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Item 3(a) of the provisional agenda

**COORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL WORK IN THE REGION OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**BUSINESS STATISTICS – OUTCOMES OF THE IN-DEPTH REVIEW BY CES  
BUREAU IN 2007 AND FOLLOW-UP**

EXTRACT FROM THE DATABASE OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES  
(DISA)

Note by the secretariat

**2008 - INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN BUSINESS STATISTICS**

2.3.	Title	<b>Business statistics (edition 2008)</b>
2.3:	Eurostat	<p><b>Theme 3.01 Annual business statistics</b></p> <p><b>1. Description</b></p> <p>Structural Business Statistics (SBS) contain detailed data covering all business activities, broken down to the 4-digit level of the NACE Rev 1.1 activity classification, by size classes and by regions (2-digit NUTS). A large number of variables are provided. The data are collected according to the provisions of the SBS Regulation. The medium-term strategy is to achieve full implementation in all current and future Member States of all the annexes to the Regulation, assure the quality of the data, re-engineer methods and sources for the data collection, as well as adapt the legal framework to new user demands, concerning in particular services statistics, business demography and statistics on foreign affiliates.</p> <p>Inward FATS comprise a number of characteristics for the structure and activity of the foreign affiliates in the reporting country that are needed for evaluating the extent of globalisation of the EU economy and the effectiveness of the internal market. The medium-term strategy will focus on full implementation of the requirements of the new FATS Regulation.</p> <p>Prodcom covers production statistics in value and volume of about 4 500 products defined in an annually revised Prodcom list. Its medium-term strategy will be oriented towards quality improvements with emphasis on completeness of EU aggregates as well as further methodological harmonisation.</p> <p><b>2. Work Programme for 2008</b></p> <p><b>2.1 KEY PRIORITIES 2008</b></p> <p>For Structural Business Statistics, improvements in timeliness and completeness are key priorities. A more effective data transmission and production system and the continuation of the quality action plan are aimed at achieving these objectives. The preparations for introducing NACE Rev 2 in 2008 will require considerable work. Also the new CPA will have an impact on work. Implementation of the recast of the SBS Regulation and of the Regulation on statistics on foreign affiliates will continue. The development programme will continue focusing on two main areas: (1) pilot actions and ad hoc surveys to respond to new user needs and (2) implementing a programme for re-engineering business statistics that will be focused on reducing the burden on business through smarter ways of collecting data.</p> <p>The priority for Prodcom in 2008 will be to develop publications that depend on complete EU data. Efforts will continue to ensure harmonisation of Prodcom data delivered to Eurostat and ways to minimise the burden on businesses will be further examined.</p> <p>For both SBS and Prodcom, the amount of confidential EU aggregates is a major user complaint and it must be minimised, among other things, by using rounding methods.</p>

		<p><b>2.2 OBJECTIVES 2008</b></p> <p><b>2.2.1. Ongoing work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve overall compliance and disseminate definitive SBS statistics for 2006 and preliminary statistics for 2007 according to schedule and maximise the completeness of EU aggregates. Collect and disseminate statistics on steel industry according to Regulation 48/2004</li> <li>• Support Member States in the implementation of NACE Rev 2 in SBS and start preparation of 2008 data in both NACE Rev 1.1 and 2</li> <li>• Improve transmission and validation tools and carry out the quality action plan for SBS</li> </ul> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Continue voluntary data collections on business demography, business services, and international sourcing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the implementation of the new requirements in the recast SBS Regulation. Start pilot actions and plan the first ad hoc survey</li> <li>• Ensure the implementation of the requirements of the new FATS Regulation and the Recommendations Manual (on Inward FATS). Pilot studies for Inward FATS to be carried out</li> <li>• Monitor the quality of 2007 Prodcom data and disseminate it. Maximise completeness of Prodcom EU totals by minimising the confidential cells as far as possible</li> <li>• Set up the 2008 Prodcom list in coordination with the Prodcom classification team</li> </ul> <p><b>2.2.2. New work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop methods and specifications for pilot studies and for the flexible module according to the SBS recast. Plan an ad hoc survey on SME access to finance</li> <li>• Contribute to the MEETS programme, by developing target sets of indicators, by reviewing priorities and the legal framework, and by supporting the implementation of a more efficient way to collect data</li> </ul>
2.3:	Eurostat	<p><b><u>Theme 3.02 Short-term business statistics</u></b></p> <p><b>1. Description</b></p> <p>Short-term business statistics comprise monthly and quarterly economic indicators, such as the index of industrial production, output prices, construction production, retail trade turnover, etc. for the Member States, the EU and the euro area. The indicators cover eight out of nineteen Principal European Economic Indicators and almost half of Eurostat's regular News Releases. These data are closely followed by economic analysts in the Commission and the European Central Bank, as well as in national governments and in the private sector and financial markets.</p> <p>The constant requirement is to make the data rapid but reliable while at the same time limiting the statistical reporting burden on enterprises.</p> <p>Historically, such short-term statistics are mainly related to manufacturing and construction; in the years ahead the main challenge is to develop and consolidate the short-term data on service activities.</p>

