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REPORT

**United Nations Workshop on International Economic and Social Classifications
UN-House, Beirut, 19-23 July 2004**

Summary

The workshop was organized jointly by The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) within the framework of the project on Strengthening Statistical Capacity in ESCWA Region.

The main goal of the workshop was to gather the proposals and views of ESCWA member countries with regards to the revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, ISIC Rev.4. The objectives of this meeting were (1) to explain to participants the suggested structure of the ISIC Rev.4 and clarify its relation with other important classification systems currently used in the ESCWA region; (2) to encourage the application of ISIC in all ESCWA member countries (3) to increase the harmonization in producing and disseminating updated data on industrial statistics. The workshop will help participants from member countries to improve their capacity in using and applying ISIC. It also allowed participants from member countries to share national experiences and challenges and provide feedback on the proposed detailed structure for ISIC Rev.4 from a national and regional point of view.

Discussions centered around (a) the ISIC Rev.4 draft; (b) the problems associated with the conversion from ISIC Rev.3 to ISIC Rev.4; and (c) the presentation of success stories and challenges relating to the implementation of international classifications (ISIC, CPC, ISCO) in ESCWA member countries.

At the conclusion of the workshop, recommendations were summarized highlighting the need to assist countries in applying ISIC at the national level. It was also recommended to have the views of ESCWA member countries reflected in the new revision of ISIC, and to clarify concepts and definitions relating to industrial classifications.

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Introduction

1. As new economic developments occur and needs in economic analysis change, underlying tools, such as economic classifications, have to reflect these new conditions. The revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) is being conducted in this context.
2. The revision of ISIC pursues a number of goals: to adapt the classification to the changed economic situation in the world, to reflect the needs of countries in different phases of national economic development, to improve the relationship of ISIC to other important activity classification systems in use around the world, and to provide guidance to users of the classification through detailed explanatory notes. Therefore, a new revision of ISIC and the Central Product Classification (CPC) is planned for 2007.
3. Given the above, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), recognizing the need to assist ESCWA member countries in improving their industrial classification and to have their input on the revision of the ISIC Rev.4 draft (available at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/cr/isic-4.asp>) and the Central Product Classification (CPC), have agreed to organize this workshop.
4. The goals of the workshop were (a) to discuss the current situation of the implementation and use of national activity and product classifications; (b) to depict the relationship of national classification systems to the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) and the Central Product Classification (CPC); (c) to have ESCWA countries' proposals and input reflected in the revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) and the Central Product Classification (CPC); (d) to assist in improving the capacity of users and producers of industrial statistics in using and applying international classification systems; (e) to improve the application of ISIC and clarify its correspondence with other important activity classifications in use in the ESCWA region; (f) to identify measures to facilitate regional and sub-regional cooperation in the field of classifications; (g) to increase the harmonization in producing and disseminating data on industry statistics regionally and internationally. The workshop allowed participants from member countries to share national experiences and challenges and identify ways to overcome obstacles faced when adapting national classification systems to international standards.

I. RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED BY THE WORKSHOP

A. RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS

5. A number of recommendations were made to governments, the most important of which include the following:
 - a) To review the first draft of ISIC Rev.4 and send national detailed comments to UNSD before November 2004
 - b) To invite ESCWA member countries to create a national committee that would coordinate among the national Central Statistics Office and concerned ministries in order to unify classification systems used nationally with international classification systems.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS TO UNSD

6. The following recommendations were made to UNSD:
 - a) To avoid significant changes to the structure of ISIC Rev. 3, and add to it the new items without changing the coding system or to provide an alternate structure that allows using ISIC Rev.3 and converting to ISIC Rev.4. This is important for preserving the time series of national data, as well as to reduce the financial and administrative burdens carried by participating countries when shifting from ISIC Rev.3 to Rev.4
 - b) To provide technical assistance to countries still using ISIC Rev. 2 on the correspondence between ISIC Rev. 4 and ISIC Rev. 2 to facilitate the shift to the new version.

