# AGREEMENT ON THE GOVERNANCE OF SDMX ARTEFACTS FOR STATISTICS ON:

## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
## FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT
## NATIONAL ACCOUNTS (INCL. GFS)

## 12 MARCH 2014

## Maintenance Agreements

This agreement follows the principles spelled out in the guidelines on the governance of commonly used SDMX artefacts. In addition, the following points are agreed:

1. The SDMX Sponsor committee recognises that a single ownership group should cover the three domains of Balance of Payments (BOP), Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and National Accounts (NA), which includes Government Finance Statistics (GFS). The organisations that form part of the ownership group should ensure a balanced representation of both the content and SDMX side. The ownership group will consult other major stakeholders as appropriate.

2. In addition, the SDMX Sponsor committee recognises that there are separate maintaining agencies, one for each statistical domain covered by the Ownership Group, with the responsibility to apply agreed changes to the respective DSDs.

3. Change requests: the respective maintenance agency will only apply changes which are agreed upon by the ownership group. Agreements are to be based on consensus. Three types of changes are foreseen: structural changes, annual maintenance changes and fast-track maintenance changes:

    a. Structural changes would be triggered by changes in methodological guidelines or from a comprehensive review of the content of official data flows. This would involve a full review of the entire set of DSDs, including possible restructuring or replacing of concepts and code lists and will only be done through extensive consultations.

    b. Annual maintenance changes could be proposed by anybody, and would serve the purpose of allowing for new data exchange needs by any party. All such change requests are analysed and assessed with due care. In particular, the ownership group will ensure consultation with the respective domain groups that agencies in the ownership group have established to guide the development and implementation of the statistical methodology underlying BOP, FDI, and NA, respectively. In particular, the domain groups mentioned as "major stakeholders" will play a role in

the final approval process of the change requests, recognizing the role they play in developing the manuals setting forth the methodology for the respective domains.

    c.   Fast-track maintenance changes can be proposed by any of the organisations represented in the ownership group. Only changes not breaking backwards compatibility can be issued as fast-track. Fast-track changes follow the same change management process as normal changes but are applied with immediate effect if approved and do not need to wait until the next annual maintenance cycle. The ownership group will agree a procedure for timely follow-up of fast-track change requests. Fast-track change requests are subject to review in the following annual maintenance cycle.

4.   Versioning: following chapter 7.1.2 of reference (1), new versions of shared or cross-domain artefacts will not automatically trigger a new version of DSDs. For changes where the new artefact is backwards compatible with the old artefact, the minor version number will be changed (e.g. 1.3 → 1.4). These changes are mainly additions of new codes to a code list. For changes not being backwards compatible (e.g. structural changes), the major version number will be changed and the minor version number will be set to zero (e.g. 1.3 → 2.0).

5.   If change requests to cross-domain artefacts are filed to one of the maintenance agencies, all other maintenance agencies will be informed and the request will be forwarded to the SDMX SWG as a general change request. In case the change is approved by the ownership group but rejected by the SDMX SWG for general use, the artefact might be moved from "cross-domain" to "cross-domain based shared" in order to accommodate changes which are of interest for BOP, FDI and NA but not for general use. Fast-track changes required quicker than the SMDX SWG approval cycle apply *mutatis mutandis*.

6.   The ownership group will apply the same governance for changes to this document as for the technical artefacts. The governance agreement might be extended to other statistical domains closely linked to the domains currently covered.

## Statistical Domains

| Name | Ownership | Maintenance | Major Stakeholders | Update(s) |
|------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|
| **BOP**<br>Balance of Payments | ECB, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNSD<br><br>*BIS and World Bank to be informed* | IMF | BOPCOM [1] | Annual and fast-track |
| **FDI**<br>Foreign Direct Investments | | OECD | WGIIS [2] | Annual and fast-track |
| **NA**<br>National Accounts<br>incl. Government Finance Statistics | | Eurostat | ISWGNA [3] | Annual and fast-track |

All DSDs are to be published in the SDMX Global Registry.

