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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Forty-third plenary session  
(Geneva, 12-15 June 1995)

PROGRAMMES OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL  
WORK IN THE ECE REGION, 1995/96 AND 1996/97:  
AN INTEGRATED PRESENTATION

**SUB-PROGRAMME 5: NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS**

The format of this integrated presentation

1. This is intended to be a fully integrated presentation of international work programmes in the ECE region. That is to say it includes not only the statistical work of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), but also the relevant statistical work carried out in the ECE region by the Commission of the European Communities, OECD, the UN Statistical Division (UNSD), ILO, WHO, IMF, the World Trade Organization (ex GATT), the World Bank, The Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS STAT) and many other agencies. The programmes are presented in six separate documents - one for each domain in the Conference's programme of work - as follows:

- Sub-programme 1: Organization and Operation of statistical services  
(CES/1995/R.25/Add.1)
- Sub-programme 2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues  
(CES/1995/R.25/Add.2)
- Sub-programme 3: Economic statistics (CES/1995/R.25/Add.3)
- Sub-programme 4: Social and demographic statistics (CES/1995/R.25/Add.4)
- Sub-programme 5: Natural resources and environment statistics  
(CES/1995/R.25/Add.5)

Sub-programme 6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities  
(CES/1995/R.25/Add.6)

2. The integrated presentation is prepared annually, according to the following timetable:

i) December-February : The ECE secretariat obtains information from the other organizations on their programmes of work and prepares a first draft of the integrated presentation for review by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians at its February meeting of each year.

ii) March-June : The integrated presentation is updated and amended to include the Bureau's recommended decisions to the Conference in each field of statistics, and it is presented in draft form for review by the Conference at its annual meeting in June.

iii) July-August : The integrated presentation is amended to reflect the decisions taken by the Conference at its June meeting concerning its own work programme, and it is issued in its final form for the forthcoming two-year period.

3. Thus, the material presented in the six documents referred to above has been amended to reflect decisions taken by the Conference at its June 1995 plenary session. The Conference approved the parts of the integrated presentation that comprise its own work programme. It also offered suggestions and advice on planned future work in the parts of the integrated presentation that are the responsibility of other international organizations.

4. Each sub-programme is sub-divided into a number of programme elements, and each programme element is described within the following framework:

OBJECTIVES OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS: Broad aims of national statistical offices for international work in that field over the next several years.

EXPECTED COLLECTIVE OUTPUT IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS: Specific outputs expected by countries in the next two years.

ISSUES TO WHICH THE ATTENTION OF THE CONFERENCE IS DRAWN: List of issues in each field of statistics that the Bureau of the Conference brought to the attention of the Conference at its plenary session.

DECISIONS BY THE CONFERENCE AT THE 1995 PLENARY SESSION: List of decisions on its programme of work taken by the Conference at the plenary session.

MEETINGS IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS: Sponsoring agency, title, date.

RAPPORTEUR/FOCAL POINT: International organization that the Conference has recommended be assigned responsibility for monitoring on behalf of the Conference progress towards the objectives and outputs specified for a programme element.

ACTIVITIES AND MEANS IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS: Description of the major activities of agencies in that field in the coming two years. Information is also given in this section on ECE resource implications for the work to be carried out by the ECE secretariat (the resource implications are classified as follows: minimal (less than 3 work months; moderate (3-6 work months); and substantial (over 6 work months)), and on priority ratings for the Conference's own programme of work (which are labelled "Priority A", "B" or "C" - Priority A indicates work to be undertaken by the Conference in 1995/96; Priority B means work is planned for 1996/97 but not for 1995/96; Priority C indicates work is not planned to be undertaken by the Conference in that field during the next two years).

#### Priority menus and lists of meetings

5. The "priority menu" summarizing the major types of activities the Conference plans to work on during the next two years in all projects in the sub-programme is given at the end of this addendum, together with a consolidated list of meetings that the ECE, Eurostat and the OECD plan to organize under this sub-programme in the next two years.

#### List of programme elements in the programme of work of the Conference

6. The list of programme elements in the whole programme of work of the Conference is given in Table 1, together with an indication of the document in which information for that programme element can be found.

#### Other related information

7. As the integrated presentation is being presented in the same format in six separate documents, this explanatory note on the new format of the presentation is being reproduced in each of the documents. A separate short document (CES/1995/R.25) describes the background to the development of the format used here and provides additional information including an explanation of acronyms used.

