on enlargement and enhanced engagement. In this resolution, Ministers decided to open discussion with Chile, Estonia, Israel, the Russian Federation and Slovenia with a view to their possible accession to the OECD. Part of the process entails the five candidate countries supplying the Secretariat with their national accounts data. All of the five candidates have been supplying OECD with the fulfilled questionnaire on a routine basis. The situation and data coverage is as shown below:

25. Slovenia. The following tables have been received with the corresponding time spanning: 0101, 0102, 0103, 0107, 0109, 0117, 0200, 0301, 0302, 0303, 0501, 0502 and 0900 (95-08), tables 0800 and 1100 (95-07).

26. Estonia has provided the following tables: 0101, 0102, 0103, 0107, 0109, 0110, 0117, 0200, 0301, 0302, 0303, 0800, and 0900 from 1995 to 2008; tables 0111(90-08), 1100 (95-07), 2000 and 2006 from 1995 to 2006.

27. Chile: On the basis of their current methodology, the following tables have been received (with the corresponding time span in brackets): main aggregates of 0102 (95-08), table 0101, detailed series of

0102, tables 0107, 0109, 0117 (03-08); 0110 and 0111 (86-08); 0103, 0119, 0200 and 0301 (03-07); table 0800 (03-07). On the basis of their previous methodology, the following tables have been received: 0101, 0102, 0103, 0107, 0109, 0117, 0119, 0200, 0301, and 0800 (96-03). In order to provide continuous time series from 1996 the Secretariat has linked most of the ‘new methodology’ data to the ‘old methodology’ data.

28. Israel has sent the following tables: 0102, 0107, 0109, 0111, 0200, 0302, 0303, 0502, and 2000 (95-08); 0301 (00-07) and 2600 (95-07). Tables 0102, 0107, 0502 (70-95) were also sent according to 1968 SNA definitions.



29. The Russian Federation has transmitted the following tables: 0101 (current prices) (89-08), 0101 (volume estimates) (95-07), 0102 (current prices) (89-08), 0102 (volume estimates) (95-07), 0103 (89-08), 0107 (89-07); 0110 (70-06), 0119 (02-06), 0200 (02-06), 0303 (05-06), 0301 (06), 0502 (volume estimates) (02-06); 0502 (current prices) (89-06) and 0800 (02-06).

### **Access to OECD.Stat via OLIS for officials and governments**

30. National statistical offices and governments have free access to the entire contents of OECD databases (metadata and data) on OECD.Stat via OLIS. To access OLIS, you need a username and a password. Your institution might already have a generic account (username and password available for the entire institution) or you might have a personal username and password. For further information and to register you can contact OLIS staff at [olissupport@oecd.org](mailto:olissupport@oecd.org) or register online at the following address: <http://www.oecd.org/olisnet>. Once you have an account you simply go to the URL address <https://www.oecd.int/olis> and log on.

31. Once in OLIS, choose ‘statistics’ in the upper menu. A new window will open up and then, select OECD.Stat, OECD’s Statistical Data Warehouse. You will be directed to OECD.Stat in a new window. In the left-hand menu ‘browse themes’ choose “National Accounts”. You will have access to the data and to the metadata.

22. To access data and metadata, select, for instance, “Main Aggregates” in the Annual National Accounts sub-theme. Then select for instance subject “3--Population and employment by main activity”. The metadata will appear in a pop-up box and a table with data will be shown in a table behind it. Likewise, general government accounts metadata can be viewed in the General Government Accounts sub-theme, by selecting subject “10-Taxes and social contributions receipts” or “11-Government expenditure by function” or “12-Main aggregates of general government”. Given the volume of these metadata, a useful tool can be used to see the metadata in a convenient way: the very last icon on the top right of the metadata part of the screen ‘open in standalone window’. There is also a print icon right next to it which could be useful too. For more detailed information, a user guide is available at the top right of the OECD.Stat web page.