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[1] IMF: Committee on Balance of Payments Statistics
(http://www.imf.org/external/bopage/bopindex.htm)
[2] OECD: Working Group on International Investment Statistics
(http://webnet.oecd.org/OECDGROUPS/Bodies/ShowBodyView.aspx?BodyID=7250)
[3] UNSD: Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts
(http://unstats.un.org/unsd/nationalaccount/iswgna.asp)

## Contact Addresses for change requests

IMF:        StatisticsQuery@imf.org

Eurostat:   ESTAT-Support-SDMX@ec.europa.eu

OECD:       FDI-SDMX@oecd.org

SDMX:       secretariat@sdmx.org


## Data Structure Definitions (DSDs)

| ID | Name | Maintenance |
|---|---|---|
| BOP | Balance of Payments | IMF |
| FDI | Foreign Direct Investments | OECD |
| NA_MAIN | NA Main Aggregates | Eurostat |
| NA_REG | NA Regional Statistics | Eurostat |
| NA_PENS | NA Pensions | Eurostat |
| NA_SEC | NA Sector Accounts and GFS | Eurostat |
| NA_SU | NA Supply/Use & Input/Output Statistics | Eurostat |


## Code Lists

### Code List types

SDMX Cross-Domain Code Lists **(CD)**

Code Lists, based on SDMX cross-domain code lists **(SC1):** Some cross-domain artefacts are extended for usage within BOP, FDI and/or NA. Those are moved to the shared artefacts section, but reference to the original artefacts is mentioned. Changes to the cross-domain part of such code lists (e.g. changes in real countries in CL_AREA) trigger a normal change request to that artefact. Change requests to the domain specific extension to the cross-domain artefacts can be dealt with within the ownership group and do not require SDMX SWG consultation.

Shared Code Lists, proposed as SDMX cross-domain code lists **(SC-CD):** Some code lists are identified as shared and will be proposed to the SDMX Secretariat for addition to the SDMX Content Oriented Guidelines. For those artefacts maintenance agencies have been assigned in the table below. Once those artefacts are taken over by the SDMX maintenance agency, the reference to the changed identifier (e.g. IMF → SDMX) will be taken over for the next maintenance exercise.

Shared Code Lists **(SC)**

Domain-Specific Code Lists **(DS)**

# Code Lists Defined

| Code list ID | Concept(s) | Used by | Maintenance | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **BOP specific code lists** | Multiple | BOP | IMF | DS |
| **FDI specific code lists** | Multiple | FDI | OECD | DS |
| **NA specific code lists** | Multiple | NA | Eurostat | DS |
| **CL_ACCOUNT_ENTRY** | Types of accounting entries | BOP, NA, FDI | IMF | SC |
| **CL_ACTIVITY** | Industrial activity, NACE and ISIC to 2-digit level | FDI, NA | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| **CL_ADJUSTMENT** | Adjustment indicator | BOP, NA | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| **CL_AREA**[4] | Reference country or area Counterpart country or area | BOP, FDI, NA | IMF | SC1 |
| **CL_COFOG** | Expenditure (by Function of Government) | NA | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| **CL_COICOP** | Expenditure (Household expenditure by purpose) | NA | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| **CL_CONF_STATUS** | Confidentiality Status | BOP, FDI, NA | SDMX | CD |
| **CL_COPNI** | Expenditure (Purposes of Non-profit institutions) | NA | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| **CL_COPP** | Expenditure (Classification of Outlays of Producers) | NA | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| **CL_CURRENCY** | Currency of denomination | BOP, NA | SDMX | CD |
| **CL_CUST_BREAKDOWN** | Coding for custom breakdowns | NA | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| **CL_DECIMALS** | Decimals | BOP, FDI, NA | SDMX | CD |
| **CL_FREQ** | Frequency | BOP, FDI, NA | SDMX | CD |
| **CL_INSTR_ASSET** | Instrument and assets classification | BOP, NA, FDI | Eurostat | SC |
| **CL_MATURITY** | Original and residual maturity | BOP, NA | Eurostat | SC |
| **CL_OBS_STATUS** | Observation status | BOP, FDI, NA | SDMX | CD |

