# 19th Voorburg Group Meeting on Service Statistics

**September 27 to October 1, 2004**  
**Ottawa, Canada**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Afternoon</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday</strong></td>
<td>Opening Remarks (PBN &amp; LMD)</td>
<td>Progress Reports (MW)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Website (BC)</td>
<td>ISIC (PJ)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday</strong></td>
<td>IT Related PPI/other common concerns (IG)</td>
<td>Quality effects (IG)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information Society (LMD)</td>
<td>User Needs (STC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday</strong></td>
<td>Presentation (STC)</td>
<td>Short Term Indicators (PD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday</strong></td>
<td>CPC and Turnover (PJ &amp; PA)</td>
<td>Future Agenda (LMD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Friday</strong></td>
<td>Strategy (PBN)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preliminary Program

Monday – (September 27, 2004)

8:30 Registration & Coffee

9:00 Welcome Remarks
(Ivan P. Fellegi, Chief Statistician)

9:15 – 9:30 Opening Remarks
(Peter Boegh Nielsen and Louis Marc Ducharme)

9:30 – 10:00 Keynote Address
(Jacob Ryten)

10:00 – 10:30 Plenary Session I - Progress Reports
(Mark Wallace)

The Voorburg Program for the years 2002-2004 has focused on the following areas: 1) producer price index for services, 2) classification of service activities and products, 3) information socio-economic statistics, and 4) ad hoc issues including non-profit institutions, sales by services products, and short term indicators. Progress reports will cover each country’s major achievements and challenges for the recent period (2003-2004) with respect to these particular areas of the 2002-2004 Voorburg Program.

Since we are in the last year of the 2002-2004 Voorburg Program, special attention will be given to the Voorburg Group’s expectations and priorities with respect to future needs for service statistics. The future topics of interest submitted by the various countries are expected to provide valuable input to the formation of the Group’s next work program for the years 2005-2007.

Papers

- Progress Report from Mexico (Josué M. Campos-Campuzano)
- Progress Report from Mexico - Abstract
- Progress Report of P.R. China
- Progress Report of Hong Kong China
- Progress Report - Center Bureau of Statistics Israel
- Progress Report - Korea
The focus of the Producer Price Index sessions for the Voorburg Conference has been on exploring pricing methodologies and practices employed by participating countries. The agenda of this conference is organized to facilitate the sharing of information amongst price practitioners in some more technical sessions and sharing information on topics with broader appeal in plenary sessions. The goal of the PPI activities is to provide insight into service sector price measurement issues to assist both price practitioners and data users, especially national income accountants.

The first PPI practitioner session focuses on detailed papers recounting the methodologies employed and surveying results for property and casualty insurance and air transportation of passengers and freight.

Papers

- **Air Passenger and Freight Transportation Principal Paper – New Zealand**
- Appendices: Austria, Sweden, and U.S.
- Appendix: Advertising Services – Austria
  - **The U.S. Producer Price Index for Scheduled Air Passenger Transportation (NAICS 493120)** (William J. Page)
  - **Producer Price Index for Air Transport in Sweden - Appendix** (Mical Tareke)
  - **First Experimental Indices for Advertising and Scheduled Air Transport - Austria** (Christian Puchter, Josef Auer)
  - **PPI for Legal Activity, Auditing and Tax Consulting Services - Germany** (Astrid Stroh, Susanne Lorenz)
- Overview of International PPI Initiatives
The New Price Index Manuals - IMF (Paul A. Armknecht)
OECD - Eurostat 2004 Inquiry on National Collection of Services Producer Prices
(Seppo Varjonen)

10:50 – 12:00 Parallel Session II – Web-site
(Benjamin Camus)
There will be a demonstration of the Voorburg site, in particular of the new "search by subject feature" introduced since the last meeting. The rationale for the selection of subjects and the classification of papers will be given. A complementary method of presenting the papers, as part of thematic summary documents, will be also be presented, using the trade in services and the employment theme as examples. Comments and suggestions will be sought from participants.