32. Data can also be viewed in OECD.Stat: On the left menu “Browse Themes” select “National Accounts”. In the Annual National Accounts sub-theme, choose one of the sub-themes and subjects proposed, for instance “Main Aggregates” then “1 Gross Domestic Product” and select the measure in which you wish to view the data. A view table will be downloaded indicating at the top of the table the current selection. You can start your own query by changing the country/ies; the measure, the transactions and the time and frequency (in blue). Once you have determined your query you can visualise the data on the screen using the graph icon  on top, and this selection can be exported in Excel, or text files format. The presentation of the data in the table on the screen is processed by OECD.Stat, but it can be adapted to the users’ needs: the ‘drag and drop’ option  is very useful, as it allows you to change the variables on the vertical and horizontal axis. It can be done by clicking on the variable and dragging it from

one axis to the other and then dropping it at the chosen place. The selection and presentation can be saved by clicking the 'save query' button.

**The COFOG2 project** (by Dirk-Jan Kraan: *OECD Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate*)

33. Measuring public spending efficiency and drawing cross-country comparisons have become an important issue for both member countries and the OECD Secretariat. Four years ago, the EU Financial Accounts Working Group and the EU Working Group on Short-term Finance Statistics approved the creation of a dedicated task force to extend data collection on the functional classification of general government spending to the second digit level of COFOG. This was an essential step forward to improve the quality and availability of public finance statistics and to meet user needs. The fifth meeting of the task force took place in March 2009.

34. Transmission of COFOG level 2 (COFOG2) data has until now been on a voluntary basis. Yet up until now, the full COFOG detail (levels I and II) for at least one year has been provided by sixteen EU OECD member states, Partial datasets are available for Ireland, the Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, France and Luxembourg. So many countries delivered COFOG2 data by government sub-sector that Eurostat replaced the recently introduced tables 1101 and 1102 with new tables (one for each sub-sector) that allow the transmission of these data when they are available. Furthermore, it is foreseen to introduce an obligation for sending the full level of detail (levels I en II), at least for some selected COFOG divisions, during the next round of revisions to the ESA transmission programme.

35. While most EU-OECD countries are now transmitting COFOG2 data to Eurostat and OECD, there has been no progress with data transmission from the non-EU OECD countries. Two years ago the Australian delegate was rather optimistic, but to date we have unfortunately not received any data.

36. Two new developments should hopefully facilitate an improvement in the situation for non-EU OECD countries. First, in September 2007 Eurostat published a manual on sources and methods for the compilation of COFOG statistics, which hopefully should prove to be a useful tool for all national accountants. It is structured in five main sections:

- Background and purpose of the manual
- Introduction to COFOG statistics
- Methodological guidance
- Links between COFOG and other international statistics
- Individual countries' compilation practices.

37. Second, in order to get comparative data at the COFOG2 level as quickly as possible for as many countries as possible, Eurostat has proposed to focus on a few functions, namely: health, education and social protection. These three functions which represent a large part of total public expenditure (over 60% in 2005) are highly relevant for assessing issues related to the quality of public finance. Hence delegates from non-EU OECD countries are asked to consider providing data at the second-digit level of COFOG for at least these three functions. This would be a big step forward.

**Update on the NAWWE project** by Trevor Fletcher, *OECD Statistics Directorate*

38. The national Accounts World Wide Exchange (NAWWE) is a web-based mechanism for collecting national accounts data using internationally agreed national accounts standards. The project has been running since 2006 (following a pilot in 2004-5). The goal of NAWWE is to reduce the reporting burden for member countries towards international organisations by using the agreed standard, and to improve the timeliness and quality of the data by means of automation and validation routines. NAWWE data content is based on the common questionnaire agreed by the OECD and Eurostat.

39. The means to provide data in a common agreed format together with automated validation routines in NAWWE is enabled by the use of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) technical standards. SDMX is an initiative to foster standards for the exchange of statistical information and to harmonise data content between organisations. It is a standard both of data and metadata definitions and also in its technical platform based on Extensible Markup Language (XML). These standards and guidelines support more effective statistical processes within and between institutions as well as for users of statistics. Using SDMX means organizations can benefit from and share software tools developed by the sponsor organizations (BIS, ECB, EUROSTAT, IMF, OECD, UN and the World Bank). Please see [www.sdmx.org](http://www.sdmx.org) for further information.

