STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO)

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Joint UNECE/ILO Meeting
on Consumer Price Indices
(Geneva, 4-5 December 2003)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE MEETING
to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting on 4 December 2003 at 10:00 a.m.

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Election of officers

3. Information items:
   - Report by the ILO
   - Update of the work by the Ottawa Group
   - Report by the IMF
   - Report by Eurostat
   - Report by the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (IWGPS) and the Technical Expert Group for updating the Manual on CPI (TEG-CPI), including the presentation of the Manual

4. Owner occupied housing

5. Families of indices for different purposes

6. Data quality: weights

7. Sampling and quality adjustment
8. Seasonality and seasonal adjustment

9. Financial services (including report from the May 2003 Ottawa Group Meeting)

10. Future work

11. Other business

12. Adoption of the report

Provisional timetable and notes on the items of the agenda

The meeting on Consumer Price Indices is convened jointly by UNECE and ILO pursuant to the decision of the Conference of European Statisticians taken at its fiftieth plenary session, in June 2002 (see report of the session ECE/CES/62 and CES/2002/32/Add.3).

THURSDAY 4 DECEMBER

10.00-10.10 Items 1 and 2:

10.10-10.40 Item 3: INFORMATION ITEMS

Information will be provided on the following events and activities:

- Report by the ILO, including information on the discussions and decisions taken at the 17th ICLS (November-December 2003), and the newly adopted Resolution on CPI
- Update of the work by the Ottawa Group
- Report by the IMF
- Report by Eurostat

10.40-10.50 Coffee break

10.50-11.50 Item 3: INFORMATION ITEMS (continued)

- Report by the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (IWGPS) and the Technical Expert Group for updating the Manual on CPI (TEG-CPI), including the presentation of the Manual
Item 4: OWNER OCCUPIED HOUSING

11.50-12.00 Discussant: Ms. Diane Ramsay, New Zealand

12.00-12.20 Invited paper 1: A harmonized price index for owner occupied housing – experiences from the Eurostat pilot study
   Author: Eurostat

12.20-12.40 Invited paper 2: Owner occupied housing: market price approach to user cost
   Author: Mr. Rosmundur Gudnason, Statistics Iceland

12.40-13.00 Invited paper 3: Swedish re-considerations of user-cost approaches to owner occupied housing
   Author: Mr. Martin Ribe, Statistics Sweden

13.00-15.00 Lunch

Item 4: OWNER OCCUPIED HOUSING (cont.)

15.00-15.45 Discussions and comments on invited and contributed papers

15.45-16.15 Item 10: FUTURE WORK

Based on a proposal developed by the CPI Steering Group the meeting will discuss and agree on future ECE work in consumer price indices and on agenda of a possible future 2005 Joint ECE/ILO Meeting on CPI. The Secretariat will submit proposals on the basis of country suggestions and on the discussions as the meeting proceeds for the approval of the Conference of European Statisticians.

16.15-16.30 Coffee break

Item 5: FAMILIES OF INDICES FOR DIFFERENT PURPOSES

16.30-16.40 Discussant: Mr. Kimberly Zieschang, IMF

16.40-17.00 Invited paper 4: Data systems for the compilation of regional price indices in Poland
   Author: Ms. Alina Gluchowska, Central Statistical Office of Poland

17.00-17.20 Invited paper 5: Families of indices for different purposes
   Authors: Mr. Luigi Biggeri and Ms. Laura Leoni, ISTAT

17.20-18.00 Discussions and comments on invited and contributed papers
FRIDAY 5 DECEMBER

Item 6: DATA QUALITY: WEIGHTS

09.30-09.40 Discussant: Mr. Timo Koskimaki, Statistics Finland

09.40-10.00 Invited paper 6: Weight updates and CPI revision policy
Author: Mr. Kimberly Zieschang, IMF

10.00-10.20 Invited paper 7: (title to be decided)
Author: Statistics Canada

10.20-10.50 Discussions and comments on invited and contributed papers

10.50-11.10 Coffee break

Item 7: SAMPLING AND QUALITY ADJUSTMENT

11.10-11.20 Discussant: Mr. Paul Haschka, Statistics Austria

11.20-11.40 Invited paper 8: Apparel hedonic regression models, improvements after more than a decade of use in the U.S. consumer price index
Author: Ms. Nicole Rope, BLS, United States

11.40-12.00 Invited paper 9: Sampling and quality adjustment using scanner data - study and implementation in Japan
Author: Mr. Nobuyuki Sakashita, Japan

12.00-12.30 Discussions and comments on invited and contributed papers

12.30-14.30 Lunch

Item 8: SEASONALITY AND SEASONAL ADJUSTMENT

14.30-14.40 Discussant: Mr. Thierry Lacroix, INSEE, France

14.40-15.00 Invited paper 10: Treatment of Seasonal Items in Consumer Price Indices
Author: Mr. Yoel Finkel, Central Bureau of Statistics, Israel

15.00-15.20 Invited paper 11: Consumer price indices: the application of seasonal adjustment and its use as an analytical tool
Author: Mr. David Fenwick, ONS, United Kingdom

15.20-15.50 Discussions and comments on invited and contributed papers
15.50-16.10 Coffee break

Item 9: FINANCIAL SERVICES

16.10-16.20 Discussant: Mr. Peter Hill, United Kingdom

16.20-16.40 Invited paper 12: Banking services and the Australian CPI
   Author: Mr. Paul McCarthy, Australian Bureau of Statistics

16.40-16.50 Report from the May 2003 Ottawa Group Meeting
   Mr. Thierry Lacroix, INSEE, France

16.50-17.10 Discussions and comments on invited and contributed papers

17.10-17.20 Item 11: OTHER BUSINESS

17.20-17.30 Item 12: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT