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## **EUROSTAT - Unit F4**

Regional accounts & indicators & Geographical Information System

# **Local to Global**

GINIE Workshop

Rome

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GINIE Local to Global Workshop – Rome 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March 2003



## The European Statistical System (ESS)

The European Statistical System (ESS) is a network made up of all the government bodies which, at the various levels - regional, national and Community - are responsible for drawing up, processing and disseminating the statistical information needed for the economic and social life of the Community



# The European Statistical System (ESS)

## Article 5 (ex - 3b), EC Treaty - **SUBSIDIARITY**

- In areas which do not fall within its exclusive competence, the Community shall take action only if the objectives of the proposed action can be better achieved by the Community.
- The Community shall not go beyond what is necessary to **achieve** the **objectives** of this treaty.

For statistics (until 30th April 1999!)

### **Article 213, EC Treaty**

- The Commission may collect any information and carry out any checks required for the performance of the task entrusted to it

Now:-

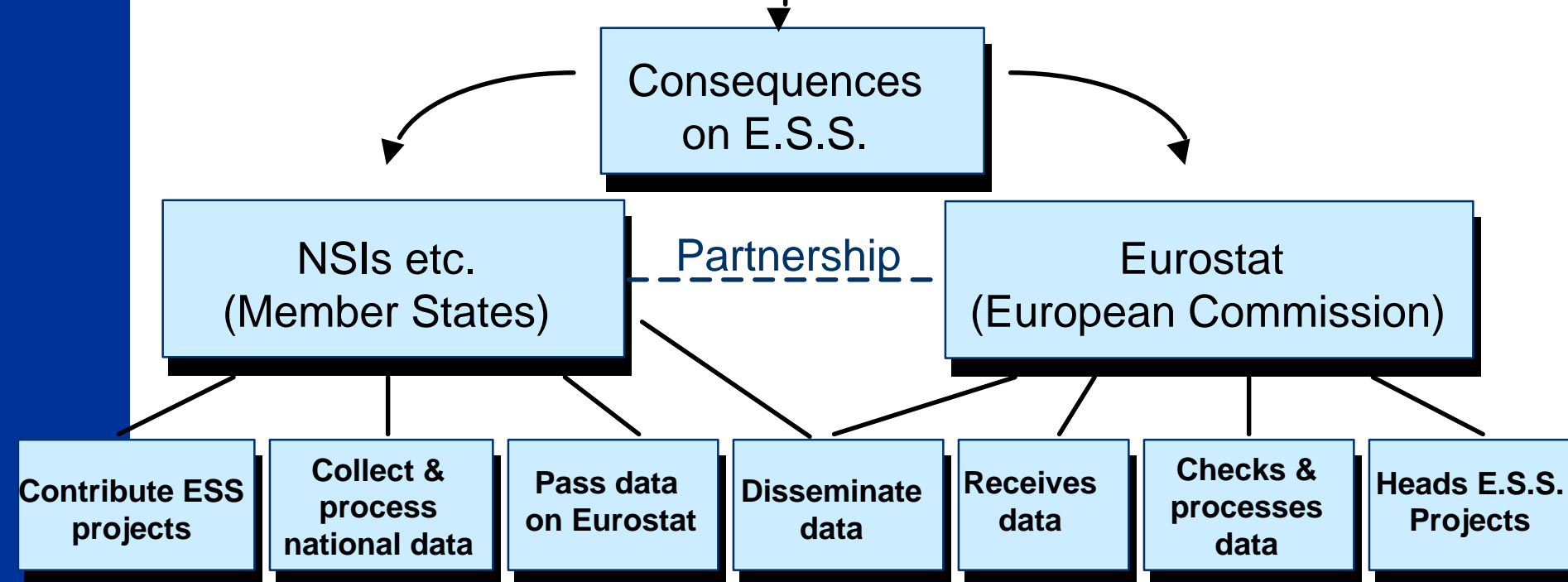
### **Article 285, Amsterdam Treaty**

- The Council shall adopt (by co-decision) measures for the production of statistics where necessary for the performance of activities in the Community
- The production of Community statistics shall conform to impartiality, reliability, objectivity, scientific independence, cost-effectiveness and statistical confidentiality; it shall not be a burden on economic operators.



