



UNECE Weekly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Issue N° 31 – 1-5 September 2003

It's just happened ...

UN/CEFACT releases new standards

The UN/CEFACT Techniques and Methodologies Group (TMG) announces the final release of its Core Component Technical Specification (CCTS), Version 2.0, which can be downloaded from the TMG's Web site http://webster.disa.org/cefact-groups/tmg/doc_tmg.html under "Approved Documents". Prepared under the UN/CEFACT Open Development Process, interested parties from around the world have collaborated in the design and verification of the Specification through actual implementation. UN/CEFACT has a global remit and has led the development of international standards



for electronic transactions for government, commerce and industry. Its experience and ability to bring together world class experts and match trends in information technology with business requirements, in an open and transparent way, gives UN/CEFACT a unique viewpoint

UN/CEFACT announces also the successful completion of the ebXML technical standards work with the Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards (OASIS). In May 2003 the UN/CEFACT Plenary adopted the finalized set of ebXML (electronic Business with eXtensible Markup Language) specifications as UN/CEFACT Technical Specifications. UN/CEFACT and OASIS



have been working since 1999 on a joint initiative to expand the use and growth of the Internet by developing the next generation of electronic business standards based on XML. The ebXML initiative called for an 18-month worldwide open development project to create a technical framework enabling the use of XML as a consistent means for the exchange of electronic business data.

For more information, contact Hans Hansell: Hans.Hansell@unece.org

Generations and Gender Programme

The Generations and Gender Programme is a regional innovative study coordinated by the UNECE Population Activities Unit. Begun in 2000, the Programme aims at providing longitudinal and cross-sectional data, through a three-wave panel study with three-year intervals, covering the resident population aged 18-79 years of both sexes of the participating countries. The study will provide information on the dynamic inter-relationship between the economic and demographic processes, progress in poverty alleviation programmes, identification of vulnerable groups and their economic, social and demographic characteristics. The Programme is guided by a Consortium Board of regional academic research institutions and national statistical offices, and other similar national institutions. At its recent meeting in Berlin (7-8

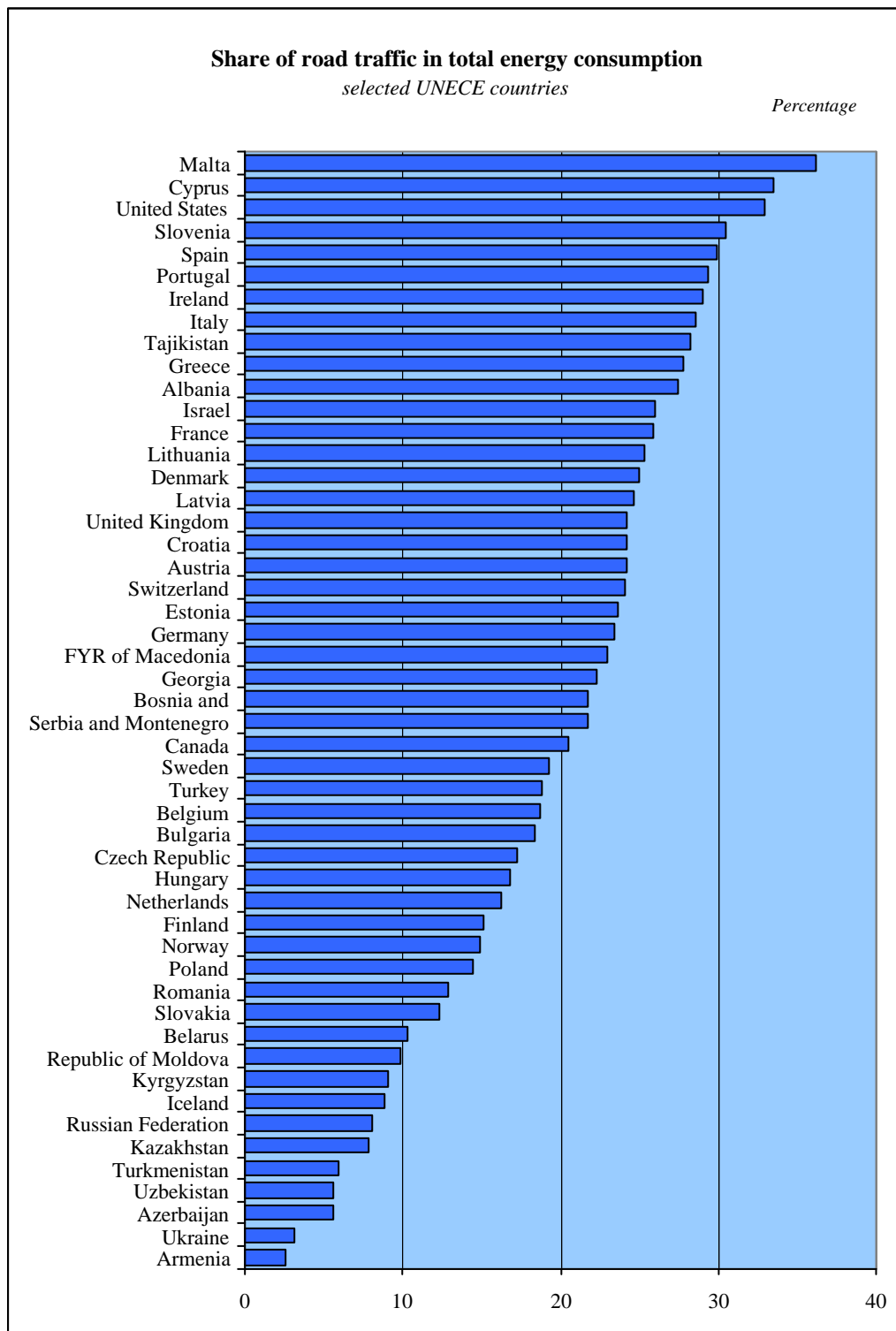
August) the Board approved a questionnaire and programme of work for the coming six months. It is expected that full implementation of the study will start in 2004. In 2001 Hungary carried out the first survey of the Programme based on a draft version of the questionnaire, and for 2004/2005 Austria, France and Germany have secured the necessary funding. Bulgaria, Lithuania, Romania, Russia, Slovakia and Slovenia are in an advanced state of planning and in the process of securing funding. In all, 29 countries have expressed an interest in carrying out the study. The Programme has attracted attention from outside the region, and Japan will carry out a GGP study in 2004. Up to now the costs of the Programme have been borne by the participating institutions and through grants from UNFPA and the Government of Switzerland.

Not an official record - For information only

Coming up soon ...

- 1-10 September Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Commission and the Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods
- 3-5 September Working Party on Effects
- 4-5 September Working Group on Environmental Monitoring

Facts and figures:



For further information
please contact:

Information Service
UN Economic
Commission for
Europe (UNECE)
CH - 1211 Geneva 10,
Switzerland

Tel: +41(0)22 917 44 44
Fax: +41(0)22 917 05 05

E-mail:
info.ece@unece.org

Web site:
<http://www.unece.org>

Source: UNECE Statistical Division, based on data from *Energy Balances of Non-OECD Countries 2002*, IEA Statistics, OECD; and *Energy Balances of OECD Countries 2002*, IEA Statistics, OECD.