40. In order to facilitate the work done by Member countries, the OECD is working closely with Eurostat to coordinate the experience of SDMX. NAWWE is a simple adaptation for OECD of the SDMX technology. As mentioned above, the SDMX project is sponsored by 7 international organisations.

41. As a member of the SDMX sponsors group the OECD is committed to providing member countries with technical assistance to help them use available existing SDMX-based tools to create and output the data files required for the NAWWE project.

42. In early 2006, the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) agreed to participate in OECD's NAWWE pilot project. Anticipated benefits included elimination of spreadsheets, more consistent estimates, earlier data submission, easier communication, and easier means for improving metadata.

*BEA NAWWE experience, by Brent Moulton, US BEA.*

43. Background

Since submitting our first 1993 SNA -based submission in 2000, BEA's data submission has evolved, as has the OECD questionnaire. BEA's data submission is carried out in stages based upon the availability of data and has grown in terms of the details that we are able to provide. The questionnaire has evolved in terms of spreadsheet format, types of data requested, and level of detail requested. Since 2000, providing metadata about our data submission has been in the form of footnotes within individual tables, methodology papers on our website, and periodic questionnaires from OECD about metadata.

Currently, we use OECD's questionnaire spreadsheets for providing our annual national accounts data submission. This yearly process involves exporting data to spreadsheets; a time-consuming and often error prone process. We feel that time spent preparing and reviewing spreadsheets could be better spent on improving metadata, and studying the estimates themselves.

44. BEA's implementation of NAWWE

Before exporting to Excel, BEA data are stored in time-series databases (mostly Aremos but some Fame). To translate from these time-series databases to a relational database, we used NAWWE

start-up files to reorganize our data. As we started to work with these files (NAWWE\_Table\_Codes.xls and NAWWE\_Code\_Lists.xls) BEA discovered and subsequently reported some errors with OECD's code list files and template spreadsheets. Redundant series keys were found in the NAWWE\_Table\_Codes.xls template. Clarification was sought from OECD on which series attributes were required for reporting via NAWWE and which were not.

Once we had a more refined structure for the NAWWE submission, we applied the format to the majority of the tables we currently provide to OECD. In addition, several smaller time series databases were consolidated into one.

An SQL relational database was constructed using the file NAWWE\_Table\_Codes.xls to form many of the core identities. This database was designed to bind national accounts data to the format requested by NAWWE. This exercise not only validated NAWWE's metadata but accelerated BEA's internal data verification. Data were then extracted from the database and translated to XML for transmission.

A test data submission was provided for a large set of tables for 2000-2007. OECD provided feedback with corrections. Subsequently, these corrections were made and a comprehensive dataset was re-submitted in mid 2008. BEA intends to continue its participation in the NAWWE project with our upcoming submissions.

#### 45. Comments and plans

After providing data to OECD via NAWWE requirements, BEA received concrete feedback from OECD which proved helpful in correcting specific code references. This was of great help but more timely feedback throughout the process would be helpful moving forward.

While the project started with enthusiasm from OECD, we felt that BEA might have benefitted from more regular communication with OECD. For instance, timely notification of updates to the reference materials on the NAWWE website would help eliminate redundant internal efforts.

Transforming our Aremos data into a relational database allowed BEA to quickly identify redundancies and small formulas inconsistencies within our own programs.

We foresee future benefits to include: elimination of various spreadsheets, higher consistency across estimates, and an increased flexibility to accommodate changes to metadata.

**In summary:**

- **Countries are invited to review Table 1 and are encouraged to send as much up to date information as possible. They are also invited to provide feedback to OECD on proposals and plans for development in new areas that would facilitate provision of data.**
- **Countries are especially encouraged to review the information currently supplied in the following areas/tables;**
  - **fixed assets by industry and by asset type(2000),**
  - **Balance sheet for non-financial assets (2600),**
- **Non-EU countries are asked to investigate the scope for providing the OECD Secretariat with data for the second-digit level of the COFOG classification for at least three functions: health, education and social expenditure.**
- **Countries, particularly non-EU countries, are encouraged to consider supplying their data via NAWWE.**