

WORKING PAPER No 10

ENGLISH ONLY*

**STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR
EUROPE**

**STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
(EUROSTAT)**

**CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
STATISTICIANS**

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL
ORGANISATION (FAO)**

**Joint UNECE/EUROSTAT/FAO/OECD
Meeting on Food and Agricultural Statistics
in Europe**
(Geneva, 2-4 July 2003)

**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT
(OECD)**

**COVERING LETTER TO THE 2003 QUESTIONNAIRE
FOR THE ISIC AND CPC REVISION**

Supporting paper submitted by the United Nations Statistics Department, New York

* Paper posted on Internet as submitted by the United Nations Statistics Department, New York.

UNITED NATIONS



NATIONS UNIES

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
 Statistics Division (UNSD)

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-1670, New York, N. Y. 10017

Telephone No: (212) 963-4583

Facsimile No: (212) 963-9851

Reference: STAT 211 (10)

Date: 23 May 2003

Dear Ms. *****,

The United Nations Statistics Division is preparing the revisions of ISIC and CPC for 2007, as requested by the UN Statistical Commission in close consultation with the Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications and its Technical Subgroup

Moreover, the Statistical Commission has confirmed the approach permitting all UN member countries to participate in the revision process through participation in regional meetings and through the circulation of questionnaires on issues related to the revision process.

The United Nations Statistics Division will conduct a number of workshops throughout the year, which will allow countries to discuss proposals for the ISIC and CPC revision, raise issues of particular concern to them and provide other input to help shape the new classifications. The materials included with this questionnaire will serve as the main discussion papers at those meetings.

To give countries more time for internal discussion and to provide better feedback into the revision process, this questionnaire solicits comments on a wide range of questions related to concepts and structure issues.

This questionnaire has been split into four different documents:

- (1) the Concepts paper for the 2007 ISIC and CPC revision
- (2) a draft paper of a possible structure for ISIC Rev.4, focusing on higher-level categories
- (3) a discussion paper on coding options for ISIC
- (4) a set of questions for the ISIC and CPC revision

The latter lists major questions that have evolved from the preparation of the three papers and provides guidance for responses. However, responses do not have to be restricted to the issues listed in this document.

Ms. *****

General Director
 Institute of Statistics

I recommend that the issues raised in these papers be discussed as widely as possible in your country, resulting in a single country position that reflects the needs of your data providers and data users.

These documents are also available in machine-readable form on the UNSD classifications website and can be requested by e-mail from the Classifications Hotline at CHL@un.org.

Your response to the set of questions by **30 September 2003** will ensure its incorporation in the consolidated statement for the next session of the UN Statistical Commission in March 2004. Responses by e-mail to CHL@un.org are encouraged.

In case of any questions, please contact the Statistical Classifications Section directly by email at CHL@un.org, by fax at 1 (212) 963 1374 or by phone through Mr. Ralf Becker, Chief of the Statistical Classifications Section, at 1 (212) 963 4600.

Looking forward to your country's participation in shaping the future of international statistical classifications.

Sincerely,

Willem De Vries, Officer-In-Charge
United Nations Statistics Division
