

Summary of 2001 GTAP Board Meeting

1. Dates and timing for next year's meeting
 - a) June 2-3, in the Grand Hotel, Taipei, Taiwan.
 - b) Begin Sunday and end Monday night. Leave Tuesday for follow-up discussions and rest/preparation for conference which begins on June 5.
2. Agency reports
See Web site summary for links to these reports.
3. Working Committees
See [Table 1](#) below for assignments.
 - a) Appointed for one year
 - b) Chair is selected from the board
 - c) GTAP Center contact helps to draw up TOR and work with Committee
 - d) Need nominations for membership!
 - e) Keep director informed about progress and submit 1 – 2 pp summary 1 month before next year's meeting
 - f) Incorporated into meeting agenda as needed
4. Version 6 vision
 - a) Potential specifications for Version 6 are presented in [Appendix A](#) below.
 - b) At 2002 meeting:
 - i. Finalize hard choices for pre-release – what is in and what is not
 - ii. Lock in timetable for international source data for version 6
5. GTAP-IFPRI collaboration on African data base

We would like to go forward with this joint effort. Progress will be contingent on available funds.

6. Quality of national data bases

We will place an increased emphasis on quality of national data bases in the future. Concrete measures will include:

- a) Identifying anomalies in the original data base – i.e. significant departures from the norm. Focus specifically on conformance with respect to government consumption, dwellings and margins.
- b) Providing information on the amount by which the national data bases are changed as a result of the FIT targets.
- c) Providing one-region SAMs back to contributors
- d) Expanding GTAP technical paper #1 to aid contributors in evaluating their revised data base.

7. Margins

Begin development of a prototype data base/model with explicit incorporation of margins.

8. Improved treatment of government and foreign accounts, including:

- a) direct taxes
- b) government transfers
- c) foreign income payments
- d) remittance

9. Increased attention to the proper citation of data bases projects.

In particular:

- a) The IFPRI-Merissa project underpinning the African data base, supported by DANIDA and GTZ.
- b) The LEI-based effort at disaggregating the EU in version 5, supported only partially by the EU Commission. Most of the funds for this came from the LEI itself.

10. Data base infrastructure

Other notes of relevance to data base work that came up outside of the formal board meeting.

- a) Need to formalize separation of the data base from the programs used to process it. This will facilitate the release of interim releases of the publicly available data base (no change in programs – only in national data sources.)
- b) More work is required to make the current programs fully regionally flexible with respect to:
 - i. Disaggregation of agriculture
 - ii. Energy module
 - iii. Formation of composite regions
- c) Extend new treatment of IO disaggregation file format to the companion modules.

11. Administrative

- a) Set-up institutional ID and password for web board to facilitate multi-person access
- b) Set up discussion section on the web board for each working committee
- c) Establish web page to facilitate information exchange regarding past and future training opportunities related to global economic analysis by the consortium members.

Table 1. Working Committee Assignments

<i>Committee Name</i>	<i>Chairperson</i>	<i>GTAP Center</i>	<i>Terms of Reference</i>
Services	Philippa Dee	Robert McDougall, with input from Joseph Francois	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Oversee assembly of Services data on GTAP web site. 2. Evaluate alternative measures of protection. 3. Possibly organize a special session at the Fifth Annual Conference in Taiwan.
Technical Barriers to Trade	Frank van Tongeren	Thomas Hertel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore the possibility of using the Hummels method to identifying ad valorem tariff equivalents associated with TBTs. 2. Try to identify a graduate student or other researcher to implement this scheme on a prototype basis.
Agricultural Support	Soren Frandsen	Betina Dimaranan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collect feedback on the treatment of agricultural support in the version 5 data base. 2. Explore alternative approaches to the measurement and incorporation of domestic support in the data base. 3. Identify links with primary factor splits in agriculture 4. Propose a “patch” to version 5 designed to improve on this aspect of the data base.
UN-SNA	Sherman Robinson	Channing Ardt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore possible links with the UN Statistical Office. 2. Advise GTAP staff on SNA guidelines that will improve quality of country submissions.
Russia/Eastern Europe	Robert Koopman	Robert McDougall	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Initiate contacts with potential data base contributors for this region. 2. Explore funding possibilities with the US Dept. of Commerce for

			<p>work on Eastern Europe</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Encourage increased collaboration in region.
Baseline	Dominique van der Mensbrugge	Terrie Walmsley	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update material presented by Terrie at 2001 board meeting to reflect most recent GEP forecasts. 2. Update baseline to reflect version 5 data base. 3. Post revised baseline inputs on web site for 211 countries and 66 GTAP regions.
Energy	John Reilly	Jean-Marc Burniaux	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate version 5 data base with respect to energy quality. 2. Explore links with IEA and US DOE for future supply of volume and price data.
Primary Factor Splits	Member from CPB	Thomas Hertel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore possibilities for removing self-employed labor payments from capital in contributed data bases. 2. Explore possibilities for improving the skilled/unskilled split within labor payments.
Open-sourcing	Thomas Hertel		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with GTAP board to identify potential funding sources for the open-source/free data idea.