

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Approved

Meeting of the 2013/2014 Bureau
Geneva (Switzerland), 28-29 January 2014

Item 2(d) of the Provisional
Agenda

**FOLLOW-UP TO THE IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF
ENTREPRENEURSHIP STATISTICS**

Note prepared by Eurostat, OECD and the Secretariat

*As an outcome of the in-depth review on entrepreneurship statistics in October 2013, the Bureau asked the Secretariat, in cooperation with OECD and Eurostat, to draft a proposal for further work with concrete objectives and outcomes. **The Bureau discussed and approved the proposal for follow-up work (presented in paras 6-7 of this note).***

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its meeting in October 2013 the Bureau reviewed in-depth entrepreneurship statistics based on a paper by OECD and Eurostat (document ECE/CES/BUR/2013/OCT/3). On the basis of the discussion the Bureau agreed, that:

a) The Task Force on Statistical Business Registers should address issues related to entrepreneurship indicators raised in the in-depth review. This will mainly be relevant in the presentation and discussion of business demography information in statistical business registers.

b) The UNECE Secretariat in cooperation with OECD and Eurostat should draft a proposal for possible further work on entrepreneur statistics for the Bureau meeting in January 2014. The proposal should include concrete objectives and outcomes for the work. On-going work in entrepreneurship statistics and related areas should be taken into account to ensure coordination and avoid duplication of work. The proposal should also consider how the work could be broadened to non-Eurostat/non-OECD countries, such as the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) and South-East Europe (SEE). This could be done either through direct involvement of these countries in the work or through capacity building activities being part of the work.

2. Eurostat, OECD and UNECE have taken note of the issues concerning entrepreneurship statistics that were raised by the Bureau in October 2013.

II. CURRENT WORK IN THE AREA

3. Both Eurostat and OECD participate in the Task Force on Statistical Business Registers and consider the work on international guidelines for Statistical Business Registers very important for compiling business demography statistics. Statistical Business Registers have a major role for the quality and availability of relevant data.

4. The OECD-Eurostat Entrepreneurship Indicators Programme (EIP), launched in 2006, develops policy-relevant and internationally comparable indicators on entrepreneurship. These indicators are based on an analytical model and measurement infrastructure that allow gathering comparable data. The Programme has initially produced methodological tools to structure the development and collection of entrepreneurship indicators. Data gaps and challenges may be reflected in the annual publication *Entrepreneurship at a Glance*. This publication presents the actual collection of core indicators of entrepreneurial performance, as well as a selection of indicators of entrepreneurial determinants.

5. During the last few years many activities undertaken by the European Statistical System (ESS) and coordinated by Eurostat have reinforced the capacity of official statistics to deliver key information on entrepreneurship. In the beginning of 2014, new data series on employer businesses and high-growth enterprises will become mandatory for members of the ESS and feasibility studies on regional as well as infra-annual data within this area are taking place.

III. POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP WORK

6. To move forward, OECD and Eurostat suggest organising a meeting of the Entrepreneurship Indicators Programme (EIP) in the first half of 2014. The meeting would inform the participants about the outcome of the in-depth review, recent development activities and their results. The meeting would discuss the possibilities of strengthening work in the area of entrepreneurship statistics and priorities for future work.

7. On this basis, Eurostat and OECD in cooperation with UNECE secretariat would prepare a note for the October 2014 Bureau meeting. The note will inform the Bureau on the outcome of the EIP meeting and make proposals for possible future work to be carried out under the auspices of CES, taking into account the need to broaden this work to non-Eurostat/non-OECD countries.

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