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(Paris, 10-12 June 2002)

**PROGRAMMES OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL
WORK IN THE ECE REGION, 2002/2003 AND 2003/2004:
AN INTEGRATED PRESENTATION**

(Pre-plenary session version)

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 5
ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS**

Introduction

1. The material presented in this document is part of the “Integrated Presentation of International Statistical Work” which provides a summary overview of the statistically-related work that international organisations plan to carry out in the next two years that is likely to have an impact on ECE, EU and OECD countries. Information on the Integrated Presentation is presented by work area in six different addenda. The Integrated Presentation in its entirety consists of the following documents:

The Integrated Presentation: Introduction and overview (CES/2002/3)

Programme Activity 1: Organisation and operation of statistical services (CES/2002/3/Add.1)

Programme Activity 2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues (CES/2002/3/Add.2)

Programme Activity 3: Economic statistics (CES/2002/3/Add.3)

Programme Activity 4: Social and demographic statistics (CES/2002/3/Add.4)

Programme Activity 5: Environment statistics (CES/2002/3/Add.5)

Programme Activity 6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities (CES/2002/3/Add.6)

2. This version of the Integrated Presentation was prepared for review at the 10-12 June 2002 plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians. The Conference uses it as an aid in carrying out its primary role of coordinating the international statistical work that is planned to be carried out in the next two years which is of relevance to ECE, EU and OECD countries. The Integrated Presentation is also used as a valuable tool for coordination at the national level, for countries are increasingly using it to assist them in deciding on their participation in different meetings convened by the various international organisations. The information presented in this version of the

Integrated Presentation will be amended after the plenary session, and re-issued as the “post-plenary session” version of the Integrated Presentation.

3. The information presented in this addendum refers to work area or “Programme Activity” 5 of the Integrated Presentation which is entitled “Environment statistics”, and that is sub-divided into two “programme elements (PE)” or fields of work.

PE 5.1

PE	Heading	Text
5.1	Title	Sectoral concepts, definitions, classifications and environmental databases
5.1	Goal	That there exists an integrated system of internationally comparable environmental statistics capable of assisting governments in setting and adjusting regulatory, taxation and resource management policies which directly or indirectly affect the environment.
5.1	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The need for further conceptual and definitional development in some areas e.g. bio-diversity and chemicals. ◆ The lack of a consensus on joint sets of indicators. ◆ Harmonisation of concepts and methods for measuring emissions to air, especially relating to climate change. ◆ Harmonisation of hazardous waste.
5.1	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Produce agreed standard methodologies for environmental protection expenditure and facilities; waste and recycling; eco-industries; eco-taxes and other economic instruments. ◆ Improvements in the quality of data available in international databases. ◆ The review and assessment of current questionnaires and the joint development of any new questionnaire with a view to eliminating redundancy and avoidable differences in concepts and definitions. ◆ Extension of EEA monitoring networks to include EU accession countries and the Balkans. ◆ Review of the list of indicators for environment statistics and updating the respective classifications.
5.1	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A set of environmental indicators for the EPR database (ECE). ◆ Proposals for core indicator list to be used by EEA networks and in EEA assessments ◆ <i>Environmental Signals</i> indicator report 2002, 2003 (EEA). ◆ The 3rd pan-European assessment report on the environment, by May 2003 (EEA). ◆ Publication of first volume of <i>Manual of Environment Statistics</i> (UNSD, 2002). ◆ Draft of second volume of <i>Manual of Environment Statistics</i> (UNSD, 2003).
5.1	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Statisticians need to be involved in the early stages of work to identify and develop environment indicators to add practicality to the mix of ideas and ensure the feasibility of any indicator proposed. ◆ Need for better coordination of data collection, avoid duplication and focus on priority data sets ("streamlining data collection"). ◆ Need to fill data gaps for prioritised environment statistics. ◆ The substantial work and preparations that are going on in countries and international organisations for the "Rio plus ten" assessment in 2002, including <i>inter alia</i> the development of indicators to monitor progress towards sustainable development (see also PE 2.8 Sustainable development indicators).
5.1	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities of CES" below), and to note and endorse the activities to be undertaken by other Divisions and PSB's in the ECE.
5.1	Rapporteur	Eurostat

