Information provided by Lithuania about the following topic discussed in the Capacity-building Programme on Tourism Statistics, I Workshop - Vienna, 1-4 April 2008

OUTBOUND TOURISM: Household / border surveys

1) Could you evaluate the present information available regarding flows of visitors?

Statistics Lithuania conducts sampled interviews on the Lithuanian border posts. In March, May, August and November 2006, Lithuanian residents coming back from abroad were surveyed on the posts of the Lithuanian border. Each reported month the survey period on the border posts lasted for 7 days.

The survey on trips by all means of transport was accomplished. Polling was carried out at the airports of Vilnius, Kaunas and Palanga, at the railway stations of Vilnius and Kaunas, at the Klaipeda State Seaport and on 11 border posts.

Respondents are asked about destination visited, purpose of trip, accommodation taken, evaluation of trip, length of trip.

2) About the measurement of tourism expenditure and the BoP debit side data for the "travel" item.

Questionnaire of outbound tourism survey includes inquires about tourist expenditure. So this information is the main source for the BoP debit side data for the "travel" item. Second source is outbound tour operator's quarterly reports provided to Statistics Lithuania

3) Is there a clear interest in the analysis of outbound tourism?

Journalists are most interested in the results of analysis of outbound tourism

4) Are there new initiatives envisaged to improve the measurement of this form of tourism?

Outbound tourism research faces the same problems as inbound tourism research because of Schengen space. I think that Statistics Lithuania will change the methodology of outbound tourism research and household surveys will be conducted.