	<p><b>2. Work Programme for 2008</b></p> <p><b>2.1 KEY PRIORITIES 2008</b></p> <p>During 2008 the main priority will be to maintain a rapid and reliable supply of indicators and to improve and consolidate the quality of the data. Analysis of revisions will be used to identify and then resolve any problem areas.</p> <p>At the end of 2008, the first fairly complete set of producer price indices for services will become available, following the ending of derogations allowed by EC Regulation 1158 in 2005. During the year, Eurostat will pursue with Member States ways to ensure efficient and reliable collection of price data on services.</p> <p>The introduction of the new NACE Rev 2 for data from January 2009 will require significant preparatory work during 2008 in Member States, both individually and collectively. As well as establishing the new series, it will be necessary to create historical time series on the new classification.</p> <p>The Regulation requires Member States to conduct pilot studies on the feasibility and cost of certain possible additional or different indicators. In the light of the results, the Commission must decide before August 2008 whether to propose adoption of these indicators.</p> <p>The Regulation requires the Commission to transmit by August 2008 a report to the European Parliament and Council on the statistics compiled pursuant to the STS Regulation, in particular the relevance and quality and the revision of these indicators. The report will also address the cost of the statistical system and the burden on businesses arising from the Regulation, in relation to the benefits. It will report on best practices for reducing the burden on businesses and indicate ways to reduce the burden and costs.</p> <p><b>2.2 OBJECTIVES 2008</b></p> <p><b>2.2.1. Ongoing work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve timeliness of existing indicators and their publication</li> <li>• Prepare successful introduction of the revised NACE Rev 2 into short-term statistics for January 2009 and back-casting of historical series</li> <li>• Report to the European Parliament and Council on the relevance and quality and the revision of indicators, specifically addressing also the burden on businesses arising from the Regulation in relation to the benefits</li> <li>• Promote the exchange of best practices between Member States on ways to reduce the burden and the back-casting of STS time series</li> </ul> <p><b>2.2.2. New work</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Publish a first fairly complete set of producer price indices for services at the end of 2008</li> <li>• Assess results of feasibility studies and decide before August whether to propose adoption of new indicators</li> <li>• Implement European sample schemes</li> </ul>
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2.3:	OECD	<p><b><u>Business Statistics and Entrepreneurship</u></b></p> <p><b>Purpose</b> To provide official annual data for detailed industrial and service sectors (at the 4 digit ISIC level), consistent and relevant for international comparison in order to meet policy makers' and analysts' needs for structural business statistics for detailed economic sectors. Three databases are currently maintained. To develop a program of internationally-comparable indicators regarding entrepreneurship, its determinants and its impacts, to inform policy-analysis and policy-making.</p> <p><b>Objectives and outputs</b> The databases on structural business statistics (SSIS) and (BSC), updated through a joint questionnaire with UNIDO, contain annual data on core economic variables, relating to both industry and services, at a very detailed level of ISIC revision 3 (up to the 4th digit level). They cover such variables as production, value added, investment, number of enterprises, employment, wages and salaries, and hours worked. Statistics are derived mainly from structural business surveys, censuses and administrative sources. The BSC database contains this information broken down by enterprise size class. Detailed ISIC revision 3 data as well as sources and definitions is published in a Business Statistics publication, which in 2008 will include a dedicated section on entrepreneurship indicators. Business Demography Indicators are now being collected formally and will include indicators of birth, death and survival rates and numbers of high growth firms - all based on common concepts developed in the new Eurostat/OECD Manual. This new Eurostat-OECD Manual on Business Demography Statistics is one of the main achievements in 2007. In 2007, the OECD were also involved in the organisation of the OECD Structural Business Statistics Experts Meeting and the Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD meeting on business registers. During the year 2008, the sub-groups of the Entrepreneurship Indicators Steering Group (EISG) have been progressing in activities including the foundation definitions of entrepreneurship; a policy framework for entrepreneurship and the list of core indicators and associated metadata. This last activity is the responsibility of a joint OECD/Eurostat Task Force and it also includes the development of the Measurement Manual that will guide the indicator work. As a result, a framework for measuring entrepreneurship as well as definitions for entrepreneur, entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial activity were proposed. Two meetings of the steering group were held in June and November 2007. The November meeting was preceded by a workshop on the measurement of high-growth enterprises as part of the OECD Entrepreneurship Indicators Program (EIP). In addition to the Steering Group, the Secretariat has maintained an EIP Network so that additional countries and organisations may remain abreast of the Entrepreneurship Indicators work and participate on an ad hoc basis. The EIP was also presented in several fora and meetings.</p>
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2.3:	OECD	<p><b><u>Production and Sales Indicators</u></b></p> <p><b>Purpose</b> To provide short-term economic indicators of production, sales, orders, work started and in progress and stocks (and associated methodological information) for OECD member countries and selected large emerging non-member economies to meet the on-going requirements of a number of internal OECD users. To develop new international standards and the formulation of guidelines for best practice for short-term statistics.</p> <p><b>Objectives and outputs</b> All the subjects under the Production and sales are classified under the following six top headings: Production, Sales, Orders, Work started, Work in progress, Stocks. Within each heading, indicators are further classified according to economic activities. 2007 saw an expansion of indicators especially in the are of Orders and Work Started as a result of cooperation with Eurostat. A key achievement was the endorsement by CSTAT of the "Compilation Manual for the Index of Services Production" (ISP) produced through the Short-Term Economic Statistics Working Party (STESWP). Application of this manual was also applied to a number of countries.</p> <p><b>Non-member countries involved in the activity:</b> Brazil, China, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa</p> <p><b>Databases</b> MEI_REAL</p> <p><b>Main Developments for 2008</b></p> <p><b>General aspects:</b> A key issue will be to expand the range of services output indicators contained in the MEI database and presenting analysis of this data to STESWP. Discussions would focus on the relative quality of data across countries and the key uses that can be made from it. In this regard, it will be important to engage the Central Banking Community.</p>

