

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

For discussion and
recommendations

Second Meeting of the 2013/2014 Bureau
Geneva (Switzerland), 21-22 October 2013

Item 2(c) of the Provisional
Agenda

OUTCOMES OF IN-DEPTH REVIEWS CARRIED OUT IN 2007 - 2013

Prepared by the Secretariat

This document provides a summary of the outcomes of the in-depth reviews of selected statistical areas carried out by the CES Bureau in 2007-2013. The Bureau is invited to discuss the outcomes of in-depth reviews. The Bureau may also consider how to effectively use in-depth reviews as a tool for coordination, and how to ensure that the right topics will be selected for future reviews.

I. BACKGROUND

1. This note is prepared at the request of the Bureau from its February 2013 meeting to describe the in-depth reviews and their outcomes. The note covers the reviews carried out during the period 2007-2013.
2. The in-depth reviews of selected statistical areas are an important tool for achieving the key objectives of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) and its Bureau, namely:
 - (a) To promote close coordination of the statistical activities of international organizations;
 - (b) To respond to any emerging need for international statistical cooperation.
3. The in-depth reviews allow the Bureau to coordinate international statistical activities in the UNECE region. The reviews take stock of current work with the aim of identifying gaps or duplication of work and addressing emerging issues. The reviews are action oriented: the aim of the discussion is to decide on follow-up actions at the international level to address the issues identified by the review.
4. In the past, all statistical areas were reviewed in-depth over a two year cycle (one year economic statistics, the other year social statistics and environment statistics). The reviews were based on rapporteur reports prepared mostly by Eurostat, OECD or UNECE. The wide coverage and high frequency of reviews resulted in a heavy workload for the organizations concerned, a rather superficial discussion of individual statistical areas, and insufficient attention to the country perspective.

5. Therefore, the in-depth review process was changed during 2005-2006 to make the reviews more efficient and effective. In June 2006, the Conference decided to focus the reviews on high priority statistical areas where considerable work is ongoing or notable gaps exist. The topics should be selected from the 56 statistical areas listed in the DISA classification of statistical activities, either single topics or ad-hoc groupings of the topics. The topics cover statistical subject areas but also methodologies of data collection and processing, and strategic and managerial issues.

6. In 2006, the Conference also decided that the reviews should focus on strategic issues, be more action oriented and include recommendations for further steps to be taken by the Conference. Starting from 2008 the Bureau has selected one in-depth review topic each year to be discussed at the CES plenary session prior to the discussion at the Bureau meeting to better involve the members of the Conference.

7. The Bureau considered the in-depth review process in February 2012 and adopted recommendations for organizing the reviews, including a template for preparing the papers that provide the basis for discussion (ECE/CES/2012/5, see Annex I). These Recommendations provide a good description of the current in-depth review process.

8. Annex II presents a summary of the outcomes of in-depth reviews undertaken in 2007-2013. The table provides the main conclusion and main outcome for each review, and indicates the type of outcome, such as new work started, ongoing work adjusted, tangible output (guidelines and recommendations) prepared, etc. A more detailed description of the reviews, their outcomes and related initiatives is available at:

<http://www.unece.org/stats/ces.html>

II. OUTCOME AND IMPACT OF IN-DEPTH REVIEWS CARRIED OUT IN 2007-2013

9. The Bureau has reviewed in-depth 22 statistical areas over the last 6 years (2007-2013, approximately 3 in-depth reviews per year). The final review documents and their outcomes will be made available on the UNECE website¹.

10. The different types of outcomes of the reviews can be grouped as follows:

- (a) Launching methodological work under the CES: creation of teams of specialists to develop new guidelines, recommendations, collections of best practices, etc.; adjusting the UNECE work programme in line with the recommendations of the review;
- (b) Follow-up undertaken at other fora than the CES;
- (c) Identifying a need for action but putting the actions on hold due to the lack of resources in the secretariat and/or countries; the issue is planned to be reviewed again in future;
- (d) Increasing cooperation and exchange of information (in addition to identifying specific actions).

