



# UNECE Weekly

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## *It's just happened ...*

### **G-8 Leaders Pledge to Develop Cleaner, Efficient Technologies using UNECE**



Leaders of the G-8 countries issued in Evian on 2 June a statement in support of the development of cleaner, sustainable and more efficient technologies to improve public health and reduce pollution worldwide. They stated *inter alia* that they will:

“Promote rapid innovation and market introduction of clean technologies, in both developed and developing countries, including at the Milan Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and beyond, at the International Energy Agency (IEA) and other

international fora such as the **UN Economic Commission for Europe**, the Expert Group on Technology Transfer, etc, finding appropriate methodologies to involve the private sector.”

### **5 June – Environment Day**

Recent estimates by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) suggest that the countries that have signed up to the Kyoto Protocol will actually increase their greenhouse gas emissions by 10% by 2010 instead of reducing them by 5% as the Protocol stipulates. According to IPCC estimates, emissions will continue to grow up until 2020, when they will be 23% higher than in 2000. These numbers do not include those countries that are not part of the Kyoto Protocol such as the United States and Australia, where greenhouse gas emissions are also on the rise. At

the WSSD in Johannesburg last September and at the “Environment for Europe” Ministerial Conference in Kiev only two weeks ago, countries reaffirmed their commitment to limiting the emissions of greenhouse gases. Unfortunately, there now seems to be a widening gap between political declarations and the work on the ground. If this gap cannot be narrowed swiftly, there is little hope of seeing the Kyoto targets met. In that case, climate change will accelerate rather than slow down.

For further information contact: Kaj BARLUND  
[kaj.barlund@unece.org](mailto:kaj.barlund@unece.org)

### **Energy Efficiency 21 Seminar Recommends Development of Investment Fund**

On 26 May at a Seminar on Financing Energy Efficiency Investments, a number of leading financial institutions and specialists presented their views on financing energy efficiency investments in economies in transition. They recommended the development of an Energy Efficiency 21 Financing Mechanism or Investment Fund to which the investment project proposals resulting from the present phase and the new phase (2003-2006) can be submitted. Meeting on 27-28 May, the Steering Committee of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project welcomed the recommendation and, in addition to several other conclusions, requested the secretariat

to prepare a complete project plan for a second three-year phase of the EE-21 Project (2003-2006) including the aforementioned financial mechanism or fund. During the meeting of the UNF/UNFIP Experts Team on the Project for Energy Efficiency Investments for Climate Change Mitigation, co-financing partners, contractors, grant recipients and national coordinators reported and provided their views and insights into recent developments in this Project.

For further information visit: <http://www.ee-21.net> /or contact Sead Vilogorac [sead.vilogorac@unece.org](mailto:sead.vilogorac@unece.org)

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## Off the press ...

### 50 years of the Conference of European Statisticians 1953-2003

The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary plenary session in June 2002. This book presents an overview of the major achievements of the CES during the past 50 years, and outlines the new challenges to be met in the future. The CES served as a "bridge" and meeting point throughout the Cold War period for statisticians in eastern and western Europe. Despite the different approaches used by these countries to measure economic and social phenomena, the statisticians of both groups met regularly, discussed and approved statistical standards, exchanged data and collaborated to improve international comparability of national statistics. The "Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics" prepared by the CES provide a guide for the ethical and professional behaviour of statisticians; they have been adopted as an international standard at the world level, and are often included in national legislation. The Conference has also made important advances in drawing up different sets of internationally agreed concepts, definitions and classifications, and in coordinating international statistical work carried out by the various international organizations working in the UNECE region.

### Facts and figures:

#### Water is Life



An International Photo Contest is being organized in the context of a global campaign to promote the International Year of Freshwater 2003. Launched on 1 May 2003, it is organized jointly by the UNECE, the UN Resident Coordinator's System in Uzbekistan, the Academy of Arts of Uzbekistan, and the Tashkent House of Photography. Its aim, among others, is to promote public awareness of the essential importance of freshwater for all aspects of human development, for sustainable development and the protection of water environments. Photos should illustrate the theme "Water is Life". The contest is open to all photographers, amateur or professional, from the CIS and Central and East European Countries.

Closing date 1 September 2003. For more information visit [http://www.unece.org/highlights/water\\_photo\\_contest/wateryear.pdf](http://www.unece.org/highlights/water_photo_contest/wateryear.pdf)

#### A globalised UNECE, year 2000

*selected countries, values in millions of US dollars*

	Foreign Direct Investment (a)		Trade in services (b)		Tourism <sup>1</sup> expenditure (c)	
	Outflows	Inflows	Exports <sup>2</sup>	Imports <sup>2</sup>	Incoming <sup>3</sup>	Outgoing <sup>3</sup>
Austria	5599	8523	30227	29262	10031	9291
Belgium-Luxembourg <sup>4</sup>	206962	214428	43694	38687	7422	10151
Canada	47311	66017	38478	43475	10704	12140
Denmark	27672	35532	20674	18364	4025	5139
Finland	23898	9125	6069	8333	1397	1836
France	169481	43173	81511	62380	29900	17166
Germany	53002	207715	85723	136629	17879	47785
Greece	2099	1083	19338	11293	9219	4558
Hungary	532	1646	6291	4501	3429	1094
Ireland	3983	22778	16885	28922	3387	2957
Italy	12078	13176	56013	56022	27500	15693
Netherlands	72410	59126	54106	53109	7206	12198
Norway	8511	5806	15186	14848	1937	4335
Portugal	7749	6518	8447	6646	5257	2230
Slovakia	22	2052	2283	1847	432	295
Spain	53866	36931	53646	31335	31454	5572
Sweden	39962	22125	20287	23436	4034	8015
United Kingdom	266248	119933	117240	96393	19544	36267
United States	178290	307740	293492	217024	85153	65044

Source: UNECE Statistical Division, based on data from (a) IMF, *Balance of Payment Statistics CD-ROM* (May 2003); (b) OECD, *OECD Statistics on International Trade in Services, Partner Country Data and Summary Analysis* (July 2002); (c) World Tourism Organisation, *Compendium of Tourism Statistics 2002* (June 2002).

Notes:

1 Tourism is one item of trade in services.

2 Exports and imports refer to trade in services with the rest of the world.

3 Incoming refers to expenditure by non-resident visitors in the country of reference, outgoing refers to expenditure by residents of the country of reference abroad.

4 Data on tourism refer to Belgium only.

## Coming up soon ...

10-12 June Conference of European Statisticians  
11-13 June Working Party on Transport Statistics

For further information please contact:

**Information Service**  
**UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)**  
**CH - 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland**

Tel: +41(0)22 917 44 44 Fax: +41(0)22 917 05 05

E-mail: [info.ece@unece.org](mailto:info.ece@unece.org) Web site: <http://www.unece.org>

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