

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Meeting of the 2019/2020 Bureau

Aguascalientes (Mexico), 25-26 February 2020

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Bureau meeting will start at 9:30 on Tuesday, 25 February and is planned to finish around 17:00 on Wednesday, 26 February 2020. The meeting will be hosted by INEGI, the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico. It will take place at INEGI Headquarters, Avenue Héroe de Nacozari Sur 2301, Fraccionamiento Jardines del Parque, Aguascalientes, Mexico.

The meeting will be held in English only. The documents for the meeting will be uploaded on the following website: <https://statswiki.unece.org/display/bureau/CES+Bureau> (username: ces; password: bureau8).

I. OPENING BY MARJO BRUUN

II. IN-DEPTH REVIEWS OF SELECTED STATISTICAL AREAS

1. The CES Bureau regularly reviews in depth selected statistical areas. The aim of the reviews is to improve coordination of statistical activities in the UNECE region, identify gaps or duplication of work, and address emerging issues. The reviews often lead to new work in topical areas and tangible outputs such as guidelines or recommendations.

(a) Measuring well-being in the era of digital society - *for discussion and recommendations*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/2 by Canada)

2. The in-depth review of measuring well-being in the era of digital society will be based on a paper by Canada. The Bureau had an initial discussion on measuring well-being in the era of digital society in October 2019. The Bureau is invited to discuss the updated paper. **Additional contributions from the CES Bureau members are welcome in advance of the Bureau meeting.**

(b) Role of statistical community in climate action – *for discussion and recommendations*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/3 by Steering Group on climate change-related statistics)

3. The in-depth review of the role of statistical community in climate action will be based on a paper by the Steering Group on climate change-related statistics chaired by Luxembourg. **Additional contributions from the CES Bureau members are welcome in advance of the Bureau meeting.**

(c) Selection of topics for in-depth reviews in 2020-2021 and topic proposals for the 2021 CES seminars – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/4 and 5 by UNECE)

4. The Bureau will be invited to select the topics to be reviewed in-depth in 2019-2020 based on a proposal prepared by the Secretariat.
5. The Bureau will be also invited to review a proposal of possible seminar topics for CES plenary session in 2021 to be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES 2020 plenary session.

III. UNECE STATISTICAL WORK AND CES TEAMS OF SPECIALISTS

6. The work of steering groups and task forces set up by the CES Bureau is reviewed under this agenda item. The groups are created for a particular task with concrete terms of reference, output, timeframe (2-3 years) and a sunset clause. The work results in methodological and practical guidelines, collections of leading practices and training materials available on the web. The terms of reference of active steering groups and task forces are available at <http://www.unece.org/statistics/networks-of-experts.html>.

(a) Population and housing censuses (progress report and ToR) – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/6 by the Steering Group)

7. The Bureau reviewed the terms of reference for the Steering Group on population and housing censuses in February 2018 and extended the mandate of the Group until the end of 2019. The Steering Group on population censuses will present a progress report on the work carried out in 2018-2019 and updated terms of reference. The Steering Group will also report on the progress of the Task Force on measuring the quality of administrative sources for use in censuses and request to extend its mandate for one year.

8. The Bureau is invited to review and approve the progress report and the updated terms of reference.

(b) Use of new data sources for measuring migration and cross-border mobility (TOR) – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/7 by UNECE and Steering Group on migration statistics)

9. As an outcome of the in-depth review of measuring migration and cross-border mobility in October 2019, the Bureau asked the Secretariat to consult with the UNECE Steering Group on Migration Statistics and present to the next Bureau meeting a proposal on further work on the use of new data sources for measuring migration and cross-border mobility. The proposal was discussed at the Work Session on migration statistics (28-29 October 2019). The meeting recognised the need to work towards using new types of data sources, such as mobile devices, social media networks, satellite images and Internet platforms for producing official migration statistics. Canada, Georgia, Spain, United Kingdom and United States expressed readiness to contribute to this activity.

10. The Bureau is invited to review and approve the Terms of Reference for a Task Force on using new data sources for measuring migration and cross-border mobility.

(c) Statistics on children and youth (concept note and ToR) – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/8 by UNICEF and UNECE)

11. The 2019 CES plenary session endorsed the *Recommendations on measuring older populations in institutions*. During the discussion, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) called for CES to address information gaps about youth and children in the region, for example on children in residential care and violence against children.

12. In October 2019 Bureau meeting, the UNICEF Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia presented their statistical activities related to youth and children and proposed to review availability and quality of data on children, adolescents and youth. The Bureau requested the UNICEF Regional Office in Geneva, Eurostat and the Secretariat to prepare a concept note for work on children and youth statistics.

13. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the concept note and approve the Terms of Reference for a Task Force on statistics on children, adolescents and youth.