**Table 1. List of programme elements in the programme of work of the Conference (together with an indication of the document in which information for that programme element can be found)**

Sub-programme	Programme element
<u>Sub-programme 1</u> : Organization and Operation of statistical services (See document <b>CES/1995/R.25/Add.1</b> )	1.1 Issues of statistical policy 1.2 Transition countries 1.3 Promotion and coordination of international statistical work 1.4 Technical assistance to developing countries
<u>Sub-programme 2</u> : Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues (See document <b>CES/1995/R.25/Add.2</b> )	2.1 Management of statistical information technology 2.2 Statistical data collection and processing 2.3 Dissemination and interchange of statistical information 2.4 Industry, commodity and occupation classifications 2.5 Statistical methodology 2.6 Geography 2.7 Regional statistics 2.8 Training

Sub-programme	Programme element
<p><u>Sub-programme 3</u> : Economic statistics (See document <b>CES/1995/R.25/Add.3</b>)</p>	<p>3.1 Implementation of the system of national accounts</p> <p>3.2 Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments</p> <p>3.3 International trade in goods</p> <p>3.4 Transport</p> <p>3.5 Distributive trades</p> <p>3.6 International trade in services</p> <p>3.7 Tourism</p> <p>3.8 Other marketed services, and non-marketed services</p> <p>3.9 Price statistics, including purchasing power parities</p> <p>3.10 Agricultural statistics</p> <p>3.11 Industrial statistics</p> <p>3.12 Energy statistics</p> <p>3.13 Science and technology statistics</p> <p>3.14 Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics</p> <p>3.XX Other work in the field of economic statistics</p>
<p><u>Sub-programme 4</u> : Social and demographic statistics (See document <b>CES/1995/R.25/Add.4</b>)</p>	<p>4.1 Social indicators and frameworks</p> <p>4.2 Gender statistics</p> <p>4.3 Multi-purpose social surveys</p> <p>4.4 Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics</p> <p>4.5 Population and housing censuses</p> <p>4.6 Health statistics</p> <p>4.7 Crime and criminal justice statistics</p> <p>4.8 Education and training statistics</p> <p>4.9 Culture statistics</p> <p>4.10 Labour statistics</p> <p>4.11 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)</p> <p>4.12 Human settlements and housing statistics</p> <p>4.13 Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income inequality</p> <p>4.14 Statistics on population groups of special interest</p> <p>4.XX Other work in the field of social and demographic statistics</p>
<p><u>Sub-programme 5</u> : Natural resources and environment statistics (See document <b>CES/1995/R.25/Add.5</b>)</p>	<p>5.1 Standards and frameworks for environmental data and indicators</p> <p>5.2 Natural resources and environmental accounting</p> <p>5.3 Environmental database development and dissemination</p>

Sub-programme	Programme element
<u>Sub-programme 6</u> : Dissemination and support for secretariat activities (See document <b>CES/1995/R.25/Add.6</b> )	6.1 Dissemination of statistical data by the secretariats 6.2 Statistical support for other activities of the secretariats

**SUB-PROGRAMME 5**  
**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS**

**Intersecretariat Task Force:**

The Task Force on Environment Statistics, convened by the UN Statistical Division, oversees international coordination in environment statistics, indicators and accounting. In particular, the Task Force maintains a synopsis of programmes and activities of international institutions in this area of work. The information reported here is extracted from it.

**Decisions by the Conference at the 1995 plenary session:**

In its review of this sub-programme at the 1995 plenary session, it was proposed that higher priority should be given in this sub-programme to work done by ECE in the areas of classifications and physical environmental accounting, and that work by the ECE on environmental database development should be given lower priority. In addition, the Conference stressed that continuous collaboration and joint work of participating international organizations (ECE, OECD, Eurostat, European Environmental Agency, etc.) in the field of environment statistics as the way of ensuring that no duplication of work occurs in this field (see ECE/CES/48, paras. 78, 79 and 83)

**5.1            STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORKS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DATA AND INDICATORS**

**Objectives over the next several years:** To develop an integrated system of internationally comparable environmental statistics capable of assisting governments in setting and adjusting regulatory, taxation and resource management policies focused partially or entirely on natural resources and the environment. Major components include the development and revision of statistical definitions, concepts, classifications and frameworks. Priority areas include: environmental protection expenditures; waste products and recycling; air; water; land; flora and fauna; ecological statistics; and environmental indicators.

