

Moroccan Classification of Economic Activities, 2010

A presentation note

Classification of Economic activities is an essential condition for producing economic and social statistics. It is a tool to classify economic establishments, collect, process and disseminate statistical information and ensure national and international comparisons.

Given the changes that the world has known during the last years, in the fields of information and communication technologies, environment, economic and social organization of enterprises, the United Nations Statistical Commission approved, at its thirty-seventh session, on March 2006, the fourth revision of International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC), revision 4 as the new international standard for classifying economic activities and producing economic and social statistics.

Among the most noticeable revisions the new classification of economic activities has come up with is the distinction of two new sections:

- Water supply, sewerage, waste management and remediation activities, which include, water collection, treatment and supply, in addition to all activities related to the management of various forms of wastes;
- Information and communication, which includes all activities regarding production and distribution of information and cultural activities, information technology activities, and other broadcasting activities.

In addition, the section "Real estate, renting and administrative and support service activities" has been split into the following three sections:

- Real estate, rental and leasing activities;
- Professional, scientific and technical activities;
- Administrative and support service activities.

Following these changes and in conformity with international standards, the High Commission for Planning prepared a new project of classification of economic activities (NMA 2010) aimed at changing the current Classification (NMA 1999) to make it conform to the International Classification (ISIC rev. 4).

Like the International Classification (ISIC rev. 4) the new project of Moroccan Classification of Economic Activities encompasses 21 sections and 88 branches instead of 17 sections and 59 branches in the current classification.

Taking into account national economic specificities, the project of the new Moroccan Classification of Economic activities encompasses 274 groups and 648 classes, whereas, the international classification includes 238 groups and 419 classes.

The new project was presented to different partners in the National Statistics System and their views and remarks were taken into consideration.