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The Current Situation of Data Exchange of Korea

EXPERT GROUP ON STATISTICAL DATA AND METADATA EXCHANGE

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1. Introduction

Recent years have seen increased interest among international organizations in minimization of the reporting burden of national agencies. Discussions at international forums like ECE/Eurostat/OECD meeting (2003. 2) outlined the benefits of using a data sharing model in the transfer of data and its associated metadata between national sources and the various international organization. This paper is designed to acquaint you with some information in data exchange between KNSO and international organizations.

2. Current Situation of Data Exchange of Korea

The Korean statistical system can be considered to be decentralized. Each ministry or non government has the responsibility to compile various statistics related to its own field. In terms of this point, they provided regular data reports of various kinds to OECD last year.

The total number of agencies submitting statistics to the OECD is 14 which include the KNSO, the BOK (Bank of Korea) as of December 2003 and 45 sets of statistics were provided to the OECD.

The KNSO provides seven international organizations including the OECD, IMF with economic and social statistical data on a regular basis (see table 1). Some data is supplied on a monthly basis, others are on a quarterly or annual basis.

In most cases, international organizations collect their data from the KNSO and the central bank. Data are collected via specialized questionnaires such as the excel form and MS Word. But in the case of the IMF, the KNSO upload its data in the html form on the website which is accessible to the IMF.

Table 1: Statistics Provided to the OECD by the KNSO as of March 2004

Organization	Name of statistics provided	Periodicity
OECD	- Structural Statistics for Industry and Services - PPP(Purchasing Power Parities) programme - Labour Force Statistics - Labour Force Statistics - Main Economic Indicators - Business Survey Index	Yearly Yearly Yearly Quarterly Monthly Monthly
IMF	- IMF SDDS	-
ILO	- October Inquiry - Labour Statistics - Yearbook of Labour Statistics	Yearly Monthly Yearly
UN	- Questionnaire on Industrial Commodity Production - Questionnaire on Demographic Yearbook - Questionnaire on Energy Statistics - Monthly Bulletin Statistics	Yearly Yearly Yearly Monthly
ADB	- Key Indicators for Developing Asia and Pacific Countries	Yearly
WHO	- Questionnaire on World Health Report	Yearly
ESCAP	- Statistical Yearbook - Asia -Pacific in Figures - Statistical Indicators	Yearly Yearly Quarterly

3. Conclusion

It is a necessary requirement that there be a high degree of cooperation among data providers and data collectors. In terms of this point, new technologies, such as XML, would greatly facilitate the implementation of data and meta data exchange.

Eventually, it is my expectation that each international organization will manage to retrieve data themselves from our database through the development of data share models.