PE	Heading	Text
5.1	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Work Session on Methodological Issues of Environment Statistics (2003). Items on the agenda include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Linking environmental statistics to environmental accounts;</i> ▪ <i>Keeping up the momentum of Johannesburg 2002;</i> ▪ <i>Environment, transport and tourism;</i> ▪ <i>Coordination of data collection.</i> ◆ EUROSTAT: Working Group: 2002 questionnaire on state of environment, 2-3 July 2002 (+ once every two years) ◆ EUROSTAT: Working Group: Environment statistics (jointly with Environment Accounts), 1-3 October 2002 (+ once a year in October) ◆ EUROSTAT: Working Group: Waste Statistics, 28-29 October 2002 (+ once a year in October) ◆ EUROSTAT: Working Group: Environmental expenditure statistics (jointly with Environment Accounts), 03-04 December 2002 (+ once a year in December) ◆ EUROSTAT: Working Group: Water statistics, once a year in February ◆ EUROSTAT: Other topics, such as pressure indicators, transport/environment, agriculture/environment are dealt with at meetings, which do not take place regularly ◆ OECD: Working Party on Waste Prevention and Recycling (two meetings per year) ◆ OECD: Joint Working Party of the Committee for Agriculture and the Environment Policy Committee (17-19th April 2002; 16-18th December 2002) ◆ OECD: Working Group on Environmental Information and Outlooks (one or two meetings per year, next: October 2002) ◆ OECD: Working Party on National Environmental Policies (two meetings per year) ◆ OECD: Joint meeting of environment and tax experts (one meeting per year) ◆ UNSD: Expert meeting to discuss the draft second volume of the Manual of Environment Statistics (2003)
5.1	Activities of the CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE/Eurostat/OECD Joint Work session on methodological issues of environment statistics to consider in 2003 the following topics: (i) Linking environmental statistics to environmental accounts; (ii) Keeping up the momentum of Johannesburg 2002; (iii) Environment, transport and tourism; (iv) Coordination of data collection. ◆ Resources permitting, participating in coordination schemes, in particular in jointly sponsored Task Forces ◆ Preparing, if resources permit and when required, 'readings volumes' of methods used in the collection, compilation and dissemination of environment statistics ◆ Organisation according to need of cross-sectoral activities, with other organisations and within the ECE
5.1	Activities of the ECE Environment and Human Settlements Division (ENHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The <u>Ad Hoc Working Group on Environmental Monitoring</u> serves as an instrument to provide recommendations, to propose action plans, and to strengthen international initiatives within the region in the area of environmental monitoring and related areas (http://www.unece.org/env/europe/environmental_monitoring.htm). Environmental indicators is an area where the Working Group is expected to be instrumental. The Working Group assists the European Environment Agency (EEA) to produce a 3rd pan-European assessment report on the environment based on region-wide indicators. The report will be prepared by the time of the Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" to be held in Kiev in May 2003. The work on the indicators for the Kiev report provides an opportunity to improve and streamline the development and use of environmental indicators in countries in transition, particularly those not covered by EEA networks. ◆ <u>EPR database</u>: The International Environment Data Service (IEDS) database was replaced by a new database system based on the database model of the ECE Statistical Division. The new database (EPR) continues to be used for the purpose of

