

**UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE**

UNECE-UNDP Workshop
on Standard Statistical Indicators
for National Human Development Reports
(Tbilisi, Georgia, 7-9 October 2002)

Final Report

Introduction

1. In the context of the common project on Human Development Statistics and Social Trends Reporting in Eastern Europe and the CIS, the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS of the UN Development Programme (UNDP/RBEC) conducted two sub-regional workshops in 2002. These workshops followed the Seminar on Social Monitoring and Human Development for South-East European countries, held in Warsaw on 21-24 November 2001, and their purpose was to discuss with national statisticians the feasibility and the workability of a core set of social and economic indicators that should contribute to strengthening the statistical basis of the National Human Development Reports (NHDRs).

The first workshop took place in Sofia in September 2002. It was attended by eleven countries from South-East Europe, Western CIS, and Russia. The second workshop has been held in Tbilisi, Georgia, on October 7-9 and involved seven Central Asian and South Caucasian countries.

2. Seventeen statisticians took part to the Tbilisi workshop. Staff and consultants from UNECE and UNDP also participated. The list of participants is in Annex 1. The workshop was organised with the assistance of the State Department for Statistics of Georgia.

3. The agenda of the workshop (Annex 2) followed the paragraph layout of a Proposal for a Standard Set of Statistical Indicators prepared by the UNECE. The tables containing the indicators proposed are in Annex 3. The discussion topics were subdivided in the following areas: Purpose of the Standard Set of Statistical Indicators in NHDRs, Principles in Selecting the Indicators, Income and Poverty, Employment, Key Economic Indicators, Demographic Background, Health, Education, Nutrition, Civil and Political Rights, Housing and Associated Services, Security (from crime and armed conflict), Social Exclusion/Inclusion, Geographical Disaggregation and Environment.

The discussion in each section was introduced by a brief opening remark delivered by one of the participating countries or a UNECE staff.

4. The workshop was opened by Mr. Beridze, Chairman of the State Department for Statistics of Georgia, and Mr. Chapron, regional adviser on statistics, Statistical Division of UNECE. The speakers agreed on the importance of developing a core set of social and economic indicators for the National Human Development Reports in order to clarify and compare the living conditions of the countries of the region. The contribution of UNDP and UNECE in the preparation of the standard set of indicators was presented and the point of view of the producers of statistics was requested to assess the relevance and the feasibility of the proposal.

Summary of the discussion on the proposed set of indicators

Purpose of the Standard Set of Statistical Indicators

5. The opening remarks on the Purpose of the Standard Set of Statistical Indicators were delivered by UNECE.
6. The workshop was presented with a comparison between the Statistical Annex of the Global Human Development Report, whose focus is mainly on inter-country comparisons, and the National Human Development Reports. The NHDRs have developed autonomously from the Global Report and present nowadays a statistical appendix which is not necessarily related to the contents of the report itself. They contain (within the country) inter-regional comparisons rather than inter-country comparisons and their contents and topics may be divergent from one country to the other.
7. The main purposes of a standard set of indicators should be showing whether living conditions improve and how this improvement relates to economic progress and government expenditures. The set of data involved could constitute the appendix of the NHDR or a basis for a chapter and the information contained should be relevant to the region but also allow a wider comparability with other regions of the world. Each country may then complement the standard set with some other indicators significant to its situation. The advantages of this approach are relevant both for statisticians and NHDR country teams.
8. The participating countries presented their own experience with the production of the statistics present at the moment in the NHDRs. Attention was drawn on problems such as the periodicity of surveys or the difficulties to comply with international standards. The question whether data produced by international organizations should be preferable to statistics produced by each country was raised. The need to develop new definitions and new methodologies to allow comparability of statistics over time and among countries was stressed.
9. It was established that the availability of data necessary to the production of the proposed standard set of indicators differs largely from one country to the other. All participants gave examples of what is already available in their countries and where difficulties in the production may arise, due to unavailability of data or differences between what is obtainable and what is requested. It was agreed that the specific characteristics and feasibility of each indicator be discussed in the relating session.

Principles in Selecting Indicators

10. The opening remarks on the Principles in Selecting Indicators were delivered by UNECE.
11. The workshop was presented with the perspective of the users of NHDRs on how to determine the living conditions in a country and with a model of living conditions whose components focus on social and economic indicators. The selected indicators should be relevant (i.e.: describe real changes in social conditions), readily available, accurate and sensitive to recent changes. Furthermore, it is deemed important that the indicators in the standard set be of a limited number, clearly understandable by all users and capable of being disaggregated by gender. Finally, they should relate to other objectives, with special attention to the Millennium Development Goals.
12. The meeting requested a few clarifications and agreed on the selection criteria presented.

Income and Poverty

13. The opening remarks on the Income and Poverty section were delivered by UNECE with Georgia as a discussant.

14. The UNECE remarks introduced the meeting to the Conclusions of the Regional Informal Consultation on Poverty organised in Geneva on 14-15 May 2002, which was attended by the European Union (Eurostat), UNDP (Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS and the Statistical Advisor to the Global Human Development Report), the World Bank, the International Labour Office (ILO) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). The international organizations participating to the consultation agreed that there are at present too many different concepts of poverty and methods to measure it. They recommended that their conclusions on the characteristics of poverty and the way to measure it be discussed with national statistical offices. First of all it is necessary to define the purpose of measurement. Poverty is a multi-dimensional phenomenon, but the different dimensions should be kept apart in measurement. Poverty should be measured in the first place in terms of income (or proxies, such as consumption expenditure), then related to other dimensions. Subjective poverty is not a proxy for income in this sense, but may have some sociological or political interest. Income-related poverty may be absolute or relative (3 poverty lines were recommended, two absolute poverty lines and one relative poverty line, depending on the country). Resulting figures of poverty should always be based on a full distribution of household income (or consumption), which should be shown in any calculations of poverty. Whether household income itself or a proxy, such as consumption expenditure, is used depends on the data available in a country. In both cases, definitions should be based on international standards. In principle, net disposable household income should be used, including income in kind as well as cash, converted to income per adult equivalent, using the OECD or other appropriate scale. Household surveys were said to be the only practical source of a distribution of income data in most countries of the region.