2.3:	OECD	<p><b><u>Measurement of Non-market Services</u></b></p> <p><b>Purpose</b> The purpose of this activity is to advance on the volume output measurement for health and education services in the national accounts. This activity was endorsed by the OECD Committee on Statistics in 2005. The main purpose is the development of a handbook on the topic and advances with the empirical measurement of the volume of health and education services across countries (see also PPP for health and education).</p> <p><b>Objectives and outputs</b> 2007 saw a first draft of the Handbook on volume measures for health and education output . Also, a seminar was organised in Paris (June). The objective for 2008 is to present a complete draft of the handbook to the group of national accountants and to health and education specialists at the occasion of their meetings in 2008.</p> <p><b>Main Developments for 2008</b></p> <p><b>General aspects:</b> 2006 was the first year of the project, planned on 18 months (April 2006 -&gt; September 2007) with the secondment of an INSEE expert. In 2008, only internal resources can be devoted to the advancement of the project in STD.</p>
2.3:	World Bank	<p><b><u>Business statistics</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doing Business The World Bank/International Finance Corporation's Doing Business database provides objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement. The Doing Business indicators are comparable across 178 economies. They indicate the regulatory costs of business and can be used to analyze specific regulations that enhance or constrain investment, productivity and growth. Topics include: starting a business, dealing with licenses, employing workers, registering property, getting credit, protecting investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts, and closing a business. See the Doing Business website: <a href="http://www.doingbusiness.org/">http://www.doingbusiness.org/</a></li> <li>• Enterprise Surveys The World Bank collects data on the business environment in 104 countries based on surveys of almost 70,000 firms. The surveys provide indicators of firm productivity and performance. Topics include: regulations and taxes, permits and licenses, corruption, crime, informal sector, gender, finance, infrastructure, innovation, trade, and work force. See the Enterprise survey website: <a href="http://www.enterprisesurveys.org">http://www.enterprisesurveys.org</a></li> <li>• Private Participation in Infrastructure (PPI) The Private Participation in Infrastructure (PPI) Project Database tracks information on more than 3,100 infrastructure projects with private investment in the energy (electricity and natural gas), telecommunications, transport, and water and sewerage sectors in low- and middle-income countries. See the PPI database: <a href="http://ppi.worldbank.org/">http://ppi.worldbank.org/</a></li> </ul>
2.3:	UN Statistics Division	<p><b><u>Industrial Statistics</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further development of the industry statistics web-site</li> <li>• Investigation of possibilities of data transfer from EUROSTAT on industrial commodity production statistics to avoid duplications in data collection</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision of the Manual on International Recommendations on Industrial Statistics</li> <li>• Revision of the Manual on Index Numbers of Industrial Production</li> <li>• UNSD continues the collection, processing and dissemination of global industrial commodity production statistics and maintains the industrial commodity statistics database containing data for about 200 countries and areas and more than 600 commodities. A revised UN List of Industrial products has been developed. Data collection based on this new list is now in progress. Production data is being provided in physical quantities and for the first time in monetary values. First publication on this basis is scheduled for release in 2007. UNSD continues the compilation and publication of index numbers of industrial production.</li> <li>• Industrial statistics are published in UNSD's Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook, in the UN Statistical Yearbook and in the Monthly Bulletin of Statistics. Industrial Commodity Statistics datasets and the General Industrial Statistics Dataset are available in electronic format</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Distributive Trade Statistics</u></b></p> <p><b>Priority objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of International Recommendations on Distributive Trade Statistics</li> <li>• Organizing two workshops on good practices in compilation of Distributive Trade Statistics</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing and new activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further development of the UNSD website on distributive trade statistics</li> <li>• Data exchange with OECD and EUROSTAT on distributive trade statistics to avoid duplications in data collection</li> <li>• Drafting of DTS Compilers Manual</li> <li>• Compilation of country practices on Distributive Trade Statistics</li> </ul>