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 16:30 Parallel Session III – PPI
(continuation of Session I)

Papers
- Property and Casualty Insurance Principal Paper – U.S. (Deanna Bathgate)
- Insurance Services in Japan’s Corporate Service Price Index (CSPI) – Japan (Orebro 2001)
- PPI Report on Investigation and Security Services – Finland (Jari Järvinen & Jari Harjunpää)
- Service Price Index for Bookkeeping and Accounting Services – Israel (Sima Assaf)
- Producer price index for services in Vietnam – Vietnam (Nguyen Thi Lien)

14:45 – 15:00 Coffee Break

13:30 – 16:30 Parallel Session IV – ISIC revision 4
(Paul Johanis)
The International Standard Industry Classification is undergoing a major revision, which is expected to be published in 2007. The Statistical Commission on the United Nations has endorsed the recommendations of the Expert Group on Economic and Social Classifications, including the proposed high-level structure of ISIC as a basis for detailed work on the classification. As the next step in the process, a full draft structure for the revised ISIC has been prepared by the Technical Subgroup. A complete draft of the classification has been sent to all National Statistical Offices and international organizations for review and comment, with a target date for input to be provided of November 15, 2004.

Many of the proposed changes in the revised ISIC concern service activities. For example, there are new high level groupings for Professional, scientific and technical activities, Information and communication and Administrative and Support Activities, with many new detailed classes. The Voorburg Group provides an ideal forum for practitioners and experts in the field of service statistics to provide input on the proposed changes, which will be made available to the United Nations as part of the revision process.

Papers
Detailed comments on the proposed ISIC revision - INSEE (Magali Demotes-Mainard)
The diversification of service companies in France - INSEE (Benjamin Camus)
Progress on the Development of ANZSIC 2006 - New Zealand (Sonia Collins)
The Telecommunications Industry: New Challenges for Classification - Canada (Paul Johanis, Tony Malfara)

14:45 – 15:00  Coffee Break/

18:00 – 20:00  Cocktail at Lord Elgin Hotel

**Tuesday  – (September 28, 2004)**

9:00 – 10:30  Plenary Session II - IT Related PPI / other common concerns
             (Irwin Gerduk)

The first plenary session on PPI is devoted to information technology. The major topics include telecommunications services and computer services.

Papers

- Wired and Wireless Telecommunications Services Principal Paper – U.S. and Japan
- Appendices: Sweden, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, Germany
  - Telecommunications Services in Japan’s 2000 Base Corporate Service Price Index
    (Kiyohito Utsunomiya, Kuniko Moriya)
  - The PPI for Telecommunications in the Netherlands (Aurél Kenessey en Esther Dijkstra)
  - Producer Price Index for Telecommunications in Sweden – Appendix (Maria Martinsson)
  - Producer price index for telecommunication services - Germany (Kerstin Renning)
  - UK Business Telecommunication PPI for Services (Appendix) - UK (Keith Hermiston, Pam Davies)

- Quality Adjustment for Prepackaged Software – Japan
  - Quality Adjustment Method in Prepackaged Software in Japan’s 2000 Base Corporate Service Price Index
    (Naohisa Hiramata, Ayako Kouju, Kiyohito Utsunomiya)

- Updates on Computer Services – Australia, France, Sweden, United Kingdom.
  - Producer Price Index for Computer Services in Sweden (Merja Cerda)
  - Producer Price Index for Computer Services – France (Benoît Buisson)
  - Feasibility of Adopting Function Point Analysis for Quarterly Software Development Producer Price Indexes – Australia (Matt Berger)
  - Recent Progress on the Development of a UK Price Index for Computer Services - UK (Joanne Allen, Tim Osmond, Pam Davies)
10:30 – 10:50 Coffee Break

10:50 – 12:30 Plenary Session III - Quality effects
(George Beelen)

The second plenary session will focus on data quality and fitness for use issues. The major topics include quality adjustment issues and more global concerns involving the organization and maintenance of a broad service sector initiative.

Papers

- Challenges encountered and overcome in reweighting the Corporate Services Price Index – United Kingdom
- Quality adjustment for small countries – Sweden (Vera Norrman)
- Producer Price Index for Services, Some remarks on the sampling and the charge-out rates method – France (Benoît Buisson)
- A Proposal for Improving Business Services Price Indexes – Statistics Canada

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 17:00 Parallel Session V - PPI
(Benoît Buisson)

The second parallel session on PPI focuses on discussions of problems associated with attempting to survey cargo handling and warehousing, car and truck rental, and labor recruitment and provision of temporary workers.