15. The Georgian discussant introduced the different approaches and methods used to obtain poverty estimates and explained the reasons for preferring a non-welfare approach and a consumption method to assess poverty, given the characteristics of the economies in transition. The way poverty is estimated in Georgia was presented and the use of absolute and relative poverty lines together with the concept of energetic value of food for determining the minimum subsistence level were introduced. The issue of the differences in the minimal food basket among regions of a given country, between urban and rural areas and different seasons of the year was considered worth of attention.

16. Participants discussed the different approaches used for measuring poverty and agreed that this is a critical issue as a large percentage of households in the countries of the region is at the moment below the poverty lines generally calculated. Statistics on poverty are starting to be produced with the help of international organizations and, where a specific survey is not held, data on income and consumption can be obtained from household surveys. Difficulties in estimating household non-food expenses were described. Problems in matching income and consumption, where the presence of 'shadow' (non-declared) incomes is relevant, were also illustrated.

17. Besides the monetary approach in assessing poverty, participants introduced the common practice of calculating the minimum food consumption through the measurement of per capita calorie consumption and discussed the minimum level of calories to be used to determine a calorie-based poverty line. The issue of 'vulnerable population', defined as the percentage of people who have high probability to go below the poverty line if the economic situation changes was also considered relevant.

18. Participants agreed on the production of Tables 6 and 7. In order to compile Table 7 of the standard set proposal, a clarification of the concepts of 'absolute destitution', 'absolute poverty' and 'relative poverty' was requested. To calculate the absolute poverty indicator, given the practice of determining the food component of household consumption through the calories consumption, it was decided that some ways of using the calories threshold to define poverty be explored. With this respect, the use of work developed under the auspices of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) was agreed upon. Participants agreed also that a specific survey would be needed to determine the non-food component of the absolute poverty line. Finally, it was decided that the addition of an indicator on persons belonging to vulnerable groups be considered.

Employment

19. The opening remarks on the Employment section were delivered by UNECE. This session of the workshop included a discussion both in sub-groups and in plenary session.

20. The workshop was reminded about the fact that the classical dichotomies in the description of the labour market, in the context of transition are less and less reflecting the real situation. In the framework of a review of the standards and concepts, the conclusions of the Regional Informal Consultation on Employment organised by the UNECE in Geneva on 13 May 2002, were presented. Among them, the ILO resolution on the measurement of underemployment and inadequate employment and its recommendations were quoted. Means of relating earnings to employment were explored. The usefulness of combining data on employment and earnings with household data in order to evaluate the household welfare was stressed. The need of all possible disaggregations (by sex, age, ethnicity, refugee status, geographic areas and the like) of labour market statistics obtained through labour force surveys was underlined. A balance between simplicity and completeness of contents of such surveys needs to be found. There is at present no fully valid method of collecting earnings from employment. Both labour force surveys and household income surveys could be used but earnings from own account and other agricultural employment remain difficult to assess. The work recently started by ILO on 'Decent Work', dealing also with the measurement of underemployment, was mentioned to participants. A report on this subject is due to be published in the forthcoming weeks.

21. The workshop discussed the availability of data needed to produce Tables 4 and 5 of the discussion paper. In some countries, labour force surveys are not yet regularly conducted and pilot studies to produce them are in progress. Some data needed to fill Table 4 are available at the moment from administrative registers and, in some cases, from household budget surveys, but it was recognized that these sources are not sufficient, especially when assessing unemployment. Participants agreed that labour force surveys should be the primary source to obtain the information necessary to complete Tables 4 and 5.

22. The presence in Table 4 of the age range 15-64 for the economically active population raised some concerns as the relevant working age differs from one country to the other and retirement age is different between men and women. The age range for youth unemployment was also discussed. The importance of correctly defining and assessing concealed and partial employment was emphasized. In order to catch the phenomenon of reproductive work (or caring responsibilities), the need of developing indicators to assess non-paid contributions or domestic labour was underlined. Work on this subject has been developed by international organizations in the context of the region. It would be useful to consider the possibility of using and/or developing time use surveys to build the relevant indicators.

23. The workshop agreed on the necessity of basing the indicators contained in Table 4 and 5 on international guidelines (in particular those produced by ILO). Some clarifications on the Russian translation of the indicators on wage in non-agricultural employment and earnings in non-wage employment were requested to avoid ambiguities. The need for definitions and methodologies to facilitate the comparability of indicators among countries was underlined, in particular as far as Table 5 is concerned. A reference to the definition of under-employment and hidden employment was considered important too. When discussing possible methodologies to determine the correct age range for the economically active population, various alternatives were proposed and it was concluded that a quick survey be conducted by UNECE in co-operation with ILO to determine the most relevant ages for the countries of the region (both for the beginning of the working age and retirement age). Finally, a precise definition of women administrators and managers, as well as professional and technical workers, was requested in order to obtain a reliable measure of the presence of decision-making women in a country.