(d) Measuring social exclusion (progress report) – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/9 by Task Force)

14. In June 2018, the Bureau set up the Task Force on measuring social exclusion to consolidate current and emerging good practices in measuring social exclusion and in assessing their potential for delivering comparable results by February 2020. The Task Force will present a progress report and a request to extend its mandate by one year.

15. The Bureau is invited to review the progress report of the Task Force and decide on the extension of its mandate.

(e) Statistics for SDGs - report on the UNECE regional platform – for discussion and recommendations
(ECE/CES/BUR/2019/FEB/10 by UNECE)

16. The UNECE Commission session in April 2019 requested the Secretariat to prepare an annual report on the regional progress towards SDGs based on existing statistics and data, starting from 2020. The CES 2019 plenary session supported developing a regional platform on statistics for SDGs based on a proposal by the Secretariat together with a Task Team composed of Denmark (lead), Canada, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The first part of the platform, the Knowledge Hub on statistics for SDGs was released in December 2019. A dashboard and database are planned to be released in February-March 2020.

17. The Bureau will be informed about the progress of work and will be invited to provide recommendations on further steps.

(f) Measuring hazardous events and disasters – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/11 by UNECE)

18. The 2019 CES plenary session endorsed the *Recommendations on the role of official statistics in measuring hazardous events and disasters*, and supported continuation of work on issues identified in the Recommendations, especially highlighting the need for statistical operationalisation of the related terms, definitions and classifications.

19. In October 2019, the Bureau supported a proposal for next steps and requested the Secretariat to prepare new terms of reference for the Task Force on measuring hazardous events and disasters. The Bureau is invited to review and approve the terms of reference.

(g) Modernization of official statistics – *for decision*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/12, Add.1 and Add.2 by HLG-MOS)

20. In February 2017, the Bureau approved the updated terms of reference and governance structure for the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics (HLG-MOS) and extended the mandate of the Group until end 2019. In 2018, the CES plenary session endorsed the new vision of HLG-MOS.

21. The Bureau is invited to:

(a) Review the outcomes of the projects overseen by HLG-MOS in 2019 and the priority projects for 2020;

(b) Review and approve the updated terms of reference of HLG-MOS and decide on the extension of the mandate of HLG-MOS and its subgroups;

(c) Review a new version of the Generic Statistical Information Model and decide about submitting it to the 2020 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(h) New data sources – accessibility and use – *for decision*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/13 by UNECE)

22. An outcome of the CES 2019 seminar “New data sources – accessibility and use” was a proposal to develop an action plan on access to data and acquiring the necessary skills. In October 2019, the Bureau discussed the draft action plan prepared by an informal task team led by Switzerland and the United States, and asked the Secretariat to contact the groups mentioned under the action items to clarify whether they can take up the proposed tasks, and report to the next CES Bureau meeting.

23. The Bureau will be invited to discuss and approve the way forward.

(i) Classification of International Statistical Activities – *for decision*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/14 by UNECE)

24. A few years ago, the Bureau discussed the need for updating the Classification of International Statistical Activities (CSA) to include new, emerging areas of international statistical work, such as climate change related statistics, geo-spatial data, etc. The CES Bureau is the custodian of this classification which is being used by various international organizations and countries.

25. The Bureau agreed on a procedure for updating the classification including setting up a small group to carry out the revision, consisting of representatives of the Secretariat and the main users of the classification: SDMX, Paris21 and a country (Canada). However, because of lack of resources in the Secretariat, the update has not been carried out.

26. The Bureau will be invited to discuss and approve a proposal by the Secretariat for the process of updating the classification.

IV. PREPARATION OF THE CES 2020 PLENARY SESSION

(a) Organization of the 2020 CES seminar on “Impacts of globalisation and digitalization on the future of economic statistics” – *for discussion and recommendations*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/15 by Canada, Finland and Norway)

27. The CES plenary session selected this topic for one of the 2020 CES seminars. The Conference decided to build the seminar (i) on the outcomes of the work of the Friends of the Chair Group on Economic Statistics; and (ii) the CES Task Force on exchange and sharing of economic data which will submit its final report to the CES 2020 plenary session.

28. The Bureau is invited to discuss the organization of the seminar based on an updated outline prepared by the seminar organizers, Canada, Finland and Norway.

(b) Organization of the 2020 CES seminar on “Implementing the role of NSOs in an era of expanded possibilities” – *for discussion and recommendations*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/16 by Denmark and HLG-MOS)

29. The CES plenary session selected this topic for one of the 2020 CES seminars. The Conference decided that the seminar will be a follow-up to the 2019 CES seminar on “Emerging role of NSOs as offices for statistics and data”. The Bureau will be invited to further discuss the organization of the 2020 CES seminar on “Implementing the role of NSOs in an era of expanded possibilities” based on an updated outline prepared by the seminar organizers, Denmark and HLG-MOS.

