ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Fifty-sixth plenary session
Paris, 10-12 June 2008
Item 3(d) of the provisional agenda

COORDINATION OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL WORK IN THE REGION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE.

CULTURE STATISTICS

EXTRACT FROM THE DATABASE OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES (DISA)

Note by the secretariat
### Theme 1.04 Culture

#### 1. Description

This theme covers all statistics relating to culture and cultural industries. A definition of the cultural domain was prepared by EC LEG-Culture and adopted by the SPC in 1999. A methodology to identify cultural employment by matching economic sectors (NACE) and occupations (ISCO) has been developed and now data are available annually from the EU-Labour Force Survey. Methodological work on cultural participation has also been carried out and its recommendations could be implemented through surveys to obtain comparative results at EU level. A study concerning statistics on private expenditure on culture will help in the future exploitation of the Household Budget Surveys. Finally, the basic elements of a methodology to cover public expenditure on culture have been produced, but further development is required before the methodology can be used for the collection of data through a specific administrative data collection. Economic statistics on cultural industries are available from the EU-Structural Business Statistics database but the coverage of this sector is very limited at the moment. Cooperation with the UNESCO Institute for Statistics is essential in this area, while the Council of Europe will be informed and involved when necessary. OECD activities in this area should also be looked at.

### 2. Work Programme for 2008

#### 2.1 KEY PRIORITIES 2008

Given the renewed interest by the Council in statistics on culture in the context of the Lisbon strategy, it is planned to continue or restart the work already initiated by the LEG, WG and TF on culture statistics. Both methodological work and data production, mainly based on existing data, will be proposed. Methodological work should also include progress on the definitions of the cultural and creative industries. Proposals will be drawn up to improve the harmonisation of the different fields of cultural statistics. Close cooperation with all Member States and with international organisations is required in this development work.

#### 2.2 OBJECTIVES 2008

##### 2.2.2. New work

- Re-launch the working group (form and mandate to be determined), designate delegates from Member States (and international organisations) and establish mode of cooperation with other international bodies

- Prepare inventory of existing (and planned) national data sources for cultural statistics
Carry out development and production work in some areas of cultural statistics (cultural industries, expenditures on culture, trade of cultural goods and services)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **1.9: CIS-STAT Culture and Arts** | Ongoing work:  
Collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of data provided by national statistical services as part of the interstate exchange of information on culture and the arts.  
Annual preparation of analytical material illustrating selected data on culture and the arts in Commonwealth countries.  
It is intended to provide advisory services to national statistical services on the organization of culture statistics in Commonwealth countries. |
| **1.9: UNESCO Culture** | Work Programme  
UIS current programme includes:  
- developing a new framework for the international collection of culture statistics, particularly concerning diverse issues related to cultural diversity (see DISA 2008 Statistical area 4.2)  
- adapting the model of EU culture surveys to non-OECD countries  
- launching a new global survey on cinema, focusing on trends in the production and distribution of feature films  
- co-ordination of statistical activity in this area with EU and OECD. |