Key Economic Indicators

24. The opening remarks on the Key Economic Indicators section were delivered by Armenia.

25. The usefulness of the indicators contained in Tables 1, 2 and 3 of the discussion paper for the definition of a country's human development was illustrated. In Table 1, it was noticed that different methods of calculating the GDP per capita may be applied and that the utilization of purchasing power parities (PPP) is to be recommended, even though it is not available in all countries yet. In Table 2, the possibility of presenting the budget by sector in addition to the budget deficit as percentage of GDP was advanced. In Table 3, it was suggested to use the private expenditure rather than the GDP as the benchmark for public expenditures (on health, education and social transfers).

26. Participants continued the discussion on the importance of using the PPP in the definition of the GDP per capita. Only one reference year is available at the moment in most of the countries, but the final calculation methods of the PPP for the period 1996-2000 will be approved at the end of 2002 at the summit of CIS countries. The continuous revision of the PPP over time leads to changes in the GDP estimates and this may create problems with users of data and policy makers. The evaluation of the state revenues and expenditures was also subject of debate with particular reference to the feasibility of the estimates at constant prices and the source of data.

27. The workshop approved the indicators contained in Tables 1, 2 and 3. Explanations were requested on how to measure the aggregates at constant prices. A specification of the standard of reference for the indicators on public revenues and expenditures is necessary as well.

Demographic Background

28. The opening remarks on the Demographic Background section were delivered by Kyrgyzstan.

29. The indicators of Table 8 of the discussion paper were presented and the sources for the corresponding data illustrated. Some likely problems in compiling demographic data were presented, especially as far as the indicator on the percentage of ethnic minority population is concerned.

30. The discussion focused on the status of ethnic minorities, refugees and Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs), as well as on the collection the corresponding data. The presence of these indicators in the table will be decided on a country basis. Country specific methodologies to measure the total population and its age structure were presented. In some cases, the indicators of Table 8 can be produced on the basis of the permanent population rather than on the current population.

31. The indicator on dependency ratio was the object of particular interest, as the age group for the dependent population may not be corresponding to the international standard of 'below 15 and over 65' in some countries of the region. Large differences were illustrated in particular with reference to the different retirement age of men and women. Two possible solutions to this problem were proposed: the first consists in using a generic denomination such as 'active age' instead of specific age ranges in the definition of the dependency ratio, the second consists in calculating two separate dependency ratios for men and women and determine the total ratio in a second stage.

32. Participants agreed on the feasibility of Table 8. Internationally accepted definitions of ethnic minorities and refugees will be provided. The relevance of the issue of using constant population rather than current population in estimating demographic indicators will be explored. Noticing that the problem of the age limits in the calculation of the dependency ratio is the same one faced when discussing indicators on employment, it was concluded that the results of the quick survey that UNECE will perform to find out what is the most relevant active age for the countries of the region, will be used also in this context.

Health

33. The opening remarks on the Health section were delivered by Georgia.

34. The existing health statistics and the sources available were presented to the meeting. Data for the compilation of Tables 9, 10 and 11 of the proposed standard set of indicators is available even though the reliability of information may be questioned. Problems related to the lack of resources may lead to poor quality of estimates and to difficulties in repeating the surveys over time. The issues of the importance of evaluating the private medical care and of geographical disaggregation were also addressed.

35. An in depth discussion was dedicated to Table 9. Different interpretations of the indicators on private expenditure on health and the cost of medical consultation were debated together with the sources of data. It was specified and agreed that the indicator 'private as % of total expenditure on health' makes reference to the total household expenditure on health over the total private and public (budgetary) expenditure. The indicator 'per capita private health expenditure at constant prices' should be calculated on the basis of household budget surveys. The indicator on the average cost of medical consultation was considered partly redundant with the indicator on per capita private health expenditure and possibly not relevant in some countries. Furthermore other indicators, such as the cost of hospitalisation or the duration of the treatment, were considered more relevant to the countries situation.

36. Participants exchanged experiences in the calculation of the indicators contained in Tables 10 (mortality rates) and 11 (morbidity rates). Some clarifications were requested on the definition of the indicators on mortality rates by different causes. Data to fill Tables 10 and 11 may not be available for all countries at the moment but should be obtainable in the near future. The issue of the random fluctuations of the maternal mortality ratio was also discussed and suggestions were proposed to obtain a more reliable estimate, such as the use of a three years running average.

37. The workshop agreed on the layout of Tables 9, 10 and 11 with the following amendments. In Table 9 the indicator 'Average cost of medical consultation as % of total household consumption expenditure' will be eliminated. The definition of the indicator 'Private as % of total expenditure on health' together with the methodology for its calculation, according to the World Health Organisation, will be sent to participants. The indicator 'Per capita private health expenditure (constant prices)' will be re-nominated into 'Per capita health expenditure by household (constant prices)'.

Education

38. The opening remarks on the Education section were delivered by Azerbaijan.

39. The information available to complete Tables 14 and 15 of the discussion paper was presented and some selected surveys performed in the recent years were illustrated. The production of a statistical yearbook on education was mentioned together with the international partners that helped in the development of education statistics (UNESCO, TACIS - the European Union Technical Assistance Programme for CIS countries and Mongolia, SIDA - the Swedish International Development Agency).

