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**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Statistical Division**

# **Summary of the consultation on the report of the Task Force on measuring sustainable development**

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# Electronic consultations

- ❖ Consultations in different phases of developing the report:
  - ❖ With CES Bureau in February 2011 and November 2012
  - ❖ With CES in 2011 (summary of the report) and 2012 (main messages and short narrative)
- ❖ **Full report consulted with CES** in Dec 2012-Jan 2013
- ❖ 44 replies received
- ❖ Document is updated based on the comments
  - ❖ Comments and the respective changes to the document are summarised in ECE/CES/2013/4/Add.1
  - ❖ All comments and responses of the Chair and the Editor of the Task Force are available at <http://www.unece.org/stats/archive/03.03f.e.html>

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# Summary of the replies (1)

- ❖ **General comments:** All responding countries and IOs support the document
  - Quotes: important achievement, impressive outcome, valuable and significant step forward, complete and informative, etc.
  
- ❖ **Comments on the structure**
  - Countries consider the structure of the document clear
  - Special appreciation on specific parts of the text, e.g., the section on communication and visualization
  - Specific proposals: glossary to end of report, combine annexes, correct references

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# Summary of the replies (2)

## ❖ Comments on the framework

- Countries support the basic framework which includes the three dimensions: **'here and now'**, **'later'** and **'elsewhere'**
- Importance of **flexible** framework
- Good starting point for harmonisation

## ❖ Comments on the potential indicators and sets

- Selection of indicators considered good
- Useful to have indicators that are already produced, as well as “placeholders”
- Description/definition of indicators provided in Annex VI

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# Summary of the replies (3)

- ❖ **Comments on the proposals for future work**
  - Test outputs deriving from the framework
  - Resolve measurement issues
  - Promote the harmonisation of indicator sets
  - Further work on 'transboundary impacts'
  - Further work on distributional aspects
  - Measurement of natural capital
  - Sustainability accounting
  - Develop recommendations with practical steps
  
- ❖ A number of countries expressed willingness to participate in further work on specific topics

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# Conclusion

- ❖ **Proposals for corrections on the updated report**
  - Title: “CES Recommendations on measuring sustainable development”
  - Sub-title: “Report of the Joint <sup>CC</sup> UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Task Force on Measuring Sustainable Development”
  - Use “policy relevant indicators” instead of “policy drivers”

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# Proposal:

## The Conference is invited to:

- ❖ Endorse the report as updated based on the comments by countries and IOs, subject to the amendments above and the discussion at the 61<sup>st</sup> CES plenary session;
- ❖ Ask the CES Bureau to review the outcome of the consultation, and decide on next steps, such as:
  - Pilot testing of indicator sets with selected countries;
  - Developing practical guidance for implementation of SDI sets;
  - Linking/adjusting the SDI sets to the SDGs, targets and indicators, once they are defined;
  - Further work on 'transboundary impacts' and distributional aspects.



Thank you for attention!