(c) Better measurement of the digital transformation – *for discussion and recommendations*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/17 by Eurostat, IMF, OECD and UNECE)

30. In October 2019, the Bureau discussed better measurement of digital transformation based on papers summarizing the recent activities of Eurostat, OECD and IMF in this area. The Bureau asked a task team consisting of Eurostat (lead), OECD, IMF and UNECE to prepare a concept paper to take stock of the issues and related statistical activities. The paper will be the basis for discussing this topic at the 2020 CES plenary session.

31. The Bureau is invited to review the paper and provide recommendations on its finalisation for the CES 2020 plenary session.

(d) Draft agenda and timetable for the 2020 CES plenary session – *for decision*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/18 by UNECE)

32. The Bureau is invited to approve the provisional agenda of the CES 2020 plenary session based on a proposal by the Secretariat.

V. CES GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENDORSEMENT IN 2020

33. The CES Bureau will be invited to review the draft guidelines and recommendations planned to be submitted for CES endorsement in 2020 and decide if they can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session.

(a) Population and housing censuses beyond 2020 – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/19 by the Task Force)

34. In February 2018, the CES Bureau approved a proposal by the Steering Group on population and housing censuses to undertake work on censuses beyond 2020. The aim was to prepare an in-depth analysis on the future of population and housing censuses after the 2020 round. The output will inform the recommendations for the 2030 round of censuses.

35. The CES Bureau is invited to review the draft *Analysis on future censuses beyond 2020* and decide if it can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the document will be submitted to the 2020 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(b) Longitudinal data on migration – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/20 by the Task Force)

36. The CES Bureau set up a Task Force on the use of longitudinal data for migration statistics in February 2018 to prepare guidance on how to incorporate longitudinal data into annual migration statistics and complement the available cross-sectional measurements.

37. The CES Bureau is invited to review the draft Guidance and decide if they can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the Guidance will be submitted to the 2020 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(c) Disaggregated poverty measurement – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/21 by the Task Force)

38. In October 2017, the Bureau set up a Task Force on disaggregated poverty measures to consolidate current and emerging good practices in disaggregating poverty indicators and in assessing their robustness, and develop recommendations to statistical offices for the production, analysis and dissemination of disaggregated poverty measures.

39. The Bureau is invited to review the draft Recommendations and decide if they can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the Recommendations will be submitted to the 2020 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(d) Communicating gender statistics – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/22 by the Task Force)

40. The Bureau set up a Task Force on communicating gender statistics in February 2018 to develop guidance for national statistical offices on communicating gender statistics, focusing on both communication with policymakers and communication with the public.

41. The Bureau is invited to review the draft Guidance of the Task Force and decide if it can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the Guidance will be submitted to the 2020 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(e) Refining the set of climate indicators – *for decision*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/23 by the Task Force)

42. In 2017, the Conference endorsed the report of a Task Force on an initial set of key climate change-related indicators. The Conference extended the mandate of the Task Force to refine the initial set of key climate-change related indicators based on the outcomes of a pilot testing, and to develop methodologies, data sources and guidance for implementation.

43. The Bureau is invited to review the draft report of the second phase of the Task Force's work and decide if it can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the report will be submitted to the 2020 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(f) Waste statistics – *for decision*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/24 by the Task Force)

44. The Bureau established the Task Force on waste statistics in February 2017 to draft a conceptual framework to harmonise international waste statistics, and to provide better information needed for managing waste and monitoring implementation of important waste-related policy frameworks. In February 2019, the Bureau reviewed the draft framework and requested the Task Force to continue the work to clarify the key terminology and submit the updated draft to the Bureau meeting.

45. The Bureau is invited to review the draft *Framework on Waste Statistics* and decide if it can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the Framework will be submitted to the 2020 CES plenary session for endorsement.

VI. UNECE STATISTICS PROGRAMME OF WORK DOCUMENTS – *for decision*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2020/FEB/25 and 26 by UNECE)

46. Under this agenda item, the Bureau is invited to review and approve documents related to the implementation of the Statistics subprogramme prepared in the context of the United Nations secretariat's planning and reporting process. These include:

- (a) Report on the implementation of the Statistical Programme 2019;
- (b) Draft programme of work document for 2021.

VII. DATES AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETINGS – *for decision*

47. The Bureau is expected to confirm the dates and venues of the next Bureau meetings and the next CES plenary sessions.

48. At its October 2019 meeting, the Bureau decided on its next meetings as follows:

- 15-16 October 2020 (Geneva, Switzerland)
- 17-18 February 2021 (Dublin, Ireland)
- 13-14 October 2021 (Helsinki, Finland)

49. The 68th CES plenary session will take place on 22-24 (a.m.) June 2020 in Geneva, back-to-back with the OECD Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy (24 p.m. June – 25 June 2020) and the plenary session of UN-GGIM: Europe (22 June 2020).

50. The 69th CES plenary session is planned to take place during the week of 21-25 June 2021 in Paris (tbc.), back-to-back with OECD Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

51. Any other topics can be taken up under this agenda item.

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