

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 32 N 0752

Date: 2002-01-08

REPLACES: --

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Request for Category C Liaison for OECD to ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 32/WG 2 - Metadata

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 32 has received a request for Category C Liaison from OECD.

Type and Category of Liaison requested

Type: Technical Liaison
Category: Category C

Expected Benefits to SC 32/WG 2

ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 32/WG 2 believes that the benefit will be the knowledge and practical experience it will gain from this statistical community.

Expected Benefits to OECD

Over the last two or three decades, an extensive range of statistical guidelines and recommendations covering most areas of economic and social indicators have been prepared jointly by various international organizations (such as Eurostat, ILO, IMF, OECD, United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD), World Bank, etc) in co-operation with national statistical institutes and other agencies. A comprehensive list of current international guidelines and recommendations is maintained by UNSD on their website, Methodological Publications in Statistics (<http://esa.un.org/unsd/progwork>). A list of existing international statistical classifications is also provided on a Eurostat site - <http://europa.eu.int/comm/eurostat/ramon>. The main objective of such guidelines and recommendations is the development of best practice in the compilation of statistical indicators. The adoption of best practice by national/international agencies also contributes towards making indicators compiled for different countries more comparable. The OECD has been an active participant in the development of such standards.

In more recent years, international organisations have given attention to the development of guidelines and recommendations for statistical technology, particularly in the areas of information exchange and the development of standards for the compilation and dissemination/exchange of statistical methodological information (metadata). The ISO has also been developing standards in these areas. The formulation of universal standards, and their wide implementation by national agencies and international organisations, would be reinforced through greater involvement of international organisations such as the OECD and Eurostat in the work of the ISO, in particular, in the current work of the SC32/WG2 Committee. Through their concurrent participation in various UN sponsored working parties and committees the OECD and Eurostat could help provide a conduit between the ISO and other international organisations in common areas of interest and activity.

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The following is the statement on the international status and mission of OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was established by international treaty in the early 1960s. The Organisation's mission (as specified in Article 1 of the OECD Convention) is to promote policies designed to:

- * achieve the highest sustainable economic growth and employment and a rising standard of living in Member countries, while maintaining financial stability, and thus to contribute to the development of the world economy;
- * contribute to sound economic expansion in Member as well as non-member countries in the process of economic development;
- * contribute to the expansion of world trade on a multilateral, non-discriminatory basis in accordance with international obligations.

The OECD currently has 30 Member countries. These comprise almost all developed economies and includes the United States, Japan, other G7 countries and all members of the European Union, etc.

Statistics underpin much of the analytical work of the OECD and the Organisation collects an extensive range of data from both Member countries and a small number of non-member countries within the programme of activities of the OECD Centre for Co-operation with Non-Members (CCNM). The primary purpose for collecting such information is to provide the various Directorates in the Organisation with a statistical base for their economic studies of Member

countries. Such studies include country economic surveys, economic analyses and policy recommendations to Member governments in current areas of OECD activity. However, the statistics collected are of similar use to external agencies and institutions (government, private, academic, international, etc.). In recognition of this the OECD also disseminates most of the information gathered via an extensive range of paper and electronic publications.