

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

For discussion and recommendations

First Meeting of the 2010/2011 Bureau
Geneva, 3-4 November 2010

Item 6 of the Provisional
Agenda

**OUTLINE OF A PAPER ON RESPONSE OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICES
TO FINANCIAL CRISIS**

Note prepared by Statistics Canada

I. BACKGROUND

1. During the CES Bureau discussion on follow-up to the CES 2010 seminar on the impact of global crisis on statistical systems in June 2010, it was noted that a compilation of country experiences with lessons learned from the crisis would be very useful. Canada volunteered to prepare such a paper.
2. As a first step, the Bureau asked Canada to prepare a rough outline of the paper on lessons learned from the crisis at country level. When the outline is agreed upon, the other members of the Bureau will be asked to contribute to the paper their national experiences.
3. **The Bureau is invited to comment on the draft outline provided below.**
4. A contribution by Canada related to point B of the outline, Consultation with users, is provided as an Addendum 1 to the paper.

II. OUTLINE

5. This outline addresses the follow-up and response to the financial crisis of NSOs. It is based on a series of steps that an NSO could follow that would be generic to any crisis, but documents the results for the recent global financial crisis and ensuing recession. Canada would draft a paper outlining our own experiences of the recent crisis.
 - A. Recognition of the Crisis and review of data holdings:
 - (a) Once the crisis was evident, a review of data holdings, release schedules and communication plans.
 - B. Consultation with users and stakeholders on needs and data gaps to help inform the issues:
 - (a) Use of regular stakeholder consultation forums;
 - (b) Special consultation with relevant Government Policy Departments;
 - (c) Consultations with International agencies.
 - C. Consolidation of results of consultations and internal review:

- (a) Identify potential modifications to surveys or programs in rapid response mode;
 - (b) Identify potential to change timeliness of relevant data;
 - (c) Identify gaps in data holdings;
 - (d) Identify gaps in metadata needed to help users take advantage of data holdings;
 - (e) Identify potential changes to communication of data through different release strategies;
 - (f) Identify potential to re-allocate resources from lower priority programs to higher priority - short run or long run.
- D. Set priorities and identify resources available to fill in gaps.
- E. Mobilize resources and implement communication strategy.
- F. Follow up after crisis is over to readjust program where necessary.

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