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ECE global outreach: a summary of ECE activities involving non-ECE member States

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Thematic list of ECE activities involving non-ECE member States

ENVIRONMENT

At present, the Environment subprogramme features increased involvement of non-ECE member States in its activities, workshops, conferences, and forums. Sometimes, such activities are organized in non-ECE member States, thus facilitating their involvement.

ECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo)

The ECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) has been amended to open it to all Member States of the United Nations. The Meeting of the Parties has encouraged non-ECE member States to join the Convention once the amendment is in force and, in the meantime, has invited representatives of such States to participate in its meetings and in workshops.

Many States have accepted such invitations. A workshop has been held for the Mediterranean Sea area (Tunis, 2010); a second one is planned. The Meeting of the Parties also encouraged the Chair of the Convention's Bureau, together with the Secretariat, to reach out to States beyond the ECE region. As a result, the Espoo Convention's Bureau has decided to invite representatives of China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mongolia and Vietnam to meetings under the Convention.

The Espoo secretariat also has regular contact with the Mekong River Commission (bringing together Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand and Viet Nam), including recent participation in a conference in Viet Nam.

The Espoo Convention's Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Kyiv, 2003) entered into force in July 2010 and is now open to all Member States of the United Nations.

ECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention)

Following the amendments adopted at the third session of the Meeting of the Parties in 2003 which will, once in force, open the ECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention) to States outside the ECE-region, neighbouring countries mainly in Asia such as Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mongolia, are increasingly involved in the activities under the Water Convention.

It is noteworthy that all these countries are actively contributing to the second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters that is being prepared for the Astana Ministerial Conference Environment for Europe. With the objective to transfer the experience under the Convention to other regions, a series of workshops will be organized. The first one of these workshops focusing on cooperation between ECE and non-ECE countries in transboundary basins in the East of the region is planned for 2011.

Efforts to involve China in the Water Convention's activities have so far not been successful.

ECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus 1998)

The Parties are currently considering a decision regarding the decision-making procedure for opening accession to the Convention by non ECE-States, which is expected to be adopted at the fourth session of the Meeting of the Parties (15-17 June 2011).

The Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Kyiv, 2003) entered into force in October 2009 and is open to all Member States of the United Nations. Mexico participated in the first session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol.

TRANSPORT

The Transport subprogramme features the largest number of activities involving non-ECE member States. These countries - mostly developing and least developed countries from all continents - are signatories to the many ECE legal instruments which were initially developed to facilitate transport activities within the ECE region but have become valuable also beyond it.

There are 32 international transport conventions, protocols, and agreements involving non-ECE member countries. They cover such fields as border crossing facilitation (13 agreements), road traffic and road safety (8 agreements), and include legal instruments related to road transport (5 agreements), road vehicles (2 agreements), and dangerous goods and special cargoes (4 agreements).

Euro-Asian Transport Link Project - EATL

China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), and Mongolia have joined other ECE countries in the Phase II of the Euro Asian Transport Link project (2008-2012). Their occasional participation in the Expert Group will widen the coverage of the project and enhance its benefits for all involved countries.

Border Crossing Facilitation and TIR

ECE guides the process of harmonizing and simplifying border crossing procedures for the various modes of inland transport. The Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport (WP.30) is an intergovernmental forum dealing with activities of a policy, legal, administrative, documentary, technical, economic and environmental nature. In particular, it prepares, reviews, modifies and administers a large number of United Nations conventions and agreements in the field of border crossing facilitation.

TIR Convention, 1959

Afghanistan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco

TIR Convention, 1975

Afghanistan, Algeria, Chile, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Mongolia, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay.

Harmonization Frontier Controls Goods Convention, 1982

Cuba, Lesotho, Liberia, Mongolia, South Africa.

Customs Convention on Containers, 1956

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Jamaica, Japan, Malawi, Mauritius, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.

Customs Convention on Containers, 1972

Algeria, Australia, Burundi, China, Cuba, Indonesia, Liberia, Morocco, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Trinidad and Tobago.

Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Aircrafts & Boats, 1956

Algeria, Jamaica, Mauritius, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Trinidad and Tobago.

Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Commercial Vehicles, 1956 Afghanistan, Algeria, Cambodia, Cuba, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore.

Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954

Algeria, Australia, Barbados, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica,

Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Haiti, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Liberia, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay.

Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Road Vehicles, 1956

Afghanistan, Algeria, Cambodia, Cuba, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore.

Touring Facilities Convention, 1954

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Haiti, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay.

Protocol Touring Facilities, 1954

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Barbados, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Haiti, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania.

Customs Convention on Treatments Pallets, 1960 Australia, Cuba.

Customs Convention on Pool Containers, 1994 Cuba, Liberia.

Road Traffic and Road Safety

Governments of non-ECE countries do not participate in the work of intergovernmental bodies responsible for road traffic and road safety, although many of them are Contracting Parties to the road safety related legal instruments and benefit from their implementation and constant update.

United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/255 of 2 March 2010 encourages United Nations Member States to become Contracting Parties and implement the United Nations road safety-related legal instruments.

Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chile, Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, Holy See, India, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela, Zimbabwe.

Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968

Bahamas, Bahrain, Brazil, Central African Republic, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guyana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Liberia, Mongolia, Morocco, Niger, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Zimbabwe.

Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949

Cambodia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Haiti, Holy See, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda.

Protocol on Road Signs & Signals, 1949

Cambodia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Haiti, Holy See, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda.

Supplementary 1949 Convention and Protocol, 1950

Holy See

Convention on Road Signs and Signals of 1968

Bahrain, Central African Republic, Chile, Cote d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of Congo, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kuwait, Liberia, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Senegal, Seychelles, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates.

Convention on Road Markings, 1957

Ghana

Convention on Issue and Validity of Driving Permits (APC), 1975 Morocco

Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), 1956 Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lebanon, Mongolia, Morocco, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago.

Protocol to CMR, 1978

Iran (Islamic Republic of), Trinidad and Tobago.

Vehicle Regulations

The ECE Transport Division has been providing secretariat services to the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29) for more than 50 years. The World Forum has incorporated into its regulatory framework the technological innovations of vehicles to make them safer and more environmentally sound. The Vehicle Regulations and Transport Innovations section serves as the secretariat of the Administrative/Executives Committees of the three Agreements on vehicles administered by the World Forum.

Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1958

Australia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Thailand, Tunisia.

Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1998 Australia, China, India, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, South Africa, Tunisia.

Convention on the Taxation of Private Road Vehicles, 1956 Australia, Cambodia, Ghana, Lebanon.

Convention on the Taxation of Road Passenger Vehicles, 1956 Cuba, Ghana.

Convention on the Taxation of Road Goods Vehicles, 1956 Cuba, Ghana, Morocco.

Dangerous Goods and Special Cargoes

European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), 1957 Morocco, Tunisia.

Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID) Algeria, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia.

Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to Be Used for Such Carriage (ATP), 1970 Morocco, Tunisia.