# The European Statistical System (ESS)

Art. 285, Amsterdam Treaty legal basis



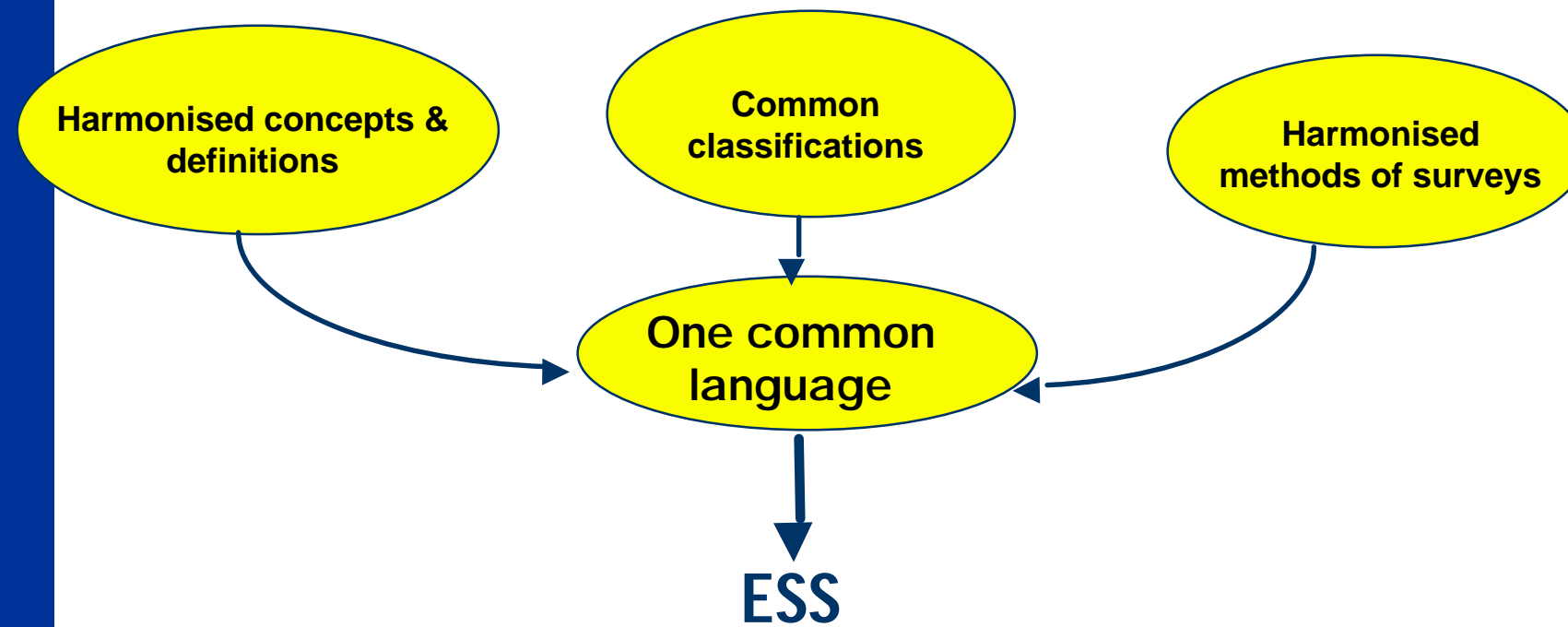


## The “Statistical law”

- **Council Regulation (EC) No 322/97 of 17 February 1997**
- ➔ Concept of “Community Statistical System” established (citation #3)
- ➔ Identification of Eurostat as the authority for Community statistics (article 2)
- ➔ Decision making procedures for programmes of work (articles 3 - 9)
- ➔ UN ‘Fundamental Principles’ of Statistics formalised in Community law (article 10)
- ➔ Principles and practice for the dissemination of Community Statistics (articles 10 - 11)
- ➔ Creation of a legal basis for Statistical Confidentiality at Community level (articles 13 - 18)



