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Title of the proposed paper:
*Horizontal reconciliation of household income data – experiences with Swiss Income Statistics*

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Abstract:
Income is one of the three approaches to National Accounts, whereas its importance was at least in the past lower than the production and the expenditure approach. But there is a rising interest in the issue of income, hence income data are also from the perspective of National Accounts of growing importance.

As is well known, there are differences between macro and micro data. Some aspects of the so called vertical reconciliation have been treated in the context of the IARIW-Conference 2008. However, many questions about horizontal reconciliation (i.e. the coherence of income data that are collected in various surveys and serve as inputs for National Accounts) still remain unanswered. This paper examines existing income statistics and provides a comparison about the differences as well as some propositions on how to deal with them in the Swiss context. The paper shall therefore treat the following questions:

- What are the relevant databases in Switzerland?
- In what dimensions do these statistics differ (sum, mean, median, distribution of total income, of different components of total income, of structural-non-income-variables such as household size, etc.)?
- What factors could explain the differences (different methods of data collection, different income concepts and reference population, total non response, item non response, response error, imputation strategy etc.)?
- How can these differences be dealt with?
- What databases are appropriate for what analysis?
- What role do these differences play for National Accounts?

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