

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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

Item 7: Progress reports
on the CES Teams of Specialists

**OVERVIEW OF THE TEAMS OF SPECIALISTS
WORKING UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE CES**

Note prepared by the ECE secretariat

1. In June 2004, the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) plenary session endorsed the Guidelines for Establishing the Teams of Specialists working under the auspices of the CES (CES/2004/8). According to the Guidelines, the work of the teams of specialists (Steering Groups, Task Forces, Organising Committees) should be based on Terms of Reference that are approved by the Bureau. The aim is to ensure that the work leads to specific outputs and is fulfilled within a specific timeframe. The UNECE secretariat monitors the groups to ensure that they follow the Guidelines and maintains an overview of all groups.
2. Attached for information is the table providing an updated overview of all Teams of Specialists working under the auspices of the CES. The same table is available on Internet (<http://www.unece.org/stats/ToS.html>).

Steering Groups

PE	Area of work Contact person	Objective	Membership	Terms of Reference	Comments
2.1	Management of statistical information systems Mr. Juraj Riecan Tel.: +4122 917 3328 e-mail: juraj.riecan@unece.org	Creation of SG recommended at April 2002 ISIS Seminar to: ? exchange experience, collect good practices, encourage implementation of standards in statistical information management; ? advise the CES Bureau and the ECE secretariat on work related to statistical information systems; ? make recommendations on coordinating the activities of int. organizations in this area;	Canada, Latvia, Norway, Netherlands, US Bureau of the Census, Eurostat, OECD.	approved by the October 2002 Bureau meeting. (CES/BUR.2003/9/Add.2)	SG is coordinating the work in several areas (information systems, confidentiality, metadata, data editing, etc.). For more information, please see the report of the May 2004 meeting (CES/AC.71/2004/2). The next joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD meeting on MSIS in April 2005.
2.3	Statistical dissemination and communication Ms. Tiina Luige Tel.: +4122 917 1097 e-mail: tiina.luige@unece.org	Set up following the recommendation of the WS on Dissemination of Statistical Commentary (4-5 December 2003) to: ? provide a forum for the exchange of experience in statistical dissemination and communication; ? collect and publish best practices, guidelines and recommendations on this topic; ? to advise and steer the work of the ECE secretariat on strategic and management questions of statistical dissemination and communication.	Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Russian Federation, UK, UNECE, OECD	Approved by the Bureau in October 2004 (CES/BUR.2005/12/Add.4)	Work Session on statistical Dissemination and Communication on 14-15 February 2005
3.14	Business Registers Mr. Jan Karlsson Tel.: +4122 917 3285 e-mail: jan.karlsson@unece.org	Set up in June 2003 to guide the ECE work on business registers. Mandate to be reviewed in 2005.	ECE, Eurostat, France, Czech Republic, OECD, Russian Federation, UK and USA.	Approved by the Bureau in October 2003 (CES/BUR.2004/17/Add.2)	The SG had its second meeting in June 2004; the bi-annual ECE/Eurostat questionnaire to be prepared; international comparison work to be undertaken on the statistical unit, definitions of enterprise, dormant enterprises, cut-off levels etc
3.9	Consumer Price Indices Mr. Jan Karlsson Tel.: +4122 917 3285 e-mail: jan.karlsson@unece.org	Set up in 2003 to Guide the ECE in its work on CPI. Mandate to be reviewed in 2005.	Denmark, Iceland, Poland, UK, ECE, Eurostat, ILO, IMF and OECD	Approved by the Bureau in October 2003. (CES/BUR.2004/17/Add.3)	The SG had its second meeting in Dec.2003, a third meeting is planned for 2005; joint ECE/ILO users feedback survey on the CPI manual and a survey on the scope of CPIs to be carried out; proposed agenda for a 2006 CPI meeting; a special session for transition economies to be also organised.

