

ANNEX C
(to Recommendation E.506)

Description of the top down procedure

Let

X_T be the traffic forecast on an aggregated level,

X_i be the traffic forecast to country i ,

$\sum T$

$\sum i$

Usually

$$X_T = \sum X_i, \tag{C-1}$$

so that it is necessary to find a correction

$$[X^i] \text{ of } [X_i] \text{ and } [X^T] \text{ of } [X_T]$$

by minimizing the expression

$$Q = a_0(X_T - X^T)^2 + \sum a_i(X_i - X^i)^2 \tag{C-2}$$

subject to

$$X^T = \sum X^i \tag{C-3}$$

where a_0 and a_i are chosen to be

$$a_0 = \sum a_i \quad i = 1, 2, \dots \tag{C-4}$$

The solution of the optimization problem gives the values $[X^i]$:

$$X^i = X_i - \frac{a_i}{a_0} (X_T - \sum X_i) \tag{C-5}$$

A closer inspection of the data base may result in other expressions for the coefficients $[a_i]$, $i = 0, 1, \dots$. On some occasions, it will also be reasonable to use other criteria for finding the corrected forecasting values $[X^i]$. This is shown in the top down example in Annex D.

If, on the other hand, the variance of the top forecast X_T is fairly small, the following procedure may be chosen:

The corrections $[X_i]$ are found by minimizing the expression

$$Q = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i (X_i - \hat{X}_i)^2 \quad (\text{C-6})$$

subject to

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{X}_i \quad (\text{C-7})$$

If $a_i, i = 1, 2, \dots$ is chosen to be the inverse of the estimated variances, the solution of the optimization problem is given by

$$\hat{X}_i = X_i - \frac{a_i}{\sum_{j=1}^n a_j} (\sum_{j=1}^n X_j - \sum_{j=1}^n \hat{X}_j) \quad (\text{C-8})$$