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Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Working Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development First meeting
Luxembourg, 3-4 April 2006
Item 5 of the Provisional Agenda

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IN SLOVENIA Submitted by Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia¹

This meeting is organised jointly with Eurostat and OECD

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¹ This paper was prepared by Mojca Suvorov



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Sustainable Development Strategy in Slovenia

New Slovenia's Development Strategy² was adopted by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia on 23 June 2005. It sets out the vision and objectives of Slovenia's development including **five development priorities** with the corresponding **action plans**. The forefront of the strategy is the **overall welfare of every individual**.

Slovenia's Development Strategy = Slovenia's strategy of sustainable development.

Slovenia's Development Strategy (SDS) involves economic, social, environmental, political, cultural and legal issues – therefore it is in fact the strategy for sustainable development. At the same time it integrates Lisbon goals with Slovenia's specifics in view.

Reasons for the new Sustainable Development Strategy

Slovenia's main objective in the last decade was to carry out the transition and to join the EU. Yet as an EU member Slovenia has to reassess its strategic position in a broader global perspective. Slovenia should find ways to achieve its national goals in a sustainable way and in line with the common European rules, policies and strategies above all the revised Lisbon Strategy.

Slovenia's development objectives and key development priorities

In SDS eleven **national objectives** for the period 2006-2013 were defined. To achieve the set objectives **five key development priorities** were established with specific **action plans** for the next two years.

Development Report³

The role of the Development Report is to monitor the implementation of SDS and the progress towards stated goals and development priorities. It monitors the realization of balanced economic, social and environmental development. The report is based on the **list of indicators**. Selection of indicators is based on SDS content and **data provided by Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia** and other institutions. The selection of the indicators tried to achieve the maximum compatibility with structural indicators developed by EU to monitor Lisbon Strategy. The list of indicators tries to be stable through years. If necessary some new indicators are added to the list. The Development Report is published annually.

List of sustainable development indicators

The list of sustainable development indicators (SDI) in the Development Report comprise **synthesized** development indicators (5), indicators of **economic** development (28), indicators of **environmental** development (6) and indicators of **social** development (5).

² Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development, Slovenia's Development Strategy, available at http://www.gov.si/umar

³ Institute of Macroeconomic Analysis and Development, Development Report, available at http://www.gov.si/umar

Sustainable development indicators and Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (SORS) The SORS experts monitor the initiatives and attempts of various national and international institutions connected with creation of SDI lists. As said before the majority of data used for calculation of SDI in Slovenia which are the essential part of the annual Development Report are produced by SORS. In spite of that SORS has not established "The list of SDI" of its own. There are some individual lists of indicators covering energy and environmental themes⁴.

SORS is familiar with the list of SDI created by UN Commission on Sustainable Development, EU Structural Indicators, SDI created by European Environment Agency (EEA) and International Agency for Atomic Energy in co-operation with International Energy Agency (IAEA and IEA), etc. The majority of indicators on various lists are repeated. The contents of the lists of SDI are also greatly dependent on the main institution - EEA emphasize the environment, IAE the energy part.

The variety of indicators on various lists could be quite disturbing for the statistician and first of all for the users such as researchers, politicians, planners, general public, etc. Therefore SORS welcomes the idea of establishing the joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Working Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development with clear goals. The most important of them in our opinion are the establishment of "a menu of good sustainable development indicators" and the identification of a "small set of indicators from the menu that might become the core for international comparisons". We hope that our participation in the working group will contribute to the prosperous work of the group.

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⁴ Available at <u>www.stat.si</u> in SI-STAT database.

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