

WP 27  
8 February 2010

ENGLISH ONLY

**UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE  
CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE  
EUROPEAN UNION (EUROSTAT)**

**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)  
STATISTICS DIRECTORATE**

**Work Session on Statistical Metadata (METIS)**  
(Geneva, Switzerland, 10-12 March 2010)

## **WHO INDICATOR AND METADATA REGISTRY (IMR) AND SDMX-HD**

Patrick Whitaker, World Health Organization

### **I. ABSTRACT**

WHO has created the Indicator and Metadata Registry (IMR) in response to a need to manage, harmonize, and distribute global indicator definitions and improve interoperability in country monitoring systems. The SDMX-HD (Health Domain), based on the SDMX standard, was created to support these needs. Additionally, it utilizes features of the SDMX standard to support organization-specific views of an indicator using common and custom metadata attributes and streamlined data flow from countries, including integration of legacy systems.

Thus, the IMR provides analysts a facility to harmonize indicator definitions and developers complete and computer-readable indicator definitions. The combination of IMR and SDMX-HD provides a means to build a global monitoring system from the clinical facility to district, national, and international levels. More information on SHMX-HD and the IMR are available at [www.sdmx-hd.org](http://www.sdmx-hd.org).