¹ www.unece.org/statshome/areas-of-work/statsarchiveact00e/in-depth-reviews.html

A. Launching methodological work

11. In many cases, the in-depth reviews have led to launching new methodological work under CES to address measurement challenges, gaps or lack of harmonization (see column 4 in Annex II). For example, as an outcome of recent reviews the Bureau has set up four Task Forces in new areas: global production, measurement of household income, time-use surveys and ageing-related statistics. In other cases, the review has led to preparing new outputs in areas where the secretariat was already active, such as statistical dissemination and communication, or gender statistics (column 5 in Annex II).

12. The aim of the work of the Task Forces is to prepare a tangible output, such as guidelines, recommendations, collections of best practices, etc. Nine reports, guidelines or recommendations are expected as an outcome of work resulting from in-depth reviews carried out in 2007-2012 (column 6 in Annex II; additional outputs may be prepared in future as a result of some of the reviews undertaken in November 2012 and February 2012). So far, five reports have been finalized:

- *Canberra Group Handbook on household income statistics, second edition*
- *Developing gender statistics: A practical tool*
- *Guide to improving statistical literacy*
- *Revised Guide to communicating with the media*
- *Guidelines for harmonizing time use surveys*

13. The following four recommendations or publications are currently being finalized, and are planned to be submitted to the Conference in 2014-2015:

- *Guidelines on environmental indicators for EECCA countries*
- *Quality of employment*
- *Guide on global production*
- *Ageing-related statistics*

14. In addition, other types of outputs have been prepared as a result of the in-depth reviews, such as:

- wiki knowledge bases on using administrative and secondary sources in official statistics, and for sharing resources and experience in statistical data collection;
- inventory of groups working on information and communication technology statistics.

15. In some cases, the outcome of the review has been a decision to organize a one-off event (seminar) to explore the issues in more detail and to decide whether new methodological work needs to be undertaken. Examples of such seminars are:

- CES seminar on measuring population movement and integration in a globalized world (2008),
- CES seminar on strategic issues in business statistics (2009),
- Joint UNECE/EFTA/IMF workshops on government and fiscal statistics for EECCA countries in 2011 and 2013;
- Seminar on new frontiers for statistical data collection (2012),
- Joint UNECE/OECD/CIS-STAT seminar on the way forward in poverty measurement (2-4 December 2013).

B. Follow-up activities at other fora than the CES

16. Many outcomes of the in-depth reviews contributed to work at other fora, often to global processes launched by the UN Statistical Commission. This has been the case, for example with statistics on culture, agriculture, environment, housing and education.

C. Actions put on hold

17. It has happened in a few cases that the in-depth review identifies a need for action but these cannot be undertaken due to other, more urgent priorities and lack of resources. In some cases, the Bureau has put the actions on hold and has decided to come back to the issue after a few years to review whether there is still a need for follow-up.

18. For example, the in-depth review of population statistics in 2007 recommended setting up a Task Force to document best practices in population projections. However, the Task Force was not set up due to lack of interest from countries to participate in this work.

19. As a result of a review of housing statistics in 2009, the secretariat carried out a survey among the CES members to identify priority issues where future work might be undertaken at international level. The survey showed an interest in several topics from housing statistics, and a need for a standard international set of definitions, accounting procedures and guidelines. However, the survey did not identify a clear priority area for follow-up international work. The Bureau decided to keep housing statistics on the list of follow-up items and come back to the topic in the future.

20. As an outcome of the in-depth review on education statistics in 2012, several countries and international organizations expressed interest in participating in a Task Force on measuring e-learning, and expressed readiness to share good practice in integrating administrative, survey and census data on education. However, no country or organization volunteered to lead either of the two activities. Therefore, the start of these activities was put on hold until a later date.

21. In February 2013, the Bureau reviewed the issues of political and other community activities, including volunteering. The Bureau selected the issue as a possible CES seminar topic. The topic was not selected for CES 2014 seminars, but it will remain on the list of possible future seminar topics.