PE	Heading	Text
		<p>the Environmental Performance Reviews. This programme is also the prime user of the Environment database. The database has been extended to cover all information collected from national sources through the Environmental Performance Reviews as well as from international databases as they pertain to environmental indicators of the countries being reviewed. Source is clearly indicated for each entry. The EPR is currently available on ECE's intranet.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A set of <u>environmental indicators</u> for EPR database is being developed based on the studies of the Environmental Performance Reviews programme. The aim is to obtain a comprehensive description for each indicator and to allow the under review country to provide an accurate value. ◆ As secretariat to the <u>Convention on Long-range Trans-boundary Air Pollution</u>, the ECE will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ support the further development of reporting procedures, in collaboration with EEA, for Parties to the Convention to submit national estimates of air pollutant emissions to ECE for inclusion in a database held by, and available on the Internet from, a centre of the Convention's EMEP programme. Submitted data needs to be harmonized with the requirements of other bodies such as the EU and FCCC to facilitate national reporting; ▪ develop a database to facilitate the submission of information from Parties on their policies and strategies to abate air pollution. This will provide relevant questions and historic information over the Internet and provide Internet accessible forms for Parties to submit updated information; ▪ oversee the effective compilation and application of the data held in the extensive databases of the programme centres of the Convention on Long-range Trans-boundary Air Pollution which hold monitoring records on air pollution and effects on waters, soils, vegetation, and materials that have been submitted by Parties to the Convention. ECE will encourage Parties to make data more readily available.
5.1	Activities of OECD	<p><u>Environmental data:</u></p> <p>Ongoing work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Continued <u>improvement of the quality and international comparability</u> of the data collected and used by the OECD, and extension of the OECD System of Information on Resources and the Environment (SIREN) database. Priorities include: i) data needed for the calculation of <u>international environmental indicators</u> and for country environmental performance reviews; ii) further development of <u>economic data of environmental relevance</u>, including data on environmental <u>expenditure</u> and data on revenues from environmentally-related <u>taxes</u>, using the statistical framework developed in close co-operation with EUROSTAT. ◆ Further <u>review of the OECD questionnaires</u> on the state of the environment (joint OECD/Eurostat questionnaires for European Union, EFTA and EU candidate accession countries; co-operation with UNSD for non-OECD countries). The <u>definitions and classifications</u> used in the questionnaires are being reviewed to ensure that they are consistent with the latest international developments. Standard statistical classifications adopted by the CES are used where possible. The questionnaire section on “forest” is co-ordinated with the UN-ECE and the FAO. The questionnaire section on “waste” is co-ordinated with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention. The data requested in the different questionnaire sections is being further <u>prioritised</u> and the use of new international data sources is systematically explored to <u>reduce the response burden</u> on countries. <u>Data collection and treatment</u> (regular two-year cycle; collection in 2002). Co-operation with EUROSTAT, the European Environment Agency, UNSD. ◆ <u>Waste management reporting</u>: Harmonisation of the OECD control system for recoverable waste with the Basel Convention and development of a global

PE	Heading	Text
		<p>harmonised control system.</p> <p><u>Priority objectives and outputs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Revised OECD <u>questionnaire section on marine environment</u> for 2004 data collection (jointly with EUROSTAT). ◆ Revised OECD <u>questionnaire section on air</u> for 2004 data collection (jointly with EUROSTAT). ◆ Publication of the OECD <u>Compendium of Environmental Data</u> (biennial; next edition: 2003). ◆ Publication of monograph on <u>environmental expenditure</u>. ◆ OECD <u>database</u> on revenues collected from <u>environmentally-related taxes</u> (http://www.oecd.org/env/policies/taxes/index.htm). ◆ <u>Waste management reporting</u>: Revised documents related to the implementation of the OECD Council decision on the Control of Trans-frontier Movements of Wastes Destined for Recovery Operations (revised guidance manual). <p><i><u>Environmental indicators:</u></i></p> <p><u>Ongoing work:</u></p> <p>Continued work on methodology, comparability, publication and use of environmental indicators. Co-operation with other international organisations: e.g. EEA, UNCSD, World Bank. Priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ improvement of the OECD Core Set of environmental indicators; ◆ further development of environmental de-coupling indicators (link to sustainable development indicators, PE 2.8.) ◆ further development and improvement of biodiversity indicators (and related questionnaire section) ◆ further development and improvement of waste prevention indicators ◆ further refinement and development of sectoral indicators: transport-environment indicators, energy-environment indicators, agri-environmental indicators (see below), indicators of sustainable household consumption patterns, and of sustainable tourism (see also sustainable development indicators, PE 2.8.); ◆ expanded use of environmental indicators in country environmental performance reviews. ◆ co-operation and exchange of experience with non OECD countries (e.g. China, Russia) <p><u>Priority objectives and outputs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Publication of the OECD Core Set of Environmental Indicators (biennial, alternating with the Compendium of Environmental Data). ◆ Update of the OECD Key Environmental Indicators (available on internet) ◆ Publication of OECD <u>Sets of sectoral indicators</u>. <p>See also 2.8 for OECD's work on sustainable development indicators.</p> <p><i><u>Agri-environmental indicators:</u></i></p> <p><u>Ongoing work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ See new publication, OECD (2001) Environmental Indicators for Agriculture Volume 3: Methods and Results, Publications Service, Paris, France. <p><u>Priority objectives and outputs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Soil carbon/sinks; ◆ Soil erosion; ◆ Biodiversity and Habitat; ◆ Water Quality. ◆ To provide a comprehensive report by late 2002, early 2003, on the progress by then on OECD agri-environmental indicator development.