2.3:	CIS-STAT	<p><b><u>Distributive Trade</u></b></p> <p><b>Ongoing work:</b></p> <p>In the distributive trade over the period 2008-2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly collection, processing, analysis and publication of data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- on volumes of retail trade turnover through all sales channels (for trading organisations and the informal sector, in current prices);</li> <li>- on volume changes in trade turnover (in current and constant prices);</li> <li>- on prices for individual kinds of consumer goods at trade enterprises of the capitals of CIS countries;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Quarterly data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- on volumes of retail trade turnover by form of ownership in current prices);</li> <li>- on small enterprises (in current prices).</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Yearly data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- on the structure of sales of food and non-food goods in value terms in current prices and indicators of sales in quantity;</li> <li>- statistics on the intermediary activities of various specialized exchanges (goods, raw materials, stocks and shares, currencies, etc);</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- availability to the public in CIS countries of selected consumer durables;</li> <li>- sales of alcoholic beverages per capita.</li> <li>• Preparation of economic reports on institutional changes in the distributive trade and marketed services sector, on the situation in the consumer market for goods in CIS countries, on the structure of retail trade turnover in CIS countries, on comparative prices for selected goods in Commonwealth capitals.</li> </ul>
2.3:	CIS-STAT	<p><b><u>Business Statistics</u></b></p> <p><b>Ongoing work:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of quarterly and yearly data in 2008-2009 on profits of enterprises and organizations and the settlement situation, both domestically and with other countries.</li> </ul> <p><b>New activities:</b></p> <p>In 2008 it is envisaged to prepare recommendations on the system of indicators of economic census (on the basis of international standards).</p>
2.3:	CIS-STAT	<p><b><u>Market Services</u></b></p> <p><b>Ongoing work:</b></p> <p>In the field of market services for the period 2008-2009 it is envisaged to collect, process and publish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monthly data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- on the supply of market services, including personal services rendered to population through all channels of sales, in current prices;</li> <li>- on changes in the supply of market services to population, in current and constant prices;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Quarterly data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- on the supply of market services to population by form of ownership and for small enterprises, in current prices;</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Yearly data: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- on the structure of services in value terms (in current prices) and in quantity of sales.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Preparation of annual economic reports on the situation at the consumer market of market services to population in the Commonwealth countries.</li> </ul> <p><b>New activities:</b></p> <p>In 2008 it is envisaged to improve methodological recommendations on statistical observation of market services to population, which will include basic methodological principles of forming a complete set of market services with the account of shadow and informal activities.</p>
2.3:	CIS-STAT	<p><b><u>Industry Statistics</u></b></p> <p><b>Ongoing work:</b></p> <p>Collection, processing and publication of data on industry in CIS countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monthly: output of the main types of industrial products in quantity, industrial output in current prices, and indices of industrial output (in constant prices);</li> <li>- Quarterly: volume (in current prices) and indices (in constant prices) of industrial output by main industrial branches;</li> <li>- Yearly: output of the main types of industrial products by product category; forecasts of output of rolled ferrous metal products, cotton fibres, extraction and</li> </ul>