**Expected collective output in the next two years:** Gradual completion of coverage of international methodological guidelines, recommendations and standards for use by international institutions and national offices; updating of existing guidelines, recommendations and standards in accordance with priorities and resources available. First priorities on environmental protection expenditures and facilities and on statistics on waste and recycling. Provision of a forum for the exchange of methodological experiences obtained in national institutions, and the discussion of solutions to arising problems; preparation of assistance schemes for the enhancement of national capabilities for developing environment statistics in

accordance with national requirements, particularly as regards European countries in transition to a market economy.

**Attention of the Conference was drawn to the following:**

- Eurostat is the lead agency in the developmental work that ECE and Eurostat are jointly undertaking in the field of waste and recycling statistics;
- UNSD is playing an important role at the global level in coordinating work on environmental data and indicators;
- The plan of the ECE secretariat to reactivate work on fauna, flora and habitat statistics;
- The plan of the ECE secretariat to commence work on statistics regarding chemicals in the environment.

**Decisions by the Conference at the 1995 plenary session:** The Conference agreed

- That higher priority should be given in this programme element to work by the ECE in the field of classifications;
- To approve the secretariat's proposal to reactivate work on fauna, flora and habitat statistics in the Conference's work programme;
- To include the joint ECE/Eurostat work session on waste and recycling statistics, the work session on methodology and the work session on fauna, flora and habitat statistics in the Conference's 1995/96 meeting programme.
- To include the joint ECE/Eurostat work session on waste and recycling statistics in the Conference's 1996/97 meeting programme;
- The Conference also supported ECE activities oriented towards the methodological development of environment statistics, particularly in the development of classifications and standards in the areas of land use and waste and recycling.

**Meetings in the next two years:**

ECE/Eurostat joint work session on waste and recycling statistics  
(Luxembourg, April 1996)

ECE/Eurostat joint work session on waste and recycling statistics (Geneva,  
fall 1996)

ECE/Eurostat joint work session on methodology (11-14 September 1995)

ECE/Eurostat joint work session on methodology (... September 1996)

ECE work session on fauna, flora and habitat statistics (Geneva, November  
1995 and/or March 1996)

ECE work session regarding statistics on chemicals in the environment  
(Geneva, 1996/97)

EUROSTAT: Environment statistics - sub-group on waste (19 June 1995)

EUROSTAT: Environment statistics - sub-group on economic data (25 September  
1995)

EUROSTAT: Environment statistics - sub-group on green accounting (23 October

1995)

EUROSTAT: Environment statistics - sub-group on waste (21 November 1995)

EUROSTAT: Environment statistics - statistical programme working group (22-23 November 1995)

OECD: Group on the State of the Environment (June 1995)

UNSD: Meetings of the Inter-governmental Working Group on the Advancement of Environment Statistics (... , 19..)

**Rapporteur/focal point**: (to be designated at the 1996 plenary session)

**Activities and means in the next two years:**

**Activities of ECE**: (CES priority A)

Waste and recycling : Development, in cooperation with Eurostat, of a Single European Standard Statistical Classification of Waste and Recycling.

Secretariat resources: Moderate.

Fauna, flora and habitat : Preparation of a draft habitat classification as part of the overall revised framework of fauna, flora and habitat statistics.

Secretariat resources: Moderate to substantial.

Industrial sector : Development of agricultural statistics of the environment, together with the OECD and Eurostat.

Secretariat resources: Minimal.

Chemicals in the environment : Development of a conceptual scheme for statistics on chemicals in the environment.

Secretariat resources: Moderate to substantial.

Methodology : Organization of joint annual work sessions with Eurostat and, possibly, specific task forces, to consider methodological aspects of environment statistics. Preparation, if and when required, of 'readings volumes' of methods used in the collection, compilation or dissemination of environment statistics.

Secretariat resources: Minimal.

Coordination : Participation in coordination schemes, in particular the Task Force on Environment Statistics .

Secretariat resources: Minimal.

**Activities of OECD:** OECD work on environmental indicators comprises: (i) Development of a core set of environmental indicators (this activity has given rise to the development of a conceptual framework (publication in 1993) and the measurement of the core set of indicators (publication in 1994); and (ii) development of sectoral indicators to integrate environmental concerns into sectoral policies (to date, indicators on transport/environment and energy/environment have been published, and ones on agriculture/environment and forestry/environment are under preparation).