PE	Heading	Text
		<p><u>New activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development of new OECD agri-environmental indicators web site, see the OECD web site at: http://www.oecd.org/agr/env/indicators.htm
5.1	Activities of Eurostat	<p><u>NB:</u> For Eurostat the information regarding internal module 716 – <i>Sustainability and pressure indicators</i> is described under Programme element 2.8</p> <p><u>Overall Goal</u></p> <p>The main effort in the five years <u>2003-2007</u> will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To improve core environmental statistics, mainly waste, water and environmental expenditure statistics, with a focus on statistics needed for environmental indicators and to put in place the necessary legislation for such statistics ◆ To produce easily understandable environmental and sustainability indicators in co-operation with other Commission services and the European Environment Agency ◆ To continue work to produce an environmental component to socio-economic statistics, with the aim of responding to needs relating to indicators for integration of environmental and sustainability concerns into other policies ◆ To continue work to add an environmental domain to national accounts, through regular production of a set of environmental accounts and to adapt them to the priority sustainability issues ◆ To participate in reviewing reporting obligations and to continue the close co-operation with the European Environment Agency with co-ordinated actions and by making data collection by the two institutions complementary. <p><u>In 2002:</u></p> <p>The integration of sustainability and environmental considerations into all relevant statistical domains has gained importance. In line with the Amsterdam Treaty, successive European Councils have made policy commitments on integrating environmental concerns into other policies, including follow-up through better indicators. The Commission proposal for the Sixth Environment Action Programme for 2001-2010 identifies four priority areas: Climate Change, Nature and Biodiversity, Environment and Health and Natural Resources and Waste. The EU Strategy on Sustainable Development was adopted by the European Council in June 2001 and sets objectives for economic, social and environmental sustainability. These new programmes will influence the work on sustainability and environment statistics and indicators, but also social statistics and statistics such as transport, energy, health and agriculture, as well as environment accounts.</p> <p><u>Ongoing methodological work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Continuous improvement of the regular reporting and dissemination of environment statistics together with Member States, by filling data gaps and improving data quality and timeliness as well as rationalising data transfer. In 2002, data will be collected through a simplified joint OECD/Eurostat questionnaire, and the EEA will participate in the questionnaire work. The regional dimension of environment statistics will also be continuously improved. ◆ Establishment of a system of Community waste statistics and implementation of the Regulation on Waste Statistics, as soon as it is decided by the Council and the Parliament. Revision of the waste joint questionnaire in the light of the Waste Regulation, to streamline reporting of waste statistics. ◆ Work will continue on the environmental variables related to the Council Regulation on structural business statistics, and a regular data collection system on environmental expenditure in industry will be developed. ◆ Improvement of statistics on water use and wastewater treatment. Establishment of a “Gentlemen’s agreement” with Member States on the transfer of priority sets of data. Co-operation with the Environment DG to implement the Water Framework Directive.

PE	Heading	Text
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Support for the Environment DG and the EEA on statistical tools for emission inventories. ◆ Support for PHARE countries and for non-EU Mediterranean countries in environment statistics. <p><u>Work dependent on financing from other Commission DG's:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Pilot studies relating to the Regulation on Waste Statistics and pilot studies on environmental variables in the Regulation on Structural Business Statistics. (Environment DG) ◆ Improvement of the availability of a set of regional environment data by joint work programmes between Member States, the Regional Policy DG and Eurostat. ◆ Improvement of environmental indicators for transport, including estimation of energy consumption, pollutant emissions, noise and waste from transport (Transport and Energy DG) ◆ Support to PHARE countries and non-EU Mediterranean countries (Enlargement DG and External Relations DG) <p>See also 2.8 for Eurostat's work on sustainable development indicators</p> <p><u>Other Activities of the European Commission:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Data on greenhouse gases and ozone depleting substances is collected by the Environment DG and work is delegated to the EEA (European Environment Agency). ◆ Data collected by the Agricultural DG on organic farming is compiled by Eurostat. ◆ The EEA collects data on land cover, water and air quality and bio-diversity. <p><u>Priority objective of the methodological work to be undertaken in the next two years</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Implementation measures relating to the Regulation on waste statistics (Commission Regulations and guidelines) ◆ Manual on water statistics ◆ Implementation measures relating to the environmental variables in the Structural Business Statistics Regulation (Commission Regulations and guidelines) ◆ Possible revision of the draft manual on pesticide statistics and recommendations for nitrogen balances. <p><u>New activities to be undertaken in the next two years:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The 6th Action Programme for the environment sets out new data demands, particularly for statistics on the environment and health and for statistics on chemicals of environmental concern; a more co-ordinated approach to waste and material use statistics is another requirement.. ◆ The 6th Action Programme also foresees a wide-ranging review of information and reporting systems. Eurostat will participate in the review, to help to achieve efficient co-ordination of statistical and administrative data collection. <p>Planned new legislation during 2002:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Regulation (EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council on Waste Statistics ◆ Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the Community Environment Action Programme 2001-2010 (6th EAP). ◆ Regulation (EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council on Structural Business Statistics: extension of the environmental variables.

