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Progress Report Draft

16th Voorburg Group meeting on services statistics 2001 Progress report for Italy

Classification of service products

As far as services are concerned computer services, telecommunications, engineering and real estate services, business management and advisory services, other business services, transport and postal services, hotels and restaurants and services to households, wholesale and retail trade, Italy will implement the slide revision about NACE/CPA foreseen for 2002. A large general reflection is under way in Italy for the major 2007 revision, concerning all industries but in particular for services industries.

At the moment Italy is building up working groups concerning revision of services classifications.

Service product prices (PPIs)

Developments in producer price indexes for service industries in Italy

It is important to improve the quality of the indicators used to deflate service output because the service industries accounts have a great influence on GDP estimates in constant prices and on estimates of real growth rates and productivity trends.

For this reason, in Italy, the national accountants have made a great effort in the last few years, to construct and improve price indicators for the production of services, focusing on the outputs given by services for intermediate consumption. Within this context falls the calculation of a price index for freight road transport and the calculation of the telecommunications price index prepared for the deflation of the sector output within the framework of the national economic accounts. At the moment, there being no direct surveys

on freight transport prices and telecommunications services, therefore the method adopted is to use indirect estimates.

Information society

In Italy the statistical measurement of ICT sector has been adopted. A module on ICT usage has been inserted in our annual small and medium enterprises survey. In the first half of this year ISTAT has launched a new survey for measuring e-commerce and ICT usage on enterprises in all economic sector and a second one will be repeated beginning of the next year. Specific questions on usage of ICT in households/individuals are inserted in the multipurpose survey on households (it covers the usage of different ICT applications, especially PCs, the Internet and mobile phones). ISTAT has started examining the methodology for compiling an Computer services survey and it will be launched in October, and it will be repeated next year. Also for Telecommunication services an annual survey is set up. Methodological studies concerning measurement of IS (information society) are conducted following the international standards established by OECD and Eurostat.

Non-profit institutions

In Italy the first census on the active institutions and non-profit institutions up to 31 December 1999 was taken. In December 2000 the phase survey was concluded. The Census was taken by means of self-compiled questionnaires. The classification of the adopted economic activities was International Classification of Non-profit Organisations (INCPO). The Census was organised by Istat in collaboration with the Chambers of Commerce. The first data have been published in July to 2001 and the final data will be published in Autumn in a volume that will bring to light the maximum detail of the social and economic structural aspects. ISTAT participating to an UN working group for the revision of SNA, in particular for non-profit institutions.

