

Issue N° 102 – 10-14 January 2005

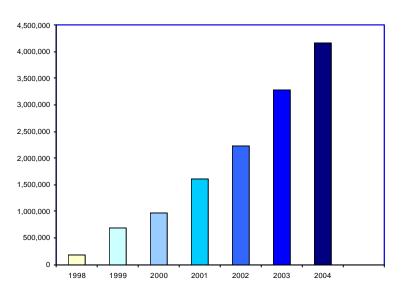
2005 Selected Meetings

15-17 February	Inland Transport Committee
21 February	Spring Seminar on Finance for Development in the UNECE Region: Promoting growth in low-income transition economies
22-25 February	Sixtieth Session of the Economic Commission for Europe
17-18 March	High-level Meeting of Education and Environment Ministries (Vilnius, Lithuania)
11-12 April	Steering Committee for the Transport, Environment and Health Pan-European Programme (THE PEP)
23-27 May	Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development
24-25 May	Forum "After Fifteen Years of Market Reforms in Transition Economies: New
	challenges and perspectives for the industrial sector"
13-16 June	Conference of European Statisticians
20-21 June	Third International Forum on Trade Facilitation
27 & 30 June	Committee on Sustainable Energy
28 June	Energy Security Forum
19-21 September	Committee on Human Settlements
27-30 September	Timber Committee
10-12 October	Committee on Environmental Policy

UNECE and INTERNET

Internet has become for the UNECE one of the best ways to communicate with its clients. As can be seen from the graph, the diffusion of information related to the UNECE through the Internet has been increasing dramatically over the last 6 years. While in January 1998 only 9,187 people visited our site, in December 2004 this figure had been multiplied by more than 30 to reach around 350,000 visitors. On a yearly basis, more than 4 million people now visit our Web Site, an average of 11,000 a day or one Web user every 8 seconds.

It is interesting to note that 52% of these connections are made between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Geneva Time) and 48% between 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. which means that our clients are located all over the world. The average visitor's session length is 17 minutes and 24 seconds.



Number of visitors to the UNECE Web Site (1998-2004)

What do visitors mostly look at? The most accessed directories are those related to transport, trade, statistics and environment. Trade coding systems and transport regulations are among the top consultations. Around 40,000 visitors just look at the

UNECE Site to get general information on what the UNECE is or does. In addition to its large distribution list, more than 1,000 visitors a week download the current issue of UNECE Weekly from Internet.

Off the press ...

This publication, prepared jointly by UNECE and the Croatian Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship, illustrates the Croatian experience discussed at the fifth in a series of forums on best practice in the development of entrepreneurship and SMEs in countries with economies in transition. The development of entrepreneurship and SMEs in Croatia is going in the right direction: SMEs play a very important role as the base of the Croatian economy; they represent 99% of all economic entities, employ over 67% of all those working in the economy sector and generate approximately 55% of Croatian GDP.

For more information contact Antal Szabo (antal.szabo@unece.org)

Coming up soon ...

11-14 January

Working Party on Pollution and Energy

Facts and figures:

Unemployment rate, total

South-east Europe and selected CIS countries (Per cent of civilian labour force, end of period)

		2001	2002	2003	2004		
South-east Europe					Q1	Q2	Q3
Albania		14.6	15.8	15.0	14.9	14.8	
Bosnia and Herzegovina ^a		39.9	42.7	44.0	44.5	44.6	
Bulgaria		19.2	17.8	12.7	13.3	12.0	
Croatia ^b		15.3	15.2	14.4		13.8	
Romania		6.4	8.0	6.7	8.8	7.7	
Serbia and Montenegro ^c		12.9	13.8	15.2			
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ^d		30.5	31.9	36.7			
Turkey	6.2	10.4	11.0	10.3	12.4	9.3	9.5
CIS							
Armenia	10.9	9.8	9.1	9.8	9.8	9.3	9.1
Azerbaijan		1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4.	1.4
Belarus		2.3	3.0	3.1	3.0	2.4	2.2
Georgia		10.3	11.9	10.7	13.0	11.9	
Kazakhstan		10.2	10.2	9.1	8.9	7.8	7.9
Kyrgyzstan		3.1	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.0
Republic of Moldova			5.8	8.7	11.3	7.2	7.4
Russian Federation		8.7	8.8	8.2	8.9	7.5	7.4
Tajikistan		2.6	2.7	2.4	2.3	2.2	2.2
Ukraine	12.1	11.2	11.2	9.0	9.7	7.9	6.1



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Source: UNECE Statistical Database, compiled from Eurostat, CISSC and national sources.

Note: Non italic – Labour force survey data are according to ILO definitions;

Italics - Registered unemployment.

^a Figures cover only the Bosnian-Croat Federation.

^b Average for the second half of the year for 2000-2003 and for the first half of the year for 2004.

 $^{\rm c}$ Excluding Kosovo and Metohia. Estimates for October of each year.

^d Estimates for April of each year.

