

**CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

**Joint UN/ECE-Eurostat Work Session on Demographic Projections**  
(Perugia, Italy, 3-7 May 1999)

Information Note INF.1/Rev.3  
26 March 1999

**INFORMATION NOTICE**

The meeting will start at 10:15 on Monday 3 May 1999

**Background**

1. Until ten years ago demographic projection makers in the industrialised countries hardly communicated with each other. Therefore, little was known about the way they were making their products. Even with respect to the demographic assumptions used, no clear, complete picture was available. In order to improve this situation, an international workshop on national population projections was held in Voorburg (Netherlands) from 25-28 October 1988. The workshop took place under the auspices of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE) and was jointly sponsored and organised by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, Statistics Netherlands and the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI). Well over 40 forecast experts from 23 national statistical institutes discussed various aspects of their work.

2. Thereafter, the UN/ECE-Seminar on Demographic Projections was being held in Balatonoszöd (Hungary) from 25-29 September 1989. Several recommendations were made to continue and intensify international co-operation in the field of population projections. The latter gained momentum at the end of 1990 when the Statistical Office of the European Community (Eurostat) became active in this field. Key-information on latest official national population forecasts was annually collected and published. A working party on demographic projections was established to discuss latest developments in forecasting and ways to improve international comparability.

3. More recently, a joint UN/ECE-Eurostat Work Session on Demographic Projections was organised in Mondorf-les-Bains, Luxembourg, from 1-4 June 1994. Organisational assistance was provided by the national statistical offices of Italy, Netherlands, Norway, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, and by the NIDI. During this meeting, attended by over 75 participants from 29 industrialised countries, the 'state of the art' of the following types of projections was discussed: sub-national population projections, labour force and labour demand projections, projections of households and families. Numerous recommendations and suggestions were made to improve the quality of future work in this field. Also, it was recommended to organise a follow-up meeting in about 5 years time.

4. In order to fulfil this recommendation, ISTAT has offered to host the next joint UN/ECE-Eurostat Work Session on Demographic Projections. It will be held in Perugia from 3-7 May 1999.

### **Aim and the expected outcome of the meeting**

5. The joint UN/ECE-Eurostat Work Session basically aims to evaluate the current practice and experiences of population and household projections. Apart from reviewing the latest forecasts compiled by national statistical agencies, the meeting will discuss the draft assumptions of new long-term national population scenarios for Europe (prepared by the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute and Statistics Netherlands and to be used for the Fourth Population European Population Conference in September 1999). Furthermore, the results of several recently finished international demographic research projects will be presented, and eventually, promising new strategies will be examined. Finally, special attention will be paid to the issue of uncertainty, uses and users of demographic projections.

6. The Work Session should ultimately lead to a number of recommendations for future work by the Conference of European Statisticians and Eurostat in the field of demographic projections. Together with the papers and summaries of the discussions, the recommendations should receive wide distribution.

### **Programme of the meeting**

7. The programme of the Work Session is structured in eight distinct, half-day plenary sessions:

- Session 1.:** Latest international population projections for the ECE region;
- Session 2.:** Households - latest projections and promising research;
- Session 3.:** Fertility - latest forecasts and promising research;
- Session 4.:** Mortality - latest forecasts and promising research;
- Session 5.:** International migration - latest forecasts and promising research;
- Session 6.:** International migration - promising research;
- Session 7.:** Uncertainty, uses and users of demographic projections; and
- Session 8.:** Conclusions and recommendations of the Work Session.

8. UN/ECE and Eurostat are preparing the detailed programme in close co-operation with Statistics Norway, the National Statistical Institute of Italy (ISTAT), the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute, Statistics Netherlands, and the United States Bureau of the Census.

### **Participation**

9. In accordance with the standard Eurostat practice, all national agencies within the EU responsible for making official national population forecasts will be invited to send one representative. Also three research experts are invited.

