

STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITIES

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

EUROSTAT

Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Methodological
Issues of Environment Statistics
(Ottawa, Canada 1-4 October 2001)

INFORMATION NOTICE

I. BACKGROUND

At the last meeting in Ma'ale Hachamisha, Israel, the participants recommended to the Conference of European Statisticians that another joint meeting be convened in 2001/2002. Statistics Canada kindly offered to host the meeting in Ottawa and has organised the meeting program outlined below together with the Secretariat.

II. AIMS AND EXPECTED OUTCOME

In view of the important preparations which are going on in countries and international organisation for the Rio+10 assessment, the Secretariat decided to dedicate the Work Session to selected topics related to "**Environment indicators and development of indicators of sustainable development**". For each topic a session organiser has been appointed, who will invite a limited number of papers to be presented. Discussants will also be designated for each session and asked to draw out the main points from all the papers submitted for the session. From the meeting it should be possible to draw conclusions about current best practices and experiences as well as suggest directions for future work, to recommend to the Conference of European Statisticians.

III. TIME AND PLACE OF THE MEETING

At the invitation of Statistics Canada, the meeting will take place at the **Hotel Courtyard Marriott Ottawa on 1-4 October 2001**. The hotel is located in the heart of Byward Market - Ottawa's dining and entertainment district and is in walking distance of major attractions. The meeting is expected to start at 8:30 AM on Monday, 1st October and to finish at 4:00 PM on Thursday, 4 October.

IV. HOTEL RESERVATIONS

For the convenience of delegates, Statistics Canada has blocked hotel rooms from Sunday, September 30 to Friday morning, October 5, 2001 at the rate of CAN\$ 135.00 a night (plus 5% Provincial sales Tax and 7% Goods and Services tax). Delegates who are interested in booking one of those rooms must contact the hotel **before August 29** and quote the booking code **ECE/Eurostat Meeting** when making reservations in order to access the block of rooms and a special group rate.

Courtyard by Marriott Ottawa
350 Dalhousie St.
Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 7E9 - Canada

Tel: (+1-613) 241-1000
Fax: (+1-613) 241-4804
Toll free reservation no.: 1 800 321-2211

Internet website: <http://www.courtyard.com/dpp/PropertyPage.asp?MarshaCode=YOWCY>

V. *MEETING PROGRAMME*

Six sessions of varying length are planned. The time allocated to each session will be determined by the number of discussion papers submitted to the Secretariat before the meeting. The topics of the sessions are as mentioned below, but the order of the sessions may change:

- (i) *Recent experiences in compilation of indicators of sustainable development*
- (ii) *Sustainable development indicators, concepts and frameworks*
- (iii) *Eco-efficiency indicators*
- (iv) *Water indicators*
- (v) *Waste indicators*
- (vi) *Indicators of environment and health*

For each session there will be a session organiser who is responsible for planning the professional content of the session and for inviting papers. All participants, however, are encouraged to submit supporting papers for these topics as well.

On the final day, the group will discuss the need for further work and decide on relevant topics for any future meeting.

VI. *PARTICIPATION*

In accordance with standard UNECE practice, national statistical offices and other national and international agencies involved in environment statistics in the ECE region are automatically invited. Private individuals and businesses who are interested in participating are also welcome, but should contact the Secretariat for a special invitation.

VII. *DOCUMENTATION AND WORKING LANGUAGE*

The meeting will be conducted in English only and therefore, if possible, papers should be submitted in English. Discussion documents prepared in one of the other official languages of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (French and Russian) should be accompanied by a short summary in English.

Discussion documents should reach the ECE secretariat before 15 August 2001 in order to guarantee their dissemination before the meeting. The papers should not exceed 15 pages and should be preceded by a short abstract. Authors, when possible, should aim at presenting both methods and results. The papers must be in electronic format and sent to Paolo Valente in ECE at **paolo.valente@unece.org** preferably in Microsoft Word, WordPerfect or RTF format.

Meeting documentation will be made available on the ECE WEB site from September onwards at:

<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2001.10.env.htm>

and will **only** be forwarded to those participants who have expressed the wish to receive the documents by mail on the registration form.

VIII. *SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND FIELD TRIPS*

On Tuesday, 2 October, an **excursion to Pink Lake**, a unique protected ecosystem, is planned in the afternoon, followed by **tea at the MacKensie Estate in the Gatineau Park**. Please indicate on the meeting registration form if you plan to participate in the excursion.

On Wednesday, 3 October, at the end of the day, delegates are invited to attend a **guided tour of the Museum of Civilisations in Hull**, followed by a **supper at the restaurant Les Muses**, hosted by Statistics Canada. Please indicate on the meeting registration form if you plan to participate and if you are vegetarian.

IX. TRANSPORT and TRAVEL INFORMATION

Air Canada is the official carrier of the conference. If you are interested to book your plane ticket with them, you will need to provide Air Canada with the name of the event: **ECE/Eurostat Conference (Conférence ECE/Eurostat)** and the code for the event: **CV706574**. This will enable you to have certain rebates.

Participants requiring an entry visa should obtain it from the diplomatic representation of **Canada** in their country of residence (or the country nearest to theirs) **as early as possible**. Visa applications should refer to the **United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the Work Session on Methodological Issues of Environment Statistics (Ottawa, Canada 1-4 October 2001)**.

X. INFORMATION ABOUT OTTAWA

The Web site of the National Capital Commission provides useful information on Ottawa. The address is **www.capcan.ca**

XI. LOCAL ORGANIZERS OF THE MEETING

All queries to the local organisers should be addressed to:

Alice Born, Chief
Environmental Protection Accounts and Surveys
Environment Accounts and Statistics Division
Statistics Canada
7th floor, R.H. Coats Building
Ottawa, ON
Canada, K1A 0T6

E-mail: alice.born@statcan.ca

Tel.: (613) 951-3728

Fax: (613) 951-0634

Other local organizers:

Martin Lemire, tel.: (613) 951-5739; martin.lemire@statcan.ca

Rowena Orok, tel. : (613) 951-0344; rowena.oro@statcan.ca

Hélène Trépanier, tel.: (613) 951-3750; helene.trepanier@statcan.ca

François Soulard, tel.: (613) 951-1777; francois.soulard@statcan.ca