# Building the ESS



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## A SWOT of the ESS (strengths)

- Adaptability in 50 years experience
- Flexibility: Cooperation between a diversity of statistical systems
- Anticipation : EURO, enlargement
- Quality: Quality charter reports
- Programming
- Competence:
  - Legitimacy of results
  - Harmonization



## A SWOT of the ESS (weaknesses)

- Deficiency in ESS governance
  - Role of NSI's
  - Long-term vision
  - Priorities and resources of the system
  - Relations with civil society
  - Convergence within the ESS
  - Inadequacy decision making structures
  - Lack of ESS legal basis



## A SWOT of the ESS (weaknesses II)

- Inertia of the ESS
  - Quality of the service for infra annual data
  - Capacity of fast response to new needs
  - Integration of new technologies
- Inadequacy of decision making structures



## A SWOT of the ESS (opportunities)

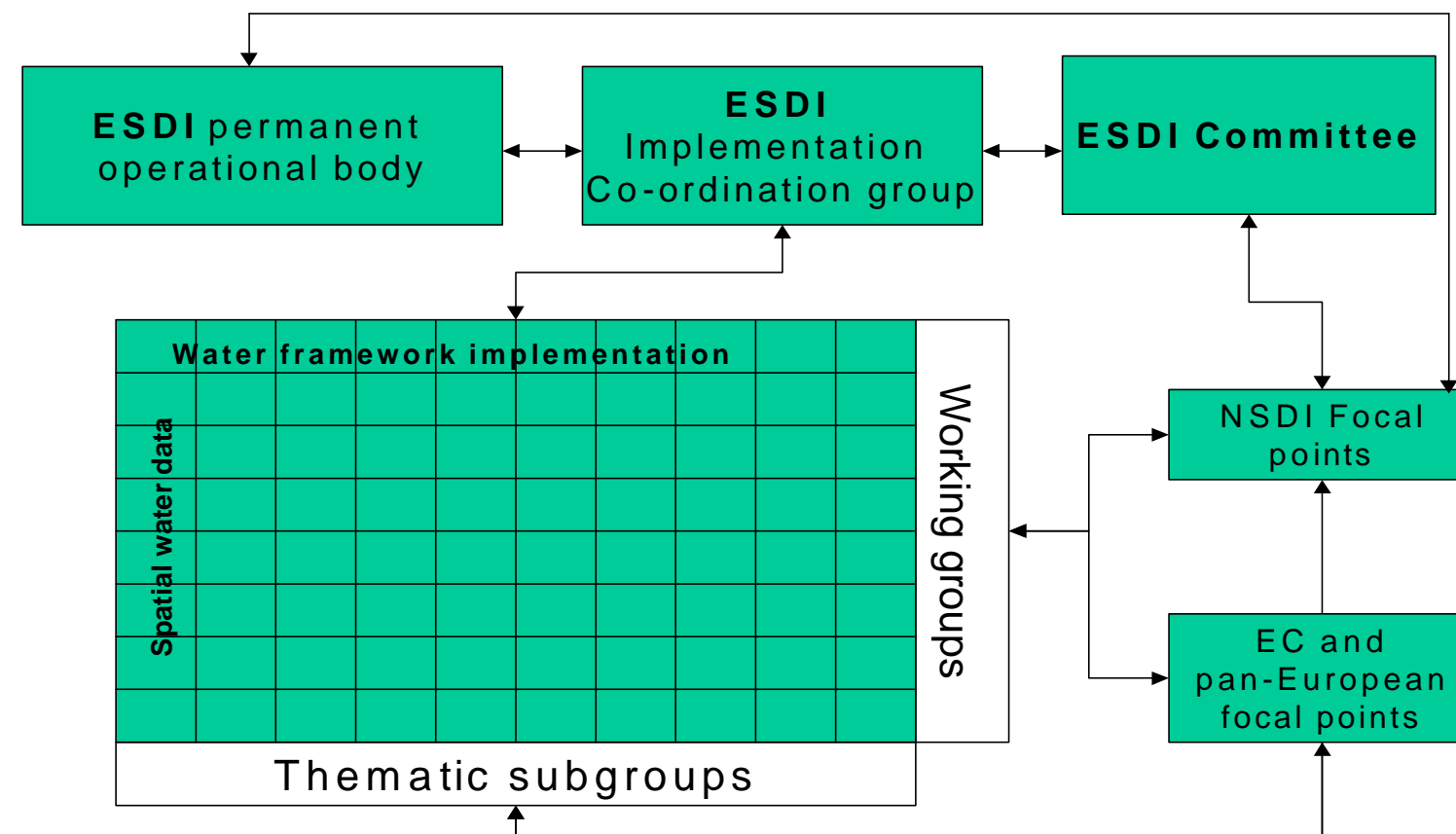
- Strong and growing demand with high political visibility.
- “Europe first” culture is starting to come in the ESS.
- Confidence among ESS members is increasing.