D. Increasing cooperation and exchange of information

22. Practically all in-depth reviews led to increased cooperation, networking and exchange of information among the Bureau members and with partner organizations, including with the United Nations Statistical Commission, its various working groups, UNECE Policy Committees, International Labour Organization (ILO), UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS), and United Nations Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UN CEEA).

IV. CONCLUSIONS AND PROPOSAL FOR THE BUREAU

23. The UNECE review by its member States recently acknowledged that “the UNECE Statistics subprogramme, the Conference of European Statisticians and its related subsidiary bodies work ... in an efficient way, producing concrete results (methodological principles, recommendations, guidelines and databases) in a regular and ongoing way that have clear value added for the region and beyond...” The review also concluded that “the subprogramme should ... continue the good cooperation with partner organizations such as Eurostat, the CIS Statistical Committee, OECD, World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).”

24. During the UNECE review, Statistics subprogramme was given as a good example, in particular with respect to the flexible manner of working through Teams of Specialists guided by concrete Terms of Reference, deliverables and sunset clauses. Some direct quotes mentioned include: “the CES has a unique and complementary role”; “the CES is the most important mechanism in statistics regionally and with a global impact”; and “it is not only attended by very high-quality and experienced people but is one of the most active and proactive international statistical forums in the world”.

25. In-depth reviews are one of the key elements in ensuring that the work undertaken by CES remains relevant. It allows to be proactive in identifying areas that require internationally coordinated development effort. The reviews have highlighted important gaps which can be filled, they have led to methodological work and new guidelines that address common problems in statistics.

26. All reviews carried out in 2007-2013 concluded with concrete recommendations. In twelve cases (55%) the reviews have resulted in starting work under the CES in a new area, or adjusting the on-going UNECE work programme. In nine areas (41%), the work has resulted in preparing guidelines or recommendations (some other tangible outputs can be expected from the reviews that were carried out in 2012-2013). In two cases, a CES seminar and in two cases an expert level seminar have been organised to discuss the issues in more detail. In three cases (14%), the need for follow-up work was identified but has been postponed due to other priorities and lack of resources.

27. In-depth reviews guide the work of the UNECE secretariat and the international Teams of Specialists to focus on areas of high relevance, and to shift resources to where they are needed most. The work builds on the knowledge and experience of a pool of experts of national statistical offices and international organisations. The choice of the topics to be reviewed has a big impact on the process, as well as the good quality of the papers that are the basis for the discussion and active contributions in the discussion from the Bureau members.

28. The Bureau is invited to discuss the outcomes of in-depth reviews. The Bureau may also consider how to effectively use in-depth reviews as a tool for coordination, and how to ensure that the right topics will be selected for future reviews (the Bureau will select topics for in-depth reviews next time at the meeting in January 2014).

ANNEX I
ORGANIZATION OF THE IN-DEPTH REVIEWS OF SELECTED STATISTICAL
AREAS BY THE BUREAU OF THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
STATISTICIANS

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The aim of the current paper is to facilitate the process of the in-depth reviews of selected statistical areas carried out by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES). The paper includes a short explanation about the aim and procedure of the reviews and a proposed template for the in-depth review papers (attached).

II. PURPOSE OF THE REVIEWS

2. The CES Bureau reviews regularly selected statistical areas in depth to improve coordination of statistical activities in the UNECE region, identify gaps or duplication of work, and address emerging issues. The review focuses on strategic issues and highlights concerns of statistical offices of both a conceptual and a coordinating nature. The Bureau reviews at its meeting the issues and problems in a selected statistical area based on a paper prepared by an invited country/organization. The aim of the discussion is to decide on follow-up actions at international level to address the issues identified by the review.

3. The in-depth reviews are important tools for carrying out two key mandates of the CES and its Bureau, namely:

(a) To promote close coordination of the statistical activities of international organizations;

(b) To respond to any emerging need for international statistical cooperation.

