

**UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

UNECE Work Session on Gender Statistics
(6-8 October 2008, Geneva, Switzerland)

INFORMATION NOTICE No.1

I. INTRODUCTION

1. UNECE is organising its biennial Work Session on Gender Statistics. The work session will be held at the United Nations, Palais des Nations, Avenue de la Paix 8, Geneva, from 6 October to 8 October 2008. Information on the purpose and agenda of the Meeting is given in sections II and III below.

II. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

2. The main purpose of the meeting is to facilitate the exchange of experiences among countries on gender statistics and present the work of the CES Task Forces in the area of Gender Statistics (TF on Gender Statistics Training for Statisticians, TF on the Measurement of Gender-based Violence, and TF on UNECE Gender Statistics Database). At the same time, the meeting will take stock of progress made in National Statistical Offices in the field of Gender Statistics. Areas such as the production and dissemination of gender statistical data, the measurement of statistics related to sub-population groups and economic indicators for gender analysis will be discussed.

3. The target audience of the meeting includes statisticians in national and international statistical offices responsible for gender statistics as well as users of gender statistics.

III. AGENDA OF THE MEETING

4. The programme of the meeting will consist of the following substantive topics:

- (i) Gender Statistics Training for Statisticians
- (ii) Usage of Statistical data for Gender Analysis at National and International Levels
- (iii) Measurement of Gender within Other Sub-population groups
- (iv) Economic Indicators for Gender Analysis

4. A short informational session on the progress of the CES Task Force in the area of gender-based violence will also be held.

5. Detailed explanatory notes on the topics (i) – (iv) are provided below.

Gender Statistics Training for Statisticians

6. In this session, the CES Task Force on Gender Statistics Training for Statisticians will present the draft version of the manual on gender statistics training. Discussants from a variety of perspectives will review the work and present practical information on how to utilize the manual for national and regional training events. Countries are expected to share their experiences in preparing and carrying out national training events on integrating the gender perspective in their national statistical systems.

Usage of Statistical data for Gender Analysis at National and International Levels

7. While collecting and providing gender statistics is essential, how the data are presented to the users and the public is very important. This session will discuss how to utilize the UNECE Gender statistics database to compare countries and tackle challenges related to the comparison of data. OECD will present their new **Wikigender** project, an online resource on gender equality. Countries are expected to discuss innovative approaches for disseminating and marketing statistics that can be used for gender analysis.

Measurement of Gender within Other Sub-population groups

8. A new challenge to the advancement of gender statistics is measuring gender disparities within other sub-population groups. Many people have double disadvantages as they are women as well as part of a sub-population group. In disaggregating data beyond the gender dimension to include other sub-population groups, it is methodologically challenging. Some of these issues will be discussed during the session together with issues related to discrimination. Country experiences on measuring gender and ethnicity will also be presented.

Economic Indicators for Gender Analysis

9. This session will focus on how to measure the gender perspective in the economy. Topics to be covered include the relevance and process of incorporating gender into national accounts. This session will also begin a discussion on the development of a regional set of economic indicators for gender analysis.

IV. PARTICIPATION, ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION FOR THE MEETING

10. Representatives of all Member States of the United Nations, and interested intergovernmental organizations, are welcome to participate in the meeting. All delegates must be accredited by the competent authority of their country or international organization. All delegates attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas must be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of the Switzerland in the country in which the delegates reside, with a reference to the UNECE Work Session on Gender Statistics. If necessary, the UNECE secretariat can provide a letter to facilitate obtaining a visa. This can be requested from the UNECE secretariat (fax: ++41 22 917 0040 or e-mail: mijidgombo.oyunjargal@unece.org)

11. Delegates should complete the registration form sent with this notice and return it to the UNECE Secretariat by **8 September 2008**. Those intending to submit a paper should take note of the deadlines and requirements under Section VI below.

12. In order to enter the Palais des Nations where the Work Session is being held, all participants need to obtain a security pass (ID badge). For this purpose, please present yourself with your passport and the registration form at the UN Security Identification Office at Pregny Gate of the Palais des Nations (Avenue de la Paix 14, Buses 8 and 18, Stop Appia), by 8:30 a.m. at the latest on Monday, 6 October 2008. The Security Identification Office is open Monday to Friday from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. (non-stop). For identification and security reasons, delegates are requested to wear their security badges at all times while inside the Palais des Nations.

13. Maps of Geneva, list of hotels and information for visitors to the Palais des Nations are available on the following website: <http://www.unece.org/stats/geneva.e.htm>. Please see map of the Pregny Gate on the above website: Geneva', 'Plan of the UN building').

V. ACCOMMODATION

14. Delegates are requested to make their own accommodation arrangements. Information about accommodation options in Geneva can be found at <http://www.geneva-tourism.ch>. Please also refer to Information Notice No.2 which contains details about Local arrangements in Geneva.

VI. DOCUMENTATION, METHODS OF WORK AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF THE MEETING

15. The working languages of the meeting are English, French, and Russian. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided and documents will be available in English, French, and Russian.

16. For each substantive item of the agenda, the Organizers will invite a limited number of speakers to write and present an **invited paper**. All other participants are welcome to submit a **supporting paper** for any topic on the agenda. The supporting papers will be distributed to the delegates via the Meeting's website. They will not be presented but only summarized by discussants.

17. Both invited and supporting papers can be submitted in English, French or Russian. Invited papers will be translated and therefore they will be available in English, French and Russian, provided that they will be submitted to UNECE **by 7 July 2008**. Supporting papers will not be translated and will be available only in the language in which they will be submitted. If papers will be submitted in French and Russian, the authors are invited, if possible, to also submit a short abstract (maximum one page) in English.

18. Invited and supporting papers will be made available on the website of the UNECE secretariat at the following location:

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2008.10.gender.htm>

19. The following deadlines and requirements apply:

- Interested national statistical offices and other government bodies should inform the UNECE secretariat of their intention to contribute a supporting paper (indicating the topic) by sending an e-mail message to linda.hooper@unece.org **by 25 April 2008**. The message should include a short abstract, (maximum one page) of the paper, possibly in English.
- The full versions of papers, *not exceeding 8 pages in length (including tables, references, annexes, etc.)*, should be sent to the UNECE secretariat by the following deadlines:
 - Invited papers should be submitted **by 7 July 2008** at the latest;
 - Supporting papers should be submitted **by 25 August 2008** at the latest;
- Papers should be submitted in MS Word format (in Times New Roman 12) electronically to Ms. Mijidgombo Oyunjargal (mijidgombo.oyunjargal@unece.org).

20. Delegates are encouraged to download the papers from the website and bring their own copies to the meeting. Documents posted on the website before the meeting will not be distributed in the conference room.

VII. FURTHER INFORMATION

21. For further information, please contact the following organizers:

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