Convention on the Liability of Dangerous Goods (CRTD), 1989

Liberia

STATISTICS

The activities of the ECE Statistics subprogramme involve the participation of national statistical offices from other regions and of international organizations with a different geographical coverage.

The Statistics Division, in cooperation with partner organizations and member countries, develops statistical standards, manuals, guidelines, and recommendations that are applied on a global level, also by countries outside the ECE region.

In several cases the standards and recommendations developed by the ECE have been later adopted as global standards by the United Nations Statistical Commission. The most important of these are the *Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics* that provide the basic principles for setting up and

functioning of the statistical systems in all countries of the world. The Fundamental Principles were adopted by ECE in 1992, and as a global standard in 1994. The *Principles and guidelines of managing statistical confidentiality and microdata access* that were endorsed by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) for the ECE region in 2006, were approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2007.

Furthermore, the following recently adopted guidelines and recommendations are widely used outside the ECE region: *Recommendations for the population and housing censuses (2009), Manual on Victimization Surveys (2010), Practical Guide to Producing Consumer Price Indices (2009), Rural Households' Livelihood and Well-Being. Statistics on Rural Development and Agriculture Household (2007), etc. The Manual on developing gender statistics: a practical tool (2010)* (English and Russian) is planned to be translated into other languages by the World Bank to be used in training gender statisticians in other regions. The survey questionnaire to measure violence against women developed by ECE is being tested in selected countries in different regions of the world with the aim to produce a tool that can be used in countries with different cultures and level of development. The guidelines on disseminating and presenting statistics published in the Making data meaningful series have proved very popular and are widely used outside the region (e.g. the 1. and 2. issues have been translated into Japanese). The Generic Statistical Business Process Model (2009) has been widely adopted as a *de facto* standard to describe the statistical production process, including by the national statistical offices in countries such as Australia and New Zealand.

The National Statistical Offices of Australia, Brazil, China, Japan, Mexico, Mongolia, New Zealand, Republic of Korea and South Africa regularly participate in the ECE statistical activities (Conference of European Statisticians, Task Forces, training activities).

Australia and Brazil are members of the CES Bureau. Several of the CES Teams of Specialists include representatives from countries outside the region, in some cases even chairing the groups. For example, Australia is chairing the newly created Task Force on time-use surveys and the Task Force on updating the Canberra Group Handbook on Household Income.

ECE cooperates with the statistical departments of international organizations, specialized agencies, and other United Nations departments such as OECD, European Commission (Eurostat), IMF, Bank for International Settlements, ECB, WB, UNODC, WHO, ILO, FAO, UNESCO Institute for Statistics, UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, Statistical Committee of the CIS, and African Central Bank.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION

The Economic Cooperation and Integration subprogramme includes two initiatives involving non-ECE member States, namely the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (UN/SPECA) and a more recent outreach effort on Private-Public Partnerships (PPPs).

United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia

Besides the six ECE member States of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, the Programme involves the presence and participation of Afghanistan, a member of UNESCAP but not of ECE. Afghanistan featured prominently on the agenda of the 2010 SPECA Economic Forum which was devoted to exploring how regional cooperation in Central Asia could assist the sustainable development and the stabilization of Afghanistan.

Cooperation with PPP Units / Governments outside of the ECE Region

The role of the International PPP Centre of Excellence, under the auspices of ECE, is to promote PPPs among United Nations Member States through the use of the ECE PPP Toolkit as the medium to deliver

capacity building and training activities. The ECE PPP Toolkit is made up of five core components, among which are PPP best practices in a number of sectors. In the course of 2010, the Bureau of the PPP Team of Specialists agreed to a structure that included the possibility for the PPP Centre in Geneva to delegate or devolve responsibilities in a particular sector(s) to PPP Specialist Centres hosted in member States. The PPP Specialist Centres are envisaged to be an integral part of a host government entity working towards the goals and objectives of the PPP Centre and will be responsible, among other things, to develop and maintain best practices in a specialist sector(s).

In early 2010, the Secretariat of the Division for Economic Cooperation and Integration embarked upon a 'global outreach' mission to identify prospective governments willing to host the PPP Specialist Centres. In most cases, a government-appointed member of the PPP Team of Specialists has acted as the secretariat's interlocutor with a number of governments in Asia to finance the operations of the PPP Centre and to host the PPP Specialist Centres. Contacts have been made with the following governments outside the ECE region: Saudi Arabia to host the PPP Specialist Centre for Water and Waste Water; Malaysia to host the PPP Specialist Centre for Sustainability; India to host the PPP Specialist Centre for Roads; Republic of Korea to host the PPP Specialist Centre for Power; the Philippines to host the PPP Specialist Centre for Health; and Qatar to host part of the operations of the PPP Centre. Negotiations with these countries are at various stages, with those with Saudi Arabia being the most advanced ones. Besides financing and maintaining PPP best practices in a particular sector, host governments would provide additional resources to the secretariat towards the PPP Centre in Geneva in the form of extrabudgetary contributions.

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

The Sustainable Energy subprogramme features seven different types of activities involving non-ECE member States, i.e. Committee on Sustainable Energy, Working Party on Gas, Gas Centre, Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC), Energy Efficiency 21 Project (GEE21), Global Energy Efficiency 21 Project and ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane. The work of EGRC and GEE21 is global in nature.

The non-ECE member countries involved are Algeria, Australia, Brazil, China, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Islamic Republic of Iran, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Mexico, Nepal, Nigeria, Qatar, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam.

Committee on Sustainable Energy

Annual sessions held in November each year have seen the participation of representatives of China, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Netherlands, Qatar, Singapore, Sudan, Viet Nam.

The participation of Iran has consistently been in the context of the Energy Security Dialogue notably in Strategic Alliances for Energy Security on cooperation between International Oil Companies (IOCs) and National Oil Companies (NOCs).

Working Party on Gas

Algeria, Egypt, Iran and Japan participate in the activities of the Working Party on Gas.

Expert Group on Resource Classification

The key focus of the EGRC, the work of which is supported by ECOSOC Resolution 2004/233, is the promotion and further development of the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy

and Mineral Reserves and Resources (UNFC) 2009. At the end of 2009, a UNFC workshop was organized in Almaty which saw the participation of experts from Mongolia and Afghanistan, while the June 2010 UNFC workshop in Warsaw featured also participants from Angola and Zambia.

At the first session of the Expert Group in April 2010, experts from Australia (by videoconference), China, Colombia, Japan, Mongolia, Mozambique and Republic of Korea participated. A senior expert from Geosciences Australia (an Australian Government body) is a Vice Chair of the EGRC. India is also involved in the EGRC activities and has participated in previous meetings.

In previous sessions the OPEC secretariat has represented its member States including, *inter alia* Iran and Indonesia during the last four years. The participation of experts from these countries shows the rising interest of non-ECE member States in adopting / implementing UNFC.

