Towards
International Recommendations for Energy Statistics

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Historical background

2005 - The UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) discussed the programme review of energy statistics based on the report by Statistics Norway, followed by an Ad Ad-Hoc UN Expert Group meeting on energy statistics (May 2005)

2005 - The UNSC Bureau approved the establishment of two groups to carry out the work:

- Oslo Group Statistics on Energy Statistics (convener - Statistics Norway)
- the Inter Secretariat Working Group on Energy Statistics (convener – the International Energy Agency; the Group is known as InerEnerStat)
Background (continued)

2006 - UN Statistical Commission, inter alia:

• recommended the development of energy statistics as part of official statistics

• supported the review of the UN manuals on energy statistics based on all relevant methodological work

• emphasized the urgent need for harmonization of energy definitions and compilation methodologies and for the development of international standards in energy statistics
Background (continued)

UN publications in energy statistics:


• *Energy statistics: definitions, units of measure and conversion factors* (F.44., New York, 1987)

Needs for revised and updated recommendations

Update of recommendations on topics covered by previous publications:

• basic concepts and definitions of energy products and flows
• units of measurement
• energy balances
• relationship between energy statistics and other economic statistics including national accounts
Formulation of recommendations on topics not covered:

• Energy statistics as part of official energy statistics
• Standard international energy classification
• Statistical units and data items
• Data sources and data compilation strategies
• Data quality and metadata
• Dissemination
• Use of energy statistics and balances in the compilation of energy accounts and other statistics
International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES)

In Nov 2007, UNSD developed the proposal to review and consolidate the revised recommendations on energy statistics and balances, which merit adoption by the UN Stat. Comm. into the International Recommendations for Energy Statistics (IRES)

The proposal was discussed and approved by the 3rd meeting of the Oslo Group (Feb. 2008)
IRES would be aligned in format and structure to international recommendations approved by the UNSC (e.g. *International recommendations for industrial statistics*, *International recommendations for distributive trade statistics*, *International recommendations for tourism statistics*)

IRES should take into account all relevant methodological work such as the *Energy Statistics Manual* (OECD/IEA and Eurostat), and the upcoming *System of Integrated Environmental-Economic Accounting for Energy* (SEEA-E)
IRES and SEEA-E are two complementary documents and their preparation is coordinated. While IRES will comply to the extent possible with the SEEA-E conceptual structure and data needs, SEEA-E will develop its accounting standards on the basis of the IRES (e.g., using IRES definitions of data items and classifications of energy products and flows). The SEEA-E is being prepared by UNSD in consultation with the London Group and the Oslo Group under the auspices of the UNCEEA.
Work done so far

An outline of the IRES covering its scope and content was developed jointly by UNSD and the Oslo Group.

A worldwide consultation on the scope and content of IRES took place in May 2008.

There was a strong support for the development of IRES and for its intended scope and content.
Discussion on the Oslo Group electronic forum on a number of issues

*International Workshop on Energy Statistics* (Aguascalientes, Mexico, 2-5 Dec. 2008) which supported IRES development and highlighted the concerns of the developing countries

4th Oslo Group meeting (2-6 Feb. 2009, Ottawa, Canada) where outlines of each chapter of IRES was discussed and agreed; some draft recommendations were tentatively agreed

Work on the harmonization of definitions, lead by InterEnerStat, is continuing
IRES Outline

Ch. 1 Introduction
Ch. 2 Scope of Energy Statistics
Ch. 3 Standard International Energy Classification
Ch. 4 Units of Measurement and Conversion Factors
Ch. 5 Flows, stocks and related concepts
Ch. 6 Statistical Units and Data Items
Ch. 7 Data Sources and Data Compilation Strategies
Ch. 8 Energy Balances
Ch. 9 Data Quality
Ch. 10 Dissemination
Ch. 11 Use of Energy Balances in Compilation of Energy Accounts and Other Statistics (incl. CO2 emission)
Planned future activities

Subject to the Commission’s decisions at the 40th session the plan is to submit IRES to the Commission at its 42nd session (February 2011).

Reasons: still many issues to resolve, work load, time needed for the second stage of a worldwide consultation on the full text of the provisional draft of IRES, busy agenda of 41st session.
The proposed new timeline for IRES preparation

- **Feb. 2009**: OG4 to review available drafts and outlines
- **Feb. 2009**: Preparation of the provisional draft of IRES and virtual meetings
- **Mid 2010**: 2nd stage worldwide consultation
- **2009**: OG5 to review the provisional draft of IRES
- **Feb. ? 2010**: Preparation of the provisional draft of IRES and virtual meetings
- **Sept 2010**: UNEG to endorse IRES
- **Dec. 2010**: Finalization and submission to UNSC

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The SG report to the 40th session of the Commission

The report outlines the revision strategy and proposes that energy statistics be developed based on the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

- as a multi-purpose statistical domain focused on basic energy statistics and enabling the subsequent data reccompilation in various formats such as energy balances etc. as needed for policy decisions and analytical uses.

- The reports asks the Commission to endorse the revision strategy and to provide any additional guidance
Thank you very much for your attention!