



UNECE Weekly

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It's just happened ...



Annual Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians

The 51st plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) took place in Geneva from 10 to 12 June. The CES, composed of the Heads of national statistical offices of the UNECE member countries and international statistical organizations, meets annually to coordinate international statistical work in the UNECE region and to discuss the most important problems and developments in statistics. Two seminar sessions were held during the meeting. The first focused on

globalization and how to improve the statistical basis to measure the impacts of globalization. The second seminar considered the problems related to statistical confidentiality and microdata. The CES elected a new Bureau that will coordinate the work between the plenary sessions. Ms. Katherine Wallman (United States) was elected Chairperson of the Bureau – the first woman to chair it during the 51-year history of the CES.

Progress made on assessing control technologies for ammonia emissions

Further progress was made this week on assessing the costs of available technologies and measures to control emissions of ammonia and methane under the **Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution**. Ammonia is one of the pollutants covered by the Gothenburg Protocol to the Convention, the multi-pollutant Protocol signed in 1999. Since ammonia emissions are largely from agriculture, two expert groups met in Paris on 11-12 June to discuss the application and storage of fertilizers, and housing and treatment of farm

animals such as pigs, poultry and cattle. Careful agriculture and farm procedures have been shown to have a positive impact on controlling ammonia emissions. The results of the Joint meeting of the Expert Group on Ammonia Abatement and the Expert Group on Techno-economic Issues will be presented to the Working Group on Strategies and Review in September 2003, to help prepare for the review of the Gothenburg Protocol once it enters into force.

Off the press ...

Bridging the gender gap in entrepreneurship in Eastern Europe and CIS

Despite success stories, women entrepreneurs are less numerous than men in all transition countries. A new UNECE publication, *Women's Entrepreneurship in Eastern Europe and CIS Countries*, the first publication under a new series: ENTREPRENEURSHIP and SMEs, draws attention to the problems and policy issues related to

women's entrepreneurship in the region. It also contains country experiences and a discussion of the importance of networks and the benefits of connecting women-run enterprises to the global digital economy.

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Coming up soon ...

17-20 June Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport

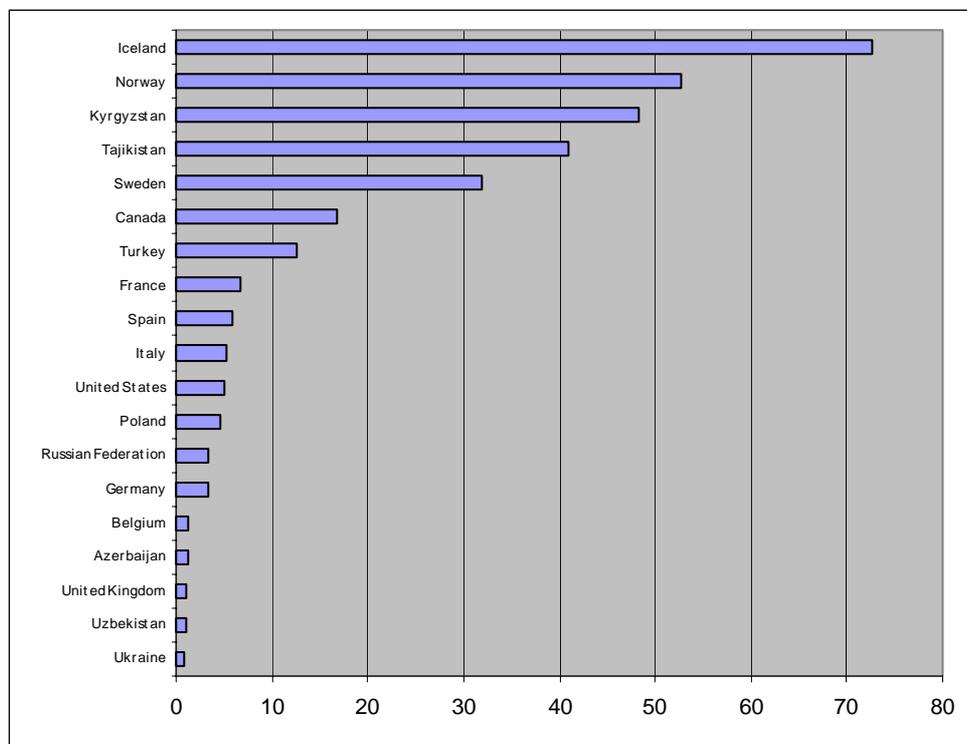
17-20 June Meeting of the Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

Roundtable on Trade, Environment and Forests – Working Together for Sustainable Development

The Joint UNECE/FAO Roundtable, to be held on 9 July, aims to provide a forum, in an informal setting, for information exchange on current and relevant issues in the forestry, environment and trade sectors. The key issues to be discussed, all from both a public and private perspective, will be Recent Trends and Policy Development (trade liberalization and forest products trade; forest-related multilateral environmental agreements and current policy debates in WTO; forest and forest products certification); and Impacts of Trade in Forest Products and Services (trade, rural poverty and the environment; markets for forest environmental services; private sector perspectives on developments of trade in forest products and services). For further information contact Cynthia de Castro (cynthia.de.castro@unece.org)

Facts and figures:

Share of renewable sources* in total primary energy supply, selected countries, 2000



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* Renewable sources include hydro, geothermal, solar thermal, solar photo-voltaic, tide, wind, renewable municipal solid waste, solid biomass and gases from biomass.