

## Joint UNECE/ILO Meeting on Consumer Price Indices, Geneva, 10-12 May 2010

### INFORMATION NOTE

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#### 1. The purpose of the meeting

The Joint UNECE/ILO Meeting on Consumer Price Indices serves as a forum for discussion of methodological and practical aspects of the compilation of price indices. By presentation and discussion of papers and exchange of experiences the meeting supports the development of internationally accepted standards and methods and their implementation in practice. The meeting in May 2010 will discuss a number of substantive topics in areas suggested by the previous CPI meeting and recommended in the programme of work adopted by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians.

#### 2. Preliminary agenda of the meeting

##### Monday 10 May

The first day of the meeting will consist of four parallel workshops during the morning session, while the afternoon will be reserved to reports of the workshops and discussion. The workshop will discuss the following topics:

- **The use of scanner data**  
Organisers: Statistics Netherlands and the Federal Statistical office of Switzerland
- **Financial Services in the CPI**  
Organisers: Statistics Norway and the Australian Bureau of Statistics
- **Quality adjustment and seasonal products, clothing and food**  
Organisers: Statistics Canada and the Central Bureau of Statistics of Israel)
- **The Harmonised Consumer Price Index (HICP)**  
Organiser: Eurostat

The workshops will take place in the morning, while the afternoon will be reserved to reports of the workshops and discussion. Focus will be on practical problems and implementation of good practices, and participants are expected to take active part in the discussion and may be asked to provide examples or explain practices. Participants will have to register in advance on which workshop to attend on a first come basis.

The workshops will take place in English with no interpretation except for the workshop on HICP where there will be interpretation into and from French and Russian.

### **Tuesday 11 – Wednesday 12 May**

The second and third days of the meeting will consist of sessions on the following topics:

- **House price indices**

The session on house price indices will focus on the planned international *Handbook on Residential Property Price Indices*, where the first draft of the handbook will be presented and discussed.

- **User relations**

How do the statistical office deals with the users of their CPI? This may include issues such as: How to identify and meet user needs, how to communicate efficiently with the users and how to deal with users demands while maintaining statistical and professional independency?

- **Quality adjustment for services**

This may include examples of how quality adjustments are implemented for different types of services, for example within telecommunications, health or transport services, or financial and legal services.

- **CPI and the Globalization**

This session will cover issues on how globalization may impact the production of the CPI, for example through households' increased use of e-commerce, how the financial crises have impacted the CPI or if special measures have been developed to measure the price effects of globalization or financial crises.

- **System of price indices**

This may include issues that deal with the relationship between CPIs, PPIs and PPPs; synergies in the production processes; different organisational models; harmonisation with other statistics; overlap between the CPI and PPP samples; and the use of price indices for deflation.

The sessions will be introduced by a discussant after which the authors of invited papers will have the opportunity to present their papers and answer questions from the participants. A general discussion will follow, and the discussant will summarize and conclude the session. Additional papers may be presented, if time permits.

The working languages of the meeting on 11-12 May are English, French and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation in these three languages will be provided.

### **3. Contribution of papers**

Participants are invited to submit papers for the meeting on the above mentioned topics. Papers should be send in electronic form to Carsten Boldsen Hansen

([carsten.hansen@unece.org](mailto:carsten.hansen@unece.org)) by **16 April 2010**. Papers received before **10 February 2010** will be translated into the other UNECE working languages, English, French and Russian.

The agenda and papers of the meeting will be available at the UNECE web site at: [www.unece.org/stats/documents/2010.05.cpi.htm](http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2010.05.cpi.htm). Participants are encouraged to download the documents from the website and bring their own copies to the meeting.

#### **4. Registration for the meeting**

If you wish to participate in the meeting please complete the attached registration form and send it by email to Ms Tetyana Kolomiyets at [tetyana.kolomiyets@unece.org](mailto:tetyana.kolomiyets@unece.org) or fax: +41 22 917 0040, by **12 April 2008** at the latest. Please indicate in what workshop you would like to participate. The number of places per workshop is limited and participation will therefore be on a first come basis. The registration form is also available on [www.unece.org/stats/documents/2010.05.cpi.htm](http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2010.05.cpi.htm)

#### **5. How to enter the Palais des Nations / United nations**

In order to enter the Palais des Nations all participants need an ID badge. To obtain the badge, you will have to enter into the Palais des Nations at the **Pregny Gate**, Avenue de la Paix 14 (see the map) and present the following documents to the Security Office:

- The original duly completed registration form
- Photo ID (passport or identification card)

Once you have your badge it will be possible to leave and re-enter the Palais des Nations from the Pregny Gate or from the Nations Gate at Place des Nations, where the flags of the UN member countries can be seen. It is advisable to arrive in due time before the meeting starts in order to allow time to collect your badge and make your way to the meeting room. The Security Office at Pregny Gate is open Monday to Friday from 08.00 to 17.00.