Papers

- Cargo handling, Storage and Warehousing – New Zealand, U.S.
  - The U.S. Producer Price Index for Refrigerated Warehousing and Storage (NAICS 493120) (John L. Lucier)
  - Cargo Handling, Storage and Warehousing in the New Zealand Producers Price Indexes (Charissa Parbhu)
- Car and Truck Rental – Austria, France, Sweden, The Netherlands
  - The Dutch PPI for Operational Motor Vehicle Lease – Netherlands (Aurél Knessey)
  - Producer Price Index for Car Rental – Sweden (Merja Cerda)
  - Producer Price Index for Motor Vehicle Rental – France (Benoît Buisson)
  - The Development of a PPI for Renting of Automobiles – Austria (Christian Puchter, Josef Auer)
Labor Recruitment and the Provision of Temporary Workers – Australia, France, and United Kingdom

- **The French PPI for Provision of Temporary Workers and Labor Recruitment** (Benoît Buisson)
- **Producer Price Indexes for Labour Recruitment and the Provision of Temporary Workers within Australia** (Jo-Marie Moore, Daryl Williams)
- **Development of a UK Price Index for Labour Recruitment Services** (Anthony Luke, Pam Davies)

15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee Break**

14:00 – 17:00 **Parallel Session VI - Information Society**

(Louis Marc Ducharme)

For several years now, the Voorburg Group, in consultation with the OECD’s Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society (WPIIS), has contributed to the development of statistical work in this area. Because of the linkages that have been made between ICTs and economic development, epitomized by the WSIS 2003 and 2005, interest in such work has now exploded. As a result, many efforts are underway everywhere to help close severe informational gaps, aiming at the diffusion and utilization of existing standards, as well as their expansion and appropriate adaptation in the context of developing countries.

It is therefore appropriate to take stock of such activities internationally with a view of leveraging the Group’s expertise and re-defining its role and contributions. Such dialogue will take place against the background of the Voorburg Group’s increasing workload in many areas, with particular emphasis on the overlap between Information Society and Services statistics.

**Papers**

- **Methodological reference manual for statistics on the Knowledge-based Economy - Denmark** (Abstract)
- **Statistics for the Information Society and the Knowledge-based Economy Methodological manual** (Helle Månsson, Martin Lundø, Marlene Madsen and Jens Thomassen)
- **Information Society Statistics - Israel**
- **Development of indicators on e-government at EU level and preliminary information on a 2004 pilot survey for ICT usage in enterprises of the financial sector - European Commission, Eurostat** (Hartmut Buchow)
- **Eurostat model for a Community Pilot Survey on ICT usage in selected NACE J enterprises 2004 (Final version 6 of 13 November 2003)**
- **Eurostat model for a Community survey on ICT usage in households and by individuals 2004 (Rev. Version 10 of 23 February 2004)**
- **OECD work on measuring the Information Society**
- **Statistical gaps: The challenges facing the service programmes at Statistics Canada**

15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee Break**

**Wednesday – (September 29, 2004)**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:45</td>
<td>Plenary Session IV: Services Statistics in Canada (Peter Lys)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 – 9:50</td>
<td>Presentation – (Statistics Canada)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:50 – 10:00</td>
<td>Group photo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 – 11:30</td>
<td>User Needs (Fred Gault, Renée St-Jacques, Ellen Dulberger, Peter Boegh Nielsen and Pam Davis)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over the years, statistical agencies have devoted more time and resources to improve statistics on the service economy. Although there has been considerable improvement in the availability of statistics, there are still gaps to be filled. The objective of the session is to present the perspective of users in the area of Services statistics and analysis. This includes taking stock of where things stand and voicing user needs for the near future. This round table will help statisticians who work in key roles in this area in many countries to assess their efforts and, hopefully, coordinate and prioritize work among competing needs.

- Towards a strategy for improving European services sector statistics – DG Enterprise European Commission (Peter Boegh Nielsen)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11:30 – 12:30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 – 12:30</td>
<td>Pick-up Wakefield Steam Train Excursion followed by dinner (transportation provided back to hotel after dinner)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thursday – (September 30, 2004)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 10:30</td>
<td>Plenary Session V - CPC and Turnover (Paul Johanis and Pekka Alajaasko)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the major uses of detailed product classifications is the compilation of statistics on turnover (revenues), by type of product. For services products, the production of turnover statistics must deal with two fundamental issues: how to define service products and how to value them once defined. Classification addresses the first of these issues. In this session, we will consider the adequacy of currently used classifications for this purpose and identify where they might be improved. In particular, experience in the use for this purpose of the CPC (Central Product Classification), the CPA (the European Union's product classification) and NAPCS (the North American Product Classification System) will be presented.

