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**STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

Forty-ninth plenary session
(Geneva, 11-13 June 2001)

**PROGRAMMES OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL
WORK IN THE ECE REGION, 2001/2002 and 2002/2003:
AN INTEGRATED PRESENTATION**

(Pre-plenary session version)

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 4
SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS**

Introduction

1. The material presented in this document is part of the "Integrated Presentation of International Statistical Work" which provides a summary overview of the statistically-related work that international organisations plan to carry out in the next two years that is likely to have an impact on ECE, EU and OECD countries. Information on the Integrated Presentation is presented by work area in six different addenda. The Integrated Presentation in its entirety consists of the following documents:

The Integrated Presentation: Introduction and overview (CES/2001/3)

Programme Activity 1: Organisation and Operation of statistical services (CES/2001/3/Add.1)

Programme Activity 2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues
(CES/2001/3/Add.2)

Programme Activity 3: Economic statistics (CES/2001/3/Add.3)

Programme Activity 4: Social and demographic statistics (CES/2001/3/Add.4)

Programme Activity 5: Environment statistics (CES/2001/3/Add.5)

Programme Activity 6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities (CES/2001/3/Add.6)

2. This version of the Integrated Presentation was prepared for review at the 11-13 June 2001 plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians. The Conference uses it as an aid in carrying out its primary role of co-ordinating the international statistical work that is planned to be carried out in the next two years which is of relevance to ECE, EU and OECD countries. The Integrated Presentation is
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also used as a valuable tool for co-ordination at the national level, for countries are increasingly using it to assist them in deciding on their participation in different meetings convened by the various international organisations. The information presented in this version of the Integrated Presentation will be amended after the plenary session to reflect the decisions that the Conference took in the different work areas during the plenary session, and re-issued as the “post-plenary session” version of the Integrated Presentation.

3. The information presented in this addendum refers to work area or “Programme Activity” 4 of the Integrated Presentation which is entitled “Social and demographic statistics”, and that is sub-divided into 11 “programme elements (PE)” comprising 15 fields of work.

4.1 DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS (INCLUDING PROJECTIONS, MIGRATION, FERTILITY AND FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS)

Problem Statement: To develop a system of demographic country specific accounts, and related population and family and household projections for the ECE-OECD region, and the collection of micro-data files enabling comparative socio-economic analyses of important target populations. Major components include (1) The promotion and improvement of the national foundation of social and demographic statistics through improvements to be made to the civil registration and population registration systems, and the creation of international guidelines for “best practices” in producing population and related types of projections; (2) encouraging countries to comply with, and assisting them to address the difficulties they encounter in trying to comply with the international recommendations on international migration statistics that the UN Statistical Commission adopted at its 1997 session; (3) the promotion of international coordination and agreements to improve statistics on families and households; (4) Documenting and understanding changes in the fertility behaviour in the context of family and societal changes; and (5) sharing new methodological developments and best practices for demographic estimates and projections.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches in the fields of fertility, migration, estimates and projections, and families and households to (1) assess current international statistics against the objectives listed above, (2) highlight areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies, and (3) suggest priorities where major advances in line with the objectives would be promising. Preparation of an Executive Summary for the Bureau and the Conference.

In the field of projections, migration, fertility and families and households: Promotion and co-ordination of the collection of new cross-nationally comparable survey data conducive to documenting and explaining fertility behaviour. These data need to include information on fertility outcomes and the context in which they take place - partnership and family dynamics, gender relations, labour market conditions, values and family policies. Aggregate-level information from other sources need to complement the survey data.

Projections: For Eurostat, after the next update of demographic, labour and other base data for the 2003/2004 projections, possible organisation of a group of experts to study and discuss the relationship between population and labour market trends, which could result in Eurostat organising an international workshop to compare and evaluate population and labour force projections for Europe produced by different international organisations.

Demographic statistics: Specifications for the System of Demographic Accounts for the ECE region; Classified uses of demographic statistics in ECE countries;

For the ECE PAU: Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in transition countries comprising work on: (i) the ECE population database; (ii) regional and national POPIN web sites; and (iii) study on recent population developments in transition countries.

Fertility: Agreements pertaining to various aspects of the new round of family/household surveys including (i) objectives of the surveys, (ii) major components of the common survey questionnaire, (iii) survey sample design, and (iv) funding modalities at the regional and national level.