PE	Heading	Text
5.1	Activities of the European Environment Agency (EEA)	<p><u>Strategic objectives:</u> Establishing of Europe-wide networks for monitoring air and water quality, emissions to air and water, and land-cover with regular data flows and central databases (http://eea.eu.int). The EEA uses the information from these networks and statistics from other organisations to provide policy relevant assessments of changes in the state of the environment and the causing factors. Reports for various audiences are based on indicators.</p> <p>The EEA is a central point for methodologies in European air emission inventories. It maintains together with the UNECE Task Force on Emission Inventories and Projections the EMEP/CORINAIR Atmospheric Emission Inventory Guidebook and accompanying software.</p> <p><u>Priority in the next two years:</u> Extending the coverage of the networks to the new member countries of the EEA (EU accession countries, including Turkey, Malta Cyprus) and the Balkan countries. Co-operation with the UNECE Ad Hoc Working Group on Environmental Monitoring for information exchange with the NIS. Harmonisation and rationalisation of data flows linked to policy needs, linked with the revision of the EU Reporting Directive. Development of a consistent set of indicators for environmental issues and for the integration of environmental concerns in sectoral policies for the EU.</p> <p><u>Outcomes:</u> Proposals for core indicator lists to be used by the EEA networks and in EEA assessments. Indicator report Environmental signals 2002 and 2003. Pan-European assessment for the environmental ministers conference in Kiev in spring 2003. Sector and issue environment indicator reports.</p>
5.1	Activities of UN Statistics Division	<p>UNSD collects environment statistics through its biennial questionnaire from countries other than OECD/EU members and EU candidates and have data exchange arrangements with OECD and Eurostat.</p> <p><u>Ongoing work:</u> The UNSD Questionnaire 2001 on Environment Statistics, covering Water, Air, Waste and Land was sent to countries in July-September 2001. Validation of the responses has started and will continue in 2002 and the data will be published in a compendium of environment statistics and indicators. The UNSD Database of Environment Statistics has been set up and draws upon data from the Questionnaire, and also from OECD, Eurostat, UN agencies and other international sources, and it provides environmental data sets for different UN publications and assessments. Continuous improvement of data reporting and dissemination, coverage and data quality, remains a necessity.</p> <p>Work continues on a manual that will provide hands-on guidance in the compilation of statistics on the environment. The first volume of the Manual of Environment Statistics, covering statistics on water, air, waste and environmental expenditures, is to be published in 2002. Work on the second volume, covering statistics on natural resources, will also start in 2002 and an expert meeting will discuss the draft in 2003.</p> <p><u>Priority objectives:</u> Production of the Manual of Environment Statistics, establishment of a regular production of a compendium of environment statistics, additional collaborative arrangements to harmonize data collection efforts.</p> <p><u>New activities to be undertaken:</u> As part of a new Development Account project, UNSD will provide technical support to the countries of the ESCWA region in environment statistics. Investigation of methods to estimate environmental pressures in developing countries.</p>

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5.1	Activities of the World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ The Bank is and will be contributing to the development of core environmental indicators for monitoring progress toward the international development goals adopted by the World Bank, United Nations, and the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD.◆ The development and expansion of an environmental database is on-going. It's coverage includes, among others, the ECE countries and it is annually updated from various sources inside and outside the World Bank. Being available to all World Bank staff, it is mainly utilized for the expanded Environmental section of the World Development Indicators. Also, a set of selected environmental indicators is being published annually by the Environment Department and the Development Data Group of the World Bank. The publication, organized by country, covers more than 150 countries and each country page presents more than 50 indicators.