The EGRC also works with a wide range of other countries such as Brazil, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Venezuela but participation at Geneva meetings has not always been possible in recent years.

Gas Centre

Algeria, Egypt, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Qatar, Tunisia participate in the activities of the Gas Centre.

Coal Mine Methane

Australia, Brazil, China, India, Japan, Mexico, South Africa, Viet Nam participate in the activities on Coal Mine Methane.

Energy Efficiency 21

Australia, China, Guatemala, India, Japan, Nepal, Nigeria, Somaliland, United Arab Emirates participate in the Energy Efficiency 21 Project.

Global Energy Efficiency 21

GEE21 was launched at the UNFCC Conference of Parties (COP-14) in Poznan in December 2008, following United Nations calls for interregional cooperation and a system-wide approach to the issues of energy and climate change. It is led by ECE and jointly implemented by the other United Nations Regional Commissions (RCs), UNDESA and UNIDO. It aims at developing a systematic exchange of experience on capacity building, policy reform and investment project finance among countries of all regions of the world through the five RCs in order to promote self-financing energy efficiency improvements that raise economic productivity, diminish fuel poverty and reduce environmental air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. In particular, GEE21 is designed to transfer the valuable experience of ECE and its member countries to the other regions of the world through their RCs. Non-ECE member States regularly participate in the activities of the project through four regional intergovernmental representatives, who also serve as vice-Chairpersons of the Bureau of the Group of Expert on Global Energy Efficiency 21 responsible for the implementation of the project.

The global outreach of GEE21 is strengthened by its strong ties with UN-Energy, the United Nations' inter-agency mechanism on energy comprising 20 agencies and programmes. UN-Energy aims to promote coherent and consistent system-wide collaboration in the area of energy to make up for the absence of a single entity in the United Nations system charged with primary responsibility for energy matters. The group is currently defining its structure and its operational focus and the ongoing

collaborative process among the five UN RCs established in the context of GEE21 can indeed serve as a model for broader synergies between other selected UN-Energy members.

Thailand participated in the Global Energy Efficiency 21 meeting on 10 June 2010 with a regional expert nominated by the ESCAP secretariat.

TRADE

Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business) has a global remit for international trade facilitation and electronic standards development and includes active and regular participation from all five continents. There are regional rapporteurs from Africa and for Asia (supported by governments from these regions). Nineteen Asia and Pacific countries and economies also belong to the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/). UN/CEFACT Standards are implemented worldwide and form the basis of global electronic data interchange (EDI).

Countries that regularly participate from non-ECE United Nation Member States include: Afghanistan (through AFACT), Australia, Bhutan, Brazil, Cambodia (through AFACT), Cambodia (through AFACT), Cameroon, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Indonesia (through AFACT), Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Mexico, Mongolia (through AFACT), Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia (through AFACT), Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) is the only United Nations intergovernmental body with a remit on issues such as standardization, technical regulation, market surveillance, and the management of risks through technical norms and voluntary standards. As such, a number of countries from outside the ECE region regularly follow its activities and make requests for technical assistance. These could only be honoured if significant extra-budgetary funds could be raised. As an example, Brazil is taking a leading role in the activities of the newly established Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (GRM), and has regularly been contributing to the establishment of best practice as regards conformity assessment and market surveillance. It also contributes significantly to the development of regulatory cooperation in the sector of equipment used in environments with an explosive atmosphere (the Sectoral Initiative on Equipment for Explosive Environments (SIEEE).

Several countries from the Southern African Development Community (South Africa, Swaziland, Mozambique, and others) regularly participate in the annual sessions of the Working Party. SADC has contributed to several publications issued by the Working Party, including most recently to "A common regulatory language for trade and development". Additionally, recent regulatory developments concerning this region are shared with the WP.6 membership through the WP.6 newsletter.

From another subregion, New Zealand is actively participating to the activities of the GRM, sharing its experience on managing risks through the use of quantitative methods and databases. Australia, on the other hand, has contributed – among other projects – to the SIEE, where its regulatory framework is among the world's most advanced.

Agricultural Standards

There are a number of non-ECE member States which regularly participate in the activities of the Working Party on Agricultural Standards (WP.7), i.e. Australia, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand and South Africa. For example, China was the rapporteur country for the development of the standard for duck meat and Mexico has submitted a draft standard on chilies for discussion. ECE agricultural quality standards are de facto international references used in commercial trade contracts all over the world.

Timber and Forestry

N/A

Housing and Land Management and Population

The recent financial and economic crisis highlighted the urgent need for ECE to provide guidance and promote sound real estate markets in its region. A fully functioning real estate sector, based on transparent real estate and financial markets, could be a driving force for development and produce economic, social and environmental benefits for ECE member States. To address these issues, the ECE Real Estate Market Advisory Group developed the Policy Framework for Sustainable Real Estate Markets, which offers guidance for policy action aimed at building a sustainable real estate sector in countries of the ECE region.

The study offers institutional advice on issues such as the establishment of financial markets backed by real estate as collateral, harmonized valuation standards for real property and transparency in investment risk assessment. It also advocates a more integrated and holistic approach towards the establishment and management of real estate organizations, especially for economies in transition.

Since publication of the study in April 2010, a number of countries outside the ECE region have been considering the possibility of using the guidance contained in the *Policy Framework* as a source of advice for regulatory reforms of their real estate sectors. The publication has been translated in Chinese, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish languages and presented to governments and/or real estate sector stakeholders in such countries outside the ECE region as Brazil, China, Indonesia and Malaysia.

Australia and Japan are actively participating in the Generations and Gender Programme (GGP) coordinated by the Population Activities Unit. They are members of its International Working Group and have accomplished two panel waves of the Generations and Gender Survey.

Country by country list of ECE activities involving non-ECE member States

AFGHANISTAN

Economic Cooperation and Integration

The latest UN SPECA Economic Forum, entitled "Strengthening Regional Cooperation in Central Asia: a Contribution to Long-term Stability and Sustainable Development of Afghanistan", saw high-level participation from Afghanistan itself, the five Central Asian Republics and key partner countries and organizations.

The event received positive feedback from participants for the practical approach that was chosen, which allowed speakers to showcase concrete projects that would draw from regional know-how to assist Afghanistan.

Environment

Afghanistan is increasingly involved in the activities under the Water Convention due to its importance for regional water management in Central Asia. Afghanistan participated as observer in the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties in November 2009.

Afghanistan was invited and participated to several meetings under the Convention in 2010 as well as in the framework of the dam safety and "Berlin Water Process" projects in Central Asia. In addition, Afghanistan is actively contributing to the preparation of the second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters in the ECE region.

Sustainable Energy

Afghanistan participated in the December 2009 International Workshop on UNFC in Almaty organized by the ECE Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Transport

Afghanistan is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention 1975
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Road Vehicles, 1956

Trade

Afghanistan participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

ALGERIA

Environment

Algeria participated in a Subregional Workshop under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) on practical application of the Convention in the Mediterranean Sea area (Tunis, 20-21 April 2010). Algeria has also participated in a session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention.

