

Meeting of the 2013/2014 Bureau

Geneva (Switzerland), 28-29 January 2014

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Bureau meeting will start at 9:30 on Tuesday, 28 January and is planned to finish around 16:00 on Wednesday, 29 January 2014. The meeting will take place in Room S4 at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland.

The traditional subscription dinner will be organised on Tuesday, 28 January 2014.

The meeting will be held in English only. The documents for the meeting will be distributed by e-mail as soon as they become available. The documents will also be uploaded on the following website: www1.unece.org/stat/platform/display/bureau/CES+Bureau (username: ces; password: bureau8).

I. OPENING BY WAYNE SMITH

II. IN-DEPTH REVIEWS OF SELECTED STATISTICAL AREAS

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

(a) Measuring social protection – for discussion and recommendations (ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/2 by UNECE)

2. The discussion will be based on a paper by UNECE. **Additional contributions from the CES Bureau members are welcome in advance of the Bureau meeting.**

(b) Leading, composite and sentiment indicators and official statistics – for discussion and recommendations (ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/3 by UNECE)

3. The discussion will be based on a paper by UNECE. **Additional contributions from the CES Bureau members are welcome in advance of the Bureau meeting.**

(c) Follow-up to the in-depth review of political and other community activities and volunteering – for discussion and recommendations (ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/4 by UNECE)

4. In February 2013, the Bureau reviewed in depth political and other community activities, including volunteering, based on a paper by Mexico. As an outcome of the review, the Secretariat together with OECD and Mexico prepared an outline for a possible CES seminar on political and other community activities, and the topic was included in the list of proposed CES seminar topics for 2014. The topic gathered some support in the

electronic consultation (10 votes) but not enough to be chosen for the 2014 seminars. However, this area is important and linked to other issues of high relevance, such as human well-being, social capital, sustainable development, etc.

5. The Bureau is invited to discuss possible follow-up to the in-depth review on political and other community activities, including volunteering.

(d) Follow-up to the in-depth review of entrepreneurship – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/5 by OECD, Eurostat and UNECE)

6. In October 2013, the Bureau conducted an in-depth review of entrepreneurship statistics based on a paper prepared by OECD and Eurostat. The Bureau asked the secretariat, in cooperation with OECD and Eurostat, to draft a proposal for further work with concrete objectives and outcomes for its Bureau meeting in January 2014. The Bureau is invited to review the proposal for follow-up work.

(e) Selection of topics for in-depth reviews in 2014-2015 - for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/6 by UNECE)

7. The Bureau is invited to select the topics to be reviewed in-depth in 2014-2015 based on a proposal prepared by the secretariat. Furthermore, the Bureau is invited to select one of these topics for discussion at the CES 2014 plenary session to obtain input from all CES members for the review.

(f) Updated template for in-depth reviews - for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/7 by UNECE)

8. The Bureau asked the Secretariat to update the template for in-depth reviews to reflect the discussions at the October 2013 Bureau meeting. In addition to the issues currently included in the template, the reviews should identify priorities for national statistical offices taking into account their limited resources, and analyse key user needs. The Bureau is invited to review and approve the proposed template for in-depth reviews.

III. UNECE STATISTICAL WORK AND CES TEAMS OF SPECIALISTS

(a) Outcome of the seminar on poverty measurement – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/8 by UNECE)

9. In November 2012, the Bureau asked the Secretariat to organise a seminar in 2013, jointly with OECD and CIS-STAT, to discuss how to improve poverty measurement in the UNECE region. The seminar on the *Way forward in poverty measurement* was held on 2-4 December 2013. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the proposal for further work that emerged during the seminar, and approve the Terms of Reference for a Task Force on poverty measurement.

(b) Time-use surveys – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/9 by UNECE)

10. In October 2013, the Bureau endorsed the *Guidelines for harmonizing time-use surveys*. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to present a proposal for future work on time-use surveys based on the recommendations identified in the Guidelines, for its meeting in January 2014. The Bureau is invited to review and approve the proposal for follow-up work.

(c) Migration statistics – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/10 and 11 by the Steering Group and Task Force)

11. The Terms of Reference of the Steering Group on migration statistics expired in October 2013. Two Task Forces are working under the guidance of the Steering Group.

12. The Task Force on Measurement of the Socio-economic Conditions of Migrants (set up in November 2010) is currently finalising guidelines for the production of statistics on socio-economic conditions of migrants. The Guidelines were planned to be submitted to the 2014 CES plenary session for adoption but further work is required before they can be sent for electronic consultation to all CES members and submitted to the CES.

13. The work of the second Task Force, on circular migration (set up in February 2013) is proceeding as planned.

14. The Bureau is invited to review the progress of work, and decide on the extension of the mandate of the Steering Group and the Task Force on Measurement of the Socio-economic Conditions of Migrants for one year.

(d) Measuring human capital – for discussion and recommendations
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/12 by UNECE)

15. In June 2013, the CES established the Task Force on measuring human capital. The objective is to pursue the conceptual development of human capital measurement, with priority to be given on developing experimental human capital satellite accounts. The Bureau is invited to review the progress of work of the Task Force.

