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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, 28-30 April 2004)

## **PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE MEETING**

**to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,  
starting on 28 April 2004 at 10:00<sup>1</sup>**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Election of officers.
3. Short-term statistics and their relation to National Accounts (including flash estimates of GDP).
4. Consistency of time series: methods and practical solutions for compiling long time series when there are changes in methodologies and classifications.
5. Quantitative methods to check and control the quality of National Accounts (including the interaction with basic statistics).
6. Treatment of taxes and social contributions (including accrual accounting and issues relating to the update of the SNA93).
7. Conceptual issues and recent methodological developments related to the update of the SNA93.
8. Information items.
9. Future work.
10. Other business.
11. Adoption of the report.

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<sup>1</sup> On 27 April 2004, a special session on national accounts for CIS countries and other transition economies will be held, starting at 14:30. The main topics of the session will be the allocation of FISIM and the methods used to estimate the Non-Observed Economy, based on the recent UNECE survey. For further details, please consult the UNECE website.

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 fifty-first plenary session in June 2003 (see report of the session ECE/CES/62 and CES/2003/3/Add.3).

**WEDNESDAY 28 APRIL**

**10:00-10:20** Items 1 and 2

Item 3: SHORT-TERM STATISTICS AND THEIR RELATION TO NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

**SESSION 1: SESSION ORGANISER: ONS, UK**

**10:20-10:30** **Discussant:** Jacques Bournay, INSEE, France - Introduction to the session.

**10:30-10:45** CES/AC.68/2004/3 (**Invited paper**): "Review of indices of service production for OECD member countries".

**Author:** Benoit Arnaud & Eun-Pyo Hong, OECD.

**10:45-11:00** CES/AC.68/2004/4 (**Invited paper**): "Reviewing the methods and approaches of the UK National Accounts".

**Author:** Jon Beadle, ONS, United Kingdom.

CES/AC.68/2004/15 (**Supporting paper**): "Compilation of Finland's Flash Estimate of GDP on quarter", Arto Kokkinen, Statistics Finland.

CES/AC.68/2004/12 (**Supporting paper**): "The working/trading day adjustment of Italian Quarterly National Accounts: methodology and presentation of the main results", Francesca Di Palma & Marco Marini, ISTAT, Italy.

**11:00-11:30** Coffee break.

**11:30-11:45** **Discussant:** Summary of papers and highlight issues for discussion.

**11:45-12:45** **Discussion and comments** on invited papers and supporting papers

**12:45-13:00** **Discussant:** Summary and conclusions

**13:00-15:00** Lunch

**Item 4: CONSISTENCY OF TIME SERIES: METHODS AND PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS FOR COMPILING LONG TIME SERIES WHEN THERE ARE CHANGES IN METHODOLOGIES AND CLASSIFICATIONS**

**SESSION 2: SESSION ORGANISER: Statistics Canada**

- 15:00-15:10** **Discussant:** Eeva Hamunen, Statistics Finland - Introduction to the session.
- 15:10-15:25** CES/AC.68/2004/5 (**Invited paper**): "Revision of time series in Russian National Accounts for the period 1995-2002".  
**Author:** Irina Masakova, Russian State Committee on Statistics, and Andrey Kosarev, Bureau of Economic Analyses, Russian Federation.
- 15:25-15:40** CES/AC.68/2004/6 (**Invited paper**): "Norwegian experiences on treatment of changes in methodologies and classifications when compiling long time series of national accounts".  
**Author:** Ann Lisbet Brathaug and Erling Flottum, Statistics Norway.
- 15:40-16:00** **Comments and questions**
- 16:00-16:20** Coffee break
- 16:20-16:40** CES/AC.68/2004/7 (**Invited Paper**): "Implementing the North American Industry Classification system: the Canadian experience".  
**Author:** Michel Girard, Statistics Canada.
- 16:40-17:50** **General discussion and comments** on all invited papers
- 17:50-18:00** **Discussant:** Summary and conclusions

