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CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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Item 9 of the provisional agenda

ELECTION OF THE BUREAU OF THE CONFERENCE

2007/2008 and 2008/2009 period

Note by the secretariat

1. The current term of all members of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians expires at the closing of the 2007 plenary session, on 13 June 2007. At the 2007 plenary session, therefore, elections for a Chair and for the Vice-Chairs will be held for the two-year period June 2007 to June 2009.
2. The elections of the Bureau are governed by the rules adopted by the Conference at its 1991 plenary session and reconfirmed with minor amendments in 2005. These rules are provided in the document CES/2005/2 Annex.
3. As explained in para. 11 (i) of the Rules governing the work of the Conference and its Bureau (see CES/2005/2 Annex), "any member of the Conference is eligible for membership in the Bureau of the Conference". "Membership" in the Conference is defined in the Rules para. 3 as "the Head of the statistical service of any member country of the United Nations that participates regularly in the work of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe".
4. It is thus possible for the Head of the statistical service of a country outside the UNECE region to be a member of the Conference, and to be elected to its Bureau. According to the Rules para. 11 (ii), the size of the Bureau can be up to 8 members, of whom 6 members should be from countries in the UNECE region and the remaining one or two possibly from countries in other

regions.

5. The Bureau currently consists of the following persons, who were elected at the 2005 plenary session and who were co-opted in 2006-2007 to replace Bureau members who left the post of the Head of office and could no longer serve on the Bureau:

- Chairman: Ms. Katherine Wallman (United States), second term as the Chairman, third term as a Bureau member
- Vice-Chairs: Ms. Heli Jeskanen-Sundström (Finland), first term
Mr Luigi Biggeri (Italy), second term
Ms. Aija Zigure (Latvia), first term (since October 2006, to replace Milva Ekonomi)
Mr. Vladimir Sokolin (Russian Federation), third term
Ms. Irena Krizman (Slovenia), second term
Mr. Eduardo Pereira Nunes (Brazil), first term (since February 2007, to replace Dennis Trewin)

6. According to the Rules para. 13 (iv), "Bureau members can be elected to four successive Bureaus" and "any previous Bureau member can be re-elected to the Bureau after an interruption of at least two years". Therefore, the current Chairman and the six Vice-Chairs of the Bureau whose term of office expires in June of 2007, as well as all members of the Conference who previously served as Chairs or Vice-Chairs, are eligible to be re-elected as members of the Bureau.

7. According to the Rules para. 14 (iii), the "Chairman of the Conference may be re-elected once. Any previous Chairman may be re-elected Chairman after an interruption of at least two years". The current Chairman has been re-elected in 2005 and can not therefore be re-elected as a Chairman for the third term (but she may be re-elected as a member of the Bureau).

8. There are no formal nominations for Bureau membership. Para. 13 (i) of the Rules provides for the elections to the Bureau to be organized by "the most senior previous Chairman of the Conference present at the plenary session concerned". Mr. Ivan Fellegi, Chief Statistician of Canada, is the most senior previous Chairman of the Conference who is currently Head of a national statistical office and therefore he will organize the elections of the Bureau.

9. The Bureau of the Conference usually has a two-day meeting twice a year, in February and October. Additional Bureau meetings may be convened in conjunction with the annual plenary session (para. 10 (i) and (ii)). The documentation for the meetings is informal and is produced only in English. When Bureau members require interpretation during the meetings, the secretariat attempts to provide them with official interpretation at meetings that are held in Geneva. However, if Bureau meetings are held outside Geneva, the secretariat cannot provide interpretation at those meetings.

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