Statistics

Algeria participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008), as well as in a Workshop on Gender Statistics (Geneva, 9-10 October 2008).

The statistical office of Algeria provided a paper on CPI methods.

Algeria participated in training on the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes provided by the ECE Secretariat in cooperation with Statistics Finland.

Sustainable Energy

Algeria is involved in the activities of the ECE Working Party on Gas as well as in those of the Gas Centre.

Transport

Algeria is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention 1975
- Custom Convention on Containers 1972
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Road Vehicles, 1956
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)

ANGOLA

Statistics

Angola participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010).

Sustainable Energy

Angola participated in the June 2010 International Workshop on UNFC-2009 in Warsaw organized by the ECE Expert Group on Resource Classification.

ARGENTINA

Statistics

Argentina participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010)

Transport

Argentina is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

AUSTRALIA

Statistics

Australia participated in the following ECE initiatives in the field of statistics:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on National Accounts (26-29 April 2010)
- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010)
- Workshop on Measuring Violence against Women (29-30 April 2010)
- Work session on Gender Statistics (26-28 April 2010)
- Work Session of the Budapest Initiative on Measuring Health Status (20-22 January 2010)
- ECE-UNODC Meeting on Crime Statistics (Vienna, 21-23 October 2008)
- Workshop on Communication and Dissemination of Census Results (16 May 2008)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Task Force on Measuring Sustainable Development (23-24 September 2009)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- 57th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (8-10 June 2009)
- 58th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 8-10 June 2010)

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is represented on the Steering Group on the Management of Statistical Information Systems, the Steering Group on Statistical Metadata, the Statistical Information Systems Sharing Advisory Board, and is chairing the Task Force to update the Canberra Group Handbook on measurement of household income, established by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES). The head of the ABS is also expected to be part of the new High-level Group for Strategic Developments in Business Architecture in Statistics. Delegates from the ABS have attended recent work sessions on statistical communication, statistical data editing and statistical data confidentiality. The ABS chaired a task force that resulted in the publication of the standard "Principles and Guidelines on Confidentiality Aspects of Data Integration Undertaken for Statistical Business Process View: A Useful Addition to SDMX Standards?" for the 2009 global conference on statistical data and metadata exchange (SDMX).

The Australian Bureau of Statistics co-organized workshop on CPI measurement in 2010 and provided methodological papers.

Australia is a member of the CES Bureau and participates in its plenary sessions.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics contributed papers to the 2010 Work session of gender Statistics and to the CES and Population and housing meetings in the 2008.

Sustainable Energy

Australia takes part in the activities of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project as well as in those of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.

Australia participated by videoconference in the 2010 session of the Expert Group on Resource Classification. A senior expert from Geosciences Australia (an Australian Government body) is a Vice Chair of the EGRC.

Trade

Australia regularly participates in the following activities under the Trade subprogramme:

- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7)
- Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)
- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business) where, in addition to regularly participating in the expert groups and Plenary, Australia also participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/)

Transport

Australia is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1998

BAHAMAS

Transport

The Bahamas are a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968.

BAHRAIN

Transport

Bahrain is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

BANGLADESH

Statistics

Bangladesh participated in participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010).

Trade

Bangladesh participated in a Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized in Bandung in October 2010 by ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.

Transport

Bangladesh is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

BARBADOS

Transport

Barbados is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

BENIN

Transport

Benin is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

BHUTAN

Statistics

Bhutan participated in the Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010) and presented a paper on their Internet data collection system.

Trade

Bhutan participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

BOLIVIA

Trade

Bolivia participates in the Agricultural Quality Standards. It contributed to a brochure on llama/alpaca meat and acted as the rapporteur for that standard.

BOTSWANA

Transport

Botswana is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

BRAZIL

Statistics

Brazil participated in the following ECE initiatives in the field of statistics:

- Forum on Human Resources Management and Training (3-5 September 2008)
- Meeting of the Measurement of the Quality of Employment (14-16 October 2009). Brazil expressed interest in producing a country pilot report on Quality of employment for the next meeting (2011).
- CES Bureau Meeting (Washington, D.C., 20-21 October 2008).Previously Brazil participated in the Business Register meetings. They participated in the last three rounds of the ECE Survey on BR.
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Meeting on Population and Housing Censuses (13-15 May 2008)
- Workshop on Communication and Dissemination of Census Results (16 May 2008)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- 57th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (8-10 June 2009)
- 58th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 8-10 June 2010)

The Statistical Office of Brazil has contributed papers to the Conference of Europeans Statisticians and to the meeting on Population and Housing Censuses. Brazil is also a member of the CES Bureau and participates in its plenary sessions.

Sustainable Energy

Brazil takes part in activities of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.

Trade

Brazil participates in the following activities under the Trade subprogramme:

- Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)
- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business)

Transport

Brazil is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Statistics

Brunei Darussalam participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008).

BURUNDI

Transport

Burundi is a contracting party of the Customs Convention on Containers, 1972.

CAMBODIA

Statistics

Cambodia participated in the Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010) and presented three papers. Cambodia also participated in the workshop on information and communication technology in population census operations led by UNESCAP and ECE.

Trade

Cambodia participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

Cambodia is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Road Vehicles, 1956
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs and Signals, 1949

CAMEROON

Trade

Cameroon participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

Transport

Cameroon is a Contracting party of the Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954.

CAPE VERDE

Statistics

Cape Verde participated in a Joint Eurostat/ECE Work Session on Demographic Projections (Lisbon, 28-30 April 2010).

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Transport

The Central African Republic is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

CHILE

Statistics

Chile participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010)
- Meeting of Group of Experts on the Impact of Globalization on National Accounts (11-13 May 2009)
- Meeting of Group of Experts on National Accounts (26-29 April 2010)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- 57th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (8-10 June 2009)
- 58th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 8-10 June 2010)

Trade

Chile hosted an International Workshop on Agricultural Quality Standards in Santiago from 31 January to 4 February 2011.

Transport

Chile is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

CHINA

Environment

Efforts aimed at involving China in the work of the Espoo and Water Conventions have not yet borne fruit.

Statistics

China participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on National Accounts (21-24 April 2008)
- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010) The statistical office of China provided a paper for the CPI meeting in 2010.
- Meeting of Group of Experts on the Impact of Globalization on National Accounts (11-13 May 2009)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Seminar on Business Registers (6-7 Oct. 2009)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- UNESCAP Regional Workshop on promoting disability data collection through the 2010 Population and Housing Censuses (Bangkok, 8-10 April 2008)
- Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010)

China presented a paper on remote sensing for the 2010 meeting on Management on Statistical Information Systems. They have expressed an interest in developing closer links with the ECE work on statistical information system, and are considering applying the ECE Generic Statistical Business Process Model.

Sustainable Energy

China participated in the meetings of the Expert Group on Resource Classification and takes part in the activities of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project as well as in those of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine and Methane.