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4.2.1	Population and Housing Censuses Mr. Paolo Valente Tel.: +4122 917 3306 e-mail: paolo.valente@unece.org	Set up at the meeting in May 2003 to: ? provide guidance and assistance in the planning and execution of the new recommendations for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses in the ECE region.	Armenia, Canada, Finland, France, Hungary, Ireland, Russian Federation, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States, Eurostat and ECE.	Approved by the Bureau in October 2003 (CES/BUR.2004/10)	The first meeting of the SG took place on 19-20 January 2004 (see the updated work plan and timetable for the SG: CES/BUR.2004/23). Progress report presented to the CES Bureau in October 2004 (CES/BUR.2005/12/Add.1) Work Session on population censuses in November 2004. A progress report will be presented to the Bureau in February 2005
4.3	Housing Statistics Ms. Tihomira Dimova Tel.: +4122 917 1906 e-mail: tihomira.dimova@unece.org	Set up in 2003 to review international housing statistics and put forward proposals to: ? improve the quality, comparability and relevance of international housing statistics; ? streamline the compilation of housing statistics to reduce overlaps in data collection; ? improve the accessibility and usability of housing statistics; ? identify which data would be useful to collect to assist policy makers.	Finland, Netherlands, UK, Eurostat, ECE	Approved by the Bureau in February 2004 (CES/BUR.2004/25)	Progress report will be presented to the Bureaux of the CES and the UNECE Committee on Human Settlements in autumn 2005. Work Session on housing censuses in November 2004.
4.9	Measuring health status Ms. Angela Me Tel.: +4122 917 1666 e-mail: angela.me@unece.org	Set up in 2004 to - ? oversee the work of the TF on measuring health status; ? plan future meetings of UNECE and WHO; ? liaise with Eurostat group on HIS, Washington Group and IWG on health statistics.	Canada, USA, WHO, Eurostat, UNECE	Approved by the Bureau in October 2004 (CES/BUR.2005/12 Add.3 Rev.)	

Task Forces

PE	Area of work Contact person	Objective	Membership	Terms of Reference	Comments
2.3	Common Metadata Framework Mr. Juraj Riecan Tel.: +4122 917 3328 e-mail: juraj.riecan@unece.org	Set up in 2004 to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> organise available information about statistical metadata related to official statistics into a framework that can be used by national statistical organizations in their development of metadata systems. It is expected that international statistical organizations would also gain benefits from this work. 	UNECE (Chair), Australia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Sweden, Netherlands, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, OECD, Eurostat	Approved by the Bureau in June 2004 (CES/BUR.2004/44)	The group will inform the Bureau about the outcome of Phase 1 in February 2005.
3.6	Measuring the activities of the multi-national enterprises (the MNE project) Mr. Jan Karlsson Tel.: +4122 917 3285 e-mail: jan.karlsson@unece.org	Set up as a follow-up to the CES seminar on globalisation in 2003 to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify areas where more standardised and coordinated approaches to measuring activities of MNEs could contribute to improved national and international economic statistics. 	Canada (Chair), France, Spain, UK OECD, IMF, UNCTAD and ECB have expressed interest in the project	Approved by the Bureau in October 2003. (CES/BUR.2004/5)	Progress report presented at the CES 2004 plenary session (CES/2004/WP.2). First phase of the project underway - data will be collected from one MNE in each participating country. Progress report presented at the Oct. 2005 Bureau (CES/BUR.2005/10).
3.10	Statistics on rural development and agriculture household income. Mr. Jan Karlsson Tel.: +4122 917 3285 e-mail: jan.karlsson@unece.org	Recommended by the IWG.AGRI in 2002-2003, started its work in Autumn 2003. Aim: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to develop best practice guidelines on concepts and methods in setting up a statistical system for rural development which can be used for international benchmarking. 	Eurostat, OECD, FAO Rome, FAO Regional Office Ghana, UNECE, ERS (Washington, D.C.), Defra & University of London (UK), Statistics Canada, ISTAT, University of Verona (Italy), Swedish Board of Agriculture, Hungarian CSO	Approved by the Bureau in October 2003. (CES/BUR.2004/17/Add.1)	Three Task Force meetings held; first outline of a handbook agreed upon; issue papers and some chapters prepared; first draft of the handbook to be ready by July 2005.
4.1	Families and Households Mr. Paolo Valente Tel.: +4122 917 3306 e-mail: paolo.valente@unece.org	Set up in 2003 to improve the quality of statistics on families and households: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> evaluate household and family issues encountered in the population censuses and major European surveys (e.g. EU-SILC, LFS); develop improved recommendations on families and households for the 2010 population censuses and for large-scale household surveys. 	Norway (Chair), Armenia, Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Hungary, United Kingdom, United States, ECE and Eurostat.	Approved by the Bureau in October 2003 (CES/BUR.2004/12).	A first report presented at the Work session on population and housing censuses in November 2004 (WP no. 11)