PE 5.2

5.2	Title	Environmental accounting
5.2	Goal	That there is an integration path between accounts in physical terms and the corresponding elements on national accounts in money terms;
5.2	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To complete revision of the UN Handbook on integrated environmental and economic accounting (SEEA). ◆ To review developments in natural resource accounting. ◆ Further methodological work on water accounting and practical implementation of environmental accounts. ◆ To suggest ways in which a synthesis of different approaches may be constructed to ensure flexibility for special cases within a framework which is consistent overall. ◆ To work to avoid a divergence in approach taken by ECE Members and that taken by countries outside the region (specifically developing countries).
5.2	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Some form of monitoring of the voluminous studies on environmental issues to ensure that quick and comprehensive information is available about developments in environmental accounting; new studies undertaken; new approaches developed. Critiques and comparisons of systems designed for general use to highlight similarities and differences. ◆ To determine how to account for the environmental impact of economic activities in relation to marketed natural assets (such as minerals and forests which may be exploited beyond sustainability) and non-marketed natural assets (such as air and water used as environmental sinks). ◆ Implementation of SEEA. ◆ Development of an operational handbook to complement SEEA handbook. ◆ Promoting the implementation of environmental accounts and the use of the SEEA manual among policy makers.
5.2	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Revised OECD questionnaire in 2002. ◆ Handbook on Fishery Resources Accounting (UNSD). ◆ Handbook on Water Resources Accounting (UNSD).
5.2	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Close interaction of environmental and economic accounting. ◆ Completion of the revision of the SEEA handbook and the need to develop, as soon as possible, the operational handbook to complement it.
5.2	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
5.2	Rapporteur	Eurostat
5.2	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT Working Group: Economic Accounts for the Environment (jointly with Environmental statistics and indicators), 1-3 October 2002 and 3-4 December 2002 (+ twice a year in October and December) ◆ EUROSTAT Working Group: Namea Workshop, once a year in June. ◆ OECD Working Group on Environmental Information and Outlooks (one or two meeting per year, next: October 2002) ◆ UNSD: Expert Group Meeting on the SEEA Training Material in 2003 ◆ UNSD: Regional workshop on environmental accounting for "ASEAN" countries (Indonesia, 2002) ◆ UNSD: Regional workshop on environmental accounting for the Latin American and Caribbean jointly with ECLAC ◆ UNSD: Regional workshop on environmental accounting for Southern-African

		<p>countries (Zimbabwe)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ London Group: One or two meetings in the next two years (dates and location to be decided)
5.2	Activities of CES	None
5.2	Activities of OECD	<p>Work on environmental accounting builds on OECD's experience in integrating environmental and economic thinking. Beside methodological work, it covers collection and treatment of environmental expenditure data; regular information exchange and progress reports in Member and Partner countries; environmental accounting as part of the OECD assessments of environmental information systems.</p> <p><u>Ongoing work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ continued work on environmental expenditure and revenues: (see also 5.1); ◆ material flow accounting: identification and definition of derived indicators to complement other resource indicators of the OECD Core Set. <p><u>Priority objectives and outputs:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ publication of environmental expenditure data for OECD countries; ◆ improved data from revised questionnaire (joint work with Eurostat); ◆ inclusion of indicators on selected material flows in relevant OECD publications.
5.2	Activities of Eurostat	<p><u>Overall Goal</u> The main effort in the five years <u>2003-2007</u> will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To continue work to add an environmental domain to national accounts, through regular production of a set of environmental accounts and to adapt them to the priority sustainability issues <p><u>Ongoing methodological work:</u> Within the EU particular tasks will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To review the implications of the revised SEEA for the development and orientation of environmental accounting, taking account particularly of the results of a task force in 2001 on the future of environmental accounting. ◆ To continue to improve the quantity, quality, and comparability of environmental accounts in the EU. ◆ Complete the database and publications to improve the accessibility and the range of data made available to users. <p><u>Work dependent on financing from other Commission DG's:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Much of the implementation of environmental accounts in Member States is largely dependent on grants from DG Environment. <p><u>Priority objective of the methodological work to be undertaken in the next two years</u> The world-level handbook on integrated environmental and economic accounting (SEEA) was completed at the end of 2001, and approved by the Statistical Commission at the beginning of 2002. It will now be prepared for publication by the international agencies involved. The priority then becomes to foster implementation in as many countries as possible.</p> <p><u>New activities to be undertaken in the next two years</u> As environmental accounts are progressively established in Member States, Eurostat will complete the database and publications with a set of EU-wide environmental accounts that are integrated to the extent possible and that will be regularly updated and improved. This will include air emissions, environmental taxes and expenditure and accounts for forest and sub-soil assets.</p>
5.2	Activities of the European Environment Agency (EEA)	<p><u>Priorities next two years:</u> Apply accounting techniques in water and land. Use of data on environmental taxes and on costs of specific environmental protection technologies ("avoidance cost curves") for the preparation of the next State of the Environment and Outlook report for the EU (2004).</p>

