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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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(Paris, 11-13 June 1996)

PROGRAMMES OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL  
WORK IN THE ECE REGION, 1996/97 AND 1997/98:  
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/1996/R.10/Add.1)

Sub-programme 2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues  
(CES/1996/R.10/Add.2)

Sub-programme 3: Economic statistics (CES/1996/R.10/Add.3)

Sub-programme 4: Social and demographic statistics (CES/1996/R.10/Add.4)

Sub-programme 5: Environment statistics (CES/1996/R.10/Add.5)

Sub-programme 6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities  
(CES/1996/R.10/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 considers should be brought to the attention of the Conference at its plenary session.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS BY THE CONFERENCE AT THE 1996 PLENARY SESSION: List of decisions on its programme of work recommended to be taken by the Conference at the plenary session.

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

RAPPORTEUR: International organization that the Conference has recommended be assigned responsibility for preparing short issue- and strategic-oriented reports for the Bureau and for assessing 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 1996/97; Priority B means work is planned for 1997/98 but not for 1996/97; 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/1996/R.10) 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/1996/R.10/Add.1</b> )	1.1 Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work 1.2 Managerial and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of national statistical offices 1.3 Countries in transition in the ECE region 1.4 Relations with countries outside the ECE region (including countries in the Mediterranean region)
<u>Sub-programme 2</u> : Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues (See document <b>CES/1996/R.10/Add.2</b> )	2.1 Management of information technology infrastructure 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 research and development 2.6 Geographical and regional data 2.7 Human resource development
<u>Sub-programme 3</u> : Economic statistics (See document <b>CES/1996/R.10/Add.3</b> )	3.1 Implementation of the system of national accounts 3.2 Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments 3.3 International trade in goods 3.4 Transport 3.5 Distributive trades 3.6 International trade in services 3.7 Tourism 3.8 Other marketed services, and non-marketed services 3.9 Price statistics, including purchasing power parities 3.10 Agricultural statistics 3.11 Industrial statistics 3.12 Energy statistics 3.13 Science and technology statistics 3.14 Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics 3.XX Other work in the field of economic statistics

Sub-programme	Programme element
<p><u>Sub-programme 4</u>: Social and demographic statistics (See document <b>CES/1996/R.10/Add.4</b>)</p>	<p>4.1 Social indicators and frameworks  4.2 Gender statistics  4.3 Multi-purpose social surveys  4.4 Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics  4.5 Population and housing censuses  4.6 Health statistics  4.7 Crime and criminal justice statistics  4.8 Education and training statistics  4.9 Culture statistics  4.10 Labour statistics  4.11 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)  4.12 Human settlements and housing statistics  4.13 Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income inequality  4.14 Statistics on population groups of special interest  4.XX Other work in the field of social and demographic statistics</p>
<p><u>Sub-programme 5</u>: Environment statistics (See document <b>CES/1996/R.10/Add.5</b>)</p>	<p>5.1 Sectoral concepts, definitions and classifications  5.2 Environmental accounting  5.3 Environmental databases and reporting</p>
<p><u>Sub-programme 6</u>: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities (See document <b>CES/1996/R.10/Add.6</b>)</p>	<p>6.1 Coordination of international data collection  6.2 Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat</p>

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

**6.1 COORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL DATA COLLECTION**

**Objectives over the next several years:** To coordinate policies of the international organizations involved in the collection of national statistical data which are needed for their economic analysis and publications. To make collected data available to national and international statistical agencies in printed or electronic form. To avoid any inefficient duplication in the data collection activities between international organizations, and to ensure that the burden placed on NSOs in responding to international data requests is kept to a minimum. To implement jointly prepared questionnaires in international data collection. To share data stored in statistical data bases which are maintained by international organizations. Further improvement in on-line data capture aiming to improve timeliness of data collection.

**Expected collective output in the next two years:** Joint paper from ECE, Eurostat and OECD for a future plenary session, summarizing how they are proceeding to streamline data collection from member countries. Issuance of statistical publications and products by all the organizations. For the ECE, review of the Statistical Journal.

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

- The text of the "Objectives" and "Expected output" sections is new, reflecting the outcome of the Bureau's February 1996 in-depth review of sub-programme 6.
- The Bureau renamed this programme element at its February 1996 meeting. It considered that the focus of work in it should be on ensuring that the burden placed on NSOs in responding to international requests are kept to a minimum.
- The Bureau agreed that it would be useful to have ECE, Eurostat and OECD prepare a joint note for a forthcoming plenary session summarizing how they are proceeding to streamline data collection from member countries.

**Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1996 plenary session:**

- To agree that the ECE Statistical Division should cease publishing its three annual publications in the field of energy statistics, provided that the Committee on Energy has no objections to this, and with the understanding that the Statistical Division will continue to produce tables containing key data in the field of energy statistics to meet the agreed needs of the Committee on Energy.
- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the list for the ECE/CES in the "Activities and Means" section below)

**Meetings in the next two years:**

EUROSTAT: Working party: Dissemination of statistical information (December 1996)

**Rapporteur:** Not applicable.

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

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

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

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

Secretariat resources: Substantial

**Activities of the ECE Division for Economic Analysis and Projection:**

Collected data and statistical information, mainly on recent economic developments in countries in transition, are used for the preparation of the annual publications "Economic Bulletin for Europe" and "Economic Survey of Europe".