III. SOME HISTORY

4. In the past, all statistical areas were reviewed over a two-year cycle (e.g. one year economic statistics, the second year social statistics). The review papers were prepared by so-called Rapporteurs – international organizations that were assigned a responsibility for certain areas. Major contributors were Eurostat, OECD and UNECE. The wide coverage and high frequency resulted in a heavy workload for the organizations concerned, a rather superficial discussion of individual statistical areas and insufficient attention to the country perspective.

5. Therefore, the process of in-depth reviews was substantially changed in 2005. Instead of covering all statistical areas, the Bureau decided to focus on 4-5 of the most topical areas each year. It was also decided to involve countries and Steering Groups as much as possible in the preparation of the in-depth review papers. It was considered important that the reports present the perspective of both the international organizations and countries.

6. Furthermore, in October 2008, the Bureau decided that it would be useful to discuss selected in-depth review topics at the CES plenary session prior to the discussion at the Bureau meetings. This would allow to obtain input from all CES members.

III. SELECTING TOPICS FOR THE REVIEWS

7. The Bureau selects the topics to be reviewed based on a proposal by the secretariat. The Bureau has decided that about 4-5 topics should be reviewed each year.

8. The criteria for selecting areas to be reviewed, as agreed in 2005, are the following:

- (a) There are significant developments in the area;
- (b) There are significant coordination issues;
- (c) There is a lack of activities at the international level.

9. The topics for the in-depth reviews are selected from the 56 statistical areas listed in the DISA classification of statistical activities. The topics may be either single topics, or ad hoc groupings from among the 56 statistical areas in the classification. The reviews should also be coordinated with the programme reviews by the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC), to avoid duplication. For this purpose, the UN Statistical Division informs each year the October meeting of the Bureau about the provisional agenda of the next UNSC session.

10. Furthermore, from among the selected areas, the Bureau will choose one topic each year to be discussed at the CES plenary session prior to the review at the Bureau meeting.

IV. PAPERS PROVIDING BASIS FOR THE IN-DEPTH REVIEWS

11. The CES Bureau invites a specific country or organization to prepare a paper to provide the main basis for the in-depth review. The paper can also be written jointly by several countries/organizations. Other members of the Bureau and international organizations active in the area under review are invited to contribute short notes to the discussion.

12. The papers may make use of the Database of International Statistical Activities (DISA) to obtain an overview of statistical activities carried out by different international organizations in the selected area. The DISA is available at: www.unece.unog.ch/disa

13. The paper should be a maximum of 10-12 pages. A recommended structure for the paper is given in the attached template.

IV. THE REVIEW PROCESS

14. The process of an in-depth review can be briefly described as follows:

	What	Who	When
1	The Bureau selects the topic to be reviewed in depth and asks a country/international organization to prepare the main paper providing basis for the review	CES Bureau	At February or October meeting of the Bureau
2	The Bureau chooses one of the selected in-depth review topics to be discussed at the CES plenary session in order to obtain input from all CES members.	CES Bureau	At February or October meeting of the Bureau
3	Preparation of the paper that will be discussed at the CES plenary session. The deadline is 15 March to allow for translation into French and Russian.	Author (country/organization)	By 15 March
4	Discussion at the CES plenary session in June. The CES members may also be invited to provide written comments on the in-depth review paper after the CES plenary session.	CES	CES plenary session in June
5	Updating the paper to take into account comments received during the CES plenary session and through written consultation.	Author (country/organization)	August-September
6	Preparation of the in-depth review paper. The authors are encouraged to consult with the international organizations whose activities are listed in the paper. In case the paper describes country experiences (depending on the topic), the authors are encouraged to contact a few countries with varying experience in the area to include a description of their practices and issues/challenges. The international organization that has the main responsibility for the area will be invited to participate in the Bureau meeting.	Author (country/organization) Secretariat	To be ready 1 month before the CES Bureau meeting where it will be discussed
7	The paper is distributed to the CES Bureau. The Bureau members and relevant international organizations are invited to contribute short notes to provide additional input to the discussion.	Secretariat CES Bureau	3-4 weeks before the Bureau meeting
8	In-depth review discussion at the CES Bureau meeting (in February or October). The discussion will focus on how to solve the identified problems and decide on concrete follow-up actions.	CES Bureau	At February or October meeting of the Bureau
9	The next CES plenary session (in June) will endorse the outcome of the review and its follow-up actions. The secretariat will prepare a short paper informing about the review process and the comments and decision by the Bureau. If necessary, the author may update the in-depth review paper to reflect the discussion.	CES Secretariat Author (country/organization)	CES plenary session in June
10	The in-depth review paper and the documents related to the outcome and follow-up of the review will be made available on a dedicated web-page to promote this useful coordination mechanism and to give recognition to countries and organizations who have prepared high quality papers as a basis for the reviews.	Secretariat	As soon as papers are available