5.2	Activities of UN Statistics Division	<p><u>Ongoing methodological work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ UNSD is currently working on the finalization of the handbook on Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA) in collaboration with the London Group. The revised SEEA will be published jointly by the UN, Eurostat, IMF, OECD and the World Bank. ◆ In response to the need for implementation manuals which focus on the practical issues of the compilation of specific resources accounts UNSD is preparing the following handbooks on: (a) Fishery Resources Accounting in collaboration with FAO and UNU; and (b) Water Resources Accounting, in collaboration with Eurostat and the London Group. The work on water accounting has identified the need for the standardization of terminology in water statistics and accounting. UNSD will set up a web page listing the terms related to water and the different definitions in use with the objective to reach a standard set of definitions. ◆ UNSD is also working on the preparation of training material and a revised SEEA software that will complement the revised SEEA handbook. It will provide practical guidance on how to compile the accounts and will link the compilation of each account with its use in policy making. It will also include exercises and solved examples. The training material and the software would serve as background material in training workshops and would provide guidance for implementing the SEEA in countries with little or no experience in the compilation of environmental-economic accounts. <p><u>Priority objective:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The priority objectives of UNSD remain the completion of the SEEA; the production of manuals on selected topics in environmental accounting; and the implementation of the SEEA in countries. <p><u>New activities to be undertaken:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ UNSD plans to start working on a handbook on tourism and environmental accounting.
5.2	Activities of the World Bank	<p>The World Bank works closely with the UN Statistics Division in the field of environmental accounting and continues to support initiatives primarily through the London Group. The Bank is contributing to the preparation of the revised SEEA dealing with the issues of valuation, as well as potential operational policy relevance and use of the proposed manual in informing a wider range of management decisions. Work in this area is bolstered by the development of accompanying indicators of environmental change including estimation of "genuine savings" for more than 120 countries.</p>
5.2	Activities of the London Group on Environmental Accounting	<p><u>On-going methodological work</u></p> <p>The London Group will complete its revision of the United Nations handbook on integrated environmental and economic accounting (the SEEA) in early 2002. Following this major accomplishment, the group will continue its regular work programme of sharing country experience and furthering the methodological development of environmental accounts. It is recognised that despite the considerable progress made in the area of environmental accounting over the last ten years much methodological and practical work remains.</p> <p><u>Priority objectives in the next two years</u></p> <p>At this point, the London Group's work programme for the next two years is not fully established. The need for additional methodological work in the area of water accounting is recognised as a priority. So too is the clearer identification of the needs of those who are the users of environmental accounts. The group has also discussed the need to focus on the practical questions surrounding the implementation of environmental accounts. The possibility of producing implementation manuals has been raised as a response to this need.</p> <p><u>New activities</u></p> <p>The London Group's recognition of the need to focus on the implementation of environmental accounts (in addition to continuing their methodological development)</p>

		represents a new activity for the group. As noted above, this focus may result in the production of implementation manuals or other means of guiding those responsible for implementing the accounts. The exact form of these new activities will be agreed upon in the coming months as the group plans its next meeting.
5.2	Activities of CIS-STAT	<u>Ongoing methodological and analytical work:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ In 2002-2004 it is planned to collect and collate data concerning environmental protection. The following annual reports will be prepared: “Environmental protection in Commonwealth countries” and “Progress of work to deal with the effects of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant”. In addition to special reports, CIS-STAT bulletins will periodically include statistical and analytical materials covering a variety of environmental issues.◆ Advisory services are also to be provided to national statistical offices regarding arrangements for the statistical observation of environmental protection.