Trade

China participates in the following under the Trade subprogramme:

- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7) China sponsored an expert meeting on ECE duck meat standards in China; they have translated a number of ECE agricultural quality standards into Chinese; and also participated in a Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized in Bandung in October 2010 by ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.
- Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

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UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business Standards (UN/CEFACT). After several years hiatus they have started participating in UN/CEFACT meetings again and currently are exploring the possibility of hosting a large UN/CEFACT expert meeting in China in 2013. China also participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

China has joined other ECE countries in the Phase II of the Euro Asian Transport Link project (2008-2012). Its occasional participation in the Expert Group will widen the coverage of the project and enhance its benefits for all involved countries.

China is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972
- Agreement on Global Technical Regulations on Vehicle Construction, 1998

COLOMBIA

Statistics

Colombia participated in the Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Seminar on Business Registers (6-7 Oct. 2009).

Sustainable Energy

Colombia participated in the April 2010 session of the Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC).

Trade and Timber

Colombia participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

COSTA RICA

Trade

Costa Rica participates in the following activities under the Trade subprogramme:

- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business)
- Agricultural Quality Standards where they will be participating in the work on a pineapple standard and brochure

Transport

Costa Rica is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954

COTE D'IVOIRE

Statistics

Côte d'Ivoire participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010).

Transport

Côte d'Ivoire is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

CUBA

Transport

Cuba is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Harmonization Frontier Controls Goods Convention, 1982
- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Road Vehicles, 1956
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Transport

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Transport

The Dominica Republic is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949

ECUADOR

Statistics

Ecuador participated in the Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Seminar on Business Registers (6-7 Oct. 2009).

Transport

Ecuador is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949

EGYPT

Statistics

Egypt participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Workshop on Gender Statistics (9-10 October 2008)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (3-5 March 2008)

Egypt participated in training on the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes provided by the ECE Secretariat in cooperation with Statistics Finland.

Sustainable Energy

Egypt has been involved in the activities of the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy as well as in the ECE Working Party on Gas and the Gas Centre.

Transport

Egypt is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949

EL SALVADOR

Transport

El Salvador is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954

ETHIOPIA

Statistics

Ethiopia participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010). The statistical office of Ethiopia presented a paper at the CPI meeting in 2008.

Delegates from the Ethiopian statistical office visited the ECE in 2009 for training in statistical information systems, provided by ECE experts on behalf of the FAO.

FIJI

Statistics

Fiji participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010).

Transport

Fiji is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

GHANA

Statistics

Ghana participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010). The statistical office of Ghana presented papers at both CPI meetings in 2008 and 2010 on CPI method.

Ghana also attended the Joint ECE/World Bank/US Census Bureau meeting on the contribution of household surveys to measure migration and remittances (Suitland, United States, 14-15 January 2008), where its Statistical Office provided two papers.

Transport

Ghana is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

GUATEMALA

Sustainable Energy

Guatemala takes part in the Energy Efficiency 21 Project.

Transport

Guatemala is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Environment

Guinea-Bissau attempted to ratify several ECE environmental Conventions (Aarhus Convention, Air Convention, Espoo Convention and Water Convention) in spring 2010 by depositing its instruments of ratification at the United Nations in New York. The country could not become a Party since the amendments opening the Conventions to non-ECE countries are not yet in force, but this attempt showed a serious interest by a non-ECE country in the environmental agreements serviced by ECE.

GUYANA

Transport

Guyana is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968.

HOLY SEE

Transport

The Holy See is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949

INDIA

Statistics

India attended the Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010), where it presented a paper on their national warehouse of official statistics. They also participated in the expert group meeting on statistical data and metadata exchange.

Sustainable Energy

India sent its representatives to participate in the 2006 annual session of the Committee on Sustainable Energy.

India is involved in the activities of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project as well as in those of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.

India is also involved in the activities of the Expert Group on Resource Classification and has participated in several meetings.

Trade

India is particularly engaged in the Working Party on Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business .Mr. Tahseen Kahn, a government official, is one of the five Vice Chairs of the CEFACT Plenary and they organized a UN/CEFACT Forum in India in 2009. In 2008-2009, India also chaired the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT). AFACT supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

India participated in the Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized by the ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes in Bandung in October 2010.

Transport

India is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968
- Agreement on Global Technical Regulations on Vehicle Construction, 1998

INDONESIA

Statistics

Indonesia participated in the plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris 8-10 June, 2010).

Indonesia also attended the Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010) where it presented a paper on its software systems for surveys and censuses.

Trade

Indonesia participates in the following activities of the ECE Trade and Timber Division:

- Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6). They also took part in a Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized in Bandung in October 2010 by ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.
- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business). Indonesia participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

- Indonesia is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions: TIR Convention, 1975
- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972

IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)

Environment

Iran has been invited to meetings under the Espoo Convention. It has participated in earlier meetings, and is finalizing negotiation of a protocol on transboundary EIA to the Caspian Sea Convention. Under the Water Convention, Iran has participated as an observer in several meetings and is actively contributing to the preparation of the Second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters.

Statistics

Iran also participated in the SIAP/ECE Subregional Course on New Challenges in Economic Statistics (15-19 November 2008).

Sustainable Energy

Iran has also been active in the Annual Sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy (2006, 2008) in the context of the Energy Security Dialogue as well as in the Working Party on Gas. Moreover, Iran has participated in the Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Trade

Iran participates in the following activities under the Trade subprogramme:

- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7)
- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business). In addition to participating in expert groups and the Plenary, Iran provides the secretariat to the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

Iran has joined other ECE countries in the Phase II of the Euro Asian Transport Link project (2008-2012). Its occasional participation in the Expert Group will widen the coverage of the project and enhance its benefits for all involved countries.

Iran is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968
- Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), 1956
- Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)

IRAQ

Environment

Iraq has participated in many meetings under the Espoo Convention, most recently in a meeting of its Working Group (17-19 May 2010).

Statistics

Iraq participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010)

Transport

Iraq is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968
- Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)

JAMAICA

Statistics

Jamaica participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008) and its Statistical Office presented a paper on CPI methods.

Transport

Jamaica is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

JAPAN

Statistics

In the field of statistics, Japan attended the following ECE activities:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010) Representatives of Japan presented methodological papers at both CPI meetings in 2008 and 2010.
- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on National Accounts (21-24 April 2008)
- Meeting of Group of Experts on the Impact of Globalization on National Accounts (11-13 May 2009)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Seminar on Business Registers (6-7 October 2009)
- Also participates in the ECE Survey on Business Registers.
- Meeting of Group of Experts on National Accounts (26-29 April 2010)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)

- 57th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (8-10 June 2009)
- 58th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 8-10 June 2010)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Expert Group Meeting on Register-Based Censuses (The Hague, 10-11 May 2010)
- Joint Eurostat/ECE Work Session on Demographic Projections (Lisbon, 28-30 April 2010)

Japan participated in recent work sessions on statistical data confidentiality and statistical metadata, and the expert group meeting on statistical data and metadata exchange.