15. For the statistical areas that are selected for the in-depth review but not discussed at the CES plenary session, steps 3-5 will be skipped.

**Template for the papers providing basis for the in-depth reviews by the CES
Bureau²**

IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF [STATISTICAL AREA]

Prepared by [country/organization]

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. About 1 page summarizing the main findings.

II. INTRODUCTION

2. The introduction should include the aim of the review. The following text can be used:

“The Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) regularly reviews selected statistical areas in depth. 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 review focuses on strategic issues and highlights concerns of statistical offices of both a conceptual and a coordinating nature. The current paper provides the basis for the review by summarising the international statistical activities in the selected area, identifying issues and problems, and making recommendations on possible follow-up actions.

The CES Bureau selected [topic] for an in-depth review at its [...] meeting. [Country/organization] was requested to prepare the paper providing the main basis for the review.”

III. SCOPE/DEFINITION OF THE STATISTICAL AREA COVERED

3. Define the scope/coverage of the statistical area under review. This is especially important when the topic reviewed is a combination of different statistical areas from the DISA classification.

IV. OVERVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA

- A. [International organization 1]
- B. [International organization 2]
- C. Etc.

4. The section provides a brief overview of the past and ongoing activities of each international organization involved in the selected statistical area, making clear the specialisation and value added of each organization. The overview should indicate the main outcomes of work (standards, classifications, handbooks, manuals, recommendations, etc.). Other leading activities outside official statistics that have an impact on the statistical work

² The template should be viewed as a guideline. The structure of the paper may be adjusted depending on the nature of the topic under review.

can also be covered. The main focus of the in-depth review is on the UNECE region but key developments and actors from other regions may be covered.

V. [COUNTRY PRACTICES] - optional

- A. [Country 1]**
- B. [Country 2]**
- C. Etc.**

5. The section provides an overview of the work of selected countries in the statistical area under review. The authors of the paper may ask a few countries who have experience in the selected area to present their practices, problems and issues, etc. It is desirable to include countries with differing practices.

VI. [IMPACT OF CRISES ON THE STATISTICAL AREA] - optional

6. The Bureau has suggested that a section on impact of (financial) crisis should be introduced in future in-depth review papers. The section should cover how the crisis has affected the work of statistical offices/international organizations in the area, for example adjustments related to data production and dissemination, data holdings, methodologies, communication strategies, statistical programs, etc.

VII. ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

- A. [Issue 1]**
- B. [Issue 2]**
- C. Etc.**

7. This section provides the most important information for the review. Main issues and problems in the area should be described, in particular in international statistical work. The issues should be considered from a strategic and future-oriented viewpoint. The paper may make a distinction between conceptual issues, measurement issues, managerial issues, etc.

VIII. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8. Based on the conclusions from the overview of international work undertaken in the area and the related issues and challenges, the paper should finish with concrete recommendations and proposals to the Bureau on how to solve the identified problems. The proposals can relate to e.g. setting up a Task Force to develop or update guidelines/recommendations, making an inventory of international activities in the area, improve sharing of information in the area (creating a knowledge-base, wiki), etc. The Bureau will consider the recommendations and decide on possible follow-up actions during the in-depth review discussion.