For the ECE PAU: Finalisation of the FFS project of the 1990s.

Families and households: Agreements pertaining to various aspects of the new round of family/household surveys including (i) objectives of the surveys, (ii) major components of the common survey questionnaire, (iii) survey sample design, and (iv) funding modalities at the regional and national level.

For the ECE PAU: (subject to availability of additional extra-budgetary funds): (i) agreements on research and related data collection priorities with national and regional partners; (ii) development of an agenda for the research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations; and (iii) elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey data and census sample data in support of this research.

Migration: For the ECE, Eurostat and UNSD: Promulgation of the revised set of UN recommendations on international migration statistics, and provision of guidance and assistance to countries in applying them at the national level. For ECE and Eurostat, provision of guidance and technical assistance to countries in transition, countries in the Mediterranean region and other countries interested in putting in place statistical systems for measuring immigration and emigration flows; and provision the production and dissemination of annual origin-destination international migration matrices for ECE countries.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

General

- The Bureau agreed that the attention of the Conference should be called to the decision recently taken by the Council of Europe to abolish its European Population Committee (CDPO) and to replace it by a 12-member ad hoc committee whose membership is expected to rotate over time. The secretariat of the Council of Europe subsequently indicated that the Committee is expected to continue to exist as an ad hoc committee with 15 country membership but whose meetings would be open to other Council of Europe Member States.

Projections

- At its last meeting the ACC Sub-Committee on Statistics was informed that the UN Population Division and WHO Geneva have failed to reach agreement on a common set of estimates of adult mortality. It was also informed that WHO Geneva intends to produce and publish its own set of estimates. Both the ACC Subcommittee on Estimates and Projections and the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities are addressing the co-ordination issues involved.

Migration statistics

- The Bureau noted the serious problems of the lack of international comparability in the field of international migration statistics. It recognised that this is a very difficult field and that little progress is likely to be made in the short-term future by countries in making their national immigration and emigration statistics internationally more comparable.

Population Ageing

- The second World Conference on Ageing will be held in Madrid in April 2002. In addition, the ECE Population Activities Unit will organise an ECE Regional Ministerial Conference on Ageing in Berlin from 11-13 September 2002. The Conference is expected to consider and adopt a regional

implementation strategy for the revised International Plan of Action on Ageing that the April 2002 Madrid meeting is expected to adopt.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session:

- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).
- See also CES/2001/3/Add.7 for future work that was recommended by the May 2001 work session on migration statistics.
- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the ECE's Population Activities Unit in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Joint ECE/Eurostat work session on migration statistics 2002/2003

Eurostat: Working Group: Demographic Statistics and Census, once a year in February .

Eurostat: Working Party on Migration, first half of 2002 and 2003 .

Meetings organised by the ECE Population Activities Unit:

Third meeting of the Consortium Board of the Generations and Gender programme on the research agenda and survey modalities proposals (2001).

Expert meeting with the view to considering, amending and adopting the proposals for the research agenda and survey modalities for the Generations and Gender programme (2001).

Rapporteurs:

ECE Statistical Division (migration)

ECE Population Activities Unit (fertility)

Eurostat (demographic estimates and projections)

Eurostat (statistics of families and households)

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference:

a) Migration:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Annual exchange of statistics on international migration flows
- Work session on migration statistics in 2002/2003, jointly with Eurostat, to consider (topics to be proposed by the May 2001 joint meeting): (See CES/2001/..../Add.7)

Secretariat resources: Substantial

b) Projections:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Work session on demographic projections (2003/2004, jointly with Eurostat), to consider the following topics: (i) Latest international, national and sub-national population and household projections; (ii) New approaches and experiences in estimating, analysing and projecting trends and patterns of fertility, mortality, migration and household structures and dynamics; (iii) Accuracy and uncertainty in international, national and sub-national population and household projections; (iv) Documentation and dissemination strategies; (v) Users and uses of projections; and (vi) Evaluation and use of projections software.

(Planning and preparatory work for the meeting to commence in 2002/2003 by the ECE secretariat and Eurostat, in cooperation with interested NSIs and research and university institutes).

Secretariat resources: Minimal.

Activities of the ECE's Population Activities Unit (Economic Analysis Division):

(i) Ongoing methodological work:

Fertility, family and reproductive health: Dissemination of FFS results and promotion of cross-national comparative research.

Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development: The promotion of the development of national POPIN web sites.

Generations and Gender: (subject to availability of additional extra-budgetary funds): Elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable family/household survey and census sample data for the study of the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations. For the survey programme: the conduct of pilot surveys to test the draft model questionnaire in three countries; preparation of the final model questionnaire; development of survey codebook; conduct of surveys in participating countries. For the census programme: modification of the existing strategy for drawing micro-data samples from the 2000-round of population and housing censuses; prepare census comparability study; draw micro-data census samples.

(ii) Priority objective of the methodological work:

Fertility, family and reproductive health: (i) Report on the evaluation of the FFS project and (ii) archives of the FFS project and datafiles.

Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development: Study on recent population developments in transition countries.

Generations and Gender: Technical documents pertaining respectively to the collection and standardization of (i) new family/household survey data; (ii) 2000-round micro-data census samples and (iii) contextual macro-level indicators.

(iii) New activities to be undertaken:

Fertility, family and reproductive health: (i) publication of remaining national FFS Standard Country Reports; (ii) continued dissemination of FFS Standard Recode Files; (iii) continuation of cross-national comparative studies; (iv) completion of the evaluation of the FFS project and (v) completion of the archives of the FFS project .

Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development: (i) updating of the ECE population database; (ii) conduct of the study on recent population developments in transition countries; (iii) continuous updating of the PAU (regional POPIN) web site; and (iv) promotion of national POPIN web sites.

Generations and Gender: (i) development and adoption of the agenda of research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations; (ii) promotion and conduct of a new round of cross-nationally comparable family/household surveys conducive to documenting and explaining changes in the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations; and (iii) promotion and collection of census samples also in support of research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations.

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Application of new international recommendations on migration statistics

Priority objective of methodological work:

- Increase transparency in the presentation of international migration statistics. Paper summarising results on a pilot implementation of recommendations in a number of countries.

New activities:

Development of statistics on migration of the highly skilled (sources and definitions).

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 31- Population (311, 313)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Collection and routine dissemination of demographic data: continuation of the work on on-line database documentation.
- Regular collection, processing and dissemination of monthly data on migration and asylum from the EU and EFTA countries and the applicant countries; routine database management.

Priority objective of the methodological work to be undertaken in the next two years

- In demographic statistics, the main priority is to provide a timely and efficient monitoring system on implementation of the provisions of the Treaty of Amsterdam concerning security and freedom of movement of individuals (transfer of migration and asylum issues from the third to the first pillar) by means of an improved and expanded monthly data collection.
- Updating of the publication 'Definition and methods of collection of demographic statistics'.

New activities:

- Introduction of new methods and tools for calculating demographic indicators.
- Development for Regional Policy DG of certain methodological work on demographic projections, in particular concerning trends in mortality, fertility and regional migration.
- Beginning of the next round of revisions of the Eurostat's population projections
- Collection and dissemination of annual data on international migration for Justice and Home Affairs DG.
- Analysis of monthly data on migrations and asylum which are mainly collected via ministries of justice and home affairs for Justice and Home Affairs DG.
- Second phase of the MED-MIGR programme for External Relations DG.

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Work on economically active population: (i) preparing technical documents describing the methodologies used in making the estimates and projections; (ii) evaluating the results against comparable national and international estimates and projections; (iii) and integrating this project within a broader project on global and regional employment and unemployment estimates as well as activities on Key Indicators of Labour Market (see section 4.4).

Data collection:

- International Migration Data Base in the ILO Migration Branch, in close cooperation with other international and regional organizations.

Council of Europe:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Research carried out by four Groups of Specialists with the help of consultants. Definition of available data sources and of objectives, data collection and processing: (i) "Trends in mortality and differential mortality", (ii) "The demographic characteristics of immigrant populations in Europe", (iii) "The demographic implications of social exclusion", (iv) "The demographic consequences of economic transition in countries of Central and Eastern Europe" and (v) "Fertility and new types of households and family formation in Europe".