**THURSDAY 29 APRIL**

**Item 5: QUANTATIVE METHODS TO CHECK AND CONTROL THE QUALITY OF NATIONAL ACCOUNTS**

**SESSION 3: SESSION ORGANISER: Eurostat**

- 09:30-09:40** **Discussant:** Irena Tvarijonaviciute, Statistics Lithuania
- 09:40-09:55** CES/AC.68/2004/8 (**Invited paper**): "Process tables to analyse national accounts production in the EU countries"  
**Author:** Eurostat
- 09:55-10:10** CES/AC.68/2004/9 (**Invited paper**): "Estimates of the Non-Observed Economy in the Slovak Republic"  
**Author:** Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic
- 10:10-10:30** **Comments and questions**

**10:30-11:00** Coffee break

**11:00-11:15** CES/AC.68/2004/10 (**Invited paper**): "Analytical tables for the complete Private Household Consumption expenditures".

**Author:** Annika Laarmaa & Pille Palojarv, Statistics Estonia

**11:15-12:15** **Discussion and comments** on all invited papers

**12:15-12:30** **Discussant:** Summary and conclusions

**12:30-14:30** Lunch

Item 9: FUTURE WORK

**14:30-15:30** Delegates will be asked to discuss proposals for future joint work in national accounts. A Programme Committee will assist the secretariat in the preparation of draft proposals made on the basis of country suggestions and of the discussions. These draft proposals will then be submitted for delegates' approval the following day.

Item 6: TREATMENT OF TAXES AND SOCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

**SESSION 4: SESSION ORGANISER: Statistics Denmark**

**15:30-15:50** **Discussant:** Jacques Bournay, INSEE, France - Introduction to the session.

**15:50-16:05** CES/AC.68/2004/11 (**Invited paper**): "Valuation and time of recording of taxes and social contributions".

**Author:** Statistics Denmark

**16:05-16:20** CES/AC.68/2004/17 (**Invited paper**): "Implementation of the accrual method of recording tax revenues"

**Author:** Emilia Scafuri, ISTAT, Italy

**16:20-16:50** Coffee break

**16:50-17:10** **Discussion and comments** on invited papers and supporting papers

**17:10-17:30** **Discussant:** Summary and conclusions

**FRIDAY 30 APRIL****Item 7: CONCEPTUAL ISSUES AND RECENT METHODOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENTS  
RELATED TO THE UPDATE OF THE SNA93****SESSION 5: SESSION ORGANISER: Statistics Netherlands/CSO, Czech Republic**

- 09:30-09:40** **Discussant:** Robin Lynch, ONS, UK
- 09:40-10:00** CES/AC.68/2004/16 (**Invited paper**) : "Report on recent methodological developments related to the update of the SNA93".  
**Author:** Ivo Havinga, UNSD
- 10:00-10:20** **Discussion and comments**
- 10:20-10:40** CES/AC.68/2004/13 (**Invited paper**): "Update of SNA93: Progress by the Canberra II Group on the Measurement of Non-financial Assets".  
**Author:** Charles Aspden, OECD.
- 10:40-11:10** Coffee break
- 11:10-12:30** **Discussion and comments** on both invited papers
- 12:30-14:30** Lunch
- 14:30-14:50** CES/AC.68/2004/14 (**Invited paper**): "Concepts of government debt".  
**Author:** Reimund Mink, ECB.
- 14:50-15:20** **Discussion and comments**
- 15:20-15:30** **Discussant:** Summary and conclusions
- 15:30-15:50** Coffee break

**SESSION 6: SESSION ORGANISER: UNECE****Item 8: INFORMATION ITEMS**

- 15:50-16:10** Survey of National Practices in Estimating the Service Lives of Capital Assets in the ECE region: draft report by the ECE secretariat (CES/AC.68/2004/18)  
**Presentation:** UNECE
- 16:10-16:20** Comments and questions
- 16:20-16:40** "Measuring revisions of statistical outputs"(CES/AC.68/2004/19)  
**Presentation:** ECB

**16:40-16:50** Comments and questions

Item 9: FUTURE WORK

**16:50-17:00** Participants will be asked to approve and/or amend the proposals for future joint work in national accounts. The UNECE secretariat will submit the proposals for the approval of the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau.

**17:00-17:30** Item 10: OTHER BUSINESS, and Item 11: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

Participants will be asked to adopt a short draft report (2-3 pages) including the agenda, participation, main decisions of the meeting and the recommendations for future work discussed under item 9.

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