40. The absence of an indicator on the quality of education was underlined and participants were requested to advise about which indicator they might be interested in. The matter of the accessibility to education was particularly discussed. It was suggested that enrolment ratios can be taken as an indicator of accessibility, and even though there was a general agreement that some more indicators would be necessary, no other proposal was advanced. The cost of education was discussed, especially as far as higher education is concerned. There was a concern that the region, known for its high educational rate, could lose it soon, due to the fact that education is no longer always free and quality education must be paid for. This may lead to increasing social gaps. Indicators to tackle this phenomenon should be developed.

41. The feasibility of Tables 14 and 15 was agreed by all participants. Questions were posed on how to deal with educational systems where basic education is longer than eight years or how to evaluate the educational status of persons whose education is prolonged over 25 years of age. In these, and other similar cases, it was agreed that the indicators of the tables be adapted to the country situation. Proposals were made to introduce indicators linked with attendance rates, school drop-outs, education/re-qualification of teachers, number of students per class or per teacher, relevance and cost of private education sector (especially in higher education), access of pupils to computers and the internet.

Nutrition

42. The opening remarks on the Nutrition section were delivered by UNECE.

43. The workshop was presented with the main issues related to Nutrition and its consequences on health, which are the main focus of the indicators contained in Table 12 of the discussion paper. The nutritional deficiencies of the countries of the region may be related to the quality of food and to the lack of balance in the diet, rather than to a complete lack of food. Data on nutrition may be derived from specific surveys, household budget surveys and administrative sources. The periodicity of surveys is a very important matter as their cost is high. The information on nutrition may not be necessary on a regular basis.

44. The importance of the addition in Table 12 of an indicator on daily calories consumption per capita was generally agreed. Participants confirmed that these data are available, together with the average supply of protein of animal origin, from household budget surveys and balance of agricultural production surveys, even if the accuracy and regularity of the information may not be always granted.

45. The feasibility of the indicators on pregnant women with anaemia and women exclusively breastfeeding at four month of age was also subject to discussion as not all the countries are at the moment producing this kind of data. In those countries where it is available it may refer only to a single year or to a specific women age group. Substantial difficulties were expressed with regard to the possibility of producing the two indicators on anthropometrical measures, namely ‘% of children under 5 with low weight for height’ and ‘% of children under 5 with low height for age’, as this information is available so far only for a single year and in those countries where a specific survey was conducted by UNICEF. Proposals were advanced to consider different age limits to facilitate the data collection.

46. Participants agreed on the layout of Table 12 with the addition of an indicator on the average daily consumption of calories per capita to be introduced as first of the list. The difficulties in the production of the other indicators in the table were recognized but it was decided that the indicators be maintained as they are to respect international standards. The indicators on anthropometrical measures, in particular, need to be calculated for children under 5, as this formulation gives the best picture of the effects of malnutrition on children health.

Civil and Political Rights

47. The opening remarks on the Civil and Political Rights section were delivered by UNECE. This session of the workshop included a discussion both in sub-groups and in plenary session.

48. Four currently used approaches for the estimation of the civil and political rights achieved by countries were presented to the meeting. The first consists in subjective panel estimates. The second approach utilizes objective numerical measures, and includes indicators such as ‘women in Parliament’ or the ‘average waiting period for trials’. The third approach consists in objective non-numerical statements, while the last is based on national surveys on the citizens’ perception of their freedom, political rights and so on. None of these approaches is fully satisfactory but the one that seems more reliable for the time being is based on the objective non-numerical statements. Ratification of international conventions,

modifications of the Constitution, revision of administrative procedures, are all objective statements that may be useful in determining the achievements reached by a country in the field of civil and political rights.

49. Participants discussed the role of statistical offices and Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the production of indicators on civil and political rights and all agreed on the difficulties in producing meaningful indicators. No indicators are available on political prosecutions or censorship, for example, and it is difficult to foresee a change in this situation in the future. It was suggested that the role of statisticians might have a development in monitoring the status of international conventions that have been ratified by the country. There was some consensus that the indicators present in the Global Human Development Report are applicable also to the countries of the region, but that some more significant indicators should be proposed. The possibility of making specific surveys or polls to obtain them was taken in consideration.

50. Considering that the subject of measuring the achievements in civil and political rights is quite new, no table was proposed on this subject in the discussion paper. A suggestion for some indicators was given and participants were asked to provide their contribution to the final list to be inserted in the standard set of indicators. Participants proposed the following list: - Number (or percentage) of voters in the last political elections. – Number of political parties represented in Parliament and their number of members. – Number of local governing authorities and their gender distribution. - Presence in the country of an ombudsman office. – Number of NGOs present in the country. – Number of trade unions (and number of members of trade unions) and their activities. – Number of cancelled television channels and newspapers. – Number of cases brought before the constitutional court or before a committee for human rights. – Number of women judges (or decision makers).

Housing and Associated Services

51. The opening remarks on the Housing and Associated Services section were delivered by Kazakhstan.

52. The housing situation of the country was illustrated, together with the problems, and the statistics available to survey them. Data may be collected from census, household and housing registers and specific surveys (especially for costs related to housing). The assessment of housing conditions, the economic possibility to pay for and obtain utilities, the regularity of services, were all considered very important issues. With regard to Table 16 of the discussion paper, the availability of the indicators was confirmed. Some comments were raised on the indicator referring to the average number of hours of electricity, which may be difficult to determine. An alternative formulation was proposed in such a way that a subjective opinion is asked on the quality of all the public services provided. It may be also difficult sometimes to evaluate the access and the safety of water, especially in rural areas.

