

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

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

UNECE - UNESCAP Evaluation Meeting of the StatCapCA Project and 4th PWG Meeting on Statistics
(23-24 March 2009, Istanbul, Turkey)

INFORMATION NOTE No.1

I. INTRODUCTION

1. UNECE organizes, in collaboration with UNESCAP, an Evaluation Meeting of the StatCapCA Project. As the Meeting also will discuss and address needs and future activities in statistical capacity building in the six countries concerned – Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan – the meeting will also be held as the 4th SPECA PWG Meeting on Statistics. The Meeting will take place in the Polat Renaissance Istanbul Hotel, Sahil Cad. 34800 Yesilyurt, Istanbul, Turkey from 23 March to 24 March 2009. The Heads of the relevant Central Asian and Azerbaijan National Statistical Agencies, UNECE, UNESCAP and a number of observers from International Organizations are invited. Information on the purpose and agenda of the Meeting is given in sections II and III below. Please note that in 2009 no additional PWG Meeting on Statistics will be held back-to-back with the Conference of European Statisticians in Geneva in June 2009.

II. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

2. One main purpose of the meeting is to evaluate the activities, outcome and results of the United Nations Development Fund financed StatCapCA project, which have been implemented starting in spring 2006. The activities of the project are coming to an end in 2009 and most of the project activities have already been implemented by this time.

3. Also future capacity building needs in the countries concerned in the field of statistics and projects in relation to this will be discussed and addressed.

4. An important field of discussions will focus on ways to facilitate and improve exchange of experience and interaction between the Central Asian national statistical agencies in favour of future development. To this end the Heads of NSOs are kindly requested to bring in their priorities of future fields of support activities as well as their proposals on ways to improve mutual interaction into the discussion, if possible, also by short papers, distributed to participants during or in advance of the Meeting, preferably by the end of February 2009.

III. AGENDA OF THE MEETING

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

- (i) Reports on the activities of the StatCapCA Project
- (ii) Evaluation of the activities, outcome and results of the StatCapCA Project
- (iii) Ongoing projects of statistical capacity building in support of Central Asian National Statistical Agencies

- (iv) Expressions of needs for future projects and closer cooperation perspectives of National Statistical Agencies of Central Asia in support of statistical capacity building
- (v) Proposed but not yet approved future projects
- (vi) Other items
 - a. Revision of the Terms of Reference of the SPECA PWG on Statistics
 - b. Election of Chairperson of the SPECA PWG on Statistics for the next 3-years period
 - c. Other items

6. Detailed explanatory notes on the topics (i) – (vi) are provided below.

Reports on the activities of the StatCapCA Project

7. In two earlier SPECA PWG Meetings on Statistics UNECE has reported on the activities of the StatCapCA Projects and these reports have been made available on relevant UNECE web sites. The latest reports are provided also on the web site of the forthcoming meeting in Istanbul at the following link: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2009.03.speca.htm> .

Evaluation of the activities, outcome and results of the StatCapCA Project

8. The basic document for the evaluation of the StatCapCA Project will be the Evaluation Report, provided by Mr. Oleg Cara, Deputy Director of the National Statistical Bureau of Moldova, who has been assigned to produce the needed evaluation material in interaction with the six targeted National Statistical Agencies - Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. In the course of January-February 2009 Mr Cara has contacted the respective agencies for collecting information for this report.

Ongoing projects of statistical capacity building in support of Central Asian National Statistical Agencies

9. As the Meeting will discuss not only past but also future activities, projects supporting statistical capacity building are reported on the Meeting web site. These projects will be shortly presented by the lead implementation agency and the implementation process, schedule and other matters concerning their preparation will be discussed.

Expressions of needs for future projects and closer cooperation perspectives of National Statistical Agencies of Central Asia in support of statistical capacity building

10. One of the goals in the StatCapCA Project has been to increase the amount of interaction and exchange of best practices between the participating National Statistical Agencies. Except interaction in the sub-regional Training Workshops not very much activities of this kind have still taken place. For this reason it would be useful that the Heads of NSOs participating in the Istanbul Meeting would prepare expressions of needs for future projects and also speak up on ways to achieve closer cooperation between the National Statistical Agencies of Central Asia in support of statistical capacity building. All in advance prepared materials on this topic by the Agencies will promote the discussion and will be greatly appreciated. These materials will or will not be posted on the web site of the meeting, according to the wish of the submitting agency. In all cases these materials should be submitted to Mr Petteri Baer, UNECE, address below, by the end of February 2009.

Proposed but not yet approved future projects

11. Both UNECE and UNESCAP have produced a limited number of project proposals in support of statistical capacity building. Part of these project proposals are still not yet approved by the funding organizations or other relevant parties. It would, however, be useful to include also these pending projects into the discussion of future activities in support of statistical capacity building in the targeted Central Asian countries and Azerbaijan. Due to the still pending character of these projects the materials will be sent to the Heads of the Statistical Agencies by e-mail and will not (before acceptance) be published on the web site of the Meeting

Other items

12. The Terms of Reference (TOR) of the PWG on Statistics are to be reviewed after three years of their approval or sooner, if the PWG on Statistics or the SPECA Governing Council so decides. The three year period comes up in June 2009. UNECE will, in collaboration with UNESCAP, prepare a Draft Proposal on slightly revised TOR, as a number of expressions in the June 2006 approved TOR have become obsolete.

13. Tajikistan has served as chairing officer of the SPECA PWG on Statistics for a three years period by June 2008. Thus the question of chairmanship will be up for decision in this SPECA PWG Meeting.