**Activities of Eurostat:** (Theme 88: Statistics of the Environment (part of))

The statistical programme is influenced by the implementation of the Fifth Action Programme of the Community in relation to the environment and sustainable development and the related mid-term review of the engagements taken at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit with the adoption of the Agenda 21. This programme signals a change of emphasis from regulatory environmental policy towards an approach which integrates environmental policy into the economy and the different sectoral policies. This is an excellent opportunity to integrate environmental policies and statistics with the sectoral and general social and economic policy and statistics. Eurostat has reoriented its initiatives onwards to develop its contribution to the high level political discussion on "green accounting" and "environmental" and "sustainable indicators".

The starting of the operational work of the European Environment Agency (EEA) has seen the development of a joint work programme. The broad lines of co-operation were defined in the Council decision on "a four-year programme to develop the environmental component of official statistics". A "memorandum of understanding" on the modalities of co-operation has also been drawn up. This joint programme is based on the one hand on the 1995 Statistical Programme with indication of the Agency's contributions to the different modules and on the other hand on the agency's work programme with indications by Eurostat on its involvement in their modules. International co-operation will be influenced by this new player. The memorandum of understanding gives the respective guidelines for presentation of statistical matters where Eurostat is the Communities' representative in the UN Statistical Commission and in the Conference of European Statisticians and in OECD statistical communities.

Eurostat is taking an active part in the statistics environment task force of UNSD, has joint projects with ECE (i.e. waste, classification of environmental activities for the assessment of environmental expenditure, Dobris report and data bank) and OECD (common questionnaire, Dobris report and data bank, indicator and accounting work). Eurostat will develop further cooperation in future especially in data collection activities.

**Waste statistics:** The improvement of information on waste is a high political priority of the Fifth Action Programme and is a key area in the

EEA's multi-year programme. Present planning includes: developing legislation covering surveys of generation of waste and the activities of firms and others (local authorities) specialised in waste handling; building of a statistical classification as a joint programme with ECE; continuing methodology work; continuing to endeavour to adapt and use external trade statistics in order to get useful data on Community external trade in waste.

Water statistics: This is also a key area for the EEA but one in which Eurostat's work is only embryonic. The aim is to build up the data on water abstraction and consumption by major activities, on discharges and loads of waste water and on waste water treatment, as a major contribution to completing overall water balance sheets which will take account of uses of water of different qualities. The work aims to achieve a harmonisation of definitions and units coordinate existing data collection by the Commission (standardised reporting) and by the numerous Council directives on water with the Eurostat/OECD questionnaire which should be adapted to the new needs of the Commission and the EEA work programme.

Atmospheric emission statistics : Highest political priority is given to the implementation of obligations to monitor CO<sup>2</sup>. Nomenclature for integrated emissions inventory should be developed and there should be statistical support for the Corinair programme run by the EEA.

#### Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistical Division (UNSD) : Activities will be oriented towards the methodological development of environmental statistics and indicators, in particular: (a) development of a draft set of environmental indicators for national and international data collection; (b) collaborative research project on indicators of sustainable development (with SCOPE); (c) directory of environmental data; (d) glossary of terms of environmental statistics. The development of an agreed list of environmental and sustainable development indicators is under the aegis of the Statistical Commission and the Commission on Sustainable Development.

It is anticipated that a manual of environmental indicators will be prepared in 1997. A compendium of internationally comparable environmental statistics and indicators is also under consideration. Substantive servicing of and participation in the Task Force on Environment Statistics, the Inter-governmental Working Group on the Advancement of Environment Statistics and other coordinating mechanisms for statistics will also take place.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) : Development of standards for environmental metadata (UNEP-HEM); development of methods to use digital environmental maps and data for decision-making; publication of guidelines and quality assurance control methods related to air pollution measurements and assessments; development of new approaches to environmental reporting, in collaboration with RIVM; development of an environmental information and decision support system, in collaboration with IIASA; development of software for water quality analysis (GEMS-RAISON); preparation of monitoring manuals for ground- and surface water; development for conversion mechanisms

for land use/land cover data, together with FAO; development of indicators from models of integrated environment-development assessments, together with RIVM; support to the SCOPE project on indicators for sustainable development.