		<p>production of the main types of fuel and energy resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of analytical reports on the situation and development of selected industrial branches.</li> </ul>
2.3:	Voorburg Group on Services Statistics	<p><b>Measuring outputs of services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The objective of the Voorburg Group is to establish an internationally comparable methodology for measuring the constant price outputs of the service industries. The focus of the Group is to develop concepts, methods and best practices in the area of services. The Group contributed over the years to building up and sharing a considerable and growing body of knowledge on Service Sector statistics. It has promoted international cooperation in the development of standards and assisted in resolving statistical and measurement challenges in the Services Sector.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ongoing Methodological Work Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the last two years, the Voorburg Group adopted a more structured approach in terms of its work plan and proceedings, in order to produce more concrete deliverables. In acknowledging the parallel and equally important development of turnover (output measures), prices and classifications, the Group made an explicit effort to better balance its agenda among these three major areas. This new orientation was initially reflected in the 2006 meeting agenda and continued for the 2007 meeting, contributing to the great success of both of these meetings.</li> </ul> <p><b>2006 Meeting</b></p> <p>In 2006, the Group focused its work mainly in three major areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishing a <b>Content Development Framework (CDF)</b> to guide the direction and work on the different Service Sector industries,</li> <li>• Developing a <b>thesaurus</b> for prices methodology, and</li> <li>• Developing an industry scorecard tool to assess the various countries' progress toward developing output and price data for various service industries and products.</li> </ul> <p><b>Content Development Framework (CDF)</b></p> <p>The purpose of the CDF is to provide a much more structured approach to developing mini-presentations and sector papers covering different service industries and for organizing the format and conduct of the Voorburg Group meetings. The CDF essentially calls for industry specific papers to be prepared by participating countries according to a predefined template, including specific methodological guidelines, and requires that the papers cover pre-established topics related to the Group's three main domains of interest (turnover, prices and classification), as well as the national accounting perspective. This ensures that the content of the papers are more comparable and standardized, thus facilitating the exchange of knowledge and expertise as well as discussion of issues. The papers are presented, critiqued and discussed in <b>mini-presentations</b> during the Group's meeting (and available on the Group's website as well). This substantive content material as well as, the output from the discussions, in turn</p>