Due to security procedures we advise participants not to bring large luggage (e.g. suitcases) to the Palais des Nations. Such luggage is not permitted into the building, and there is only limited storage space for it at the Pregny Gate.

The meeting rooms are indicated on the map on the last page.

#### **6. Transport in Geneva**

##### **Getting from the Airport to Geneva**

Geneva International Airport offers incoming passengers a **free ticket for public transport**. These tickets, available from a machine in the baggage collection area, allow you to use any public transport (train, tram, bus, boat) in Geneva and surrounding areas for a period of 80 minutes. Look for the machine pictured below after collecting your luggage and before walking out through the customs area.



When checking-in at your hotel you should receive a free [Geneva Transport Card](#), enabling you to use the entire Geneva public transport system free of charge throughout your stay.

Geneva Airport is approximately four kilometres from the city centre. The train is the most efficient way to get into the city centre. Follow the signs to the airport railway station from the arrivals area. All trains leaving from the airport stop at the central Geneva-Cornavin station. The journey takes six minutes.

**Buses** from the airport go to various parts of Geneva:

- Palais des Nations / United Nations: [bus 5](#) - stop Nations, [bus 28](#) - stop Appia
- Geneva city centre / Onex: [bus 10](#)

**Taxis** are available from the airport. They are metered, so costs will vary, but the journey from the airport to the city centre will usually cost around CHF 30.

Tourist and public transport information is available at the [Unireso](#) information desk in the airport arrival hall after you go through customs. More information on transport to and from the airport is available from [www.gva.ch/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-67](http://www.gva.ch/en/desktopdefault.aspx/tabid-67)

### **Transport to and from Palais des Nations**

Geneva is a small and walkable city. It takes about 25 minutes to walk from Cornavin, the Central Train Station, to the Place des Nations. It will take another 5-10 minutes to walk from the Nations entrance, through the building to the meeting room.

**Trams** no. 13 and 15 go from Cornavin to Place des Nations. From Cornavin take the tram in the direction 'Nations', which is also the name of the last stop where you should get of.

**Buses** 5, 8, 14, 28, F, V, and Z serve the Place des Nations, and stop close to the Nations gate. Buses 8, 28, F, V and Z also stop near the Pregny Gate at the stop named Appia.

Further information such as itineraries, timetables and fares, is available on the site of the Transports Publics Genevois ([www.tpg.ch/](http://www.tpg.ch/)).

**Taxis** are expensive but generally easy to find. A taxi stand is located on Avenue de la Paix, 50 metres uphill from the Nations gate. Taxis are usually available around the clock. The following direct telephone number will ensure arrival within minutes: 022 331 41 33.

## 7. Accommodation in Geneva

Participants are requested to make their own travel and hotel reservations. A list of hotels in Geneva can be found from e.g. [www.geneva-tourism.ch](http://www.geneva-tourism.ch). Participants are advised to book hotel accommodation well in advance of the meeting since hotels in Geneva may be fully booked in coincidence with large conferences or other events.

## 8. Visa requirements

Participants are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas should be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of Switzerland in the country in which the participants reside, with a reference to the Joint UNECE/ILO Meeting on Consumer Price Indices. If necessary, the UNECE can provide a letter to facilitate obtaining a visa. Please contact Ms Tetyana Kolomiyets ([tetyana.kolomiyets@unece.org](mailto:tetyana.kolomiyets@unece.org)) if you need a letter to obtain a visa.