- c) To ensure that representative(s) from ESCWA member countries are invited to participate in the meetings of the Expert Group or Technical Subgroup working on the ISIC revision to provide regional input on the ISIC revision process.
- d) To improve and clarify the relationships between classification systems: ISIC, United Nations Framework Classification for Energy Reserves/Resources (UNFC), FAOSTAT, and others
- e) To make guidelines and criteria for structuring ISIC transparent.
- f) To take into account the issues of importance to the ESCWA region such as oil, gas, olives, cotton, dates, desalination technologies, water supply and carpets, and therefore implement the following modifications to ISIC as recommended by the participants:
 - 1) To place all “repair and maintenance” as a separate section at the one-digit level.
 - 2) To identify “wholesale and retail for furniture” as a separate class to supplement the separate treatment for “manufacturing and repair” for furniture.
 - 3) To place Oil and Gas Industry in two separate categories because many gulf countries in the region are major oil and/or gas producers and the industries involved for oil and gas are two different activities (specifications will be provided by countries).
 - 4) To place “cotton ginning” under manufacturing.
 - 5) To merge the activities relating to sewerage system with those relating to the collection and distribution of water within one division (35) and separate both activities at the three digit (group) level. (The ISIC Rev.4 draft has separated these activities already at the division level.)

C. RECOMMENDATIONS TO ILO

7. The following recommendation was directed to the International Labour Organization (ILO):
 - To allocate more budget to the translation of ILO publications into Arabic and improve the quality of translation of these documents.

D. RECOMMENDATIONS TO ESCWA

8. The following recommendations were made to ESCWA:
 - a) To coordinate with the League of Arab States (LAS) on the application of ISIC in all Arab countries.
 - b) To prepare another workshop on industrial classification in collaboration with UNSD concerning other international classification systems such as CPC.
 - c) To work with UNSD and some ESCWA member countries to provide training on CPC and ISIC for member countries that are less acquainted with those classifications.
 - d) To work on the preparation of a regional classification system at the ESCWA level similar to what has been developed in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) to unify definitions, concepts and classifications relating to industrial statistics that are compatible with international systems of classification.

II. DISCUSSION TOPICS

A. International Family of Classifications (UNSD)

9. On the first day, experts from UNSD introduced the participants to the International Family of Classifications, the role of custodians of classifications in the family and other fundamental documents.
10. The relationships between the classifications, such as ISIC, CPC, NACE, NAICS, ANZSIC and others, were explained. Furthermore, UNSD experts clarified the role of each organization as well as the role of member countries in the revision and maintenance process of classifications.

11. Participants representing member countries were invited to subscribe to the UNSD Classifications Newsletter and send their questions and proposals to the UNSD Classifications Hotline to enrich the discussions and to actively participate in the process of classification.

12. In line with the overview on the international classifications, UNSD experts showed the participants the different components of the UNSD website on the International Classifications, and invited them to keep checking the web site (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/class/>) and to send their contributions through the Hotline at: chl@un.org

B. International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities: ISIC Rev.4 (UNSD)

13. The recently distributed complete draft version of ISIC Rev.4 was presented by UNSD, highlighting areas that will be particularly affected by change or could be of special interest to the region. Detailed presentations were given for agriculture, manufacturing, water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation, information and communication, professional, scientific and technical activities, administrative and support activities and public administration.

14. Some participants were critical of comparing productivity between different countries because the value of one currency changes from country to the other depending on how inflated the internal economy is. Experts answered that indicators are the only way to measure data. They added that indicators are used for a multitude of purposes, and one of these is to compare among different countries.

15. Some “repair and maintenance” activities are currently located under the category of “manufacturing” depending on the type of goods. Some participants noted that “repair and maintenance” constitutes a major industrial activity in the ESCWA region and thus ought to be separated and allocated to an independent section on “repair and maintenance”. Representatives of UNSD clarified that there was originally a plan to allocate a section for repair but some countries resisted this approach, arguing for maintaining the approach in ISIC Rev.3. It has to be further investigated how strong, for instance, the combination of “selling and repairing cars” in a single establishment is. The current draft ISIC 4 proposal on this issue represents a compromise solution and has therefore no strong conceptual basis. The difference between “repair” and “remanufacturing” was still recognized, with the latter always allocated to “manufacturing”.

