



UNECE Weekly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Issue N° 108 – 21-25 February 2005

Sixtieth annual session of the Commission

Palais des Nations (Conference Room XX), Geneva
22-25 February 2005, starting at 10 a.m. on 22 February

During its **High-level Policy Segment**, the Commission will first review the economic developments in the UNECE region based on the Economic Survey of Europe, 2005 No.1. The main topics taken up thereafter will be “Financing for development: Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development in the UNECE region” and “Sustainable development in the UNECE region”.

The **General Segment** of the Commission will discuss, among other things, UNECE’s cooperation with OSCE, the UNECE reform, achieving the internationally agreed development goals (including those contained in the Millennium Declaration), major policy issues of the UNECE, and technical cooperation activities.

The session and discussions are open to the public. For further information contact the UNECE Information Service (info.ece@unece.org)

UNECE Spring Seminar – Financing for Development in the UNECE Region: Promoting Growth in Low-income Transition Economies

Palais des Nations (Conference Room XX), Geneva
Monday, 21 February 2005, 10 a.m.

This year’s Spring Seminar will focus on strategies for development and growth, economic integration and trade, and financial management and sustainable growth in resource-rich economies. The keynote speech will be delivered by José Antonio Ocampo, Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs, focusing on the global agenda for financing for development. There will also be a statement by José Luis Machinea, Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

“*Strategies for development and growth*” will focus on the political economy of financing for development in the emerging market economies in the UNECE region. Speakers: S. Fries, Deputy Chief Economist, EBRD (the political economy of reforming domestic financial sectors); and T. Yigit, Bilkent University, Ankara (how political instability affects the ability of countries to attract foreign direct investment).

“*Economic integration and trade*” will analyse the prospects of the initiatives to revitalize economic relations and their contribution to promoting growth and employment in the western Balkan region and the CIS. Speakers: M. Uvalic, University of Perugia (impact of trade liberalization on the economies in the Balkans); and R. Grinberg, Russian Academy of Sciences (implications of the development of a Common Economic Space for economic integration in the CIS).

“*Financial management and sustainable growth in resource-rich economies*” will address some important issues arising in economies that are richly endowed with natural resources. Speakers: R. Ahrend, OECD, and M. Kaser, Oxford University (policy choices for using the revenues derived from resource extraction to foster sustainable economic development, including eventual diversification of production and exports, while avoiding the “resource curse”).

The Seminar is open to the public. For more information contact UNECE Economic Analysis Division (info.ead@unece.org), Web site: http://www.unece.org/ead/ead_sprin_sem_new.htm

Gunnar Myrdal Lecture to be given by Pascal Lamy on “Global Governance: Lessons from Europe”

Palais des Nations (Conference Room XX), Geneva, **Tuesday, 22 February 2005, 6.00 p.m.**

Not an official record - For information only

It's just happened ...

The art of using easy words to talk about hard ideas

How can we make statistics better understood and believed by the public? Through building trust in national statistical offices, providing reliable, relevant and timely information in a simple, clear and interesting language and protecting the privacy of respondents. Statistical agencies have to build on and further develop the statistical professionalism and communication skills of their staff. This is becoming even more important in the era of the Internet, when the demand for and offer of information is growing fast, and the customs of traditional publication are changing rapidly. This is a shortened account of the main findings at the

UNECE/OECD Work Session on Statistical Dissemination and Communication, held on 14 and 15 February 2005 in Henley-on-Thames, UK. The two-day programme was packed with 25 presentations and rich discussions, and many questions were formulated related to the dissemination of statistics by Internet. The high importance that statistical offices attach to these issues was proved by the participation of almost 60 delegates.

For more information contact Juraj Riečan (juraj.riecan@unece.org)

Also coming up soon ...