United Nations Population Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Analysis and studies: (i) Information and analysis on population trends and policies; (ii) Population estimates and projections for all countries; geographical areas; urban and rural areas and major

- cities; (iii) Analytical work in the fields of fertility, mortality, internal migration, international migration, population growth, and on the interrelationship of population and development, including social and economic aspects; (iv) research on population and gender.
- Advisory services: (i) Advisory missions to Member States and regional support teams and provision of technical support in the field of population.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Collection, collation and publication of demographic statistics following the list of indicators agreed with national statistical services.
- Preparation and publication of analytical materials on the demographic situation in CIS countries (2001-2003) and issue of the latest statistical compendium entitled "Population and living conditions in CIS countries" (2002).

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

4.2a POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES

Problem Statement: To ensure efficient and effective use of censuses within the statistical systems of the countries of the region, and to promote international comparability of census data. Population and housing census data are required by most countries in the world to provide benchmark data. International recommendations on the statistical topics, definitions, classifications and tabulations can serve to promote internationally comparable results. Exchange of information among countries on best census methods and practices, and on the use of non-traditional methods and on changing or sensitive topics (e.g. ethnicity, families and the measurement of unpaid work in the household). Once every decade, the preparation of sets of regional international recommendations for new rounds of censuses, tailored to the circumstance and needs of countries in the UN/ECE region (work on the preparation of a new set of ECE-Eurostat joint recommendations for the 2010 round of censuses is not expected to commence until around 2004).

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: For ECE and Eurostat, exchanges of experiences among national and international statistical services on critical issues emerging in the 2000 round of censuses; and the provision of advisory services and technical assistance to national statistical offices in the ECE region, and particularly newly independent states, on the utilization of internationally recommended topics, definitions, classifications and tabulations in the 2000 round of censuses and on census methods and procedures, data bases, and outputs for the 2000 round of population and housing censuses. For Eurostat, UNSD, the ILO and CIS/STAT, the preparation and publication of guidelines and methodological materials on censuses.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Bureau noted that some countries in the region have concluded that that it would be advisable for them to begin exploring other possible alternatives to their censuses, in case developments in their countries necessitate that in future the country will have to rely on alternative or new sources of data for census-type data. The Bureau also noted that several countries in the region including several CIS countries (e.g. the Russian Federation and the Ukraine) have had to postpone their census because of inadequate funding available to them for financing the census.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session:

- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).
- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the ECE's Population Activities Unit in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

ECE: Preparatory work (via e-mail and teleconferencing.), jointly with Eurostat and in co-operation with a small number of countries, for the 2002/2003 joint meeting

UNSD: 7-10 August 2001: Expert group meeting/Symposium on the global review of the 2000 round of population and housing censuses: Mid-decade assessment and future prospects

Rapporteur: ECE

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- The ECE secretariat and Eurostat, in co-operation with a small number of selected countries, will work together by e-mail and teleconferencing in 2001/2002 to plan and prepare (organisation, invited papers, venue, practical issues, etc.) the 2002/2003 joint UN/ECE-Eurostat work session on population and housing censuses.
- Work session on population and housing censuses (jointly with Eurostat) in 2002/2003 (Ohrid, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) to consider: (i) Lessons learned from the 2000 round of population and housing censuses (concepts, collection, processing, outputs); (ii) Planning for the next census; and (iii) Process to be used in producing an updated set of "Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses".

Secretariat resources: Substantial

Activities of ECE's Population Activities Unit:

Ongoing methodological work:

See work carried out by the Population Activities Unit in PE 4.1 and 4.2 b) under Generations and Gender, which is related to gender statistics.

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 31 - Population (312)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Monitoring census operations in the Member States

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- The main priority is a timely collection and dissemination of census data as defined in the Community Table Programme.
- Updating of the documentation of the national population censuses in the EEA countries and in the applicant countries, to be published in "Methods and Nomenclatures".

New activities:

- For census operations in the Member States, introduction of the system for transferring data of the Community tables programme to Eurostat.

- Documentation of the national census systems.

Activities of other organizations :

UN Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 2
- Handbooks on population and housing censuses: Management; Census Mapping and Geographic Information Systems; Census and survey editing; and Guidelines on Economic Characteristics.

Council of Europe:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Preparation of the outline of the type of census that will be undertaken in Albania, which will be followed by the preparation of the draft census law setting out the main features of the census.

Priority objectives of the methodological work:

- Definition of the characteristics of the census through the census law and the instructions for the conduct of the census.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Preparation of model schemes for analysing the data from new population censuses held in Commonwealth countries and recommendations for comparing the results of the censuses of 1989 and 1999-2002.
- Collation and publication of data on key indicators of the new population censuses in Commonwealth countries.