**Activities of the ECE Timber Committee:** Collection of timber statistics data and their publication in the annual "Timber Bulletin" which consists of 6 issues per year. The 1996 volume will contain (1) Forest Products Prices; (2) Forest Products Statistics; (3) Forest Products Annual Market Review; (4) Forest Fire Statistics; (5) Forest Products Trade Flow Data; and (6) Forest Products Markets and Prospects (in current and forthcoming year).

**Activities of the ECE Industry and Technology Division:** To collect statistical data in the area of industry and technology, and to publish them in the following publications:

- a) **Engineering industries and automation:** The Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation reviews developments in this field at each of its periodic sessions, based on an annual secretariat report, entitled "World Engineering Industries and Automation - Performance and Prospects", prepared on the basis of information collected by means of a joint ECE/OECD statistical questionnaire, exclusive data received from the International Federation of Robotics, trade organizations, such as CECIMO and other sources of information. A study on the medium and long-term assessment of the role and place of engineering industries in international, regional and global economies will be issued in 1995/96.
- b) **Steel Statistics:** The Industry and Technology Division produces two annual publications entitled "Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe" and "Statistics of World Trade in Steel". It also produces annual statistics on iron and steel scrap which are collected from countries and published every two years, and quarterly statistics on steel production and trade in ten steel products which are distributed on a quarterly basis to users who have requested to receive them.
- c) **Chemical industry:** The following publications are planned to be published under the programme of work of the Working Party on the Chemical Industry (WPCI):

"Annual Review of the Chemical Industries" is published, on the basis of statistical and other information provided by member States, covering qualitative and statistical data for all major chemical products and areas.

A periodic survey published every five years provides a "Market Trends overview for selected chemical products" as well as a review of the recent historical developments in the chemical industry of the ECE region. The next edition is to be finalized in 1996 and published in 1997.

The internationally comparable statistics on the chemical industry, in particular, major petrochemicals are published in a document entitled "Report of the Meeting of Rapporteur on Aromatic Hydrocarbon and Olefins".

After a suspension of three years the annual publication "Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products" has resumed for the last two years and should continue.

"The Directory of Chemical Producers and Products" was mandated by the WPCI. To date two parts of Vol.I and Vol.III have been published. A statistician's assistance is needed for Vol.II for which most of the data are already in hand.

**Activities of the ECE Committee on Human Settlements:** The annual "Bulletin on Housing and Building Statistics for Europe and North America" provides statistical data and information for analysing and monitoring housing policy implementation in the ECE region.

**Activities of OECD:** The OECD collects data which are further used for 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. Particular publications of the OECD Statistical Directorate include:

**Monographs:** "Sources and Methods" (Mexico; Korea; Employment, hours and earnings; Industrial production; Financial statistics; Quarterly National Accounts; Foreign Trade, series C); "Main Economic Indicators" (Sources and Definitions); "Value Added at Constant Prices in Service Activities"; "Purchasing power parities and real expenditures", 1993 GK results Vol. 2; "Handbook on inflation accounting".

**Annual Reports:** Historical Statistics 1960-94; Flows and Stocks of Fixed Capital 1968-93; Labour Force Statistics 1974-94; National Accounts of OECD Countries Vol I: Main Aggregates 1960-94; National Accounts of OECD Countries Vol II: Detailed Tables 1982-94; Services: Statistics on International Transactions 1970-93; Services: Statistics on Value Added and Employment; Foreign Trade by commodities Series C (5 Volumes).

**Periodicals:** Main Economic Indicators; Monthly Statistics of Foreign Trade Series A; Quarterly Labour Force Statistics; Quarterly National Accounts.

**CD-ROM:** Update of IMPEX; Annual, Foreign Trade by commodities; Historical, Foreign Trade by commodities.

**Diskettes:** Annual National Accounts (Volume I: Main Aggregates; Volume II: Detailed Tables); Flows and Stocks of Fixed Capital; Leading Indicators and Business Surveys; Main Economic Indicators & historical supplements; Monthly Foreign Trade Statistics Series A; Quarterly Labour Force Statistics; Quarterly National Accounts; Services: Statistics of International Transactions; International Sectoral Database; Purchasing power parities and real expenditures, 1993 GK results; Foreign Trade by commodities Series C;

Services: Statistics on Value Added and Employment; Labour Force Statistics: Annual

Magnetic Tapes: Annual Labour Force Statistics; Annual National Accounts: Volume I and II; Flows and Stocks of Fixed Capital; Foreign Trade Statistics by Commodities Series C (Current Year); Main Economic Indicators Monthly Foreign Trade Statistics Series A; Quarterly National Accounts Quarterly Labour Force Statistics

**Activities of Eurostat** (Themes 15-19, 20: Dissemination policy; Public relations; Syntheses; Managing of existing products (part of); Implementation of new products): The priorities for action in this field are: development of the dissemination of statistical data on the European Union; improvement of information products and services (revision of CD-ROM products); improvement of co-operation within the European statistical network; and reform of the system of publication of agricultural statistics.