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[4] Geographic area extended by custom aggregates

| Code list ID | Concept(s) | Used by | Maintenance | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| CL_ORGANISATION | Compiling organisation | BOP, FDI, NA | IMF | SC-CD |
| CL_PRODUCT | Product classification, merged CPA and CPC to 2-digit level | NA | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| CL_REF_PERIOD_DTL | Reporting according to calendar year or other definition | BOP, NA, FDI | Eurostat | SC-CD |
| CL_SECTOR | Institutional sector in the reference country or area  Counterpart institutional sector | BOP, NA, FDI | Eurostat | SC |
| CL_TIME_FORMAT | Time format | BOP, FDI, NA | SDMX | CD |
| CL_TIME_COLLECT | Time period collection | BOP, NA | IMF | SC-CD |
| CL_UNIT [5] | Unit of measure | BOP, FDI, NA | IMF | SC1 |
| CL_UNIT_MULT | Unit multiplier | BOP, FDI, NA | SDMX | CD |
| CL_VALUATION | Valuation | BOP, NA, FDI | Eurostat | SC |

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[5] Currencies extended by some statistical units

# Maintenance Timelines

## Regular Annual Maintenance Cycle

| When | Who[6] | What | Deliverable |
|------|--------|------|-------------|
| **April** | Anybody | Deadline for change requests | Change request with artefact to be changed and data flows affected |
| **May - June** | MA | Consolidation of change requests within domain between domains (for shared artefacts) | Issue log with change classification and impact on data flows |
| **June** | OG | **OG Video Conference**<br>Evaluation on last year's cycle; discussion on issue logs provided by MAs;<br>approval of joint issue log | OG report on last year's cycle, approved issue log for consultation |
| **June** | MA | Incorporate change proposals into reporting frameworks | Updated draft DSD matrix |
| **June - November** | OG | Consultation with respective constituencies on changes and implementation planning[7] | Constituency report, implementation plan |
| **December** | MA | Incorporate constituency comments into reporting frameworks | Updated draft DSD matrix |
| **December** | OG | **OG Physical Meeting**<br>Discussion on constituency reports and implementation plans;<br>approval of revised DSD matrixes | OG report,<br>updated DSD matrix |
| **December** | MA | Implement changes | Updated DSD matrix and SDMX artefacts |
| **December - February Y+1** | Anybody concerned | Testing | Test reports |
| **March Y+1** | MA | Consolidate test results and implement bug fixes | Consolidated test report, updated DSD matrix |
| **March Y+1** | OG | **OG Video Conference**<br>Final approval of revised DSDs | |

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[6] MA = maintenance agency; OG = ownership group
[7] Respective constituencies can decide on their own planning. In many cases data flows within one constituency will not affect data flows of other constituencies. This allows for implementation planning by data flow

| When | Who[6] | What | Deliverable |
|---|---|---|---|
| **April Y+1** | MA | Publish new versions | Updated SDMX artefacts |
| **May Y+1** | International organisations concerned | Implementation of data reception and international data sharing systems | |
| **From May Y+1** | National organisations concerned | Implementation of affected system as lined out in constituency implementation plan | |

## Fast Track Maintenance Cycle[8]

The table below presents the maximum throughput time ensured by the maintenance agency. In case of small changes limited to selected data flows of specific constituencies, the cycle can be shortened accordingly.

For calculation of the delays the months August and December are skipped in the calendar.

| Until | Who | What |
|---|---|---|
| **End of every months** | Members of the OG | Deadline for change requests |
| **At the latest M+1** | MA | Consolidation of change requests within domain (and across domain if shared artefacts are affected) and draft DSD matrix |
| **At the latest M+2** | OG | Written consultation of constituencies concerned and OG approval |
| | MA, OG | Updated DSD matrix and draft DSDs |
| | Constituencies concerned | Testing |
| **At the latest end M+3** | MA | Publish new DSDs |

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[8] See maintenance agreement points 3 and 4 on page 1; in principle this means fast-tracks will only be done for additions of codes to existing code lists.

# Document History

| Version | Date | Changed by | Approved by | Comments |
|---------|------|------------|-------------|----------|
| **1.0** | 12 Mar 2014 | Ownership Group | Ownership Group | Initial version |

# References

1. Governance of Commonly used SDMX metadata artefacts, Version 1.1 as of 17 May 2013, issued by the SDMX Secretariat
   *http://sdmx.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Governance-of-commonly-used-SDMX-metadata-artefacts_v1.1.doc*
2. SDMX Content Oriented Guidelines and relevant annexes, Version 2009, issued by the SDMX Secretariat
   *http://sdmx.org/?page_id=11*