ANNEX II**Summary of the outcomes of the in-depth reviews**

Review topic	Time	Main conclusion and output under CES	Activities under CES				Follow-up at other fora	Work put on hold
			New work started	Ongoing work adjusted	Guidelines, recommendations, etc. prepared	Seminar/workshop organized		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1. Business statistics (IMF, Finland, UNSD, UNECE, Eurostat, Canada)	Feb-07	Main conclusion: "Lack of guidelines and coherence; need for a wider vision on the direction in which business statistics should develop" - A small group to prepare an overview of key strategic issues and organize a CES seminar - A 2009 CES seminar on <i>Strategic issues in business statistics</i>				X		
2. SDMX initiative (SDMX sponsors)	Feb-07	Main conclusion: "Encouraged organization of capacity building activities and use of existing meetings to spread awareness of SDMX" - UNECE-led work on metadata standards encompasses SDMX, and now falls under the HLG		X				
3. Population statistics (UNECE)	Feb-07	Main conclusion: "Best practices in demographic projections and post-census revisions should be documented; continue the active work in censuses; migration an important issue" - Decided not to establish a Task Force on demographic projections due to lack of participation from countries - 2008 CES seminar on <i>Measuring population movement and integration in a globalized world</i>		X		X		X
4. Income, living conditions and poverty (OECD)	Oct-07	Main conclusion: "Good progress towards a definition of household income, but no agreement on the definition of poverty, rather a set of indicators for the purpose" - In 2008, Canada drafted a road map with options for further work - In 2009 Bureau set up a TF to update the <i>Canberra Group Handbook</i> (CES endorsed the Handbook in 2011)	X		X			
5. Gender and special population groups (UNECE)	Oct-07	Main conclusion: "Continue the active work on gender and link it with the global initiatives" - CES Manual, <i>Developing Gender Statistics: A Practical Tool</i> , in 2010 - In 2010, TF on indicators of gender equality – to CES 2014 for endorsement		X	X			
6. Environment statistics (Eurostat)	Feb-08	Main conclusion: "Coordination has improved, but the main problem is prioritization of activities towards a coherent system of environment statistics" - In 2009, UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy and CES set up a Joint TF on environmental indicators in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, and South-East Europe. - revised <i>Environmental Indicator Guidelines</i> – to be published in 2013		X	X			
7. Culture statistics (Finland)	Feb-08	Main conclusion: "Encouraged consultation between CES/UNSC and the UNESCO institute in developing a framework for cultural statistics" - The CES reviewed the <i>UNESCO Framework for Cultural Statistics</i> in 2008 - Eurostat re-launched working group on cultural statistics in 2008					X	
8. Agricultural statistics, incl. forestry and fisheries (Eurostat, United States and Brazil)	Feb-08	Main conclusion: "Better coordination of work is needed, but need to wait for the outcome of the global process in agriculture statistics" - In 2010, the UNSC led process on agricultural statistics started, there was no need to establish a TF under CES					X	
9. Measurement of labour cost (OECD)	Oct-08	Main conclusion: "Many concerns raised in the review paper were being addressed by other international agencies, e.g. ILO and OECD"					X	