The CPC is currently being revised by the UN, with a target date of 2007. While this will not be an
in-depth revision (it has already been decided that the high-level structure will not change), the Technical Subgroup of the Expert Group on Economic and Social Classifications will be meeting in October 2004 to identify potential additions and improvements at the detailed level of the classification. This is the most relevant level for turnover statistics and the Voorburg Group meeting provides an opportunity for bringing forward suggestions for improvements so as that the CPC can keep abreast of the evolution of services production in the world economy.

**Papers**

- **Additional CPC Product Detail Travel Arrangement and Reservation Services - U.S.** (John Murphy)
- **The Measurement of Turnover for Travel Agencies and Tour Operators - World Tourism Organization** (Shaila Nijhowne)
- **Proposal for Additional CPC Detail, Food and Beverage Services** (Mayer Fallena Martinez)
- **Waste Management and Remediation Services: 2002 - US**

10:30 – 10:50  **Coffee Break**

10:50 – 12:30  **Plenary Session V - CPC and Turnover (cont’d)**

**Papers**

- **Turnover by product for NACE 74.12 and 74.14 - a comparison** - Statistics Sweden and Eurostat (Cecilia Hertzman, Daniel Lennartsson, Pekka Alajäskö)
- **Turnover by Product Advertising - Spain** (Maria Velasco Gimeno)

12:30 – 14:00  **Lunch**

14:00 – 15:15  **Plenary Session V - CPC and Turnover (cont’d)**

- **A CPC based definition of ICT Services** - Daniel April, on behalf of WPIIS (OECD)
- **Cooperation between product data and PPI for services** - Statistics Sweden (Cecilia Hertzman, Vera Normman)
- **A French survey on management of intangible assets** - INSEE, France (Fabrice Lenseigne)
  - Annex 1
  - Annex 2
- **Classification and Turnover in Vietnamese Service Statistics**

15:15 – 15:40  **Coffee Break**

15:40 – 17:00  **Plenary Session VI - Short Term Indicators**

(Pam Davies)

The OECD's work on short-term services will be discussed. Since 2002 the OECD STESEG task force on services (TFS) has been pursuing broad themes related to indicators for services sector. Most OECD Member countries have strongly felt that subannual index of services production (ISP) would enhance the quality of business cycle analysis in the OECD area and a practical guideline to compile ISP which reflects statistical enviornment of the OECD countries is in great need. Thus,
TFS has been coordinating a task to prepare a manual for a monthly or quarterly ISP. TFS members feel that the manual could also be useful to enhance the quality of subannual GDP measures. Aims, Infrastructure and terminologies of the ISP as well as its sources and compilation methods are the main contents of the manual. Specific issues will be presented in detail in order to receive inputs from the Voorburg group members. Statistics Denmark's work on demand indicators for services will also be presented.

Papers

- **Prototype Compilation Manual for a Monthly Index of Service Production**
- **Demand for services – Denmark** (Maja F. Mortensen, Jens Thomasen)

Presentations

- an overview of the ISP manual [Eun-Pyo Hong; OECD, 5-10 minutes];
- infrastructure and key terminologies for ISP [Bernard Lefrancois; Stat Canada, 15 minutes];
- sources and methods for compiling ISP [Rob Pike; ONS, 15 minutes]; and
- Demand indicators for services [Jens Thomasen; Statistics Denmark, 10 minutes]

---

**Friday – (October 1, 2004)**

9:00 – 10:30  **Plenary Session VII - Strategy**
(Peter Boegh-Nielsen)

In the last 10 years we have seen a considerable development in the statistical coverage of the services sector in many countries. But due to the dynamic development of the services sector and the increasing focus on statistical data in policymaking, national statistical offices are confronted with new and increasing needs. In order to fulfill emerging user needs and manage available resources in an efficient way, more long-term planning of the statistical production is a necessity. This session shall discuss country experiences and plans for future development of the services sector statistics. The session shall address the problems encountered by countries with a more developed statistical system for services sector statistics as well as countries in the phase of setting up service sector statistics.

