

**CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

Second meeting of the 2004/2005 Bureau  
Geneva, 10-11 February 2005

Item 7(c) Progress reports  
on the ECE Steering Groups

**PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A STEERING GROUP ON GENDER STATISTICS  
AND A TASK FORCE ON GENDER-SENSITISATION TRAINING FOR STATISTICIANS,  
TASK FORCE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, AND TASK FORCE ON TIME-USE**

**Note prepared by the ECE secretariat**

**BACKGROUND**

1. The UNECE Work Session on Gender Statistics, which was organized in cooperation with UNDP-UNFPA-WHO and took place on 18-20 October 2004 in Geneva, agreed on the need to continue the process that has been made within NSOs in the inclusion of the gender perspective in data production, analysis and dissemination. There are various aspects which still require attention and work in order to put programmes of gender statistics on firmer ground: organization and coordination of work in gender statistics within NSOs, including interaction with users and dissemination of gender statistical products.
2. The meeting focused on gender sensitization training for all statisticians in the national statistical system, time-use surveys, and violence against women.
3. The promotion of gender sensitization training for all statisticians in the national statistical system was proposed as one of the key activities to improve the understanding of gender as an intrinsic characteristic of individuals and to strengthen the gender dimension in all areas of statistical work. There is the need to consolidate some of the work that has been carried out by different agencies (Statistics Sweden, FAO, United States Census Bureau, and UNECE among others) on training of statisticians in NSOs to incorporate gender into the collection and dissemination of statistics. The meeting recommended that a small group of countries and international organizations collect the existing material and best practices and develop a tool to help Gender Statistics Focal Points (GSFP) in NSOs to carry out and promote such training.
4. Time-use surveys were discussed as one of the best sources to provide data on different gender roles in the household. The meeting expressed the need to have a depository of good practices in making unpaid work more visible and support countries that have not yet undertaken time-use surveys.
5. The meeting recognized that violence against women (VAW) is an area where there is increasing political attention, but the data are scarce and more is needed. NSOs should be more involved in this area in partnership with research experts, NGOs involved in the field, and service providers. In their role of producers and coordinators of official statistics, NSOs should be more active in defining the relevant and effective methodology to be used.
6. At the meeting, it was proposed that the future CES work on gender statistics be directed toward:  
i) the promotion of gender sensitization training for all statisticians; ii) making progress toward a common set of indicators and survey instrument to measure violence against women; and iii) the support of countries that will undertake time-use surveys for the first time by making available the methodology used in other countries. It was suggested to create a Steering Group as well as 3 Task Forces (Task Force on Gender Sensitization Training, Task Force on Time-use Surveys, and Task Force on VAW) to support UNECE, UNDP, UNFPA, and WHO in this work on Gender Statistics.

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STEERING GROUP AND TASK FORCES**

7. The main objective of the Steering Group is:
  - to coordinate the work of the Task Forces and provide advice as necessary;
  - to plan future UNECE meetings and workshops in the field of gender statistics, possibly in collaboration with UNDP, UNFPA, and WHO.
8. The main objectives of the Task Forces are:

### Task Force on Gender-sensitisation Training for Statisticians

- to collect available training materials and make them available
- to develop a training module for future use
- to explore the possibility of experienced agencies conducting a training session

### Task Force on Violence Against Women

- to exchange and promote methods for specialized VAW surveys
- to promote training for NSOs and users in the field of VAW
- to define common concepts, develop a core set of indicators and identify a minimum set of questions for a short-module that can be incorporated into on-going surveys

### Task Force on Time-Use

- to explore the possibilities to exchange good practices between Western and Eastern countries in order to help countries to enter into the field of time-use
- to develop the relationships between other international working groups on time-use surveys (i.e. Eurostat) to add to the on-going work in this area

## **COMPOSITION OF THE STEERING GROUP AND TASK FORCES**

9. The composition of the Steering Group will include representatives from Serbia and Montenegro, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, the United States and UNECE.
10. The composition of the Task Force on Gender-sensitisation Training for Statisticians will include representatives from Georgia, Serbia and Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, US Census Bureau, Sweden, Republic of Belarus and UNECE.
11. The composition of the Task Force on Violence Against Women will include representatives from Georgia, Albania, UNFPA, Serbia and Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Italy, European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control (HEUNI), US Census Bureau, and UNECE.
12. The composition of the Task Force on Time-Use will include representatives from Albania, Serbia and Montenegro, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and UNECE.

## **MEETINGS OF THE STEERING GROUP AND TASK FORCES**

13. The Steering Group and the 3 Task Forces will all work using e-mail connections. For the Task Force on Gender-sensitisation Training for Statisticians, a small meeting to develop training materials has been planned. For the other groups, no meetings have so far been planned.

## **OUTPUTS**

14. The main outputs of the Steering Group will be:
  - a work programme and timetable for each Task Force and coordination of the work of the TFs
  - an agenda for the next meeting in 2006

- a work programme for gender statistics for 2006
- an advisory role for the technical cooperation activities of the UNECE in the area of Gender Statistics

15. The main output of the Task Forces will be:

Task Force on Gender-sensitisation Training for Statisticians:

- collection of available training materials on Gender-sensitisation Training for Statisticians
- development of a training module for Gender-sensitisation Training which includes or expands upon existing training materials

Task Force on Violence Against Women

- a proposal for a parsimonious set of indicators on VAW
- a proposal for methodological guidelines on producing data on VAW through specialized surveys
- develop methodological guidelines for a short module on VAW to include in on-going surveys

Task Force on Time-Use

- a depository of materials used in time-use surveys

#### **TIME FRAME**

16. The work defined by the Steering Group and Task Forces should be completed by June 2006 and be presented at the next meeting scheduled for October 2006 in Geneva.

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