(e) Measuring sustainable development and implementation of SEEA – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/13 by UNECE)

16. The Bureau discussed the follow-up to the CES 2013 seminar on challenges in measuring sustainable development and implementation of SEEA in October 2013. The Bureau asked the Secretariat to prepare a more detailed proposal for further work on methodological issues on measuring sustainable development and on the implementation of SEEA in line with the proposals in the document ECE/CES/BUR/2013/OCT/18, and to organise the pilot testing of the *CES recommendations on measuring sustainable development*.

17. The Bureau is invited to discuss and approve the proposal for further work.

(f) Draft Guide on measuring global production – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/14 by the Task Force)

18. The Bureau set up the Task Force on global production in November 2011. The Task Force has prepared a draft *Guide on measuring global production*, as agreed at the October 2013 Bureau meeting. The Bureau is asked to decide whether the draft Guide can be circulated to all CES members for electronic consultation and comments. The plan is to finalise the Guide after the consultation within one year and present it to the CES 2015 plenary session for endorsement.

(g) Outcomes of the projects working under the High-Level Group for the modernisation of statistical production and services in 2013 – for discussion and recommendations (ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/15 by the High-level Group)

19. In October 2013, the Bureau confirmed the proposed governance structure for the modernization work, and approved the terms of reference for the new groups, subject to the High-level Group (HLG) reviewing and clarifying the objectives and outcomes of the groups at its meeting in November 2013.

20. The Bureau is invited to review the progress of work and the outcomes of HLG projects.

IV. PREPARATION FOR THE CES 2014 PLENARY SESSION

(a) Organisation of the CES 2014 seminar “Migration statistics” – for discussion and recommendations (ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/16 by Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, CIS-STAT, UNSD and UNECE)

21. The CES plenary session selected this topic for the CES 2014 seminars. At its October 2013 meeting, the Bureau reviewed the draft outline of the seminar and made recommendations. The Bureau is invited to provide advice on the organisation of the seminar based on the updated outline prepared by the seminar and session organisers.

(b) Organisation of the CES 2014 seminar “What is the value of official statistics and how do we communicate that value?” – for discussion and recommendations
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/17 by United Kingdom, Eurostat and Sweden)

22. The CES plenary session selected this topic for the CES 2014 seminars. At its October 2013 meeting, the Bureau reviewed the draft outline of the seminar and made recommendations. The Bureau is invited to provide advice on the organisation of the seminar based on the updated outline prepared by the seminar and session organisers.

(c) Recommendations on climate change related statistics – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/18 by Task Force)

23. The Bureau set up the Task Force on climate change related statistics in November 2011. The purpose of the Task Force was to identify practical steps to support future development of climate change related statistics and to enhance the role of official statistics in the area. The Task Force has drafted a report, including recommendations on climate change related statistics for the national statistical offices. The first draft of the recommendations was

considered at the CES 2013 plenary session and the comments by countries and organizations have been taken into account in the updated version.

24. The Bureau is invited to comment on the draft recommendations, and to decide whether they can be circulated to all CES members for electronic consultation with a view to present them to the CES 2014 plenary session for endorsement.

(d) Draft agenda and timetable for the 2014 plenary session - for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/19 by UNECE)

25. The Bureau is invited to discuss and approve the provisional agenda of the CES 2014 plenary session that has been updated to reflect the discussions at the October 2013 Bureau meeting.

V. UNECE PROGRAMME OF WORK DOCUMENTS – for decision

26. The Bureau is invited to review and approve the official documents of the Statistics subprogramme prepared in the context of the United Nations secretariat's biennial planning and reporting cycle. The following documents are submitted to the CES Bureau for approval:

- (a) Implementation of the Statistical Programme 2013 (ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/20);
- (b) Biennial Evaluation Report 2012-2013 (ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/21).

VI. ORGANISATION OF CES WORK

(a) Updated Guidelines for organising the CES seminars - for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/22 by UNECE)

27. In October 2013, the Bureau discussed the organisation of the CES seminars, and reviewed the *Guidelines for organising CES seminars*. The Bureau asked the Secretariat to update the instructions on the seminars to offer more flexibility, and reflect the issues raised during the discussions. One of the suggested improvements was to create a template for papers to be submitted to the CES seminars.

28. The Bureau is invited to review and approve the updated instructions for the CES seminars, including the template for the CES seminar papers.

(b) Governing rules of CES – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2014/JAN/23 by UNECE)

29. The sixty-fifth session of the Economic Commission for Europe decided that all subsidiary bodies and the Secretariat should apply the *Guidelines on procedures and practices for ECE bodies*. The Bureau will be invited to review the implications of these guidelines to the *Rules and procedures governing the work of the CES and its Bureau*.

VII. PRESENTATION OF ILO'S ACTIVITIES RELATED TO STATISTICS
– for discussion and recommendations

30. The Bureau regularly discusses the work and strategies of international organisations in statistics. In previous years, IMF, World Bank, Eurostat, UNSD, OECD, CIS-STAT, ILO, WTO, WMO, European Central Bank, UNEP and WHO have presented their statistical activities to the Bureau.

31. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) will be invited to present their activities related to statistics, such as the outcome of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians held in October 2013. The ILO work is linked to several items discussed at the Bureau meeting.

VIII. DATES AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

32. The Bureau is expected to confirm the dates and venue of its next meetings, including dates for the CES plenary session in 2015.

IX. OTHER BUSINESS

33. Any other topics can be taken up under this agenda item. Furthermore, the Bureau is expected to decide on the papers that will be made available on Internet before the meeting adjourns.

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