16. The question was raised, whether “services” could be split into 2 separate sub-categories, namely “social services” and “economic services”. UNSD experts commented that there is no sufficient justification behind such a change and that, although allocation may be possible in most cases, the implementation of this as explicit elements of the structure may not be possible.

17. Some participants were worried and noted that there is difference between the concepts over which ISIC Rev.4 was built and those previously used to build ISIC Rev.3. It was argued that the basic underlying principles are still the same, with few exceptions, such as the focus on process rather than output for grouping and the consistent use of value added for determining the primary activity of a unit. There is however a recognition of new connections and concepts, which for instance result in the creation of an Information and communications section.

18. There was a suggestion to elaborate on certain industries that are of special importance in the economy of Arab countries like industries involving “dates”. Experts from UNSD agreed that “dates” could be allocated more value because of their importance in the industries in Arab countries.

19. Participants asked for some clarification with regard to classifying cattle in the following two cases: cattle used for meat industry and cattle used for dairy products industry. UNSD experts explained that the rationale behind this decision is finding out whether these two activities are performed by the same farm or not. Usually these two activities are not performed by the same farm, so in this case they should be separated in the draft classification.

20. Participants discussed activities referred to as “vertically integrated activities” where two or more activities are performed by the same unit and the output of the first activity becomes the immediate input into the following activity (for example, growing olives and producing olive oil, or wine production from

grapes). The classification of such activities should be based on the following: the value added of each activity is evaluated or estimated (if the actual value cannot be obtained) and the whole process is classified under the activity that carries more value added. The treatment in ISIC Rev.3 classified the unit according to the activity in the last step of the process. For example growing olives and producing olive oil was therefore classified in manufacturing. However, there was an example for the integrated growing of grapes and wine production. The new treatment should better reflect the “true nature” of the activity carried out by the unit. UNSD still requires feedback from participating countries on this matter.

21. Participants asked for clarification about post-harvest crop activities and support services to agriculture. Agricultural service activities, as defined in the ISIC 4 draft, cover services provided by third parties to the farmer to assist in growing or harvesting his products, such as irrigation services, crop spraying, pest control or harvesting. These are support services that are specific to agriculture. Post-harvest crop activities cover activities that are necessary to prepare agricultural products for the primary market. In many cases, these are performed by the farmer himself, in which case they would not change his classification in agriculture. However, there are also many units that perform these activities on a fee basis for the farmer. This is often under discussion, as it touches on the boundary between agriculture and manufacturing or trade. The separate identification of these activities should help in that discussion. Seed processing is a growing support activity for agriculture, which prepares seeds for the farmer, whether genetically modified or not. This service takes place before the actual growing process and is therefore not covered by the agricultural service activities or post-harvest crop activities as described above.

22. Member countries that are important producers of cotton (Syria and Egypt) agreed that in the new version, “cotton ginning” activity should be considered a manufacturing activity as it was the case in ISIC Rev.2, and not as an “agricultural activity”. UNSD experts clarified that there has been a big debate among countries on this issue; in some countries this is provided as a service to the farmer, while in other countries, this is the first step in a manufacturing process. This debate will continue as part of the general treatment of post-harvest crop activities.

23. Participants asked about the classification of “racing horses” and whether it fits under the category of agriculture. UNSD experts confirmed that “raising of race horses” ought to be classified under “agricultural activities”. The general concept is that any activity involving raising animals is classified under “agricultural activities”.

24. Participants discussed the issue of furniture and classifying them according to the material of which it is produced (i.e. plastic industries, or wood industries, or metal industries). Experts from UNSD explained that there are many factors to be taken into consideration in this case; for example the furniture is not always made of one material, and “manufacturing industries” do not necessarily specialize in one material. So the feedback of all participating countries is needed before finalizing the classification of furniture in ISIC Rev.4.

25. Representatives of Gulf countries noted that oil and gas production are important activities in their countries. Both are characterized through different processes and it was suggested that ISIC Rev.4 separate oil and gas industry into two different categories.