10. Furthermore, in accordance with standard UN/ECE practice, national statistical offices and other national agencies in the UN/ECE region which are in charge of making the official demographic projections are invited to send their experts and to bear their transportation and per diem costs. Other United Nations Member States are also welcome to participate. Also a number of international organisations (e.g. UN, ILO, OECD) as well as national demographic institutes are expected to participate. In total, approximately 80 participants are foreseen.

### Languages and documentation

11. The working language of the Work Session is English. Translation and interpretation will not be available. Therefore documents contributed in other UN/ECE and/or EU languages should be accompanied by English summaries.

12. Documents for the Work Session should be submitted to the UN in electronic form (Microsoft Word, Word Perfect or RTF formats), preferably by e-mail: **projections.stat@unece.org**. According to the usual practice for meetings of the Conference of European Statisticians, they will be available on the UN/ECE WWW site at the following location:

**<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/1999.05.projections.htm>**

13. Participants who do not have access to the World Wide Web may request to receive documents by e-mail.

### Venue of the meeting

14. At the invitation of the National Statistical Institute of Italy (ISTAT), the joint UN/ECE-Eurostat Work Session on Demographic Projections will take place in Perugia from 3-7 May 1999. The meeting will be held in the Hotel Congress Centre "Villa Umbra", situated in the locality of Pila, on the outskirts of Perugia. Perugia is a city of history, art and culture and it is the main city of the Umbria region, which is called "Italy's green heart". Moreover, Perugia is surrounded by several beautiful towns including Assisi, Todi, Spoleto and Gubbio. General information about Perugia and Umbria (including travel, lodging and tourist information) can be found on the following websites:

**<http://www.umbria.org>**

**<http://www.perusia.it>**

**<http://www.egm.it/comuni/perugia.html>**

### Accommodation and travel arrangements

15. Participants are requested to send the registration form to Ms. Roberta Fontana of CESD-Rome (tel. +39 06 4673 3520; fax +39 06 46733611; e-mail **rfontana@cesdroma.org**). After reception of the registration form, CESD-Rome will take care of the hotel reservation. For participants at the meeting a number of rooms have been booked and are available at a special price in the two following hotels:

1) Hotel Congress Centre VILLA UMBRA (\*\*\*), Loc. Pila - 06139 Perugia

Telephone: +39 075 515971 (Switchboard); +39 075 5159739 (Secretariat)

Fax: +39 075 5159785

This is the hotel in which the meeting will take place. It is a comfortable three star hotel in which 20 rooms have been booked for participants at the meeting at the following rates (which include breakfast):

Single room: ITL 69,500 per night (about USD 40)

Double room: ITL 110,000 per night (about USD 64)

Triple room: ITL 131,500 per night (about USD 76)

Dinner (approx.): ITL 30,000 (about USD 17)

Park Hotel (\*\*\*\*), Via A. Volta 1 - 06100 Perugia

Telephone: +39 075 599-0444

Fax: +39 075 599-0455

This is a four star hotel that is warm and very comfortable but not expensive. A bus service will connect the Park Hotel and the Villa Umbra Hotel in the morning, the evening and for the social events. The rates of the hotel (which include breakfast) are as follows:

Single room: ITL 120,000 per night (about USD 70)  
Double room: ITL 195,000 per night (about USD 113)  
Triple room: ITL 250,000 per night (about USD 145)  
Dinner à la carte (approx.): ITL 45,000 (about USD 26)  
Buffet dinner: ITL 35,000 (about USD 20)

16. Participants are invited to send the registration form to CESD-Rome as soon as possible, because the number of rooms available at the special rate is limited and it can be difficult to obtain a room in these hotels unless the reservation is made well in advance of the meeting.

**Passports and visas**

17. All participants attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. Applications for visas should be made to the embassy or consulate of Italy in the country in which the participants reside. Visa applications should refer to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the joint ECE-Eurostat Work Session on Demographic Projections. If a formal invitation letter is required by the embassy, this can be requested from the ECE secretariat. Participants whose participation in the meeting will be covered by PHARE or TACIS funds should request to receive a letter of invitation from ISTAT or CESD-Rome.

