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Topic (i): The impact of Internet on the statistical production and dissemination process

INTERNET TECHNOLOGY IN PUBLISHING OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION

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SUMMARY

1. Internet is a rich source of information that can be accessed globally through the network of services such as World Wide Web, e-mail, teleconferences etc.. An increasing number of organizations and individuals contribute daily to the Internet databases. Statistical offices have a huge potential of providing large amounts of statistical data collected over long periods of time. Information on demography, economy, labour, health, prices, migration and on many other issues related to private citizens is of great concern for the public as well as for businesses. Official statistics should be ready to increase the use of Internet services for statistical data dissemination. Internet technology allows statisticians to provide the data in due time and in more comprehensive forms.

2. Contrary to the presentation and dissemination of statistical data in hard copy forms, a special approach is needed for presentation of data with the support of Internet services. In many cases, the survey processing should be

¹ Prepared by Dusan Prazenka.

reorganized, workflow in data processing modified and the workstyle of statisticians in selecting the data for presentation on Internet should be changed. Many components of statistical data processing should be integrated in order to take full advantage of the Internet technology.

3. This paper presents the approach taken by the Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic in co-operation with the INFOSTAT in developing a new architecture of computerized statistical information system (ASIS). Special attention is given to the architecture of the subsystem for presentation of statistical data in electronic form using Web technology (ELIS subsystem). Two groups of the ELIS functions are presented: one for the navigation of users in the public data base, and the second for the subsystem administration. Interfaces to the other subsystems of ASIS as well as the user interface are outlined.