26. Participants also suggested to place “holding companies” under “financial activities” section and not under “professional, scientific and technical activities” section if the major output of the company is less than the ownership income because the revenues of holding companies or precisely the output emerges from profit distribution of subordinators to the holding company.

27. Some countries suggested avoiding the addition of a digit at the fourth-digit level if that industry produces only one product. UNSD experts, however, explained that ISIC is a coding system that takes into account the national importance of the item while having international significance. The definition of a “product” is always a matter of detail and depends, among others, on national importance. Therefore, what is considered a single product in one country, may be considered as many different products in another country. The question was also based on the assumption that countries use the activity classification with an additional digit to define their products. However, this is by far not a universal approach. It was agreed however, that UNSD should look into identifying other products of great

importance to individual regions (or worldwide) that should be reflected. As an example, the case of grapes was mentioned, which is the only single-product distinction made under ISIC 4 draft category 012, while for instance dates would be of much higher importance to the ESCWA region. If such selections are being made, they should be balanced at a worldwide level.

28. Participants noted that ISIC Rev.4 has a completely different coding for activities than ISIC Rev.3. They expressed their concern that this radical change to ISIC might create cost-related and administrative problems to the ministries concerned. Furthermore, participants were worried about “time series” that might be lost if the coding system is completely changed. Thus representatives of all ESCWA member countries (all countries were represented except United Arab Emirates) agreed that the UNSD should keep the old coding system (i.e. of ISIC Rev.3) and develop it according to the rising needs; otherwise to provide an alternate structure for ISIC that allows users to convert from ISIC Rev.3 to ISIC Rev.4. UNSD will try to provide such an alternative structure that can be used by countries during a transition period. I was however noted, that such strong changes in coding are a normal result of any major revision and that ISIC Rev.4 would be no exceptional case.

29. Participants stressed that some ESCWA countries are still using ISIC Rev.2 and that adapting to the new revision requires time and resources which creates a costly burden on governments. Many representatives of ESCWA member countries said that they are adopting ISIC through stages and that the ministries of industry and the statistics offices are not always following the same speed. Furthermore, there are cases where the national classification is still adopted and the notion of ISIC is not introduced at all. Other countries have started adopting ISIC Rev.3 by stages and haven’t completed this operation yet. Experts from UNSD explained that there is the possibility to proceed from ISIC Rev.2 to ISIC Rev.4, however this option requires more changes than going from ISIC Rev.3 to ISIC Rev.4.

30. Participants criticized the fact that most documents or publications of international organizations are first published in languages other than Arabic, and the translation to Arabic is often not accurate and doesn’t pertain equally to all Arab countries. In response, UNSD will make efforts that the final version of any document related to ISIC will be sent to selected ESCWA countries for language review before publication.

31. Participants also urged ESCWA to coordinate with the Permanent Statistics Committee of the League of Arab States before finalizing ISIC, this is especially important because LAS has another list of national indicators that are collected periodically. This coordination will hopefully materialize into a unified set of required indicators by both UNSD and LAS.

C. Central Product Classification (CPC)

32. Experts from UNSD introduced the Central Product Classification (CPC), this classification has been around for the last 15 years. CPC is especially important because it is a tool to guarantee a uniform classification of products among countries.

33. It was clear from the discussions that most ESCWA countries are not acquainted with CPC and never used it to classify products. After being briefed on CPC participants asked for further information and training through a workshop targeting CPC. Such a training workshop requires a budget from UNSD, which is not possible at the present moment.

34. UNSD stressed the importance to get comments on CPC from countries already using this classification. There is currently a questionnaire for the CPC revision in circulation, detailing a number of proposals for the new revision as well as asking for additional input and proposals to improve the CPC. Countries in the region should take advantage of this opportunity to engage in the revision process. Egypt and Oman agreed to perform this task using their national units. Participants agreed that there is a need to produce guidelines on how to use CPC, in case the budget at UNSD allows.