**Access to Perugia**

18. Perugia is not far from Rome and Florence and can be easily reached from these two cities by train, bus or car. In addition, Perugia has a local airport with daily flights from and to Malpensa Airport in Milan, where direct flights are available from and to most of the main international destinations. In planning their travel, participants in the meeting should bear in mind that Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup> is an Italian national holiday. In addition, Sunday May 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be an important religious event in Rome, which could cause delays in the transportation system because of the large number of tourists who are expected to participate to the ceremonies.

By air

19. The Perugia Sant'Egidio Regional Airport is situated 16 km from the city's center. There are two daily flights connecting Perugia and Malpensa Airport in Milan. There are no regular flights between Perugia and Rome. However, participants who want to reach Perugia via Rome can travel from Rome to Perugia by train or bus (see below).

20. The timetables for the flights between Milan Malpensa and Perugia S. Egidio are presented below for reference. Participants to the meeting, however, should contact their travel agency to confirm schedules and availability of flights.

Milan Malpensa - Perugia S. Egidio	Flight AZ1649	hrs. 13.00 - 14.00
Milan Malpensa - Perugia S. Egidio	Flight AZ1657	hrs. 19.20 - 20.20
Perugia S. Egidio - Milano Malpensa	Flight AZ1648	hrs 06.35 - 07-35
Perugia S. Egidio - Milano Malpensa	Flight AZ1656	hrs 14.30 - 15.30

By train

21. Several trains daily connect Perugia with both Milan (via Florence-Terontola) and Rome (via Foligno or via Terontola).

By bus

22. Daily bus connections from and to Fiumicino Airport in Rome:

From Monday to Saturday:

Roma Fiumicino Airport	hrs. 14.30	Perugia P.le Partigiani	hrs. 18.15
Roma Fiumicino Airport	hrs. 16.30	Perugia P.le Partigiani	hrs. 20.15
Roma Fiumicino Airport	hrs. 17.30	Perugia P.le Partigiani	hrs. 21.15

Sunday:

Roma Fiumicino Airport	hrs. 16.30	Perugia P.le Partigiani	hrs. 20.15
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From Monday to Saturday:

Perugia P.le Partigiani	hrs. 06.30	Roma Fiumicino Airport	hrs. 10.10
Perugia P.le Partigiani	hrs. 08.00	Roma Fiumicino Airport	hrs. 11.10
Perugia P.le Partigiani	hrs. 09.00	Roma Fiumicino Airport	hrs. 12.10

Sunday:

Perugia P.le Partigiani	hrs. 07.30	Roma Fiumicino Airport	hrs. 10.40
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The rates are as follows:

Roma Fiumicino Airport - Perugia P.le Partigiani Lit. 31.000

Perugia P.le Partigiani - Roma Fiumicino Airport Lit. 31.000

Please, take notice that a valid return ticket costs: Lit. 53.000

By car

23. Perugia can be easily reached by car from both Rome (176 Km.) and Florence (158 Km.). Coming from Northern Italy (Milan - Bologna - Florence) on the "Autostrada del Sole", leave the highway at the "Val di Chiana" toll gate and then follow the indications for Perugia. Coming from South (Naples, Rome), on the same "Autostrada del Sole" (toward Florence, Bologna, Milano), the highway must be left at "Orte". Coming from the Northeast (Brenner Pass or Venice, towards Padova and Ravenna) the route E45 must be followed all the way to Perugia.

Connections in Perugia

24. From Perugia S. Egidio Airport or Piazzale dei Partigiani to the hotels a free shuttle service will be available to the participants at the meeting.

**Social events**

25. Evening trips to some of the historical and typical towns around Perugia will be organised for the participants. The relevant information will be made available as soon as the program of the events will be finalised.

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