53. Participants discussed the relevance and the availability of all indicators included in Table 16 and shared different country experiences. The difficulty of determining the habitable space per person to compile the first indicator of the table was agreed upon, and participants proposed to use the average total space per person instead. The alternative indicator on the percentage of households with more than one person per room was also considered too difficult to calculate. The indicator on the percentage of households with unshared use of toilets and kitchens was considered not significant by some countries. A further clarification was requested on what should be included in the evaluation of the cost of accommodation, but countries agreed on the importance of the corresponding indicator as the problem of costs related to housing is very significant. The relevance of the indicator on the average number of hours of electricity was established, even though availability of the data was questioned and alternative formulations were explored. The definition of 'access' to drinking water and the measurement of its safety are both difficult issues. Participants agreed to use the definition more suitable to the country characteristics (for example, 'access to water', may be defined as access to tap water, to a source in the

courtyard or below a certain distance and so on.). Data on water access may be obtained through household budget surveys and/or specific surveys.

54. The layout of Table 16 was approved with the following amendments and additions. The indicator 'Average sqm of habitable space per person (or % households with more than one person per room)' will be changed into 'Average sqm of total space per person'. The indicator on the percentage of households with unshared use of toilets and kitchens will be compiled only when significant to the country. The indicator on the cost of accommodation was agreed upon, with the specification that the cost of accommodation includes rent, water/electricity/ heating expenses and minor repairs. Countries should have this information from household budget surveys. The formulation of the indicator on electricity supply may be slightly changed to be compatible with the data available but needs to be compiled in any case. The indicator on the percentage of population with access to safe drinking water may be adapted to country characteristics. For the last two indicators, the distinction between rural and urban households is strongly recommended. The indicator 'percentage of all private households who are in need of accommodation' may be added to the table, the data allowing. Each country will provide a clear definition of 'need' in a footnote. An additional indicator on hot water supply may be included, if relevant to the country, with a specification of what is meant by hot water.

Security (crime, armed conflict)

55. The opening remarks on the Security section were delivered by Tajikistan.

56. The crime statistics produced in the country were illustrated and some figures from a crime survey conducted in the year 2000 presented. Statistics on crimes by type of crime, by sex and age groups are available from the Ministry of Interior.

57. The workshop discussed the problems related to the production of the indicators included in Table 13 of the proposed set of indicators. The definition of 'white collar crimes' needs to be specified. Clarification was requested on possible differences between 'reported' and 'registered' crimes. It was noted that data on registered crimes are normally not very reliable and differ largely from those produced by surveys. The existence of the 'UN survey on crime trends and operations of criminal justice systems' was illustrated and it was suggested that countries not involved at present ask to be included in the survey. The indicator 'percentage of reported crimes in which the offender is brought to justice' was considered too difficult to compare from one country to the other, since it is largely dependent on a judiciary component (organization of judiciary systems) and on a time component. Alternatives to the formulation of this indicator were discussed. The indicator on the percentage of people who feel secure from crime was considered interesting, but participants stressed that it is very subjective and that it may be only derived from opinion polls.

58. The layout of Table 13 was accepted with the following amendments. 'Reported crimes' will be replaced with 'registered crimes' in all the indicators of the table. The indicator 'percentage of reported crimes in which the offender is brought to justice' will be changed into 'percentage of registered crimes in which the offender is convicted'. Clarifications about the meaning and coverage of 'white collar crimes' will be provided to make sure that the concept is adapted to the country situation. Further information on the UN survey on crime will be circulated to participants, together with the 'Draft manual for the development of a system of criminal justice statistics' produced by the UN Statistics Division in New York. The indicator '% who feel secure from crime' will be maintained but appropriate comments should be addressed with regard to the use made of it.

Social Exclusion/Inclusion

59. The opening remarks on the Social Exclusion/Inclusion section were delivered by UNECE.

60. The meeting was presented with the Council of Europe's definition of social exclusion. Social exclusion is inadequate or unequal participation in social life. The Council identified three dimensions of exclusion: activities of state, the economy and civil society. Indicators are proposed in Table 19. These reflect the western European approach to evaluating social exclusion/inclusion and must be adapted to conditions in the region.

61. The meeting discussed the concept of exclusion and the observation that people may be socially excluded for reasons other than lack of money was generally agreed. Exclusion may be at individual, family or community level and this factor should be taken in consideration. It was noted that the social fabric of the region is characterized by strong traditional, family and kinship/clan links, which play the role of compensatory mechanisms reducing the effects of social exclusion. Certain communities (local or ethnic communities) may be quite isolated from the state perspective or from each other but be self-sufficient and hide individual exclusion.

62. Participants agreed that there is no data available at the moment to calculate the first three indicators of Table 19 and there may be difficulties in gathering the information in the future. It was agreed that the indicators '% saying they cannot afford to invite friends for a meal', '% who say they do not know how or cannot manage to apply for assistance' and '% who say they do not belong to a club or association or do not participate in public social functions' are illustrative and have to be adapted to the countries' culture and social habits. Comments were raised on the fact that these indicators may touch delicate matters, are too dependent to subjective opinions and linked to seasonal factors. The workshop debated on the meaning of 'applying for assistance', 'belonging to a club' and 'participating to public social functions' and alternative formulations of the indicators were proposed, such as '% of people who can spend part of their money to invite guests (or to go to a restaurant)', '% of people who received gifts from relatives and friends' or '% of people who are members of public interest groups and take part to public social functions'.

63. The indicators on the number of telephones and personal computers per household are available in most of the countries, but participants considered more relevant the presence of an access to the Internet rather than the simple ownership of a computer in order to evaluate social inclusion.