D. UN List of Industrial Products

35. UNSD reported on the ongoing process of revising the UN List of Industrial products, which is the product list in use for commodity production statistics at UNSD. The new revised list will be based on the

Central product Classification and represents a selection of about 600 commodities for worldwide data reporting.

36. The current raft of the List has been sent to a number of countries for comments, including to Jordan. The representative of Jordan gave an overview of their first assessment of the list and to what degree the Statistical Office of Jordan will be able to provide data on this list.

E. Other Organizations Experiences: ILO, AIDMO, ESCWA

International Labor Organization (ILO)

37. The International Labor Organization presented a paper on updating the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO), this version will be finalized by year 2007. The presentation dealt with ways to measure the classification system adopted in ISCO and the main challenges facing users of this system. Participants from ESCWA member countries expressed their wishes and communicated their concerns on this matter. Some suggested that the main structure and classification methodology adopted in the current version of ISCO be kept, the rationale behind this request is that users of ISCO are more acquainted with the current version. Furthermore, participants agreed that ILO should translate more documents and publications into Arabic. The Arab region represents a big portion of users of these documents. ILO representative promised to deliver this message hoping to make Arabic one of the “official languages” of ILO (Arabic is now a “working language” at ILO).

38. ESCWA raised its concern to ILO about the high unemployment facing work-seeking adults in the ESCWA region, and requested ILO to assist the region in improving the situation especially in Iraq and Palestine.

Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO)

39. AIDMO introduced its Arab Industrial Information Network (ARIFONET) which was established in the eighties. ARIFONET allows users to get online industrial statistics about Arab countries. This network aims to promote competitive power of products produced in the Arab world. Data in ARIFONET is based on ISIC classification, and lately data reported was shifted to reflect ISIC Rev.3. AIDMO encourages the use of international classification systems.

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

40. ESCWA explained the role it is currently playing in collecting industrial data and the challenges in this process. There is a general concern that data collected on ESCWA member countries is not homogeneous, because some countries report certain industries while other countries don't, member countries are not using the same ISIC version, units used to report the same data vary from country to another, the definitions adopted for activities and indicators are not the same among countries and data don't reflect the same time interval across these countries. All these basic problems and other more detailed ones, make data collection and publication in the ESCWA region a difficult task. Hence, ESCWA member countries are encouraged to adopt a unified industrial statistics classification system in order to evaluate the economic and social activities in the ESCWA region. In revising ISIC Rev.3, the pressing needs of ESCWA region should be considered. Data on industrial statistics in ESCWA member countries were reviewed and shared with the audience. There is need to collect valid, reliable and updated data from member countries. This data must be shared within a certain time period otherwise it would lose its impact in decision-making.

F. Member Countries' Experiences

41. Some member countries shared their experiences with regard to industrial classification. These countries are Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen. These presentations reflected the specificities of every country and the problems they face in collecting and storing data on industrial activities. Participants shared the problems and suggested solutions to other ESCWA member countries; this was highly beneficial for the presenting countries and for others who

learned about the methodology neighboring countries are dealing with data and adapting International Classification to their national needs.

G. Field visit: Lebanese Central Statistics Directorate

42. The Lebanese Central Statistics Directorate invited experts and participants in the workshop for a visit to the centre. Invitees visited the directorate and listened to a detailed presentation on the way ISIC was adapted to fit the industrial activities in Lebanon. Afterwards, invitees had a tour around the directorate and were briefed on the procedures used for sampling, data collection and data entry. Participants addressed questions on the practice of handling data, and workers at the directorate explained in details the methodologies and procedures applied regularly.

III. Organization of Work

A. VENUE AND DATE

43. The Workshop on International Economic and Social Classification in the ESCWA Region was held at ESCWA headquarters in Beirut from 19-23 July 2004.

B. OPENING

44. Ms. Mariam Al-Awadhi, Deputy Executive Secretary of the ESCWA, delivered the opening speech and welcomed the participants. She stressed on the contribution of the industrial sector to national economy in ESCWA member countries, as well as on its vital role in achieving sustainable development. Ms. Al-Awadhi highlighted the role of ESCWA in helping member countries to keep pace with the rapid international development in terms of updating the industrial classification systems prevalent at the national level to those adopted internationally.

