

Presidency Flash

Paris, 10th February, 2022

2nd informal videoconference of the Working Party on Statistics

Dear colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to the second videoconference of the Council Working Party on Statistics (CWPS) of the French Presidency, which will take place 16th February. This meeting will be held remotely, via the VC platform of the Council in the same way as for the first meeting. It will be held from 10:00 to 17:00 CET at the latest, with a lunch break between 12:30 and 14:00.

The meeting will focus on the revision of Regulation 549/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European system of national and regional accounts in the European Union (ESA2010).

By way of introduction, Mr Jean-Luc Tavernier, Director General of INSEE and chair of the CWPS, will present to the delegations a synthesis of the comments sent by delegations in response to the written consultation, compiled in working document WK 1518/2022. Almost all delegations gave their overall support to this proposed revision of the regulation.

Five topics of the proposal, in particular the first three, elicited the most comments from the delegates in this written consultation.

- The definition of consistency between the tables to be transmitted and the new deadlines for transmission to ensure this consistency (points 23-24 of Annex B and reference to consistency in this annex for tables T1A, T1Q, T801, T25, etc.) ;
- The mandatory transmission of table 28A and its transmission deadline (Annex B) ;
- The obligation to transmit the metadata and their precise content (points 9-19 of Annex B) ;
- The year of the first release of results according to the new Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP), set out in Annex A of the Regulation ;
- The alignment of transmission deadlines between euro zone countries and other countries for tables T27, T801 and T801SA (Annex B).

Finally, several delegations expressed their intention to reintroduce the possibility of derogations in this revised Regulation, bearing in mind that the derogations authorized by Article 6 of the Regulation expired 1st January 2020 at the latest.

The French Presidency will lead the discussions at the 16/02 meeting on the basis of the above issues, starting with COICOP (Annex A) and then following the order mentioned above for the themes in Annex B.

The Commission will be invited to respond to the comments made in the written consultation and to clarify its positions on each issue. Delegations will then be invited to react.

We have noted that the delegations also expressed more specific remarks on other subjects, which we will have the opportunity to discuss later.

Under "Any other business", the Presidency will inform delegations on the state of negotiations with the European Parliament on the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on Statistics on Agricultural Input and Output (SAIO) and of the organisation of the forthcoming work of the Statistics Group.

Looking eagerly forward to our meetings,

The French Presidency Team of the CWPS

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