## 9. Contact

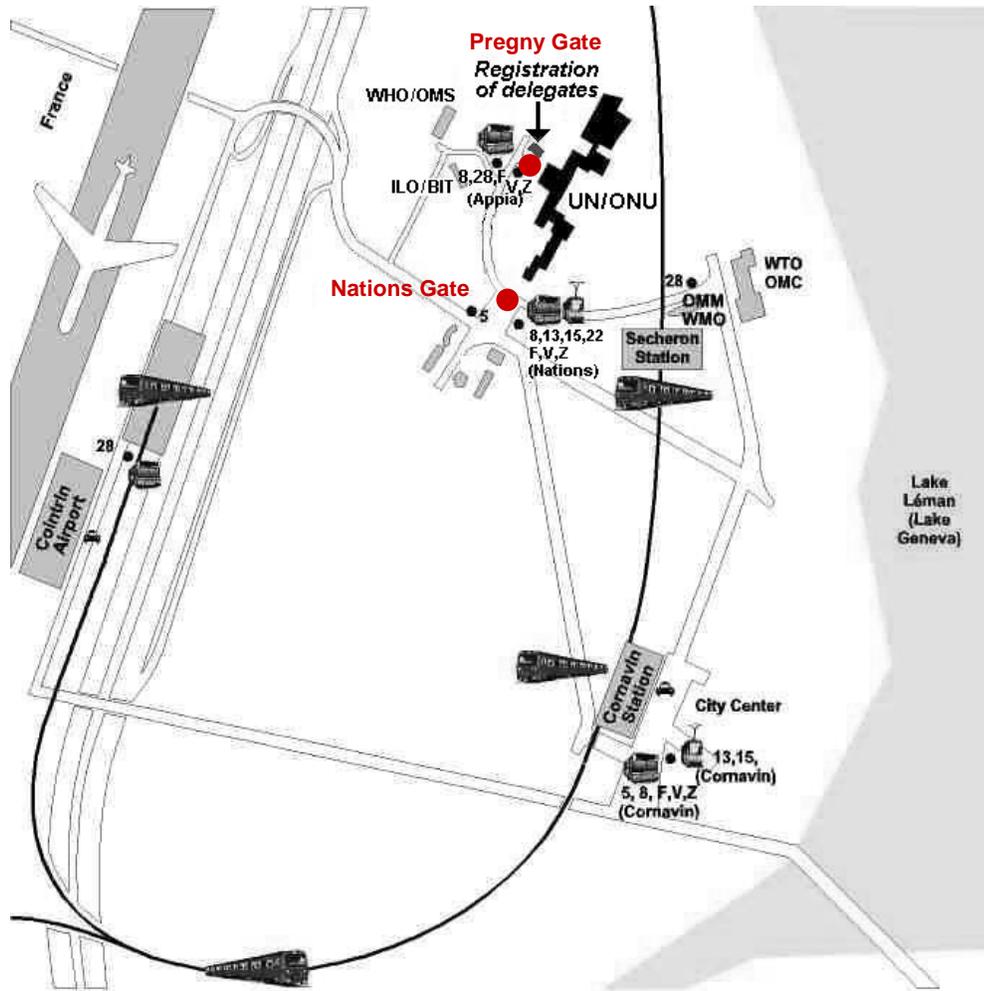
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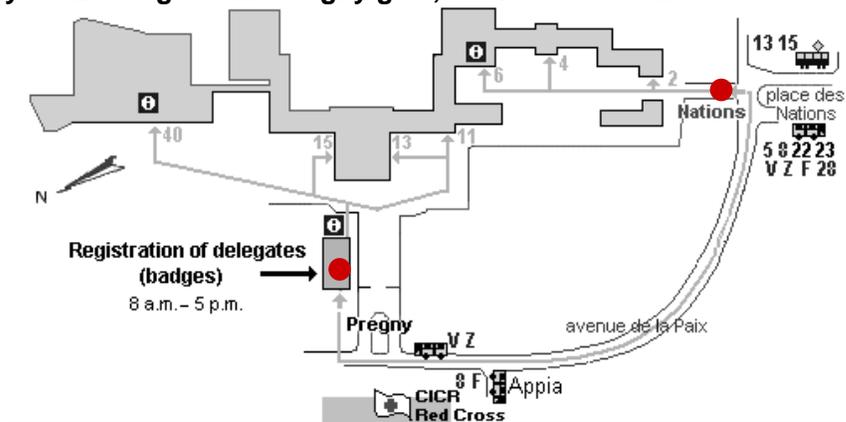
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## 10. Maps

How to find the UN building, Palais des Nations:



Obtain your ID badge at the Pregny gate, Avenue de la Paix 14:



Entry for delegates with valid ID badge: Nations Gate and Pregny Gate

## ROOM XV

Floor 2

Workshop:  
**Quality adjustment  
and  
seasonal products**

## Pregny gate ENTRANCE and ACCREDITATION BUILDING

## ROOM S4

Floor 3

Workshop:  
**Financial  
services**

## ROOM IV

Floor 3

Workshop:  
**Scanner  
data**

## ROOM XVII

Floor 1

Workshop:  
**HICP  
Joint UNECE/ILO  
meeting**