The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) : Development of the City Data Programme; preparation of urban data concepts, definitions and classifications; development of municipal waste management indicators; development of the environmental component of the Urban Management Programme; development of the Urban Indicators Programme for city diagnostic (social development, infrastructure, environmental management and local authorities); development of a small set of city indicators.

The World Health Organization (WHO) : Decade Monitoring System of water supply and sanitation (DEMOS); Joint Water Supply and Sanitation Monitoring Programme (together with UNICEF); development of environmental health indicators (European Centre for Environment and Health, ECEH); Monitoring system on environmental health in the Palestinian Occupied Territories (GAZAMS); Small Community Environmental Monitoring (SCEM); GEMS/AIR and GEMS/WATER, together with UNEP, WMO, UNESCO; preparation of guidance on monitoring and data analysis methods; Health and Environment Data Linkage Analysis and Monitoring Project (HEDLAMP); establishment of emission inventories for data-poor environments; guidelines for decision-making and management in water pollution control and environmental health.

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) : Development and consideration of measurement procedures, protocols and statistical aspects of meteorological and hydrological data.

The Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (DPCSD) : Progress reports on sustainable developments; development of a provisional list of indicators for sustainable development.

The World Resources Institute (WRI) : Collaborative research on indicators of sustainable development - SCOPE project for 1997.

## 5.2 NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTING

**Objectives over the next several years:** To assess frameworks for natural resource and environmental accounting which join with the System of National Accounts to provide a coherent framework for policy-making with respect to economy-environment linkages.

Specific objectives include the resolution of differing methods of valuation for natural resources such as minerals, timber and fish; the development of methods for valuing non-commercial environmental assets such as wildlife, water and air; considering a consensus on the definition of new "green" national accounting; and the development of a standard organizational

structure and conceptual basis for physical resource use and waste output accounts.

**Expected collective output in the next two years:** A work plan for coordinated and cooperative development of approaches to environmental accounting. Preparation of an Executive Summary for the CES and its Bureau.

For ECE, a report on possible accounting schemes for land use/cover and nutrients in the environment, for submission to the Conference at the 1995 plenary session.

**Attention of the Conference was drawn to the following:**

**Decisions by the Conference at the 1995 plenary session:**

- That higher priority should be given in this programme element to work by the ECE in the field of physical environmental accounting.
- To approve the suggestion by the Conference's Task Force on environmental Accounting to develop a comprehensive framework for physical environmental accounting under the auspices of the CES through work undertaken jointly by experts in ECE countries.
- To include the work session on physical environmental accounting in the Conference's 1995/96 meeting programme.

**Meetings in the next two years:**

ECE work session on physical environmental accounting (Geneva, March 1996)  
UNEP workshop on progress in the development and application of integrated environmental and economic accounting (... 1995)

EUROSTAT: Environment statistics - sub-group SERIEE (25-26 September 1995)

EUROSTAT: Environment statistics - sub-group Green accounting (23 October 1995)

OECD: Seminar on environmental accounting (... , 19..)

**Rapporteur/focal point:** (to be designated at the 1996 plenary session)

**Activities and means in the next two years:**

**Activities of ECE: (CES Priority A)**

Physical environmental accounting : Preparation of a comprehensive framework for physical environmental accounting through a joint effort of appointed national experts. ( Note for the Conference : The Conference created a Task Force on physical environmental accounting at its 1991 plenary session. Its aim was to explore in the context of two pilot studies the feasibility of physical environmental accounting at large scale. The Task Force recommends to launch the conceptual work on a comprehensive framework for physical

environmental accounting. The recommendations of the Task Force do not overlap with accounting work done in other fora, notably the London Group).

Secretariat resources: Moderate.

Assistance to the development of accounting schemes in European transition countries: Support to projects, funded from UNEP or other sources, which aim at enhancing capabilities for environmental accounting and related database management in national statistical offices of European countries in transition.

Secretariat resources: Minimal .

Activities of OECD: Seminar on environmental accounting. Policy-oriented development of natural resource accounts.