64. The workshop agreed to change the formulation of the first three indicators of Table 19 on the basis of the NHDRs of the countries involved and after having received the opinion of the human development analysts. The means for identifying the various levels of exclusion should be introduced in the list of indicators. Participants were requested to contribute to the indicators' formulation by sending to UNECE some proposals on which indicators to use and how to design the corresponding questions to be introduced in the household budget surveys. These questions should be formulated in such a way to avoid the raising of suspects and to exclude subjectivity as much as possible. The indicator on telephones per household was approved, while the indicator on the presence of PC should be modified in order to take in consideration the Internet connection.

Geographical Disaggregation

65. The opening remarks on the Geographical disaggregation section were delivered by Uzbekistan.

66. Geographical disaggregation of indicators allows the identification of areas in need of assistance. Since this exercise entails considerable work, it is very important to identify the most relevant indicators to be disaggregated, the best periodicity and the most appropriate geographical unit. The results obtained for the human development indicators at regional and district level can be quite different. The indicators may generally be calculated up to the district level, but this requires large resources and in certain cases

this disaggregation produces results that are not very reliable. Data available are current administrative sources, current and projected surveys, census, etc.

67. The discussion focused on the objectives and the methodologies of the disaggregation. There was a general agreement that the size of the country as well as its territorial differentiations are relevant in the choice of the level of disaggregation. The requests coming from the user of the statistics play an important role as well, and this leads to the necessity of a dialogue between statisticians and human development analysts.

68. Participants mentioned the problems of disaggregating the GDP per capita at regional level. The relevance of the results of such a disaggregation was questioned and difficulties in estimating the contribution of small areas were illustrated. Different methodologies for the evaluation of the GDP per capita at regional level were proposed.

69. All the countries agreed on the feasibility of the disaggregation at regional level for specific indicators, provided there are enough resources and accuracy may be granted. On the other hand, it was not possible to reach the same agreement for the disaggregation at district level, as according to some participants, precise and reliable estimates are too difficult to obtain.

Environment

70. The opening remarks on the Environment section were delivered by UNECE.

71. The workshop was introduced to the different issues concerning environmental risks and protection. Three categories of issues can be identified: the incidence of natural disasters, the direct effects on health of air, water, soil and food pollution, and the long-term effects of mismanagement, such as destruction of forests, soil erosion and inappropriate irrigation. It was noted that few relevant indicators are of common interest to the region. Most are country specific. Participants were requested to give their contribution illustrating the most relevant environmental concerns in their countries in order to identify the appropriate indicators.

72. Participants agreed on the importance of the indicators present in Table 17 and 18 and on the availability of the corresponding data. As far as Table 17 is concerned, clarifications were requested on the indicator 'Energy use (in standard units) per unit of GDP' and on its relevance. The 'standard units' of energy produced are expressed in 'millions of tons of oil equivalent' according to the international definition. It was proposed that the indicator on budgetary funds allocated to environmental protection and relief be accompanied by another on non-budgetary expenditure, or, at least its coverage be enlarged to keep in consideration the government subsidies to enterprises for expenses related to the protection of environment. Furthermore, an indicator on the presence of national parks should be introduced.

73. The indicators included in Table 18 did not seem sufficient to cover all environmental problems. Proposals for additions were advanced and indicators such as 'emissions of greenhouse gases', 'carbon monoxide' and 'methane monoxide' for the global pollutants were suggested to assess the global environmental issues. To assess regional pollutants, indicators such as the level of pollution in the water of rivers or seas and the level of toxic waste were proposed.

74. The layout of Tables 17 and 18 was approved with the following additions and specifications. In Table 17, the indicator 'Budgetary funds allocated to environmental protection and relief, per capita (constant prices)' will include also government subsidies to enterprises for expenses related to the protection of environment. If the proportion of energy produced by environmentally acceptable sources (such as hydro-electric power plants) is relevant, this indicator should be added (it was noted that a footnote to Table 17 mentions that the indicator on energy use may be changed into one on energy from environmentally acceptable sources). Another indicator on protected areas may be added to the table on a

country basis. In Table 18, the indicators of the discussion paper may be adapted to the country specific environmental concerns. An indicator on the quantity of toxic waste will be added, as it is relevant to the whole region. The outcome of international meetings on environment (Rio de Janeiro, Johannesburg, Helsinki) will be explored in order to identify the standards issued for the CIS countries and adapt the indicators accordingly.

Concluding session

75. The follow up of the workshop was illustrated to participants with the remark that the results reached are not definitive. The proposal for the standard set of statistical indicators will incorporate the suggestions collected during the workshop and then will be presented, together with definitions and explanatory footnotes, to the human development analysts to obtain their point of view. The delegations expressed their appreciation for the work conducted throughout the workshop and the importance of the topic addressed. The meeting was considered a good occasion for developing a common language to discuss matters that are very relevant to the development of the countries of the region.

Evaluation

76. An evaluation questionnaire was returned by 14 out of 17 participants to the workshop. The large majority of experts evaluates the contents, manner of presentation and organisation of the meeting as 'excellent', the others as 'good'. The duration of the workshop is considered 'adequate' by 8 experts, 'too short' by 6. As far as the structure of the workshop is concerned, the majority of participants agrees that the timing was 'about right' for the sessions on Health, Education, Security and Environment. For the session on 'Civil and Political Rights' 8 participants state that the timing was 'about right', 5 that the session should have taken less time and 1 that it should have requested more time. On 'Housing and associated services' 3 participants state that it should have taken more time, 6 that the time was 'about right' and 5 that it should have taken less time. For the remaining sessions the participants are equally divided between those considering that the timing of the sessions was 'about right' and those who reckon that the sessions should have requested 'more time'. A minority (2 or 3) states that they would have requested 'less time'. The documentation presented at the workshop is considered 'good' or 'excellent' by 13 experts, fairly good by 1 expert. The usefulness of the workshop for the definition of a standard statistical set of indicators is rated by the majority as 'good' or 'excellent'. One questionnaire includes comments or suggestions on other topics that could have been included in the workshop. These refer in particular to the link of poverty with education and employment opportunities and the need to provide social statisticians with information on national accounts concepts and methodology.