Japan participates regularly in the plenary sessions of the Conference of European Statisticians; technical experts participate mainly in activities in economic statistics.

Sustainable Energy

Japan has been constantly participating in the Working party on Gas for the past three years. It also participated in the meetings of the Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC).

Japan takes part in the activities of the Energy Efficiency 21 Project as well as in those of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.

Trade

Japan participates in the following activities under the Trade subprogramme:

- Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) Japan regularly participates in the annual session of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6).
- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business) where they participate actively in expert groups and the Plenary. In addition, during 2009-2010 Japan is chairing AFACT (the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).
- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards where Japan participated in a Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized in Bandung in October 2010 by ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.

Transport

Japan is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), 1956
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction Regulations, 1958
- Agreement on Global Technical Regulations on Vehicles, 1998

JORDAN

Statistics

In the field of statistics, Jordan attended the following ECE activities:

• Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008)

- Workshop on Gender Statistics (9-10 October 2008)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (3-5 March 2008)

Jordan participated in training on the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes provided by the ECE Secretariat in cooperation with Statistics Finland.

Trade

Jordan participates in the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6).

Transport

Jordan is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

KENYA

Statistics

Kenya attended the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008).

Trade

Kenya participates in the following activities of the ECE Trade and Timber Division:

- Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)
- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7). They participate in the Specialized Section on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables and, during 2010, as part of a UNDA project; Kenya hosted a WP.7 workshop for African countries.

KUWAIT

Sustainable Energy

Kuwait attended past sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and of the Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Transport

Kuwait is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Statistics

Lao People's Democratic Republic attended a workshop on information and communication technology in population census operations led by UNESCAP and ECE.

Transport

Lao People's Democratic Republic is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

LEBANON

Environment

Lebanon has participated in a session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Espoo Convention. It also expressed an interest in acceding to the Convention's Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment and has been invited to participate in meetings under the Protocol.

Statistics

Lebanon participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010)
- Suitland Working Group Meeting on Using Household Surveys to Measure Migration and the Size, Distribution, and Characteristics of Migrant Populations (Suitland, United States, 16-17 March 2009)
- Workshop on Gender Statistics (9-10 October 2008)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (3-5 March 2008)

Lebanon participated in training on the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes provided by the ECE secretariat in cooperation with Statistics Finland.

Transport

Lebanon is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods ba Road (CMR), 1956
- Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)

LESOTHO

Statistics

Lesotho participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010).

LIBERIA

Transport

Liberia is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

TIR Convention, 1975

- Harmonization Frontier Controls Goods Convention, 1982
- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA

Environment

Libya participated in a Subregional Workshop under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) on practical application of the Convention in the Mediterranean Sea area (Tunis, 20-21 April 2010).

Sustainable Energy

Libya attended past sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and of the Expert Group on Resource Classification, and participated in activities of the ECE Gas Centre.

MADAGASCAR

Transport

Madagascar is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

MALAWI

Transport

Malawi is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

MALAYSIA

Economic Cooperation and Integration

The secretariat was invited to present the ECE Guidebook on Good Governance in PPPs to the National Asset and Facility Management Convention (NAFAM) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in October 2009. The head of NAFAM discussed cooperation with ECE on PPP in view of the central role which PPPs play in

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the country's 10th Economic Plan. He was especially interested in the idea to establish a PPP centre and is eager for Malaysia to join. Subsequently, as part of the overall PPP centre, Malaysia is considering hosting a specialized centre on roads and sustainable development as this is the key area of interest.

Statistics

In the field of statistics, Malaysia attended the Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010), where it presented a paper on their national enterprise-wide statistical system.

Trade

Malaysia is an active participant in:

- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business), where they participate
 regularly in expert groups as well as in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and
 Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of
 UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).
- The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6).

Transport

Malaysia is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

MALI

Statistics

Mali attended the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010).

MAURITANIA

Statistics

Mauritania attended the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008).

MAURITIUS

Statistics

Mauritius attended the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010).

MEXICO

Environment

Mexico participated in the first session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Kyiv, 2003) of the ECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention).

Statistics

Mexico participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on National Accounts (21-24 April 2008). Mexico expressed interest to be involved in all ECE activities focused on the implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts.
- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Seminar on Business Registers (6-7 Oct. 2009)
- Meeting on the Measurement of the Quality of Employment (14-16 October 2009)

Mexico was an active member of the Task Force on Quality of Employment

- Meeting of Group of Experts on National Accounts (26-29 April 2010)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses (Geneva, 7-9 July 2010)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (14-16 April 2010)
- Expert Group Meeting on measuring Violence against Women (28-30 September 2009)
- Suitland Working Group Meeting on Using Household Surveys to Measure Migration and the Size, Distribution, and Characteristics of Migrant Populations (Suitland, United States, 16-17 March 2009)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- 57th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (8-10 June 2009)
- 58th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 8-10 June 2010)

Mexico participated in recent work sessions on statistical data editing, statistical metadata, statistical data confidentiality and statistical communication, as well as the expert group meeting on statistical data and metadata exchange. Mexico is also part of a project led by the ECE to develop a global inventory of statistical standards.

Trade

Mexico participates in the following activities under the Trade subprogramme:

- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7)
- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business). During 2008 they hosted a UN/CEFACT Forum and the implementation of some UN/CEFACT standards was included in the call for tender for the new Mexican Customs Single Window system.
- Mexico has attended a number of sessions of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

MONGOLIA

Environment

Mongolia has been quite active in the context of the Espoo and Water Conventions. Mongolia attended the fifth session of the Meeting of the Parties to the Water Convention in 2009 in Geneva and is actively contributing to the preparation of the second Assessment of Transboundary Rivers, Lakes and Groundwaters in the ECE region.

Mongolian participants will attend an annual workshop on transboundary EIA for the North-east Asia sub-region.

Statistics

Mongolia has been a very active participant in the Conference of European Statisticians and in many of the activities under the CES programme of work. Because of their knowledge of Russian, they benefit from the training workshops in a number of areas - economic statistics, population censuses, gender, etc.

On ECE side, funds were raised to finance their participation in CES activities. At the request of the Mongolian Statistical Office, a meeting is planned in July with the Head of Office to discuss a more formal membership of Mongolia in the CES.

Mongolia participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Training Workshop on Dissemination of MDG Indicators and Statistical Information for Central Asian and other CIS countries (23–25 Nov. 2009)
- Meeting of Group of Experts on National Accounts (26-29 April 2010) Mongolia expressed interest to be involved in all our activities focused on the implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts.
- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010)
- Joint Meeting on Environmental Indicators (31 August 2 September 2009 and 3-4 May 2010)

Mongolia took part in the Training Workshop on Short-Term Statistics and Seasonal Adjustment organized in Astana on 14-17 March 2011.