Activities of Eurostat: (Theme 88: Statistics of the Environment (part of))

Environmental Expenditure statistics: The aim is to test widely the applicability in practice of the conceptual work of SERIEE which, although serving as the methodological basis for the OECD questionnaire and publication on expenditures, has had so far only a restricted testing by pilot survey in particular countries. Although some methodological difficulties are still being discussed, the general aim is to acquire practical experience with the implementation of the macro-economic questionnaire seen as the working background for the OECD questionnaire. This work is being closely linked to the green accounting both in aiming to provide data for the accounts and in providing and receiving methodological inputs. Nomenclature work aiming at allowing a better identification of environmentally interesting categories as subdivisions of standard nomenclatures will be pursued as a joint project with ECE. If resources permit work will start on the matching physical information component.

Industrial expenditure: Work can be considered as part of SERIEE, as part of sectoral statistics and as a component of waste statistics. After various detailed studies the following strategy is being followed: including a small number of key variables in Eurostat's new annual and 5-yearly industrial statistics; after piloting in volunteer countries to test widely the SERIEE methodological as a thematic industrial survey in the general frame of industry statistics eventually backed by Community legislation; gathering full expenditure information (eventually backed by Community legislation) from the small group of environmentally relevant firms in linking the work to the "eco-industries" project.

Expenditure of public administrations: A questionnaire to countries has been sent out on a voluntary test basis. The results will be analysed with a view to its use in the SERIEE system on a regular basis and in national accounting.

Expenditure of households: Studies will be undertaken if funding allows. The prospects of advancing on this topic depend in particular on the progress at Community level with household budget enquiries.

Green accounting : Environment statistics linked to green accounting involves: the support for environmental satellite accounts; development of basic expenditure data and their definition; review and production of environmental indicators in a consistent framework; developing ways of dealing with the sustainability aspects of environmental concerns which are not usefully covered by a national accounts approach. It involves seeking solutions to difficult valuation problems. Work is planned on a "Handbook on a European System for Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (ESEA)". This activity is integrated in the National Accounts work programme (3.1).

The Pressure index Project will complement the work on accounts and provide pointers to the work on sectoral statistics. It is a follow-up of the OECD work on environment indicators, and of work in 1993 and 1994 in a Inter service Group on Green Accounting and Indicators chaired by the Commission's Forward Studies Unit. The project aims first at a thorough cost-benefit analysis of the necessary database to describe pressures on the environment coming from human activities. Secondly, when completed, it will furnish a set of Pressure Indexes structured to relate to ten major environmental policy fields and the main economic sectors where appropriate actions are required (agriculture, transport, industry, etc.)

The Environmental component in sectoral statistics is being investigated in the following areas: Energy statistics (energy balance sheets as the basic source for calculating authoritative CO<sup>2</sup> emission figures, energy supplies from renewables sources, energy input-output tables and on prices), Agricultural statistics (use of agricultural statistics to provide environmental information, and the agri-environmental indicator work of OECD), Forestry statistics, Industry statistics (including eco-industries) and Transport statistics.

#### **Activities of other organizations:**

UN Statistical Division (UNSD) : Activities will be oriented towards the development of standardized concepts and methods of environmental accounting based on research and country experience and on the use of environmental accounts in planning and policy making. Compilation and comparison of results of case studies of integrated environmental and economic accounting will be carried out. Country projects, training seminars and regional workshops on the implementation of methodologies in environmental accounting will be organized.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) : Critical examination of the work done on environmental accounting, with a view to the development of a self-contained framework relating to the domain of food and agricultural production.

World Bank : Refining and broadening valuation methods at project, sectoral and national levels; rapid assessments of green indicators of capital, income and saving.

World Health Organization : Application of the Environment and Health information for Management of Development Activities (EHMDAC) to resource utilization in the area of environmental health; development of computerized packages; incorporation of monitoring data produced from HEDLAMP into an integrated decision-making system.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) : Implementation of accounting schemes and studies in selected countries, in cooperation with UNSD and ECE; review of progress achieved in the development and application of integrated environmental and economic accounting.

Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development (DPCSD) : Progress reports on sustainable developments.

The "London Group" on Environmental Statistics : This Group was created in 1994. It intends to meet annually and its driving purpose is to coordinate discussions on environmental and resource accounting and to examine how to make the results of such discussions fit with the framework of the national accounts. The Group consists of representatives of fifteen countries and of five international agencies. (Contact points: Bureau of Economic Analysis, USA; Statistics Canada; or Eurostat, Directorate B).

### 5.3 ENVIRONMENTAL DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION

**Objectives over the next several years:** To develop, maintain and disseminate one or more integrated, computerized databases of internationally comparable environmental statistics for use by governments and non-governmental organizations in monitoring, analyzing and reporting on environmental conditions and problems. Data for inclusion in the database(s) are to be collected in a coordinated manner to ensure that the national response burden will be at a minimal level.

