Voorburg Group
Classification Input

presented by

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Background

• Voorburg Group first met in 1987
• Early main agenda item was the development of service classifications and explanatory notes for the Provisional CPC (approved by the Statistical Commission at its twenty-fifth meeting, February 1989)
• Work continued to examine and refine the methodologies and practices for the development of service industry statistics
• In 2006, VG adopted a formalized content development framework to review all service industries defined by ISIC.

• Framework included a review of the practices and methods for output data collection and price indices to improve the ability to produce real output for national accounts.

• Each review includes evaluation of ISIC and CPC for possible problems.
Voorburg Process

• Three countries present practices for price indices and three different countries present output data collection for each industry.

• These six countries include relevant comments on the applicability of ISIC and the CPC in their work.

• When potential changes are identified, they are collected and forwarded to UNSD during appropriate revision cycles.
Examples – CPC

For CPC Rev. 2.1

– Detail for logistics services
– Separate domestic and international courier services
– Review telecommunications products to account for change in services provided and to identify data only plans for tablets and similar devices on wireless networks
– Review the treatment of waste, scrap, and recyclable materials in the CPC along with the associated services
– Separate household moving and storage from business moving and storage
– Consider Frascati Manual breakouts for products in R&D (basic, applied, and development)
ISIC

Suggestions from VG Members

- Repair and maintenance – 3 requests from three different continents
  - Move to services
  - Include as part of appropriate industries
- Computer and IT Services – 2 different requests
  - Move Computer system design and related services to Division M – Professional, technical, and scientific activities
  - Restructure 62 and 63 to get:
    - 6201 Computer programming activities
    - 6202 Computer consultancy
    - 6203 Computer facilities management services, data processing, hosting and related activities
    - Move 639 to publishing
- Review transportation industries, possibly create scenic and sightseeing transportation (Industry by mode, CPC by demand currently)
- Include all liquefaction and regasification of natural gas in mining
- Combine ISIC 36 and 37, use national details below if necessary (many suggested this during the past two meetings)
ISIC

Suggestions from VG Members (continued)

• Additional industries under ISIC 532
  – 5321 Letter post
  – 5322 Parcel service and expedited services
  – 5329 Other postal services not under universal service obligation

• Merge 782 and 783 – essentially combine 782 and 783 resulting in:
  – 781 Activities of employment placement agencies (781)
  – 782 Human resources provision (782 + 783)

• Split motor vehicle sales into wholesale and retail trade

• Issue clear guidance on FGPs

• Issue clear guidance on the resale of services

• Other ideas from the floor