Mr. Ralf Becker, Chief of Statistical Classification Section at the United Nations Statistics Divisions in New York, welcomed the participants and highlighted the major advance in statistical research as an essential mean to increase the harmonization between different systems, and to clarify ambiguities relating to different concepts. Mr. Becker stated that the objectives of the workshop are to communicate to participants the results of the statistical work performed at UNSD, to stimulate their interest in the revision of these classifications, increase the acceptance and use of the classifications in the region and to introduce them to future visions to be adopted in the work statistical classifications.

Mr. Sami Assi, representative of Mr. Fadi Samaha, Director General of the Lebanese Ministry of Industry, gave an overview regarding the condition of the Lebanese industry in the last 25 years. Mr. Assi also summarized the obstacles that hinder the industrial development and cut on investments in this sector in Lebanon. He stressed the fact that economic activities should be classified on international guidelines for industrial units.

C. PARTICIPANTS

45. The workshop was attended by 31 participants from 12 ESCWA countries (United Arab Emirates was not represented), from Central Statistical Offices, Ministries of Industry and other related ministries; and representatives from UNESCWA, UNSD, ILO and regional organizations working in this field.

D. AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

46. At the first session, participants adopted the agenda in the form which it appears in the Annex II. At the same session, participants adopted the proposed organization of work contained in the Annex II.

E. DOCUMENTS

47. A list of the documents that were submitted to the workshop is contained in annex III of this report.

Annex I

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Annex II- Organization of Work



UNESCWA



UNSD

Distr.
LIMITED
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/WG
19 July 2004
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA

**United Nations Workshop on International Economic and Social Classifications
19-23 July 2004, UN House Beirut, Lebanon
Hosted by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

Organization of work

Monday, 19 July 2004

Morning

09:00 *Registration of the participants.*

Opening Session

10:00 *Greeting of participants, introduction of organizers*

Mr Ralf Becker, UNSD Speech
Ms Mariam Al-Awadhi, ESCWA Speech
Mr Sami Assi, Representative of Mr Fadi Smaha, Director General,
Lebanese Ministry Industry

Agenda, General questions and Workshop objectives (ESCWA, UNSD)

Coffee Break

Introduction to the International Family of Classifications (UNSD)

Chairperson: Wafa Aboul Hosn (ESCWA).

Overview of International Family of Economic and Social Classifications
(Adriana Skenderi, UNSD)

- *Introduction to the Preamble, Role of custodians*
- *Reference classifications, adaptation of reference classifications*
- *Linkages and consequences, relationship with derived and related Classifications, including development and use of correspondences*
- *Activity classifications (ISIC/NACE/NAICS/ANZSIC) and their relationships as an example of a family of economic classifications*
- *Processes and International Cooperation (workshops and training, working groups)*
- *UN Classification systems and mechanisms (Classifications Hotline, Classifications Registry, Website, monitoring mechanisms on use of classifications)*

Afternoon

13:45 *Overview of Industrial Statistics and Classification (ISIC) in the ESCWA Region. (Wafa Aboul Hosn, Sectoral Statistics, Sustainable Development and Productivity,- ESCWA).*

14:00 Discussion

14:45 **Country presentations:** Egypt

15:00 *ISIC, CPC 2002 update and ISIC, CPC 2007 revision (Ralf Becker, UNSD)*

- *Summary of the latest ISIC, CPC versions (ISIC 3.1, CPC 1.1), summary of changes, impact and implications of changes, relationship to other classifications, such as HS, SITC, BOP, COICOP*
- *ISIC and CPC 2007 revision process*
 - *Process, the three rounds of consultation*
 - *Discussions and decisions on the ISIC and CPC underlying concepts*
 - *Discussion of the top structure as presented in ISIC Rev. 4 draft*

15:30 *Discussion*

Tuesday, 20 July 2004

Morning

Chairperson: Wafa Aboul Hosn (ESCWA).