Review topic	Time	Main conclusion and output under CES	Activities under CES				Follow-up at other fora	Work put on hold
			New work started	Ongoing work adjusted	Guidelines, recommendations, etc. prepared	Seminar/workshop organized		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
10. Housing statistics (Poland)	Feb-09	Main conclusion: "Lack of common definitions, procedures and guidelines hamper the work, several initiatives are undertaken at other fora" - A UNECE survey on housing statistics among CES members to identify areas where work should be undertaken at international level - Bureau decided to consider follow-up work later					X	X
11. Statistical dissemination, communication and publications (Steering Group)	Oct-09	Main conclusion: "Work should be undertaken on statistical literacy in the ongoing work" - In 2012, a <i>Guide to Improving statistical literacy</i> ; Revised <i>Guide to communicating with the media</i>		X	X			
12. Government finance, fiscal and public sector statistics (IMF)	Oct-09	Main conclusion: "Call for more cooperation between international agencies active in government finance statistics, and need for training" - EFTA/IMF/UNECE training workshops in 2011 and 2013				X		
13. The use of secondary and mixed sources for official statistics (UNECE)	Jun-10	Main conclusion: "Sharing information and developing guidelines would be useful as part of ongoing work" - A UNECE Wiki Knowledge Base on the topic - Publication: <i>Using administrative and secondary sources for official statistics</i> - Seminar on <i>New frontiers for statistical data collection</i> in 2012		X	X	X		
14. Time-use surveys (Germany)	Nov-10	Main conclusion: "Relevance of time-use data and insufficient harmonisation that reduces the value of this expensive and complicated survey" - TF on time-use surveys set up in 2010 - <i>Guidelines for harmonizing time use surveys</i> – to CES in 2013 and to Bureau for endorsement in October 2013	X		X			
15. Measuring information society and statistics on science, technology and innovation (Australia)	Nov-10	Main conclusion: "There may be scope for better coordination of the many initiatives and development of a conceptual framework would be useful" - An inventory of the groups working in ICT statistics - In 2011, CES recommended developing a conceptual framework - The need to develop UN standards to measure ICT raised at UNSC			X			
16. Education statistics (Australia)	Nov-11	Main conclusion: "Guidelines are needed for the measurement of e-learning, and good practices should be shared on the integration of different data sources and education statistics produced by various agencies" - Several countries and international organizations expressed interest in taking part but no agency was ready to lead the work - Activities put on hold until a later date						X

Review topic	Time	Main conclusion and output under CES	Activities under CES				Follow-up at other fora	Work put on hold
			New work started	Ongoing work adjusted	Guidelines, recommendations, etc. prepared	Seminar/workshop organized		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
17. Global manufacturing (the Netherlands)	Nov-11	Main conclusion: "Practical guidelines for addressing the unresolved issues related to global production in line with the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA) and Balance of Payments Manual are needed" - A TF to develop practical guidelines on global production - <i>Guidelines on Global Production</i> – to CES members for consultation in 2014	X		X			
18. Household survey methods (Canada)	Nov-11	Main conclusion: "Household surveys are important building blocks of statistical systems and should be better integrated with other data sources" - The meeting on <i>New frontiers for statistical data collection</i> discussed among other topics household surveys		X				
19. Population ageing (UNECE)	Nov-12	Main conclusion: "The availability, accessibility and comparability of statistical data need to be improved to support ageing-related policies" - In 2013, A TF on ageing-related statistics - The final report with an overview of current practices, analysis of data gaps and recommendations for statistical offices – to Bureau in 2014	X		X			
20. Banking, insurance and financial statistics (IMF)	Nov-12	Main conclusion: "Many initiatives exist and are well coordinated, but there would be room for further improvements in the alignment of concepts and methods and strengthening the cooperation between national statistical offices and central banks"					X	
21. Poverty statistics (Ukraine and Eurostat)	Nov-12	Main conclusion: "Addressing poverty measurement is urgent considering the on-going public discussion. There is no forum for solving the lack of common definitions, methodologies and indicators for the monitoring of poverty" - The seminar <i>The way forward in poverty measurement</i> will be held on 2-4 December 2013 - In 2013, a proposal was made at CES plenary session to consider organising a high-level seminar on poverty measurement in the future	X		tbc	X		
22. Political and other community activities, incl. volunteering (Mexico)	Feb-13	Main conclusion: "These data are increasingly important, yet challenging to measure. Some of the concepts are new and would require precise definitions" - Added to the list of possible CES seminars; not selected for a seminar in 2014	tbc		tbc	tbc		
Total			5	7	9	5	5	3