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Outcomes of the in-depth reviews carried out by the Conference of European Statisticians Bureau

Outcome of the in-depth review of the process-oriented approach to statistical production

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

Summary

This note provides information on the outcome of the in-depth review of the process-oriented approach to statistical production, carried out by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians in February 2015.

The in-depth review paper (ECE/CES/2015/10), prepared by Turkey, summarises international statistical activities related to process-oriented approach to statistical production, identifies issues and challenges, and makes recommendations on possible follow-up actions in the area.

The outcome of the in-depth review is submitted to the Conference for endorsement.

I. Introduction

1. Each year, the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) reviews selected statistical areas in depth. The purpose of the reviews is to improve coordination of statistical activities in the region of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), identify gaps or duplication of work, and address emerging issues. These reviews focus on strategic issues and highlight concerns of statistical offices of both a conceptual and coordinating nature.

II. In-depth review discussion and decision by the Bureau

3. The Bureau carried out an in-depth of the process-oriented approach to statistical production review in February 2015 based on the paper by Turkey (provided as document ECE/CES/2015/10).

4. The following points were raised in the discussion at the CES Bureau meeting:

(a) The paper by Turkey summarizes well the various practices regarding the organization of statistical production;

(b) Moving to a process-based structure in a statistical office can generate efficiency savings and ensure greater coherence between outputs, as well as a more sustainable approach to information technology management;

(c) The Generic Statistical Business Process Model provides a good framework for a process-based organizational structure;

(d) The Bureau members brought examples of efficiency gains with improved organizational structures within their offices, such as setting up a department of project management that provides common tools for development work, and closer coordination of data collection to ensure the use of standard software and methodologies;

(e) The idea of a high-level seminar to share experiences on this topic was supported. The High-Level Group for the Modernization of Statistical Production and Services (HLG) would provide an appropriate framework for organizing such an event, though some Bureau members cautioned against over-loading the HLG with too many activities.

5. The Bureau asked the HLG to organise a high-level seminar on the process-oriented approach to statistical production, in collaboration with Turkey. The Bureau will assess the need for further work in this area after the seminar.

III. Proposal for the Conference

6. The Conference of European Statisticians is invited to endorse the outcome of the in-depth review of the process-oriented approach to statistical production and take note of the in-depth review paper by Turkey (ECE/CES/2015/10).