08:30 *ISIC 2007 Revision: Presentation of ISIC Rev. 4 draft detail (Ralf Becker, UNSD)*

- *A summary of detail as presented in ISIC Rev.4 draft*
- *A discussion of sections A, B, and section C except for division 33(Repair, maintenance and installation of machinery and equipment)*

09:45 *Discussion*

10:30 **Country presentations:** *Jordan*

Afternoon

Case study and site visit to the Lebanese Central Statistics Directorate

Wednesday, 21 July 2004

Morning

Chairperson: Abdel Wadoud Maatouk (Jordan Representative)

08:30 *ISIC 2007 Revision: Presentation of ISIC Rev. 4 draft detail (cont'd.) (Ralf Becker and Adriana Skenderi, UNSD)*

- *Discussion of division 33 of section C in connection with section S*
- *Discussion of sections E and K*

09:30 *Discussion*

12:00 **Two country presentations:** *Lebanon, Oman*

Afternoon

13:00 *ISIC 2007 Revision: Presentation of ISIC Rev.4 draft detail (cont'd.) (Adriana Skenderi, UNSD)*

- *Discussion of sections N, O, T*

13:45 *Discussion*

14:00 *CPC 2007 Revision (Ralf Becker, UNSD)*

- *Proposals for its revision regarding concepts, structure, detail*
- *Process and questionnaire*

14:45 *Discussion*

15:00 **Two country presentations:** *Palestine*

Thursday, 22 July 2004

Morning

Chairperson: Ralf Becker (UNSD)

08:30 *Revision of ISCO classification, processes, working groups, problems*

(Adriana Mata-Greenwood, International Labour Organization, ILO)

09:45 *Discussion*

10:30 **Two country presentations**: Saudi Arabia, Syria

Afternoon

Chairperson: Mr. Khaled Al Mudhafar (Oman Representative)

Cooperation in the field of classifications in Western Asia

12:00 *Database and International Classification Systems Used at AIDMO*

(Ms. Intissar Burhani, Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization, AIDMO)

12:30 *Users of Industrial Statistics: Vision and Applications (Mr. Hassan Charif, ESCWA)*

13:30 *Practical problems and solutions and intra-regional cooperation in the adaptation of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) and the Central Product Classification (CPC) in Western Asia countries (ESCWA, UNSD).*

15:00 *Discussion*

15:30 **Two country presentations**: Yemen, Kuwait

Friday, 23 July 2004

Chairperson: Ralf Becker, UNSD

08:30 **UN List of Industrial Products** (Ralf Becker and Adriana Skenderi, UNSD)

- *Current status of international data collection for industrial commodities*
- *Revision of the United Nations List of selected industrial products*
 - *anticipated changes*
 - *data collection issues*

09:15 *Presentation by Jordan on their experience with a list of commodities and CPC*

09:30 *Discussion*

Questions and answers session

The intent of this session is to discuss any specific sections of ISIC or CPC in which countries of the region might have a special interest.

Questions will be collected during the whole duration of the workshop.

After every presentation of the workshop there will be a short discussion (questions and answers) on the issues raised. The intent of this particular session is to cover more major issues or any particular areas of classification that bear a special interest to the countries.

10:45 **Specific problems and issues and future plans**

- *Follow-up on questions raised during the workshop*
- *Future cooperation in the region and on the international level*
- *Planning of follow-up actions*
- *Summary and conclusions*

Annex III

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Provisional Agenda	E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/WG.4/L.1
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/WG.4/2	نظرة شمولية للإحصاءات الصناعية والتصنيف الصناعي في منطقة الاسكوا
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/WG.4/3	قواعد المعلومات المنظمة والتصانيف الدولية المستخدمة
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/WG.4/4	رؤية مستخدمي البيانات للإحصاءات الصناعية ومجالات تطبيقاتها
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/WG.4/5	التجربة الفلسطينية في مجال التصنيفات الإقتصادية
E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/WG.4/6	مشروع التنقيح 4 لهيكل التصنيف الصناعي الدولي الموحد
Information Note	E/ESCWA/SDPD/2004/WG.4/INF.1