Annex 1 – List of participants

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Annex 2 – Agenda

<u><i>Date</i></u>	<u><i>Time</i></u>	<u><i>Activity</i></u>	<u><i>Moderators/Speakers</i></u>
Monday, 7 October	9.00 – 9.30	Registration	
	9.30 – 10.00	Opening: welcome, purpose and expected results of the workshop	State Department for Statistics of Georgia UNECE Statistical Division
	10.00 – 10.15	Purpose of the standard set of statistical indicators for NHDRs	Opening Remarks: Mr. Chapron
	10.15 – 10.45	Coffee Break	
	10.45 – 11.15	Purpose of the standard set of statistical indicators for NHDRs (contd.)	General Discussion
	11.15 – 12.00	Principles in selecting indicators	Opening remarks: Mr. Scott General Discussion
	12.00 – 14.00	Lunch	
	14.00 – 15.30	Income & Poverty	Opening remarks: Mr. Scott, discussant: Mr. Kapanadze, Georgia General Discussion
	15.30 – 16.00	Coffee Break	
	16.00 – 17.30	Employment	Opening remarks: Mr. Chapron General Discussion Discussion in Sub-groups

<u><i>Date</i></u>	<u><i>Time</i></u>	<u><i>Activity</i></u>	<u><i>Moderators/Speakers</i></u>
Tuesday, 8 October	9.00 – 10.00	Key Economic Indicators	Opening remarks: Mr. Poghosyan, Armenia General Discussion
	10.00 – 11.00	Demographic Background	Opening remarks: Ms. Plesovshih Kyrgyzstan General Discussion
	11.00 – 11.30	Coffee Break	
	11.30 – 12.30	Health	Opening remarks: Ms. Charekishvili, Georgia General Discussion
	12.30 – 14.00	Lunch	
	14.00 – 15.00	Education	Opening remarks: Mr. Allakhverdiyev, Azerbaijan General Discussion
	15.00 – 16.00	Nutrition	Opening remarks: Mr. Chapron General Discussion
	16.00 – 16.30	Coffee Break	
	16.30 – 17.30	Civil and Political Rights	Opening Remarks: Mr. Scott General Discussion Discussion in Sub-groups
Wednesday, 9 October	9.00 – 10.00	Housing and Associated Services	Opening Remarks: Ms. Osokina, Kazakhstan General Discussion
	10.00-11.00	Security (Crime, Armed Conflict)	Opening Remarks: Mr. Asoev, Tajikistan General Discussion
	11.00 – 11.30	Coffee Break	
	11.30 – 12.40	Social Exclusion/Inclusion	Opening Remarks: Mr. Scott General Discussion
	12.40 – 14.00	Lunch	
	14.00 – 15.00	Geographical Disaggregation	Opening Remarks: Ms. Babadjanova, Uzbekistan General Discussion
	15.00 – 16.00	Environment	Opening Remarks: Mr. Chapron General Discussion
	16.00 – 17:00	Concluding Session	Mr. Chapron, Mr. Scott

Annex 3 – The proposed standard set of statistical indicators

Table 1
Production: Gross domestic product (at constant prices)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
GDP per capita							
- national currency							
- US\$ purchasing power parity* **							

*US\$ at exchange rates if purchasing power parities not available.

** The year of reference of ppp should be indicated.

Table 2
Inflation, indebtedness and international assistance and aid

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Inflation: % change in consumer prices*							
Budget deficit % of GDP							
Balance of payments deficit as % of GDP							
External public and private debt service % of exports							
Net official aid for countries in transition % of GDP**							

* End year over end year

** As reported by DAC, OECD.

Table 3
Public revenue and expenditure (at constant prices)

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Public revenue							
- per capita (national currency)							
- % of GDP							
Public consumption expenditure							
- per capita (national currency)							
- % of GDP							
Public expenditure on total social objectives*							
- per capita (national currency)							
- % of GDP							
Public expenditure on health							
- per capita (national currency)							
- % of GDP							
Public expenditure on education, per student (nat. currency)							
Public expenditure on social transfers (pensions, unemployment benefits, etc. - per beneficiary (nat. currency)							

*Health, education, religious, cultural and community activities, housing, social security (transfers).

Table 4
Economic activity by sex

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Men							
Economically active as % of population aged 15-64*							
of which (as % of economically active):							
fully employed**							
not fully employed							
sub-total: all employed (including self-employed)							
unemployed **							
Youth (15-24) unemployment rate* **							
Women							
Economically active as % of population aged 15-64*							
of which (as % of economically active):							
fully employed**							
not fully employed							
sub-total: all employed (including self-employed)							
unemployed **							
Youth (15-24) unemployment rate* **							
Women's equality in employment:							
- female administrators and managers***							
- female professional and technical workers***							
- seats in parliament held by women (% of all seats)							
*As defined by ILO, including discouraged workers							
** ILO definition (whether registered or not)							
*** As % of all administrators and managers, respectively professional and technical workers.							