22(pm)-24 February Working Party on Noise

Facts and figures:

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Working from home, selected UNECE countries Employment by sex and by frequency of work from home (% of total employment)

Country	1995 Q2						2004 Q2					
	Women			Men			Women			Men		
	never	sometimes	usually	never	sometimes	usually	never	sometime	usually	never	sometime	usually
Austria	84.1 ¹	4.6 ¹	11.3 ¹	81.4 ¹	8.7 ¹	10.0 ¹	77.4	12.2	10.4	75.2	17.0	7.8
Belgium	83.4	5.0	11.6	83.0	6.7	10.3	81.3	9.9	8.7	81.1	10.4	8.5
Cyprus ³	97.8 ¹	1.1 ^{1,2}	1.0 ^{1,2}	98.2 ¹	1.2 ¹	0.6 ^{1,2}	99.0	...	0.9 ²	99.3	...	0.4 ²
Czech Republic	89.7 ¹	6.2 ¹	4.1 ¹	89.0 ¹	7.8 ¹	3.2 ¹	90.0	5.8	4.3	89.2	7.7	3.1
Denmark	87.0	2.9	10.0	82.3	5.8	11.9	78.1	17.4	4.5	70.4	24.1	5.5
Estonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	91.9	3.9	4.2	87.9	6.7	5.4
Finland	87.6	3.9	8.5	87.4	6.0	6.6	85.5	5.3	9.2	81.2	9.3	9.4
France	...	...	...	...	...	...	81.6	5.8	12.6	82.9	8.8	8.3
Germany	88.7	6.2	5.1	87.3	8.9	3.8	...	...	...	...	...	...
Greece	94.2	3.4	2.4	96.8	2.1	1.2	94.0	4.0	2.0	96.1	2.6	1.3
Hungary	89.5 ¹	4.4 ¹	6.1 ¹	89.3 ¹	5.1 ¹	5.6 ¹	89.7	7.0	3.3	90.6	6.2	3.2
Iceland	87.6	6.4	6.0	83.6	9.0	7.4	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ireland	89.6	2.1	8.4	72.2	3.5	24.3	91.3	3.9	4.9	81.3	5.7	13.0
Italy	92.6	2.3	5.1	93.1	2.6	4.3	94.5	1.3	4.3	93.9	1.7	4.4
Latvia	...	...	...	...	...	...	87.1	6.4	6.5	90.5	5.3	4.3
Lithuania	96.0 ¹	3.2 ¹	0.8 ¹	97.7 ¹	1.5 ¹	0.7 ¹	95.4	2.5	2.1	97.1	1.1	1.8
Luxembourg	89.2	2.6	8.2	89.9	3.9	6.2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malta	...	...	...	...	...	...	91.4	4.5	4.0	93.1	3.2	3.7
Netherlands	93.4	...	6.6	93.0	...	7.0	93.7	...	6.3	93.0	...	7.0
Norway	87.1	5.1	7.8	82.9	8.6	8.6	92.6	1.9	5.5	87.3	4.2	8.5
Poland	...	...	...	...	...	...	88.0	8.6	3.4	91.6	6.1	2.3
Portugal	94.7	...	5.2	97.4	...	2.5	94.7	3.6	1.8	94.1	5.1	0.8
Romania	...	...	...	...	...	...	97.6	0.5	1.9	98.0	0.5	1.5
Slovakia	...	...	...	...	...	...	91.7	4.5	3.8	92.9	4.6	2.5
Slovenia	91.7 ¹	3.2 ¹	5.1 ¹	93.2 ¹	3.4 ¹	3.4 ¹	82.2	9.9	7.9	88.9	6.6	4.6
Spain	98.7	0.3	1.0	99.3	0.4	0.4	97.7	1.4	0.9	98.3	1.3	0.4
Sweden	90.4	1.2	8.4	87.0	3.4	9.5	89.2	6.8	4.1	85.7	9.8	4.5
Switzerland	67.4 ¹	23.8 ¹	8.8 ¹	59.9 ¹	34.8 ¹	5.3 ¹	...	...	...	...	...	...
United Kingdom	74.8	21.1	4.1	69.0	29.4	1.6	76.3	19.6	4.0	73.3	24.7	2.1

Source: Eurostat European Labour Force Survey

Notes: Employed women and men working from home includes self-employed.

¹ refers to 2000 ² data uncertain ³ Government-controlled area only