4.2b STATISTICS ON POPULATION GROUPS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Problem Statement: To develop programs of integrated data and information on specific issues or populations. For example, issues might include poverty or illiteracy. Populations might include the elderly, minorities, children, youth refugees and the homeless. (See also project 4.10, gender statistics).

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: Recommendations for a series of internationally comparable reports on population groups of special interest. Comparative analyses concerning attributes of the older population in a more distant future.

For the ECE's Population Activities Unit (PAU): (i) agreements on research and related data collection priorities concerning the behaviour and conditions of certain groups of special interest with national and regional partners; (ii) development of an agenda for the research into the behaviour and conditions of certain groups of special interest; and (iii) elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey and census sample data in support of this research.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- There is a large amount of statistical work being undertaken by international organisations on various population groups of special interest, such as children, adolescents, women and the elderly. However, the co-ordination of the data collection by international organisations and NGOs on these population groups is not as advanced as with reference to other work areas.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session:

- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the ECE's Population Activities Unit in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Meetings organised by the ECE Population Activities Unit:

Third meeting of the Consortium Board of the Generations and Gender programme on the research agenda and survey modalities proposals (2001).

Expert meeting with the view to considering, amending and adopting the proposals for the research agenda and survey modalities for the Generations and Gender programme (2001).

Rapporteur: ECE (Population Activities Unit)

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference:

Activities of the ECE's Population Activities Unit:

(i) Ongoing methodological work:

Maintenance of the collection of census samples based on the 1990-round of censuses (this will involve working with the data distributors on the release of the data sets and support to end-users; maintenance of the data sets as they are upgraded from beta to pre-release and final versions; working to increase the visibility and use of the data sets).

Assembling a collection of census samples based on the 2000-round of censuses (incl. a study of census data comparability for the censuses of the 2000 round; modification of the existing strategy for drawing micro-data samples from the population and housing censuses; drawing the samples from the 2000-round of censuses).

Promotion of cross-national comparative research on the status of older persons.

Pilot surveys to test the draft model questionnaire of the new family/household surveys in three countries; preparation of the final model questionnaire; development of survey codebook; conduct of surveys in participating countries.

(ii) Priority objective of the methodological work:

Generations and Gender: Technical documents pertaining respectively to the collection and standardisation of (i) new family/household survey data; (ii) 2000-round micro-data census samples and (iii) contextual macro-level indicators.

(iii) New activities to be undertaken:

Generations and Gender: (i) development and adoption of an agenda of research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations; (ii) promotion and conduct of a new round of cross-nationally comparable family/household surveys conducive to documenting and explaining changes in the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations, incl. population groups of special interest; and (iii) promotion and collection of census samples also in support of research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations, incl. population groups of special interest.

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: None

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Manual "Surveys of child labour and activities of children" will be completed to guide countries wishing to embark on comprehensive child labour surveys to quantify the magnitude, character and determinants of the phenomenon in all its forms.

- Technical assistance (donors countries funding) consisting of training/workshops, advisory services, material assistance, etc., will be provided on a continuous basis in all the countries where child labour surveys will be carried out aiming at: (i) collecting comprehensive quantitative and qualitative statistical information on working children by means of household-based sample surveys and other inquiries as a tool for planning and implementing policies and action programmes to combat child labour in the countries; (ii) capacity-building of national statistics offices and ministries of labour to create databases, carry out surveys and use the updated information for evaluating and improving the effectiveness of the policies and action programmes being implemented, thereby measuring the progress made in combating the practice of child labour.

Data collection:

- Child labour surveys will be undertaken at the national level in more than 20 countries. Their integration in household-based surveys is cost-efficient, especially labour force sample surveys for collecting the relevant data on child labour on a frequent basis.

Council of Europe:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Research carried out by two Groups of Specialists with the help of consultants. Definition of available data sources and of objectives, data collection and processing: (i) The demographic characteristics of immigrant populations and (ii) The demographic implications of social exclusion.

4.3 HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND HOUSING STATISTICS

Problem Statement: Regular analysis and reporting on statistics relating to social aspects of housing and in particular to social exclusion. Within Eurostat this work depends entirely on data sources that currently exist, namely, the ECHP, population and housing surveys and household budget surveys.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: Continuation of work by Eurostat as described above [It should be noted that Eurostat is one of the few international organisations working in this field. Moreover, even within Eurostat this is a low priority activity for Eurostat due to a general lack of policy interest for housing statistics in the European Community as such (e.g. construction statistics)].