Mongolia participated in recent meetings on the management of statistical information systems and statistical metadata. The Mongolian statistical office has also sent delegates to training seminars on statistical dissemination, had bi-lateral discussions with ECE experts on the implementation of new statistical dissemination software, and participated in the workshop on information and communication technology in population census operations led by UNESCAP and ECE.

Sustainable Energy

Mongolia participated in the meetings of the Expert Group on Resource Classification (UNFC International Workshop in Almaty, December 2009) as well as in those of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.

Trade

Mongolia participates in the following activities:

- The Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7)
- The Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

Mongolia has joined other ECE countries in the Phase II of the Euro Asian Transport Link project (2008-2012). Its occasional participation in the Expert Group will widen the coverage of the project and enhance its benefits for all involved countries.

Mongolia is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975
- Harmonization Frontier Controls Goods Convention, 1982
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968
- Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), 1956

MOROCCO

Environment

Morocco participated in a Subregional Workshop under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) on practical application of the Convention in the Mediterranean Sea area (Tunis, 20-21 April 2010). Morocco has expressed an interest in hosting a followup workshop in 2011, focused on the Convention's Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Statistics

Morocco participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (14-16 April 2010)
- Suitland Working Group Meeting on Using Household Surveys to Measure Migration and the Size, Distribution, and Characteristics of Migrant Populations (Suitland, United States, 16-17 March 2009)
- Workshop on Gender Statistics (9-10 October 2008)

Morocco participated in training on the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes provided by the ECE Secretariat in cooperation with Statistics Finland.

Trade

Morocco participates in the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7) which they regularly attend as well as the Specialized Section meetings for both Fresh Fruit and Vegetables and Dry and Dried Produce.

Transport

Morocco is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975
- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968
- Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR), 1956
- European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR), 1957
- Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)
- Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to Be Used for Such Carriage (ATP), 1970al

MOZAMBIQUE

Sustainable Energy

Mozambique participated in the April 2010 session of the Expert Group on Resource Classification (EGRC).

Trade

Mozambique participates regularly in the annual session of the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies.

MYANMAR

Trade

Myanmar participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

NAMIBIA

Statistics

Namibia participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010).

Transport

Namibia is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

NAURU

Trade

Nauru participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

NEPAL

Statistics

Nepal participated in the Joint ECE/Eurostat Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses (7-9 July 2010).

Sustainable Energy

Nepal takes part in the Energy Efficiency 21 Project.

Trade

Nepal participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

Transport

Nepal is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954

NEW ZEALAND

Statistics

New Zealand participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010)

The statistical office of New Zealand presented papers at both CPI meetings in 2008 and 2010.

- Meeting of Group of Experts on National Accounts (26-29 April 2010)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Task Force on Measuring Sustainable Development (Geneva, 23-24 September 2009)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- 57th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (8-10 June 2009)
- 58th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 8-10 June 2010)

New Zealand was previously active in the Steering Group on Business Registers; Participates in the ECE Survey on Business Registers.

New Zealand is represented on the organizing committee for meetings on statistical data editing and the Steering Group on Statistical Metadata. They have also participated in the expert group meeting on statistical data and metadata exchange.

Trade

New Zealand participates in the following activities under the Trade subprogramme:

- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7)
- UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business) where they have implemented a number of UN/CEFACT standards (for example electronic certificate exchange with Australia based on e-CERT)
- Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6), in particular as regards work going forward under the Group on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems, and in the Advisory Group on Market Surveillance (MARS Group).

Transport

New Zealand is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1958
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1998
- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954

NICARAGUA

Trade

Nicaragua participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

NIGER

Transport

Niger is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949

NIGERIA

Sustainable Energy

Nigeria takes part in the Energy Efficiency 21 Project.

Trade

Nigeria participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business).

Transport

Nigeria is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

OMAN

Statistics

Oman participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Workshop on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: International standards, contemporary technologies for census mapping and data processing (8-12 December 2008)
- Regional Workshop on the 2010 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses: International standards, contemporary technologies for census mapping and data processing (Minsk, Belarus, 8-12 December 2008)

PAKISTAN

Trade

Pakistan is an active participant in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business). They also participate in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Pakistan also took part in a Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized in Bandung in October 2010 by ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.

Transport

Pakistan is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Statistics

Papua New Guinea participated in the 2010 expert group meeting on statistical data and metadata exchange.

Transport

Papua New Guinea is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

PARAGUAY

Transport

Paraguay is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

PERU

Transport

Peru is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

PHILIPPINES

Economic Cooperation and Integration

The Government's PPP Centre (BOT Centre) is of long standing. However, the PPP programme is only now becoming relevant as projects begin to demonstrate value added for the country. The BOT Centre used the ECE Guidebook on Good Governance in PPPs and is very interested in the forthcoming toolkit which will be used for internal training purposes.

Statistics

The Philippines participated in the 2010 work session on statistical metadata and the expert group meeting on statistical data and metadata exchange.

Trade

The Philippines participate in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business) where they participate in some expert groups. The Philippines also participates in the Asia

Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

The Philippines are a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

QATAR

Statistics

Qatar participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008).

Sustainable Energy

Qatar attended past sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and participated in activities of the ECE Gas Centre.

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Environment

The Espoo secretariat has regular contact with the Republic of Korea regarding annual workshops on transboundary EIA for the North-east Asia subregion.

Statistics

The Republic of Korea has been an active participant in and contributor to the work of the Conference European Statisticians for about 4-5 years. It participates in a number of activities, mainly in economic statistics and activities related to information technology. This year the Korean Statistical Office successfully hosted an ECE meeting on information technologies.

In particular, the Republic of Korea participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on National Accounts (21-24 April 2008)
- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010)

The statistical office of Korea presented papers at both CPI meetings in 2008 and 2010.

- Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Seminar on Business Registers (6-7 Oct. 2009)
- Meeting on the Measurement of the Quality of Employment (14-16 October 2009)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (14-16 April 2010)
- Group of Experts on Population and Housing Censuses (28-30 October 2009)

- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- Workshop on Communication and Dissemination of Census Results (16 May 2008)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Meeting on Population and Housing Censuses (13-15 May 2008)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- 57th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (8-10 June 2009)
- 58th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 8-10 June 2010)

The Republic of Korea hosted the 2010 meeting on the management of statistical information systems, providing excellent facilities at their training centre in Daejeon. They also provided funding to cover the travel costs of several European and Asian delegates. The Korean statistical office also regularly sends delegates to work sessions on statistical metadata, statistical data editing, statistical data confidentiality and statistical communication. They also participated in the 2010 expert group meeting on statistical data and metadata exchange.

Sustainable Energy

The Republic of Korea also participated in the meetings of the Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Trade

The Republic of Korea participates in the expert groups and the annual Plenary of the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business). For about four years, ending in 2010, the UN/CEFACT Rapporteur for Asia was from the Republic of Korea. It chaired the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT), but now participates in its activities which support the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

The Republic of Korea is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975
- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction Regulations, 1958
- Agreement on Global Technical Regulations on Vehicle Construction, 1998

RWANDA

Transport

Rwanda is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949

SAINT LUCIA

Statistics

Saint Lucia participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008).

