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**STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC
CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT
(OECD)**

**CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
STATISTICIANS**

**COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES (EUROSTAT)**

Joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD

Meeting on National Accounts

(Geneva, 24-26 April 2002)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE MEETING

to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting on 24 April 2002 at 10 a.m.*

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Policy uses of national accounts
4. Quality and reliability of national accounts
5. Supply and Use tables: practical implications
6. Capital investment, including software
7. Price and volume measures of services

* On 23 April 2002, a special session on national accounts for CIS countries and other transition economies will be held, starting at 14:30. The main topic of the session will be Benchmarking/ Extrapolation in QNA. Information will be provided on UNECE work on Estimation of Hidden and Informal Activities in Transition Economies and Capital Stock Measurement in Transition Economies. For further details, please consult the UNECE website.

8. Information items
9. Future work
10. Other business
11. Adoption of the report

Provisional timetable and notes on the items of the agenda

The meeting on National Accounts is convened jointly by UNECE, OECD and Eurostat pursuant to the decision that the Conference of European Statisticians took at its forty-ninth plenary session, in June 2001 (see report of the session ECE/CES/60 and CES/2001/3/Add.3).

WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL

10:00-10:20 Items 1 and 2

Item 3: POLICY USES OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

SESSION 1

10:20-10:40 **Discussant:** Mr. Robin Lynch, ONS, United Kingdom

10:40-11:00 **Invited paper 1:** Policy uses of national accounts: an OECD perspective

Author: Mr. Derek Blades, OECD

11:00-11:20 **Invited paper 2:** Policy uses of national accounts in Finland

Author: Mr. Markku Suur-Kujala, Statistics Finland

11:20-11:40 **Coffee break**

11:40-12:00 **Discussions and comments on invited papers**

12:00-12:20 **Invited paper 3:** Use of national accounts and the dialogue between national accountants and policy makers

Author: Mrs. Soli Peleg, CBS, Israel

12:20-12:40 Invited paper 4: Policy uses of national accounts in Ukraine

Author: Mrs. Iryna Nikitina, Ukraine

12:40-13:00 Discussions and comments on invited papers

13:00-15:00 Lunch

SESSION 2

Item 4: Quality and reliability of national accounts

15:00-15:20 Discussant: Mr. Kishori Lal, Statistics Canada

15:20-15:40 Invited paper 5: The quality of the national accounts and economic statistics

Author: Mr. Goran Svensson, Statistics Sweden

15:40-16:00 Invited paper 6: Quality and reliability of national accounts data in Russia

Author: Mr. Andrey Kosarev, Bureau of Economic Analyses, Russian Federation

Supporting papers:

- Kyrgyz Republic: Quality and reliability of national accounts

- Hungary: Reliability of national accounts data (to be confirmed)

- Eurostat: Lessons from Candidate Countries (to be confirmed)

16:00-16:20 Discussions and comments on invited and supporting papers

16:20-16:40 Coffee break

16:40-17:00 Invited paper 7: Consistency of micro data

Author: Mr. Bill Keating, CSO, Ireland

17:00-17:20 Invited paper 8: Outlier detection of multivariate extrapolated administrative data in Belgian national accounts

Author: Michel Soudan, National Bank of Belgium

17:20-18:00 Discussions and comments on invited and supporting papers

THURSDAY 25 APRIL

Item 5: SUPPLY AND USE TABLES: PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS

SESSION 3

09:30-09:50 Discussant: Mrs. Liv Simpson, Statistics Norway

09:50-10:10 Invited paper 9: Supply and Use tables: practical implications

Author: Statistics Denmark

10:10-10:30 Invited paper 10: Compilation of supply and use tables in Romania

Author: Mrs. Andriana Ciucea, National Commission for Statistics, Romania

10:30-10:45 Supporting papers by:

- Mrs. Youlia Kirilova, National Statistical Institute, Bulgaria
- Eurostat: New input-output manual (to be confirmed)
- OECD: OECD input-output database

