





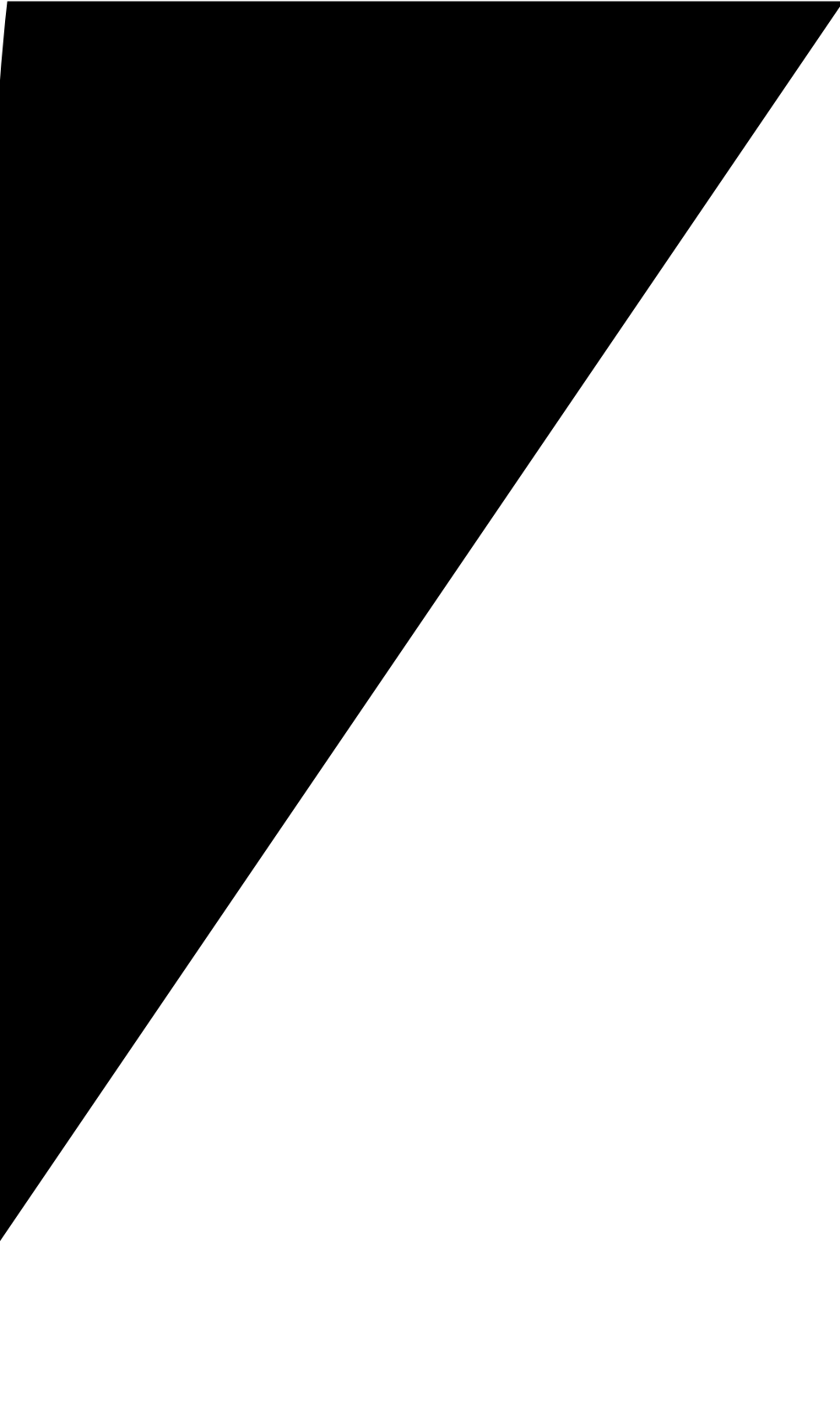






## 8.5 Submitting Data Documentation to the IEA Data Processing Center

In addition to the data files described above, countries were requested to



- Before use with real data, all data-cleaning programs were thoroughly tested using simulated data sets containing all possible problems and inconsistencies.
- All incoming data and documents were registered in a specific database.





and with description of the problem and the action taken by the program or by the staff of the DPC.





## 8.7.6 Handling of Missing Data



In a joint effort of the IEA DPC and the TIMSS & PIRLS International Study Center at Boston College, a National Adaptations Database containing all adaptations to questionnaires made by individual countries, and documenting how they were handled, was constructed. The meaning of country specific items can also be found in this database, as well as recoding requirements by the International Study Center. Information contained in this database was provided in the User Guide for the international database upon release of the TIMSS 2003 data.

The TIMSS 2003 international database is a unique resource for policy makers and analysts, containing student mathematics and science achievement and background data from representative samples of fourth and eighth grade students from 49 countries and four Benchmarking Participants.

### References:

IEA (2002a). *WinW3S: Within-School Sampling Software*. Hamburg: IEA Data Processing Center.