14. Participants of the Meeting may wish to propose other items to be discussed when confirming the Agenda of the Meeting.

IV. PARTICIPATION, ACCREDITATION AND REGISTRATION FOR THE MEETING

15. Heads of the National Statistical Agencies in Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan are invited to participate in the meeting. Also a number of relevant International organizations are invited to the Meeting. All delegates must be accredited by the competent authority of their country or international organization.

16. Delegates should complete the registration form attached to this notice and return it to the UNECE Secretariat by email to catherine.chatelain@unece.org or by fax: +41 917 0040 by **5 February 2009**.

17. All delegates attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. For countrywise specifications, see www.mfa.gov.tr. Applications for visas must be made as soon as possible to the Embassy of the Turkey in the country in which the delegate resides, with a reference to the UNECE - UNESCAP Evaluation Meeting of the StatCapCA Project and the Intermediary PWG Meeting on Statistics. If necessary, the UNDP office in Turkey can provide a letter to facilitate obtaining a visa. Please send your request for a facilitating letter to Mr Kazim Tuna, UNDP Turkey, e-mail: kazim.tuna@undp.org or by fax: +90 312 496 1463. Please include passport details in the request and also send a copy of your request to the UNECE secretariat, e-mail: catherine.chatelain@unece.org.

18. The Meeting will take place in the Hotel, mentioned above in Paragraph 1. The hotel provides transfer services from the Istanbul Airport according to the following schedule:

SHUTTLE BUS SCHEDULE

From Hotel to the Airport:	From Airport to the Hotel:
06:30	07:00
07:30	08:00
08:30	09:00
09:30	10:00
10:30	11:00
14:00	14:30
15:00	15:30
16:00	16:30
17:00	17:30
18:00	18:30
19:00	19:30
20:00	20:30
21:00	21:30
22:00	22:30
23:00	23:30

V. ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

19. Delegates are requested to make their own hotel reservations at the hotel mentioned above. A bloc reservation has been made in advance for all participants to stay at Polat Renaissance Istanbul Hotel, Sahil Cad.

34800 Yesilyurt, Istanbul, Turkey from 23 March to 24 March 2009. For logistical reasons and in order to encourage international interaction during the Meeting, participants are strongly encouraged to reserve their accommodation in this hotel. Participants are, however, requested to make their own hotel reservations themselves at the e-mail address nayiri.bagdat@polatholding.com , Fax +90 212 414 19 72-73, Tel +90 212 414 18 68. Making use of the reservation code “Statistics – UNECE” will provide the accommodation at a negotiated, reduced price. The special price, EUR 130 for a single room, including breakfast, is applicable for reservations made before 25 February 2009.

20. UNECE will cover airfare and per diem (DSA) for the duration of the meeting for the Heads of invited National Statistical Agencies. As the UNECE will take the responsibility for covering the costs of the lunches during the meeting, the DSA will be adjusted to this situation. The funded participants are requested to pay their hotel room and dinner from their DSA.

21. Any other participant(s) from National Statistical Agencies and International Organisations will be at their own cost.

22. Any questions regarding travel arrangements or other issues concerning the meeting should be addressed to UNECE Secretariat, Mr. Petteri Baer, petteri.baer@unece.org , Tel +41 22 917 33 11 Questions regarding registration and travel arrangements should be addressed to Ms Catherine Chatelain, email: catherine.chatelain@unece.org , Tel.:+41 22 917 3096. .

23. Participants are advised to ensure that they have adequate travel and medical insurance for the duration of the meeting.

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

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

25. Materials of the Meeting will be gradually made available on the website of the UNECE secretariat at the following location:

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2009.03.speca.htm>

26. 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

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

Mr Petteri Baer
Statistical Division, UN Economic Commission for Europe
Palais des Nations
Avenue de la Paix 8-14
1211-GENEVA 10, Switzerland
Tel.: +41 22 917 33 11
Fax: +41 22 917 00 40
e-mail: petteri.baer@unece.org

Ms Catherine Chatelain
Statistical Division, UN Economic Commission for Europe
Palais des Nations
Avenue de la Paix 8-14

1211-GENEVA 10, Switzerland
Tel.: +41 22 917 30 96
Fax: +41 22 917 00 40
e-mail: catherine.chatelain@unece.org

REGISTRATION FORM

РЕГИСТРАЦИОННАЯ ФОРМА

**EVALUATION MEETING ON THE StatCapCA PROJECT AND INTERMEDIATE PROJECT
WORKING GROUP MEETING OF SPECA ON STATISTICS
СОВЕЩАНИЕ ПО ОЦЕНКЕ ПРОЕКТА «StatCapCA» И РАБОЧЕЙ ГРУППЫ ПРОЕКТА
СПЕКА ПО СТАТИСТИКЕ**

**Istanbul, Turkey / Стамбул, Турция
23-24 March 2009 / 23-24 марта 2009 г.**

Family name (Mr./Ms.): **First name:**
Фамилия (г-н, г-жа) **Имя**

Delegation (County and organization):
Делегация (страна и организация)

Professional title:
Должность

Official address:
Официальный адрес
(Name and address of government body, organization or company)
(Название и адрес учреждения, организации или компании)

Street/Улица:.....

City/Город: **Postal code/Почтовый индекс:**

Telephone/Телефон: **Fax/Факс:**

E-Mail: **Nationality/Национальность:**

Date and place (city and country) of birth/
Дата и место (город и страна) рождения:

Please complete this form and send it by fax to the UNECE Secretariat (+41 22 917 00 40) / Просьба
заполнить этот бланк и направить его по факсу в секретариат ЕЭК ООН (+41 22 917 0040).