serve as key inputs to produce, discuss and adopt **Sector papers** (presented in the following year) that present a set of **key methodological guidelines** for the development and production of Service industry statistics. As concrete deliverables from the Voorburg Group meetings, these sector papers are intended to become reference material for statisticians that oversee the development and compilation of Service Sector statistics in the various countries and international organizations.

### **2007 meeting**

In 2007, building on the success of using the CDF, the Group focused on the following:

- Finalizing and formally adopting the **thesaurus for prices methodology**, including common terminologies for prices, so that all participating countries and international organizations can speak the same language in terms of pricing methodologies. The final version adopted at the 2007 meeting included concrete examples accompanying each of the seven pricing methods and improved definitions of each of the seven pricing methods.
- Finalizing and formally adopting **Sector Papers** on two service industries covered by mini-presentations at the 2006 meeting: Freight Transport by Road (ISIC 4923) and Management Consultancy (ISIC 7020).
- Presenting and discussing a **General Methodology Paper** including theoretical and practical issues and key points of a cross-cutting nature for the Service Sector as a whole. These key points of a general nature are provided to enable the Group to avoid rehashing the same points when discussing specific industries
- Presenting and discussing three **presentations by three national accountants** from three different countries (South Korea, Australia, and the United States) covering key issues to be addressed by the Voorburg Group to better ascertain and document the specific Service Sector source data used by the national accounts to improve measures of real GDP. Key points were elicited as input to the development of a final report on national accounts to be prepared and presented at the 2008 meeting.

Also at the 2007 meeting, papers on IT Services were presented, discussed, and key points were raised as input to the Sector Paper on IT Services that will be prepared for and delivered at the 2008 Voorburg Group meeting.

In addition, the Voorburg group continued to monitor, via a survey that produces the industry scorecards, the degree to which the countries have made progress on the development of output and price statistics for various industries and products covered by the Service Sector. Results were discussed for a survey of country progress on the five industries comprising IT service industries:

- a. Computer Programming Activities (ISIC 6201)
- b. Information Technology Consultancy and Computer Facilities Management Activities (ISIC 6202)
- c. Other Information Technology Service Activities (ISIC 6209)
- d. Data Processing, Hosting and Related Services (ISIC 6311)

