

### *ISI Section on Official Statistics*

The International Statistical Institute has established a new Section named: International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS).

The objectives of the Association shall be to promote the understanding and advancement of official statistics and related subjects, and to foster the development of effective and efficient official statistical services through international contacts among individuals and organizations.

The IAOS is an international association open to all those who are interested in official statistics in the broadest sense: the membership is not to be restricted to official statisticians but in particular academic statisticians and others using official statistics are also encouraged to join the IAOS.

The ISI Bureau has appointed a Provisional Executive Committee charged with the task of making the IAOS operational. The Committee is composed of: Chairperson V. Nyitrai (Hungary), M. Beyene (Ethopia), J. L. Bodin (France), T. N. Güner (Turkey), T. Nakamura (Japan), J. L. Norwood (USA), L. Klassen (Netherlands), E. Lunenberg (ISI-ex officio).

The annual membership dues for 1986 and 1987 are fixed at 35 Swiss francs. Those enlisted as members and having paid the 1986 dues before June 1, 1986, will be designated as IAOS Founder Members. UNESCO coupons may be used for dues payments.

Further information and application forms may be obtained from the ISI Permanent Office, 428 Prinses Beatrixlaan, P.O. Box 950, 2270 AZ Voorburg, The Netherlands.

### *Luxembourg Income Study—LIS*

The Luxembourg Income Study has gathered in one central location (the Center for Population, Poverty and Policy Studies in Walferdange, Luxembourg) and made comparable several recent large microdata sets which contain comprehensive measures of income and economic well-being for a set of modern industrialized welfare states. The dataset is accessible to researchers at low cost. Because of the breadth and flexibility afforded by microdata, researchers are free to make several choices of perspective (definition of unit: family, household, etc.; measure of income; or population to be studied: e.g. males, females, urban families, elderly households) within the same research paper. These microdata create a potentially rich resource for applied comparative and policy research in economics, sociology, and public-policy. The LIS databank currently covers several countries—Britain, Canada, Germany, Israel, Norway, Sweden, and the United States, with France and Australia soon to be added. A copy of the User Guide and further information can be obtained by writing to either Professor Tim Smeeding (Economics and DSSR; 1141 Annex; University of Utah; Salt Lake City, Utah 84112, USA) or Professor Lee Rainwater (Sociology; 530 Wm. James Hall; Harvard University; Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA).