

PROGRESS REPORT OF P.R. CHINA

19th Voorburg Group Meeting

September 27 to October 1, 2004, Ottawa

Main achievements for the recent period 2003-2004:

1. Producer Price Index (PPI) for services

Pilot survey and compilation about the price indexes on telecommunications, transport via water, and transport via road, has been conducted separately in three cities of China: Harbin, Qingdao, and Wuhan in 2003.

2. Scheme of the national economic census has been set

The scheme of the first national economic census of China has been set . According to Industrial Classification for National Economic Activities of China (Rev. 2002), this census includes 17 sections as follows :

Mining and quarrying

Manufacturing

Electricity, gas and water supply

Construction

Transport, storage and post

Information transmission, computer application services and software

Wholesale and retail trade

Hotels and restaurants

Finance

Real estate

Renting and business activities

Scientific research and technical services and geological prospecting

Water conservancy, environment and public facilities administration

Resident services and other services

Education

Health, social security and social welfare

Public administration and social organizations

The services survey, therefore, is included in the national economic census.

3. Classification of services activities

Interim provisions on classification related to the information industry in statistics has been drafted out by NBS in Feb. 2004. This classification can be linked with ISIC (Rev.3.1), NAICS and the classification of OECD.

Classification on culture and its related industries has been developed by NBS in April 2004, which is derived from the national economic industry classification and is a derivative classification from the latter.

Proposed regulations on the management in software industry statistics has been jointly drafted by NBS, the Ministry of Information Industry, the Ministry of Commerce, the General Administration of Custom and the State Administration of Foreign Exchange Management.

4. Others

Reporting system on social aggregated statistics, and reporting system on high-tech industries' aggregated statistics which includes a high-tech industries' statistical classification, have been implemented in 2003.

Reporting system on environmental aggregated statistics (preliminary) is now under trial implementation

The main issues and challenges facing NBS

In recent years, services industries have been developed rapidly in China . Current services statistics and producer price statistics concerned can not meet demand. In aspect of current statistical survey on services , we need more statistical information about services than ones from the traditional regular surveys, such as the transport survey, wholesale and retail trade and restaurants survey□labor and wages survey of service industries and scientific research and technical services survey. On the other hand, although pilot survey on the prices on telecommunications, transport via water, and transport via road, have been conducted□and real estate index has been compiled for several years, the Producer Price Indices for other services are waiting for us to compile. These are issues and challenges facing NBS now, as well as the opportunity given for NBS to explore and develop them in the services statistics.

Priorities of the work program for the next years

1. Producer Price Index (PPI) for services

Pilot survey and compilation about the price indexes on telecommunications, transport via water, and transport via road is continuing in three cities of Harbin, Qingdao, and Wuhan this year. The coverage of the survey will be expanded from three cities to several provinces in 2005.

Study the market situation about air transport, transport via railways and transport via pipelines.

Improve the transportation price statistics.

Improve the compilation methodology on real estate price indexes and implement new real estate price statistical system (quarterly).

Research some services price statistics, such as banking services and restaurants and accommodation, etc.

2. The national economic census and other practice on services statistics

The first national economic census of China is going on in following steps:

--preparing stage (before Dec. 2004)

--fill in form/questionnaire by various response units (between Jan. and April, 2005).

--data processing and data submission (from Feb. to August, 2005).

--data assessment and release (Sep. to Dec. 2005)

--data development and application□work summary (Sep. 2005 to Jun. 2006).

From 2005, NBS will study and solve the issues about responsible agencies on services statistics, identify the survey coverage of the services, design the rolling sampling survey scheme on the services' enterprises□and identify data source on services statistics.

3. Classification of service activities

It is planned to finish the national standard of product statistical classification in 2005, which can be linked with CPC and be on the basis of the national economic industry classification (Rev. 2002).