10:45-11:05 Coffee break

11:05 –11:50 Discussions and comments on invited and supporting papers

SESSION 4

Item 9: FUTURE WORK

11:50-12.30 The UNECE secretariat will distribute before the meeting a document concerning future joint meetings. Participants will be asked if they have any proposals for future joint work in national accounts. A small Programme Committee will be convened to assist the secretariats of UNECE, OECD and Eurostat in preparation of the draft proposals made on the basis of country suggestions and of the discussions as the meeting proceeds. The topic will be further discussed under agenda item 11 Adoption of the report on the last day of the meeting. The UNECE secretariat will later submit the proposals for the approval of the Conference of European Statisticians

Presentation: UNECE secretariat

12:30-14:30 Lunch

Item 6: INVESTMENT, INCLUDING SOFTWARE

SESSION 5

14:30-14:50 Discussant: Mrs. Karen Wilson, Statistics Canada

14:50-15:10 Invited paper 11: Information processing equipment and software (working title)

Author: Mrs. Carol Moylan, BEA, United States

15:10-15:50 Invited paper 12: Sources and methods used for measuring software in Belgian national accounts

Author: Mr. Tim Hermans, Belgium

15:50-16:10 Discussions and comments on invited papers

16:10-16:30 Coffee break

16:30 –16:50 Invited paper 13: Measurement of software in the national accounts of Israel

Author: CBS, Israel

16:50-17:00 Information on the work of the OECD Task Force on software measurement

Author: Mr. Francois Lequiller, OECD

Supporting papers: Ukraine

17:00-17:30 Discussions and comments on invited and supporting papers

FRIDAY 26 APRIL

Item 6: PRICE AND VOLUME MEASURES OF SERVICES

SESSION 6

09:30-09:50 Discussant: Ruth Meier, FSO, Switzerland

- 09:50-10:10 Invited paper 14:** Price and volume measures of insurance services
Author: Mr. Wolfgang Eichmann, Statistisches Bundesamt, Germany
- 10:10-10:20 Information on the work of the OECD Task Force on insurance services**
Author: Fenella Maitland-Smith, OECD
- 10:20-10:50 Discussions and comments on invited and supporting papers**
- 10:50-11:10 Coffee break**
- 11:10-11:30 Invited paper 15:** Improving the measurement of output indicators of business services within the UK service sector
Author: Mr. Steve Drew, ONS, United Kingdom
- 11:30-11:50 Invited paper 16:** Measurement of business services in the Czech national accounts
Author: Mr. Viteslav Ondrus, CSO, Czech Republic

Supporting paper:

- Eurostat: Handbook on price and volume measures (to be confirmed)

- 11:50-12:30 Discussions and comments on invited and supporting papers**

- 12:30-14:30 Lunch**

Item 8: INFORMATION ITEMS

SESSION 8

- 14:30-14:45 Implications of the new manuals on CPI and PPI on national accounts**
Presentation: to be decided
- 14:45-15:00 Comments and questions**

- 15:00-15:20** **Inventory of national practices in estimating hidden and informal activities for national accounts in the ECE region: first draft report**
Presentation: UNECE
- 15:20-15:40** **Current status of the International Comparison of GDP in the ECE region: ECP 1999 and ECP 2000**
Presentation: UNECE
- 15:40-15:50** **On-going activities undertaken within the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA)**
Presentation: to be decided
- 15:50- 16:10** **Coffee break**
- 16:10-16:20** Item 10: OTHER BUSINESS
- 16:20-17:30** Item 9: FUTURE WORK, CONTINUED and

Item 11: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

Participants will be asked to adopt a short draft report (2-3pages) including the agenda, participation, main decisions of the meeting and the recommendations for future work discussed under item 6 on Thursday, 25 April.

A longer report with summary of discussions will be distributed to all participants after the meeting.