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:**

**International Monetary Fund (IMF)**: The IMF collects statistical data for the following regular publications: "International Financial Statistics" (IFS); "International Financial Statistics Yearbook" (IFFY); "Balance of Payments Statistics Yearbook"; "Direction of Trade Statistics Yearbook". All publications are available on both printed and electronic form. Information about the dissemination of IMF data on electronic media is provided under the programme element 2.3.

**United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)**: In the course of 1995, the Centre has finalized a number of statistical publications which are currently printed and are scheduled for dissemination during the first quarter of 1996. These publications are the Compendium of Human Settlements Statistics 1995, the Statistical Annex to the Second Global Report on Human Settlements 1996, one Wall Chart on human settlements conditions in over 300 cities, one Wall Chart on human settlements conditions in more than 120 member countries and a Habitat Atlas which presents human settlements statistics in a visual perspective on over thirty thematic world maps. With respect to computerized databases, the Centre has developed its Human Settlements Statistical Database version 4.0 (HSDB4) over recent years; HSDB4, which also contains an indicator module, will be regularly maintained and updated for dissemination to member governments and other interested users. During 1996, activities are scheduled to finalize another computerized database focused on cities which is called UNCHS-CitiBase; besides the DOS version of the database, there will be another version which runs under WINDOWS and the database will also be made available on INTERNET. Furthermore, during the 1996/97 work programme, a statistical pocketbook, entitled Human Settlements Basic Statistics will be prepared. Finally, based on city-level data collected through LCSP (see above), an International Statistical Yearbook of Large Towns is scheduled to be published by the LCSP partners in the first quarter of 1997.

**United Nations Industrial development Organization (UNIDO):** The national general industrial statistics obtained from national statistical offices will be published in the UNIDO recurrent publication, "International Yearbook of Industrial Statistics". In addition to the general industrial statistics databases, UNIDO maintains a database of annual commodity-balance statistics covering selected manufactured products. The dissemination of data contained in each of the UNIDO database among the users outside the organization will be continued to be made through sales or exchanges of copies of a portion or the entire database in the form of computer tapes and diskettes. In this connection, improvement of data service functions will be continued to be a priority issue and further development of related software and user support system will be made.

**The World Bank:** Collected data are published in the annual statistical publications: "World Development Indicators"; "Social Indicators of Development"; "World Debt Tables; World Bank Atlas; World Tables"; "Trends in Developing Economies"; "Statistical Handbook: States of the Former USSR".

**WHO Regional Office for Europe:** Statistical "Health for All" database will be updated regularly and placed on Internet or, on request, mailed on diskette. Detailed mortality and population data reported by European Member States are published annually by WHO headquarters as part of the global issue of the World Health Statistics Annual. Concise standardized descriptions of the health status with graphical presentation of data on a particular country, known as "Highlights on Health", will be issued or updated for a number of countries and disseminated as paper copies and through Internet.

## **6.2 OTHER STATISTICALLY-RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THE ECE SECRETARIAT**

**Objectives over the next several years:** For ECE, to collect statistical data and to provide other statistical support needed for the ECE's economic analysis. To develop and maintain a statistical database for this purpose with emphasis on countries under the transition process. To provide statistical services to other ECE divisions. Further develop electronic data interchange between national statistical offices and the ECE secretariat based on international standards developed within the Western European EDIFACT Board.

**Expected collective output in the next two years:** For ECE, 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; periodic progress reports to the CES plenary sessions.

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

- The text of the "Objectives" and "Expected output" sections is new, reflecting the outcome of the Bureau's February 1996 in-depth review of sub-programme 6.
- The Bureau renamed this programme element at its February 1996 meeting. It concluded that other international organizations would not need to report under it.

**Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1996 plenary session:**

- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the list for the ECE/CES in the "Activities and Means" section below)

**Meetings in the next two years:**

**Rapporteur:** 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.

**Annex I. Priority menu of the CES for 1996/97 and 1997/98  
in subprogramme 6 (Dissemination and support for secretariat activities)**

**a) 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 Coordination of international data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation of annual publications in the fields of transport (2) and housing (1), and of annual tabulations in the field of energy.</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 Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat	<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> <li>-</li> </ul>

**b) 1997/98**

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS PRIORITY MENU FOR 1997/98			
Programme element	Substantive action required of the ECE secretariat	Major coordination required	Output for the plenary session 1998
6.1 Coordination of international data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preparation of annual publications in the fields of transport (2) and housing (1), and of annual tabulations in the field of energy.</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 Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat	<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>