Table 5
Net annual wages and net earnings per month, at constant prices, by sex

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Men							
Average wage							
Average wage in non-agricultural employment							
Average earnings in non wage employment							
Women							
Average wage							
Average wage in non-agricultural employment							
Average earnings in non wage employment							

Table 6
Distribution of net disposable household income *

Per capita or adult equivalent household income (per month)** national currency - illustrative classification	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
	% of households						
-49							
50 - 99							
100 - 149							
150 - 199							
200 - 249							
250 - 299							
300 - 399							
400 - 499							
500 - 749							
750 - 999							
Total							
Median							
Ratio of upper to lower quintile							

* Or consumption expenditure as an indicator of income

**At constant prices

Table 7
Poverty

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Persons in absolute destitution - number*							
Persons in absolute destitution - % of total population*							
Persons in absolute poverty as % of total population **							
Persons in relative poverty (below 60% of national median income) as % of total population							
Average expenditure on food as % of total consumption expenditure							

* Persons in households having insufficient income to purchase required food.

** Persons in households having insufficient income to purchase required food and/or other necessities.

Table 8
Demographic background

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Population							
% ethnic minority population							
% women							
% men							
% urban							
% rural							
% under 15							
% 65 and over							
% refugees and IDPs							
Total fertility rate							
Natural increase per 1,000 population							
Total increase per 1,000 population							
Dependency ratio**							

* For definition, see UN Statistical Commission, Recommendations for the 2000 censuses of population and housing in the ECE region, 1998, para.83, p.21

** Persons aged under 15 plus 65 and over as per cent of age group 15-64.

Table 9
Health services

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Private as % of total expenditure on health							
Per capita private health expenditure (constant prices)							
Average cost of medical consultation as % total household consumption expenditure							
% of births attended by skilled medical staff							
% of children immunised*							
Contraceptive prevalence rate							

*Children of appropriate age immunised against measles, pertussis, diphtheria, polio, tuberculosis.

Table 10
Selected mortality rates by sex

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Men/boys							
Expectation of life at birth, years							
Deaths under 5 per 1000 live births							
Mortality from malignant neoplasm per 100,000 males							
Mortality from cardiovascular conditions in men below 65 per 100,000 males							
Women/girls							
Expectation of life at birth, years							
Deaths under 5 per 1000 live births							
Mortality from malignant neoplasm per 100,000 females							
Mortality from cardiovascular conditions in women below 65 per 100,000 females							
Maternal mortality ratio							

Table 11
Morbidity

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
New cases of vaccine related diseases, per 100,000 population							
- diphtheria							
- tuberculosis							
New cases of other major diseases							
- malaria (where applicable) per 100,000 population							
- HIV/AIDS - female, number							
- HIV/AIDS - male, number							

Table 12
Nutrition

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Average supply (per day/capita) of protein of animal origin							
% of children under 5 with low* weight for height							
% of children under 5 with low* height for age							
% pregnant women with iron deficiency anaemia							
% women exclusively breastfeeding their children at four months of age							

* Two standard deviations below the median in a well-nourished and healthy model population.

Table 13
Security from crime

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
No. of violent crimes reported per 100,000 persons*							
No. of white collar crimes reported per 100,000 persons**							
% of reported crimes in which the offender is brought to justice							
% who feel secure from crime							
*Homicides, attempted murder, robbery, kidnapping, sexual assault, sexual abuse, major assault, abduction, common assault (cf. UNSD, Draft manual for the development of a system of criminal justice statistics)							
** As defined in the above Manual.							

Table 14
Education- Net enrolment ratios by sex*

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
BOYS							
Pre-primary							
Basic (first eight years)**							
Upper secondary, including vocational and technical							
Tertiary							
GIRLS							
Pre-primary							
Basic (first eight years)**							
Upper secondary, including vocational and technical							
Tertiary							
* Gross ratios if data for net ratios unavailable.							
** Primary and lower secondary							

Table 15
Educational status of persons aged 25 and more by sex

Highest level attained	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Men							
% with completed upper secondary							
% with completed tertiary							
Women							
% with completed upper secondary							
% with completed tertiary							

Table 16
Housing characteristics

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Average sq.m of habitable space per person (or % households with more than one person per room)							
% households with unshared use of toilets and kitchens							
Cost of accommodation, including services, as % of total household expenditure							
Average number of hours per day of electricity							
% population having access to safe drinking water							
NHDR 3							

Table 17
Environmental risk, management and protection

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Budgetary funds allocated to environmental protection and relief, per capita (constant prices)							
Area protected to maintain biological diversity (% of total land)							
Energy use (in standard units) per unit of GDP*							
* Or better, if the data were available: energy from environmentally acceptable sources per unit of GDP or as per cent of total energy.							
NHDR3							

Table 18
Levels of principal air pollutants, kg per capita

Pollutant	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Carbon dioxide (CO ²)							
Suplhur dioxide (SO ²)							
Nitrogen dioxide (NO ²)							
Volatile organic compounds							

Table 19
Social inclusion/exclusion

	1990	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
% saying they cannot afford to invite friends for a meal							
% who say they do not know how or cannot manage to apply for assistance							
% who say they do not belong to a club or association or do not participate in public social functions							
Telephones per 100 households							
Personal computers per 100 households							

Table 20
Human Development Index*

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Indicator values						
Adult literacy						
Combined gross enrolment ratio						
Expectation of life at birth						
Per capita GDP (ppp)						
Index values						
Education index						
Expectation of life at birth						
Per capita GDP (ppp)						
Human development index						

* Standardised in terms of its composition in 2000