

International Comparison Program
Regional Coordinators Meeting

African Development Bank
17-21 November, 2003
Tunis, Tunisia

Agenda

Background and Objectives

The ICP is a complex global statistical undertaking requiring standardization of procedures, harmonization of methodologies, and effective coordination of work plans and timeframes. The ICP requires close communication and frequent meetings of regional coordinators to discuss and agree on work plans and timetables. The global program's success hinges on the collective commitment and joint efforts of all partners to meet these challenges.

The primary objective of this meeting is to:

- Review the status and progress of activities undertaken since the last regional coordinator's meeting in July in Washington,
- Evaluate the use of Structured Product Description procedures to prepare the specifications of products to include in the price collection surveys and determine best practices for the remaining basic headings.
- Develop work plans and timetables.
- Exchange information between regional coordinators and the global office.

Monday, November 17, 2003

09:00 - 09:30 Registration

09:30 - 09:45 Welcoming Address

Mr. Chanel Boucher, Vice president, African Development Bank.

Adoption of the agenda

Session 1 - Regional and Global Status and Progress report Chairman: Charles Lufumpa, Division Manager, AfDB
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Purpose: To discuss the status and progress of global and regional programs, to share information and experiences, and set the stage for preparing the work plan and timeframe for the launching of regional surveys.

9:45-10:15 Status report and workshop objectives (Fred Vogel)

10:15-10:45 Coffee

Regional Reports on the status of implementing the ICP , preparing the specifications of products to price, issues with the SPD process and recommendations to improve the process.

10:45-12:30 Regional presentations

Africa, Michel Mouyelo Katoula

Asia, Bishnu Pant and Keith Blackburn

Commonwealth of Independent States, Youri Ivanov and Vasily Kousnetsov

Latin America and the Caribbean, Heber Camelo

Western Asia, Mohamed Al Badrawy

12:30-2:00 Lunch

Session 1 - cont'd Regional and Global Status and Progress report Chairman: Charles Lufumpa, Division Manager, AfDB

2:00-4:00 Continuation of above

4:00-4:30 **Coffee**

4:30-5:30 Overview of Sample/survey framework Peter Hill

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Session 3 - Preparing Product Specifications

Chairman: F. Vogel

Purpose: Discuss the preparation of Product specifications and evaluate the need to harmonize the process across the regions.

9:00-10:30 The process for Africa, Asia, and Western Asia Yonas Biru

10:30-11:00 **Coffee**

11:00-12:30 The Process for CIS and ECLAC Yonas Biru

Session 4-- Government services and Capital Formation. SPD software

Chairman: F. Vogel

2:00-3:30 Government Consumption and Capital Formation. David Roberts

3:30-4:00 **Coffee**

4:00-5:30 SPD software. Kathleen MacDonald

Wednesday, November 19, 2003

Session 5 – Preparing Product Specifications and the use of the ICP Tool Pack Chairman: Yonas Biru

9:00-10:30 Preparing Product Specifications for the rest of the consumption items. K. MacDonald

10:30-11:00 **Coffee**

11:00-12:30 Review of Tool Pack use by regional and national offices V. Mandlekar

12:30-2:00 Lunch

Session 6 – Regional and Global Work plan and time table Chairman: David Roberts, OECD and member of Technical Advisory Group
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2:00-3:30 Workplan and time table to prepare product specifications Yonas Biru

3:30-4:30 Review of Expenditure aggregates for consumption, government and gross capital formation . Derek Blades

4:30-5:00 **Coffee**

5:00-6:00 Work plan and timetable for preparing expenditure weights Derek Blades

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Session 7 – Regional and Global Work plan and time table (continued) Chairman: Misha Belkindas

9:30-10:30 Handbook and Tool Pack Translation Plans and Time Tables Vilas Mandlekar

10:30-11:00 Coffee

11:00-12:30 Work plans and timetables for national surveys (F. Vogel and Peter Hill)

12:30-2:00 Lunch

Session 8 – Regional and Global Work plan and time table Chairman: Misha Belkindas

2:00-4:00 Work plan and timetable for Training (Vilas Mandlekar)

4:00-4:30 **Coffee**

4:30-5:30 Financial Issues Misha Belkindas

Friday, November 21, 2003

Session 9 – Wrap up of work plans, timetables and Memoranda of Understanding. Chairman: Michel Mouyelo-Katoula, ICP-Africa Coordinator

0900-10:30 Ring Comparison overview/ plus workplan and timetable. D. Blades and F. Vogel

10:30-11:00 Coffee

11:00-12:30 MOUs Yonas Biru

12:30-1:00 Summary of meeting and closing remarks. Fvogel

1:00 Closing comments: Charles Lufumpa