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STAT 110(2) 6 August 2018

Dear Colleagues,

Re: New website, Newsletter and e-Learning courses on the System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA)

I am pleased to inform you that in an effort to better communicate the SEEA, the United Nations Statistics Division has launched a new website, seea.un.org. The new website serves as the global hub for the environmental economic accounting community. Together with the quarterly newsletter, SEEA News and Notes, the new website is a valuable resource to countries implementing the SEEA by providing a platform to share the latest developments in current projects, capacity building initiatives and advances in methodology.

As identified by the United Nations Statistical Commission, the implementation of the SEEA in countries remains a high priority. In order to support countries in their implementation and to make progress towards the agreed targets of 100 countries implementing the SEEA Central Framework and 50 countries implementing the SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting, several self-paced e-Learning courses have been launched, including:

- SEEA Central Framework introductory course on the accounting framework and modules of the environmental-economic accounts (currently available in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish)
- SEEA Water in depth course on water accounting
- SEEA Energy in depth course on energy accounting
- SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting in depth course on ecosystem accounting (currently available in English and Spanish; available in French in late 2018)

These interactive, self-paced courses, which are available through the e-Learning Platform of the United Nations Statistics Division (https://elearning-cms.unstats.un.org/), are designed to provide training to those working in national statistical offices and relevant line ministries on the various accounting topics including accounting framework, supply and use tables and asset accounts.

UNSD in collaboration with partners will also continue to organize facilitated e-learning courses in which the courses are complemented with webinars delivered by world renowned experts in environmental economic accounting who highlight the key messages of the course and share their expertise on selected topics.

The next facilitated e-learning course will be organized between September and November 2018 on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting. Further information on this course can be found at seea.un.org. Other upcoming facilitated courses will be announced at seea.un.org as well.

I invite you to share this information with your staff and colleagues from line ministries and look forward to your visit <u>seea.un.org</u>, read the SEEA News and Notes and participate in the e-Learning courses on the SEEA.

Sincerely yours,

Stefan Schwift

Stefan Schweinfest Director

United Nations Statistics Division/DESA