SAUDI ARABIA

Trade

Saudi Arabia participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

Saudi Arabia is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Road Vehicles, 1956

SENEGAL

Trade

Senegal participates in the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business). The UN/CEFACT Rapporteur for Africa for the last three years has been from Senegal and in 2009 they hosted a UN/CEFACT Forum as well as a regional conference on Single Windows based on the UN/CEFACT recommendation on that topic.

Transport

Senegal is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954

SEYCHELLES

Transport

The Seychelles are a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

SIERRA LEONE

Transport

Sierra Leone is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Road Vehicles, 1956
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

SINGAPORE

Statistics

Singapore participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Group of Experts on the Impact of Globalization on National Accounts (11-13 May 2009). The Statistical Office of Singapore provided a paper to the conference.
- Joint Eurostat/ECE Work Session on Demographic Projections (Lisbon, 28-30 April 2010)
- 2009 work session on statistical data confidentiality

Sustainable Energy

Singapore attended past sessions of the ECE Committee on Sustainable Energy.

Trade

Singapore regularly sends participants to expert group meetings and also participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Transport

Singapore is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Road Vehicles, 1956
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Transport

The Solomon Islands are a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954

SOUTH AFRICA

Statistics

South Africa participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008 and 8-10 May 2010). The statistical office of South Africa provided methodological papers for both CPI meetings in 2008 and 2010.
- Meeting of Group of Experts on National Accounts (26-29 April 2010)
- 56th plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 10-12 June 2008)
- 2010 work session on statistical communication. South Africa has previously participated in meetings on statistical information systems and statistical metadata.

Sustainable Energy

South Africa is a member of the Expert Group on Resource Classification and is involved in activities of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.

Trade

South Africa participates in the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7). They are active in the expert group working on a standard and brochure for pineapples. In addition, thanks to UNDA funding, they hosted a workshop on ECE Agricultural Quality Standards for African countries in 2010.

Transport

Singapore is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1958
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1998
- Harmonization Frontier Controls Goods Convention, 1982

SRI LANKA

Statistics

Sri Lanka attended the Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010) and presented a paper on modern information and communication technology application in its population and housing census.

Trade

- Sri Lanka is an active participant in the expert groups of the UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic. In addition, they participate in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

- Sri Lanka also took part in a Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized in Bandung in October 2010 by ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.

Transport

Sri Lanka is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

SUDAN

Statistics

Sudan participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010) where the statistical office of Sudan provided a paper on the compilation of the Sudanese CPI.

Sustainable Energy

Sudan attended past sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and of the Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Transport

Sudan is a Contracting party of the Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954.

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC

Statistics

Syria participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (14-16 April 2010)
- Workshop on Gender Statistics (9-10 October 2008)

The Syrian Arab Republic participated in training on the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes provided by the ECE Secretariat in cooperation with Statistics Finland.

Sustainable Energy

The Syrian Arab Republic is a member of the Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Transport

The Syrian Arab Republic is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975

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- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)

THAILAND

Statistics

Thailand participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010)
- Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010), where it presented a paper on multi-modal data collection for the 2010 population and housing census

Sustainable Energy

Thailand participated in the Global Energy Efficiency 21 meeting on 10 June with a regional expert nominated by the ESCAP secretariat.

Trade

Thailand is an active participant in UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business, where they send participants to expert groups. In addition, Thailand participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

Thailand also took part in a Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized in Bandung in October 2010 by ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.

Transport

Thailand is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1958

TOGO

Transport

Togo is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

TONGA

Transport

Tonga is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Transport

Trinidad and Tobago are a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Customs Convention on Containers, 1972
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954

TUNISIA

Environment

Tunisia hosted a Subregional Workshop under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo, 1991) on the practical application of the Convention in the Mediterranean Sea area (Tunis, 20-21 April 2010).

Statistics

Tunisia participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (14-16 April 2010)
- Workshop on Gender Statistics (9-10 October 2008)
- Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (Daejeon, Korea, 26-29 April 2010)

Tunisia participated in training on the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes provided by the ECE Secretariat in cooperation with Statistics Finland.

Sustainable Energy

Tunisia is involved in the activities of the ECE Gas Centre.

Transport

Tunisia is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949

- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1958
- Agreement on Vehicle Construction, 1998
- Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID)
- Agreement on the International Carriage of Perishable Foodstuffs and on the Special Equipment to Be Used for Such Carriage (ATP), 1970

UGANDA

Trade

Uganda participates in the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6).

Transport

Uganda is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, 1949
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Statistics

The UAE participated in a Workshop on Communication and Dissemination of Census Results (16 May 2008).

Sustainable Energy

The United Arab Emirates take part in the Energy Efficiency 21 Project.

Transport

The United Arab Emirates are a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- TIR Convention, 1975
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- Convention on Road Signs & Signals, Vienna 1968

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Transport

The United Republic of Tanzania is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954

- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954

URUGUAY

Transport

Uruguay is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Touring Facilities, 1954
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968
- TIR Convention 1975
- Customs Convention on the Temporary Importation of Private Road Vehicles, 1954

VENEZUELA

Sustainable Energy

Venezuela is a member of the ECE Expert Group on Resource Classification.

Transport

Venezuela is a Contracting party of the Convention on Road Traffic, 1949.

VIET NAM

Statistics

Viet Nam participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010)
- Workshop on information and communication technology in population census operations led by UNESCAP and ECE.

Sustainable Energy

Viet Nam attended past sessions of the Committee on Sustainable Energy and participated in activities of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.

Trade

Viet Nam is an active participant in UN/CEFACT (UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business where they send participants to expert groups. In addition, Viet Nam participates in the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) which supports the regional implementation and promotion of UN/CEFACT standards (see http://www.afact.ir/).

It also took part in a Regional Workshop on Seed Potatoes for Asian Countries organized in Bandung in October 2010 by ECE's Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes.

ZAMBIA

Sustainable Energy

Zambia participated in the June 2010 International Workshop on UNFC-2009 in Warsaw organized by the ECE Expert Group on Resource Classification.

ZIMBABWE

Statistics

Zimbabwe participated in the Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (7-9 May 2008).

Transport

Zimbabwe is a Contracting party of the following ECE Transport Conventions:

- Convention on Road Traffic, 1949
- Convention on Road Traffic, Vienna 1968

THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY

Statistics

The Palestinian Authority participated in the following ECE activities in the field of statistics:

- Meeting of Group of Experts on Consumer Price Indices (8-10 May 2010)
- Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Migration Statistics (14-16 April 2010)

The Palestinian Authority participated in training on the use of administrative sources for statistical purposes provided by the ECE Secretariat in cooperation with Statistics Finland.