Specific objectives include the review and assessment of current questionnaires, databases and compendia; the development of one or more integrated databases; and the publication of an integrated compendium of internationally comparable environmental statistics.

**Expected collective output in the next two years:** (1) A draft of the evaluation of the joint preparation of the 'Dobris Compendium' should be presented to the Bureau at one of its 1995/96 meetings. (2) The ECE statistical monograph on road transport and the environment should be brought to the attention of the 1996 Regional Conference on Transport and the Environment. (3) One or more integrated databases of environment statistics, based, wherever possible, on a consolidated questionnaire, should

be put in place by 1995. (4) An integrated and updated compendium of environment statistics should be published in 1996.

**Attention of the Conference was drawn to the following:**

- Work on the statistical monograph on road transport and the environment and on the secretariat's international environmental data service are the main activities that the secretariat is engaged in this project.
- The Bureau considers that there is room for improvement in the coordination of data collection and database management in this programme element.

**Decisions by the Conference at the 1995 plenary session:** The Conference agreed:

- That work in this programme element on environmental database development should be given lower priority in the Conference's work programme.
- To approve the continuation of work by the secretariat on the statistical monograph on road transport and the environment;
- To approve the planned further development of the international environmental data service, provided it can be accomplished within allocated resources;
- To approve the plans of the Bureau, in its 1995/96 in-depth review of this sub-programme, to take up the issue of coordination in this project in the areas of data collection, database management and dissemination.

**Meetings in the next two years:**

OECD: Group on the State of the Environment (June 1995)

**Rapporteur/focal point:** (to be designated at the 1996 plenary session)

**Activities and means in the next two years:**

**Activities of ECE: (CES Priority A)**

Statistical monograph on road transport and the environment : Preparation of the monograph for publication in 1996.

Secretariat resources: Substantial.

International Environmental Data Service (IEDS) : Within allocated resource levels, tailor-made collection and dissemination of data in support of Commission activities and in response to requests from outside users; further development and maintenance of the computerized environmental

statistical database; provision of the database to national statistical offices upon request and free of charge; development of updating mechanisms for the database which would reduce the need for hard copy questionnaires; experimental provision of online access to national statistical offices.

Secretariat resources: Moderate to substantial.

Evaluation of the preparation of the 'Joint Compendium' : Preparation of a report on the experiences gained in the joint preparation of the CEC/ECE/OECD/WHO-EUR compendium of environment statistics accompanying the 'Dobris Report'.

Secretariat resources: Moderate.

Activities of the ECE/FAO Agriculture and Timber Division :

**Activities of OECD:** Collection of environmental data (questionnaire sent bi-annually): jointly with Eurostat for EC countries, from other OECD countries and a number of CEEC; data treatment and updating of the OECD environmental database in 1994. Publication of "Environmental Data Compendium" in 1995. Publication of "Pollution Abatement and Control Expenditure Statistics" in 1995. Annual publication of statistics on transfrontier movements of hazardous wastes.

**Activities of Eurostat:** (Theme 89: Environment data bank)

Work on the ENVSTAT database will continue.

**Activities of other organizations:**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) : Compilation of the Human Development Index as part of the Human Development Report.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) : Biennial publication of the Environmental Data Report, in cooperation with GEMS/MARC, WRI and the UK Department of the Environment; biennial publication of the World Resources Report, in cooperation with the WRI; data collection and dissemination in the framework of the GEMS programme; collection of digital maps on a variety of themes for access through a public-domain database; periodic survey of organizations working in the field of environmental data and statistics, through UNEP-HEM.

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) : Collection and dissemination of a variety of urban environment statistics and indicators in the frameworks of the City Data Programme, the Urban Management Programme and the Human Settlements Statistical Database; cooperation with a series of relevant international institutions working on human settlement data;

improvement of existing UNCHS databases and electronic access facilities;  
collection of municipal waste management indicators.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) : Internal database with qualitative information on environmental issues.

The World Bank : Development of an initial set of indicators compiled by rapid assessment techniques and short-cut methods; compilation of environmental performance indicators; publication, in 1995, of "Monitoring Environmental Progress".

The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) : Collection and dissemination of meteorological, hydrological and chemical data relating to the atmosphere and to precipitation.