**Note**

- **OECD Work on the Service Economy: Some Issues for Measurement and a Workshop on Services, 15-16 November 2004** (Dirk Pilat)
- **Services Statistics Coordination and Strategy**: Final Draft Report by OECD Statistics Directorate to UN Statistics Commission 2005
- **Strategic Vision of the Voorburg Group on Services Statistics for 2005-2008** (Louis Marc Ducharme)

10:30 – 10:50  **Coffee Break**

10:50 – 12:00  **Future Agenda**
(Louis Marc Ducharme)
Presentations

- Turnover by Product Advertising Sector 74.4 NACE Rev.1.1 (PPT)
- Airlines Appendix (US Bureau of Labour Statistics) (PPT)
- Update on Nursing Homes Quality Adjustment (PPT)
- Refrigerated Warehousing and Storage NAICS 493120 (PPT)
- Wired and Wireless Telecommunications Services (PPT)
- Producer Price Index for Property and Casualty Insurance (PPT)
- Quality adjustment method in prepackaged software in Japan's 2000 base Corporate Service Price Index (PPT)
- Telecommunications services in Japan's 2000 base Corporate Service Price Index (PPT)
- Demand For Services - Denmark (PPT)
- PPI for Motor Vehicle Rental - The French experiment (PPT)
- PPI for Computer Services - The French experiment (PPT)
- Some remarks on charge-out rates method - INSEE (PPT)
- PPI for provision of temporary workers - The French experiment (PPT)
- Section D Sources and methods for compiling an ISP - UK (PPT)
- The Dutch PPI for Operational Car Lease (PPT)
- Improved Measurement of the Services - Sector by the U.S. Census Bureau – An Update for 2004 (PPT)
- Progress Reports and Expectations - US Census Bureau (PPT)
- Towards a strategy for improving European services sector statistics (PPT)
- Statistics for the Information Society and the Knowledge-based Economy – Methodological Manual - Denmark (PPT)
- Business Telecommunication - Producer Price Index for Services - UK (PPT)
- The Development of a price index for Computer Services in the United Kingdom (PPT)
- The Development of a price index for Labour Recruitment Services in the United Kingdom (PPT)
- Proposal for Additional CPC Detail, Food and Beverage Services - Fallena Martinez (PPT)
- OECD work on measuring the Information Society (PPT)
- Advertising Services in Austria (PPT)
- Producers Price Index for Air Passenger and Freight Transport Services - New Zealand (PPT)
- Producer Price Index for Air Transport in Sweden (PPT)
- Air transport in Austria (PPT)
- Car Rental in Austria (PPT)
- Rebasings the UK Corporate Services Price Index (PPT)
- Producer Price Index for Telecommunications in Sweden (PPT)
- Introduction: the New Price Index Manuals - IMF (PPT)
- Producer price indices for Telecommunication Services - Germany (PPT)
- Producer price indices for Legal Activities Services, Auditing Services, Tax Consultancy Services - Germany (PPT)
- A French Survey on Management of Intangible Assets (PPT)
- Indicators on e-government at EU level & Preliminary information on a pilot survey for ICT usage in enterprises of the financial sector - Eurostat (PPT)
- Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC06) (PPT)
- Cargo Handling, Storage and Warehousing - New Zealand (PPT)
- PPI for Car and Truck Rental Comments - Canada (PPT)
- A Proposal for Improving Business Services Price Indexes - Canada (PPT)
- **Statistical Gaps: The Challenges Facing the Service Programmes at Statistics Canada** (PPT)
- **Employment Placement and Contract Staff Services - Australia** (PPT)
- **Use of Function Points for PPIs - Australia** (PPT)
- **Report on Investigation and Security Services - Finland** (PPT)
- **CPC Environmental Products Update - U.S.** (PPT)
- **CPC Travel Arrangement and Reservation Services - U.S.** (PPT)
- **Product Classification for Accounting, Bookkeeping and Auditing Services; Tax Consultancy Services and Business and Management consultancy Services - Relevance Test Based on Data Collected in the EU and USA** (PPT)
- **OECD-Eurostat 2004 Inquiry on National Collection of Services Producer Prices - Preliminary report** (PPT)
- **An overview of an Index of Services Production manual - OECD** (PPT)
- **Quality Adjustment for Small Countries - Sweden** (PPT)
- **International Service Statistics Coordination and Strategy - OECD** (PPT)
- **Services of Travel Agencies and Tour Operators - TSA-RMF "net valuation" approach - Implications and data needs** (PPT)
- **Infrastructure and Terminology for the Index of Service Production - OECD** (PPT)
- **Towards a strategy for service sector statistics in the UK** (PPT)
- **Review of UK Statistics for Economic Policymaking** (PPT)
- **How to Measure Real GDP of Services Sector** (PPT)

**Other Contributed Papers**

- **Inter-Enterprise Relations - Denmark** (Helle Månsson, Jens Thomasen)
- **Improved Measurement of the Services Sector by the U.S. Census Bureau – An Update for 2004** (Mark E. Wallace)