Abstract

The updated definition of the statistical unit “enterprise” which is currently discussed at the European level includes operational rules that are aimed to facilitate its implementation by the National Statistical Institutes. This definition takes into account several situations that need to be dealt with differently, depending on whether the enterprise is part of a wider production process at the worldwide level or not. In order to cover all the situations, several initiatives are currently on-going. Some concentrate at the national level and some cover the global enterprise groups that are active in several countries and are registered in the EuroGroups Register (EGR).

The EGR is the statistical register of multinational enterprise groups created by Eurostat and the National Statistical Authorities of EU+EFTA countries. It contains structural and economic information on enterprises which form parts of an enterprise group with an activity in Europe.

This paper aims to cover 2 of these initiatives that have been undertaken independently and that now prove to be inter-connected to the benefit of the statistics based on the “enterprise”.

In the first part of the paper, it is proposed to describe the principles of a central delineation of the enterprises in the EGR, the obtained results, its impact on national business registers and the interrelation with business statistics, especially, SBS statistics.

The second part of the paper focusses on a study that has been carried out in 2013 (under the support of Eurostat) to define an automatic method to delineate enterprises in simple domestic groups and to propose an automatic compilation of statistics based on these enterprises using administrative data. The inter-connexion between both studies will be underpinned and the initiatives to go further that will be started in 2014 will be exposed.