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4.9	Measuring health status Ms. Angela Me Tel.: +4122 917 1666 e-mail: angela.me@unece.org	Set up in 2004 to develop a common instrument to measure health status	Belgium, Canada, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, UK, US, UNECE, Eurostat, WHO	Approved by the Bureau in October 2004 (CES/BUR.2005/12 Add.3 Rev.)	Work planned to be completed by October 2005 and presented at the next joint UNECE/WHO/Eurostat meeting in November 2005 in Hungary.
2.1	Confidentiality and microdata Ms. Lidia Bratanova Tel.: +4122 917 1772 e-mail: lidia.bratanova@unece.org		Australia (Chair), Canada, Denmark, Georgia, Italy, Poland, UNECE	Approved by the Bureau in June 2004 (CES/2004/WP.1 Attachment A)	Principles planned to be submitted for the CES for endorsement in June 2005. See documents .
1.1	IP classification Mr. Heinrich Brünger Tel.: +4122 917 1271 e-mail: heinrich.bruengger@unece.org		Canada (Chair), Eurostat, ECE, OECD	Decision by the Bureau in February 2004 to revise the IP classifications	The proposal for the new classification approved by the Bureau on 18-19 October with small amendments. New classification being tested with the 2005 version of the IP.

Organising Committees

PE	Area of work Contact person	Objective	Membership	Comments
2.3	Improved Data Reporting Ms. Lidia Bratanova Tel.: +4122 917 1772 e-mail: lidia.bratanova@unece.org	To prepare a seminar on improved data reporting at the 2005 CES plenary session.	United States (Chair), UK, Finland, Lithuania	Preparation for the seminar underway (updated outline to be discussed on 10-11 February 2005).
2.8	Sustainable Development Ms. Lidia Bratanova Tel.: +4122 917 1772 e-mail: lidia.bratanova@unece.org	To prepare a seminar on sustainable development at the 2005 CES plenary session.	Sweden (Chair), Canada, ECE, OECD, Eurostat	Preparation for the seminar underway (updated outline to be discussed on 10-11 February 2005).
4.1	Demographic projections Mr. Paolo Valente Tel.: +4122 917 3306 e-mail: paolo.valente@unece.org	To prepare a Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on demographic projections (Vienna, 2nd half 2005)	Eurostat, Austria, IIASA, Netherlands and NIDI.	It is planned to phase out the involvement of ECE in this area after the 2005 meeting.
4.1	Migration Statistics Mr. Enrico Bisogno Tel.: +4122 917 1662 e-mail: enrico.bisogno@unece.org	To organise a Work Session on Migration Statistics in March 2005.	Norway, UK and USA.	Preparations for the <u>Work Session on Migration Statistics</u> underway.
4.11.3	Registers and Admin. Records for Social and Demographic Statistics Mr. Paolo Valente Tel.: +4122 917 3306 e-mail: paolo.valente@unece.org	To prepare the Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session (2006).	Israel, Netherlands and UK	The Organising Committee is currently discussing the agenda for the 2006 meeting. In October 2003 the Bureau agreed to phase out the involvement of ECE in this area after the 2006 meeting.
4.4	Labour Statistics (Seminar on measurement of quality of employment) Ms. Angela Me Tel.: +4122 917 1666 e-mail: angela.me@unece.org	To prepare the Joint ECE/Eurostat/ILO Work Session on Quality of Work (11-13 May 2005)		A tentative agenda for the meeting was proposed at the last seminar in 2002. Preparation for the meeting underway. See meeting documents .
4.8	Crime Statistics Ms. Angela Me Tel.: +4122 917 1666 e-mail: angela.me@unece.org	To prepare the Joint ECE/UNODC Meeting on Crime Statistics (November 2004)	Albania, Canada, Italy, Slovenia, US, UNODC and ECE	Meeting held in November 2004 (see: documents) Draft Terms of Reference submitted to the Bureau in February 2005 to set up a Steering Group on Crime Statistics.

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