## A SWOT of the ESS (threats)

- Competition where timeliness prevails over quality.
- Enlargement with inadequate decision making structures.
- Increasing incapacity to respond to the demand (resources, delays, quality).

# INSPIRE Organisation (1st Draft!)



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# INSPIRE Organisation (1st Draft!)



## ESDI COMMITTEE

**Role:** Comitology body.  
Take decisions on the implementation of the framework directive and set high level strategic direction.

**Membership:**

- Commission - Chair
- Member States representatives
- Candidate countries - Observers
- Representative of the ESDI permanent operational body - Observer

# INSPIRE Organisation (1st Draft!)



## ESDI Implementation Co-ordination group

**Role:** Ensure co-ordinated implementation of the ESDI measures defined by the ESDI Committee.  
Prepare implementation measures for the ESDI Committee  
Establish and monitor the INSPIRE implementation strategy at EU and MS level.  
Identify funding and co-ordinate use of funds and resources to carry out WP

**Membership:**

- EU Institutions
- Pan-European co-ordination bodies
- Pan-European Data & service providers
- Representative of the ESDI permanent operational body
- NSDI representatives
- Users representative
- Chairpersons of Thematic Subgroups and WGs

# INSPIRE Organisation (1st Draft!)



## ESDI permanent operational body

- Role:**
- Implement work program
  - Support working groups and thematic subgroups
  - Specify and manage action plan
  - Monitor and evaluate progress of actions
  - Operational support of the infrastructure
  - Technical support of the infrastructure
  - Maintain permanent contact with the NSDI focal points

**Membership:** To be Established under the European Commission (Small number of staff)

*The body should be neutral, independent and not linked to any sector (ETC Position Paper, page 56)*

# INSPIRE Organisation (1st Draft!)



## EC and Pan-European focal points

**Role:** Contribute to the implementation of ESDI in co-operation with the ESDI permanent operational body  
Participate in and chair working groups and thematic subgroups

**Membership:**

- Community based co-ordination of producers (Eurogeographics, Eurogeosurveys, etc.)
- Community based SDIs
- Representatives of national and regional SDIs
- European, national and regional data custodians

# INSPIRE Organisation (1st Draft!)



## NSDI focal points

**Role:** To assure the implementation of the Infrastructure at National level.  
Maintain permanent contact with the ESDI permanent operational body.  
Participate in and chair working groups and thematic subgroups

**Membership:** To be defined at MS level (Subsidiarity)



## ESS - Time and Management

- Treaty of Paris : Coal and Steel - October 1st 1952 Eurostat was born
- Since May 1962 : “Conference of DGINS”
- 1973 first enlargement : UK, IRL, DK
- 1981 second enlargement : GR
- 1981-1986 : Hard times
- 1986 : ES, P
- 1992 : Treaty of Maastricht ; 1995 AT,FI,SE
- 1997 : The Statistical Law



## ESS - Time and Management

- The ESS is based on the following principles :
  - Subsidiarity
  - Partnership
  - Transfer of competence
  - Consultation