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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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(Geneva, 12-15 June 1995)

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

**SUB-PROGRAMME 6  
DISSEMINATION AND SUPPORT FOR SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES**

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>

Sub-programme	Programme element
<u>Sub-programme 5</u> : Natural resources and environment statistics (See document <b>CES/1995/R.25/Add.5</b> )	5.1 Standards and frameworks for environmental data and indicators 5.2 Natural resources and environmental accounting 5.3 Environmental database development and dissemination
<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 6****DISSEMINATION AND SUPPORT FOR SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES****6.1 DISSEMINATION OF STATISTICAL DATA BY THE SECRETARIATS**

**Objectives over the next several years:** To make available in printed or electronic form, comparable statistical information about the countries of the region. The content and format of the products of this activity should be driven by client demand. The short term priority for the various international organizations should be to complete a market assessment of the current range of their products and services with a view to preparing a plan for the evolution of their product line to better serve user needs.

**Expected collective output in the next two years:** Issuance of statistical publications and products by all the organizations. For the ECE, review of the ECE Statistical Journal.

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

- The efforts being made by the ECE secretariat to improve the content of the Statistical Journal of the ECE.
- The first issue of the ECE Statistical Yearbook.
- The plans of the ECE secretariat to issue the Statistical Yearbook annually in future years.
- The plan of the ECE secretariat to publish the ECE-Eurostat-INSTRAW-Statistics Sweden joint publication on "Statistics of Women and Men in Europe and North America, 1995" in time for the Beijing World Conference on Women (Sept. 1995).

**Decisions by the Conference at the 1995 plenary session:** The conference approved

- The ECE Statistical Division's 1995/96 publication programme referred to above.
- The plan of the secretariat to include the ECE Statistical Yearbook in the Statistical Division's annual publication programme.
- The Conference welcomed the improvements that have been made to the quality of recent issues of the ECE's Statistical Journal.
- The Conference asked the Bureau to take the following points into account in its in-depth review of this sub-programme: (i) placing greater emphasis on the use of electronic data interchange when disseminating publications; (ii) solicit and use feedback from users in the evaluation of statistical publications; and (iii) coordinate closely with national, other international and supranational organizations in the preparation of ECE statistical publications.

**Meetings in the next two years:**

EUROSTAT: Dissemination of statistical information working group (17-18 July 1995)

EUROSTAT: Dissemination of statistical information working group (27-28 November 1995)

**Rapporteur/focal point:** (Not applicable)

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

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

To collect data for and publish in printed or electronic form the ECE annual publications in the fields of energy statistics (3 bulletins), transport statistics (2 bulletins), housing and building statistics (1 bulletin) and the Statistical Yearbook (new annual publication).

To publish the Statistical Journal of the UN Economic Commission For Europe (4 issues per year).

Secretariat resources: Substantial

**Activities of other ECE Divisions :**

Other statistical publications issued annually by other ECE divisions cover steel statistics (2 bulletins), chemicals (1 bulletin), agriculture (2 bulletins, of which one in 4 volumes), and timber statistics (1 bulletin in 4 volumes).

**Activities of OECD:** The OECD produces a wide variety of publications in print, diskette, CD-ROM magnetic tape media. These are often listed in the integrated presentation under the programme elements concerned.

**Activities of Eurostat:** (Themes 15-19, 20: Dissemination policy; Public relations; Syntheses; Managing of existing products (part of); Implementation of new products)

Three lines of development have been selected for 1995: improving information products and services (Eurostat Yearbook, new edition of Europe in Figures, revision of CD-ROM products); extending the dissemination of statistics in the European Union (continuation and extension of dissemination of press releases, targeted promotion activities and search for specialised distributors); and promoting cooperation within the European statistical network (joint publications with the NSIs of the EU, revising price policy, distribution contracts with the NSIs).

These broad lines of development should lead to rationalisation of dissemination, improved services for the partners in the EU and, above all, a genuine enhancement of cooperation between the NSIs and Eurostat. To this

end, the Working Party on Dissemination should meet more frequently and become the focus of a genuine collaboration process.

Many Eurostat publications in individual fields of statistics are referred to elsewhere in the integrated presentation under the programme elements concerned.

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

UN Statistical Division (UNSD) : The various statistical products of the UNSD are referred to elsewhere in the integrated presentation under the programme elements concerned.

The ILO : The ILO continues its regular programme to collect and publish data on the economically active population, employment, unemployment, wages, hours of work, labour cost, consumer price indices, occupational injuries and strikes and lockouts. These are released in the Year Book of Labour Statistics. The results of the ILO October Inquiry are published each year in "Statistics on occupational wages and hours of work and on food prices", a special supplement to the Bulletin.

Internationally comparable estimates of employment and unemployment are updated each year and published in the Bulletin of Labour Statistics.

Statistics of household income and expenditure are collected and published periodically. The fourth edition of the series will be issued in 1995 (see under 4.13).

The regular programme for estimated and projections of the economically active population continues (see under 4.11).

Databases are also maintained for a number of other topics, including legal minimum wages, trade union membership, level of educational attainment, employment by occupation and gender, and employment in public administration.

Extracts from these and the main LABORSTA database are supplied to a wide range of users, in printed or machine-readable form.

A large number of the ILO's statistical publications and other statistical products are listed elsewhere in the integrated presentation under the programme elements concerned.