The World Health Organization (WHO) : Maintenance of a data file on investments in health and environment; collection, analysis and dissemination of national data on water supply and sanitation, water and air quality, and environmental health in the Palestinian Occupied Territories.

The Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS STAT) : The Committee systematically (twice a year) collects, collates, analyzes and publishes data characterizing the State and the protection of the environment.

Special comprehensive reports are published annually in CIS statistical bulletins on this subject. In 1995 it is expected to publish a statistical yearbook "Environment protection in CIS-member countries". Economic indicators will also be published in the statistical yearbook "CIS-member countries".

The data collection programme is periodically revised for updating purposes; the next revision will be carried out in 1995.

**Annex I. Priority menu of the CES for 1995/96 and 1996/97  
in subprogramme 5 (Natural resources and environment statistics)**

a) 1995/96

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS PRIORITY MENU FOR 1995/96			
Programme element	Substantive action required of the ECE secretariat	Major coordination required	Output for the plenary session <b>1996</b>
5.1 Standards and frameworks for environmental data and indicators	- Continuation of the joint ECE/CEC work on the development of a single European Standard Statistical Classification of Wastes and Recycling	- Eurostat	- Report
	- Revision of the Draft ECE Standard Statistical Framework for Fauna, Flora and Habitat Statistics	- Eurostat	- Report
	- Organization of the joint ECE/CEC work session on methodological questions of environment statistics	- Eurostat	- Progress report
5.2 Natural resources and environmental accounting	- Organization of a project for the comprehensive development of a scheme for physical environmental accounting	- UNSD	- Progress report
5.3 Environmental database development and dissemination	- Publication of the statistical monograph on road transport and the environment	- UNEP, CEMT	- Publication
	- Respond to user requests for internationally comparable environment statistics in the framework of the International Environmental Data Service (IEDS)	- International Environmental databases under the responsibility of other international organizations	- Progress report
	- Further maintenance and development of the environmental statistical database		
	- Dissemination, upon request, of updates of the ECE environmental statistical database to national statistical offices		

b) 1996/97

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS PRIORITY MENU FOR 1996/97			
Programme element	Substantive action required of the ECE secretariat	Major coordination required	Output for the plenary session 1997
5.1 Standards and frameworks for environmental data and indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organization of the joint ECE/CEC work session on methodological questions of environment statistics</li> <li>- Organization of a work session regarding development of the conceptual basis for statistics on chemicals and the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eurostat</li> <li>- Eurostat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report</li> <li>- Report</li> </ul>
5.2 Natural resources and environmental accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continuation of a project for the comprehensive development of a scheme for physical environmental accounting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNSD, Eurostat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress report</li> </ul>
5.3 Environmental statistical information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation for the compilation of the compendium of environment statistics and/or statistical monograph</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eurostat, European Environmental Agency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress report</li> </ul>

**Annex II. Consolidated list of international meetings  
in subprogramme 5 (Natural resources and environment statistics)**

	Principal Sponsoring Organization			
	ECE	Eurostat	OECD	Other organizations
5.1 Standards and frameworks for environmental data and indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work session on wastes and recycling (with Eurostat) (April 96)</li> <li>- Work sessions on methodology (with Eurostat) ( Sept. 95)</li> <li>- Work session on fauna, flora and habitat statistics (Nov. 95)</li> <li>- Work session on wastes and recycling (with Eurostat) (fall 97)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Environment statistics: sub-group on waste (June 95)</li> <li>- Environment statistics: sub-group on economic data (Sept. 95)</li> <li>- Environment statistics: sub-group on green accounting (Oct. 95)</li> <li>- Environment statistics: sub-group on waste (Nov. 95)</li> <li>- Environment statistics: sub-group on statistical programme working group (Nov. 95)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group on the state of the Environment (June 95)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNSD: Meeting of the Working Group on the Advancement of Environment Statistics</li> </ul>
5.2 Natural resources and environmental accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work session on physical environmental accounting (March 96)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Environment statistics: sub-group SERIEE (Sept. 95)</li> <li>- Environment statistics: sub-group green accounting (Oct. 95)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- UNEP: Workshop on progress in the development and application of integrated environmental and economic accounting (1995)</li> </ul>
5.3 Environmental database development and dissemination			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Group on the state of the Environment (June 95)</li> </ul>	