

Statistical Commission  
Fifty-third session  
1–4 March 2022  
Item 3 (v) of the provisional agenda

Background document  
Available in English only

**Items for discussion and decision: international statistical classifications**

**High-level summary of the Global Consultation  
on the draft revised structure of the  
International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities**

Prepared by Bureau of the Committee of Experts  
on International Statistical Classifications

# High-level summary of the Global Consultation on the draft revised structure of International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC)

Prepared on 22 February 2022

A Global Consultation on the proposed new structure of ISIC was launched on 18 January 2022 with an initial deadline of 18 February 2022. This note presents an interim high-level summary of the responses that were received until 22 February 2022.

## About respondents

A total of 114 responses were received from 91 countries and 9 international organizations. The list of the responding countries and international organizations is presented in Annex 1. Some countries and international organizations have provided multiple responses, for example, from different institutions or from different areas within the institutions. These responses have been included in the analysis.

The respondent was asked to indicate whether the response was coordinated with relevant areas of expertise within the institution, for example the area of classification, business statistics, national accounts, environmental accounts and other areas. For the large majority, the responses were coordinated within the institution. About 65 responses indicated that the response was coordinated with at least two subject areas within their own institution.

Table 1 below presents the number of countries that have indicated a coordinated response with the options provided in the questionnaire.

**Table 1 Areas of coordination within the respondent's institution**

Number of responses indicating the coordination with subject	Subject matter areas				
	Classifications	Business statistics	National accounts	Environmental economic accounts	Other*
	78	65	70	27	24

\* Examples of "Other areas" mentioned by the respondents include balance of payments and climate change related statistics

About 38 per cent of the responses (43 responses) also indicated that their response was coordinated with other relevant institutions in the country such as central banks and ministries of finance.

### Summary of the responses

The global consultation asked respondents to express their agreement with the proposed new structure of ISIC at Section level, Division (two-digit) level and Group (three-digit) level. Table 2 below summarizes the responses.

**Table 2 Summary of the responses on the draft revised structure of ISIC**

	Number of responses (percentage)		
	Agreement at Section level	Agreement at Division level (two digit-level)	Agreement at Group level (three-digit level)
Yes	102 (89 per cent)	95 (83 per cent)	85 (76 per cent)
No	12 (11 per cent)	19 (17 per cent)	27 (24 per cent)
Total	114	114	114

Overall, there seem to be support for the proposed revised structure of ISIC at Section level, Division level and Group level.

### Work ahead

The Task team on ISIC will carry out a detailed review of the responses and will use the comments provided during the global consultation to revise the structure of ISIC at class level (four-digit level) and elaborate the explanatory notes for the revised ISIC.

It is expected that the complete revised structure of ISIC will be circulated for global consultation toward the end of 2022 and will be submitted to the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2023 through the Committee of Experts on International Statistical Classifications.

## **Annex I: List of responding countries and international organizations**

### **Africa (17)**

Botswana  
Cabo Verde  
Egypt  
Ethiopia  
Ghana  
Kenya  
Liberia  
Mauritius  
Morocco  
Mozambique  
Niger  
Nigeria  
Rwanda  
South Africa  
South Sudan  
Tunisia  
Zimbabwe

### **Asia (21)**

Azerbaijan  
Bangladesh  
Brunei Darussalam  
China  
Cyprus  
India  
Indonesia  
Iraq  
Israel  
Japan  
Jordan  
Mongolia  
Myanmar  
Oman  
Qatar  
Saudi Arabia  
State of Palestine  
Thailand  
Turkey  
United Arab Emirates  
Viet Nam

### **Europe (36)**

Albania  
Austria  
Austria  
Belgium  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Croatia

Czechia  
Denmark  
Finland  
France  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Malta  
Montenegro  
Netherlands  
North Macedonia  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Republic of Moldova  
Romania  
Russian Federation  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom of Great Britain  
and Northern Ireland

### **Americas (15)**

Aruba  
Barbados  
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)  
Brazil  
Canada  
Cuba  
Dominican Republic  
Ecuador  
Guyana  
Jamaica  
Mexico  
Montserrat  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Suriname

**Oceania (2)**

Australia

New Zealand

**International/regional organizations (9)**

AFRISTAT

BIS / IFC

Eurostat

European Central Bank

FAO of the United Nations

GCC-Stat

ILO

IMF

OECD