#### **Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS STAT)** :

The Committee publishes a statistical yearbook, a monthly statistical bulletin and six issues of an information bulletin per year.

The Committee issues the following statistical yearbooks and compendiums: "Economy of the Commonwealth of Independent States", "CIS-member countries", "Demographic yearbook", "Finances in CIS countries", "External economic activities of Commonwealth States", "Interstate barter trade in capital and consumer goods". In 1994 the yearbook "National accounts and economic balances of CIS-member countries for 1990-1993" was published. A similar yearbook with 1994 data will be issued in 1996.

For the first time a statistical compendium was prepared and issued jointly with OECD, using materials supplied by the statistical services of CIS countries, entitled "Short-term economic indicators - Commonwealth of Independent States" (English-French and Russian-English version), containing monthly data principally for the period 1980-1993 for 50 economic indicators, as well as the methodology used for calculating them.

## **6.2 STATISTICAL SUPPORT FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIATS**

**Objectives over the next several years:** To provide statistical services and support to the other sectors of the ECE, OECD and the EC. Development and implementation of international standards for electronic data interchange in statistics (as part of the work of the UN EDIFACT Western European Board - Group MD6). Details and priorities under this heading will be determined by the international organizations.

**Expected collective output in the next two years:** Database on macroeconomic data from market economy countries and countries in transition; Operational network for EDI collection of macroeconomic data from market economy and transition countries; Progress reports to the annual CES plenary sessions.

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

- The increased utilization of joint data collection mechanisms (joint questionnaires) by the ECE and OECD secretariats to collect data from transition countries.
- The assistance CIS STAT is providing to the secretariat in collecting data in some fields of statistics from countries of the former USSR.
- That the ECE, Eurostat and the OECD are all essential providers of statistics to clients in their respective geographical areas.

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

- The Conference approved the planned activities in this programme element.

### **Meetings in the next two years:**

**Rapporteur/focal point:** (Not applicable)

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

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

To develop, in full coordination with all existing international macroeconomic data bases, a system for collecting macroeconomic data from transition and market economy countries for the preparation of the annual ECE

publications "Economic Bulletin for Europe" and "Economic Survey on Europe" in a manner which avoids any duplication with other involved international organizations;

To develop and maintain an ECE statistical macroeconomic database on transition and market economy countries, and to make it available to ECE's internal and external users.

Secretariat resources: Substantial.

**Activities of OECD:** A major share of OECD's statistical activities are directed to meeting the internal needs of the Organisation and its bodies for analytical data on a wide variety of topics, predominantly economic in nature.

**Activities of Eurostat:** (Themes 05, 18: Public relations (part of) and Data Shop)

Eurostat consults with other services of the Commission concerning their statistical requirements through the CDIS (Management Committee on Statistical Information). In addition it has a satellite office in Brussels ("data shop") which provides a service of statistics to the Commission departments there.

**Activities of other organizations:**

**Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS STAT)** :

The Committee established electronic mail to exchange statistical information with the following Commonwealth States: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia. The establishment of similar means is under way with Georgia, Tadjikistan and Turkmenistan. A twenty-four-hour access to the database "Statistics" (containing main monthly, quarterly and annual socio-economic indicators for CIS countries) has been organized for the coordinating bodies of the Commonwealth.

The work of the database "CIS STAT" was completed in 1994. The database contains data since 1980 on 17 branches and 3500 socio-economic indicators (more than 40000 series). Work on the database "Foreign economic activities" is under way.

**Annex I. Priority menu of the CES for 1995/96 and 1996/97  
in subprogramme 6 (Dissemination and support for secretariat activities)**

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 1996
6.1 Dissemination of statistical data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation of annual publications in the fields of energy (3), transport (2) and housing (1)</li> <li>- Preparation of the ECE Statistical Yearbook</li> <li>- Preparation of Statistical Journal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eurostat, OECD/IEA as required</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual publications</li> <li>- Annual publication</li> <li>- 4 issues of Statistical Journal per year</li> </ul>
6.2 Statistical support for ECE secretariat activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation of statistical tables and analysis as required</li> <li>- Collection of macroeconomic data from transition countries</li> <li>- Maintenance of the database on macroeconomic statistics for transition countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eurostat, OECD, UNSD, CIS STAT, other ECE PSBs</li> <li>- OECD, ILO, IMF, UNIDO, UNSD, CIS STAT</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress report (to the CES Bureau)</li> <li>- Progress report (to the CES Bureau)</li> </ul>

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
6.1 Dissemination of statistical data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation of annual publications in the fields of energy (3), transport (2) and housing (1)</li> <li>- Preparation of the ECE Statistical Yearbook</li> <li>- Preparation of Statistical Journal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eurostat, OECD/IEA as required</li> <li>-</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual publications</li> <li>- Annual publication</li> <li>- 4 issues of Statistical Journal per year</li> </ul>
6.2 Statistical support for ECE secretariat activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation of statistical tables and analysis as required</li> <li>- Collection of macroeconomic data from transition countries</li> <li>- Maintenance of the database on macroeconomic statistics for transition countries</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eurostat, OECD, UNSD, CIS STAT, other ECE PSBs</li> <li>- OECD, ILO, IMF, UNIDO, UNSD, CIS STAT</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress report (to the CES Bureau)</li> <li>- Progress report (to the CES Bureau)</li> </ul>