	<p>e. Web Portals (ISIC 6312)</p> <p><b>Priority Objectives (All Objectives Were Met at the 2007 Meeting)</b></p> <p>The 2007 meeting was a success as all the key objectives were met. The new strategic direction and the more structured approach for the statistical related work was successful and led to :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An improve process by which knowledge is created, communicated and shared and by which best practices are adopted under the auspices of the Voorburg Group;</li> <li>• The development and compilation of sector papers to serve as reference material for countries in developing Service Sector programs.</li> <li>• The development of coherent, reliable and internationally comparable statistics on Service Sector industries.</li> </ul> <p><b>New Activities for 2008</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group decision to continue with the development of a Content Development Framework (CDF).</li> <li>• Preparation of revised guidelines for the format and content of Sector Papers (also for use by Revisited Sector Papers – see below)</li> <li>• Preparation of a 1) Sector Paper on IT Services; 2) <b>Revisited Sector Papers</b> on Accounting, Real Estate, Advertising, and Engineering (The preparation of Revisited Sector Papers entails building upon previously issued Mini-presentations on prices (presented prior to 2006) for an industry/industry group by adding turnover/output details. The Revisited Sector Papers will follow the revised guidelines for the format and content of Sector Papers.); and 3) Mini-presentations on Wired, Wireless, Satellite, and Telecommunications and on Wholesale Trade according to the new CDF.</li> <li>• Proposed schedule for industry specific papers for the next four years (2008 to 2011)</li> <li>• In addition, four task forces were formed: <u>Task Force 1</u>: to obtain and disseminate country report information on the six industry/industry groups to be covered at the 2008 meeting; <u>Task Force 2</u>: to review documentation on turnover done by the UN Expert Group and make suggestions and recommendations to the Voorburg Group and then to the UNSC; <u>Task Force 3</u>: to develop a glossary of terms (e.g., captive units) to append to the General Methodology Paper; and <u>Task Force 4</u>: to add to the Pricing Thesaurus examples of how people in various countries actually apply the different definitions of pricing methodologies (for 2008, an example will be added by France and Sweden on how they apply charge out methodology).</li> </ul> <p><b><u>New Activities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing and simplifying the Statistics Canada Voorburg Website so that the papers presented at the annual meetings could be classified and accessed under more than one heading.</li> </ul>
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		<p>The papers from the previous meetings of the Group are available at: <a href="http://www4.statcan.ca/english/voorborg">http://www4.statcan.ca/english/voorborg</a></p>
2.3:	UNIDO	<p><b><u>Industrial Statistics</u></b> <b><u>(i) Ongoing activities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNIDO in collaboration with OECD, will compile and disseminate worldwide key industrial statistics at the 3- and 4-digit levels of ISIC (Revision 2 and 3). As per UN mandate UNIDO collects data directly from NSOs for non-OECD member countries while OECD collects data from its member countries and provides them to UNIDO to complete the global coverage of the UNIDO industrial statistics database system.</li> <li>• Data received from NSOs will be screened, adjusted and supplemented with UNIDO estimates as before, then will be stored in the UNIDO Industrial Statistics (INDSTAT) Database system in accordance with the individual reporting systems, Rev.2 and Rev.3 of ISIC. However, it is expected that nearly all regularly reporting countries, both OECD and non-OECD countries, would complete the switch over from Rev.2 to Rev.3 of ISIC in their data-reporting system. Thus, the INDSTAT Database at the 4-digit level of ISIC (Rev.2) will be maintained as supplementary information supporting the ISIC (Rev.3)-based INDSTAT Database.</li> <li>• UNIDO will continue to maintain the ISIC (Rev.3) version of its Industrial Demand-Supply Balance (IDSB) Database while the ISIC (Rev.2) version of IDSB would be treated as the supplementary file to the Rev.3-based IDSB.</li> <li>• UNIDO has entered to its final stage of migration of its statistical database system from the mainframe to a client/server platform. Currently, new tools for data presentation are being developed. A new presentation wizard has been developed in order to improve the data reporting system, especially to meet the user's demand more efficiently.</li> <li>• UNIDO has developed its data quality assurance framework. Major issues are the cross-country data incomparability and incomplete data reporting by NSOs. In this regard, UNIDO continues its efforts to improve the data quality within a Data quality assurance framework and provide technical assistance to NSOs to develop its metadata system in support of its statistical databases.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(ii) Methodological work that can go beyond 2008</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNIDO will continue to work with UNSD and make its contribution to ongoing revision of International recommendations of industrial statistics and Index numbers of industrial production.</li> <li>• UNIDO is developing a manual on industrial statistics based on revised recommendations of industrial statistics and new list of data items for industrial surveys.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>(iii) New activities to be undertaken in the next year 2008</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some changes are expected in country grouping for data presentation in the</li> </ul>

		International Yearbook of Industrial Statistics. In addition, estimation methods for recent years (nowcasting) will be differentiated based on the growth trends in different countries UNIDO will start dissemination of a new CD INDSTAT-2, which contains historic data series at the 2-digit level of ISIC rev 3.
2.3:	ECB	In close cooperation with Eurostat:  • Compilation of euro area business demography indicators.
2.3:	<i>See also:</i>	<i>OECD: 2.4.3 STAN database for industrial analysis</i> <i>OECD: 4.3.2 Administrative data for short term statistics</i> <i>OECD: 5.6 Services</i>

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