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](http://www.unece.org/stats/archive/03.03f.e.html)
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
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
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_
Conclusion

Proposals for corrections on the updated report

- Title: “CES Recommendations on measuring sustainable development”
- Use “policy relevant indicators” instead of “policy drivers”
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 61st 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!