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following: Nothing

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Rapporteur: Eurostat, in co-operation with Habitat

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of the ECE Committee on Human Settlements:

Ongoing methodological work:

- To review data in the "*Bulletin on Housing and building statistics for Europe and North America*" by bringing together the Bulletin's end users and suppliers and to develop and improve international human settlements statistics.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- The Committee on Human Settlements has sent out a questionnaire and invited delegations to indicate which published data are useful and which other are considered necessary for housing policy purposes and are missing from the Bulletin.

New activities:

- The Committee on Human Settlements invited the secretariat and the Bureau to consider possibilities for setting up an ECE housing-policy-related database with information drawn from national housing and land administration authorities.

Data collection:

- The biannual questionnaire on human settlements is used to collect data needed for the "Bulletin on Housing and building statistics for Europe and North America". It provides statistical data and information for analysing and monitoring housing policy implementation in the ECE region.

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 38 - Other social statistics (381)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

Priority objective of the methodological work

New activities:

- Data from the new waves of the Household Budget Survey and European Community Household Panel will be integrated into the database on housing statistics.
- For census operations in the Member States, introduction of the system for transferring the Community tables programme to Eurostat.

Activities of other organizations :

UN Statistics Division:

Data collection:

- Statistical Database on Housing and Human Settlements (DATAHOUSE)
- Compendium of Human Settlement Statistics expected publication date 2001

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Collection and collation of data on housing conditions in CIS countries (2000-2002).
- It is planned to prepare information reports on the formation of the housing market and housing conditions for the urban population in Commonwealth countries (2000-2002).

4.4 LABOUR STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To provide the means to describe labour market conditions and to identify the underlying causal conditions in order to enable governments to have the information with which to intervene to improve conditions and to harmonise economic and social policies and programmes. To develop a Labour Accounting System which could serve as a link to the SNA (see programme element 3.1). To develop statistics capable of measuring skills of workers.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: A coordinated work plan for data collection in the field of labour statistics for statistics to be collected by Eurostat, the ILO and the OECD. Cooperation and coordination

among the international organizations concerned in the development and improvement of international statistical instruments and in technical cooperation and training.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Bureau noted that there is a need for improved co-ordination by international organisations engaged in data collection and dissemination in this field of statistics, and particularly with reference to subject-matter areas such as employment and unemployment, on wages and earnings, and in new work areas such as work aimed at developing statistics that can be used to describe the dynamics of labour markets.
- The ILO Bureau of Statistics plans to begin its preparations for the 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, which is tentatively scheduled for 2003. The proposed agenda includes consideration of statistical standards in the form of “a revised resolution on consumer price indices”; a new “resolution on labour indicators”; discussion on “child labour statistics”, “the quality of employment”, “working time” and the “demand for labour”; “reconciliation of labour statistics from different sources; and the need to revise ISCO-88.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session:

- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

ECE- Eurostat- ILO Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment (2001/2002)
Eurostat: Working Group on Employment Statistics, 17 - 18 September 2001
Eurostat: Working Group on Statistics on Wages and Labour Costs, 29 - 30 November 2001
Eurostat: Working Group on Employment Statistics, twice a year in January and September
Eurostat: Working Group on Statistics on Wages and Labour Costs, twice a year in March and November
OECD Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics (Spring every year)
Paris Group Annual meeting (Paris, November 2001).
ILO Meeting of Experts on Labour Statistics: Consumer Price Indices and Household Budget Surveys (Geneva 2001, the exact date to be defined later)

Rapporteur: ILO

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment (2001/2002, jointly with Eurostat and ILO), to consider the following topics: (i) Conceptual framework for the measurement of the forms of employment; (ii) Measurement of working time and labour productivity; (iii) Measurement of income and wage differentials; (iv) Measurement of continuous training; (v) Comparison among different sources: registers, household surveys and enterprise surveys; (vi) Development of indicators.

Secretariat resources: Minimal

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Compilation of a standardised unemployment rate for Korea, Iceland and Slovakia.

- Assessment of the quality of annual hours of work. Methods for producing current estimates of labour dynamics. Development work on statistics of the potential labour supply, on older workers, and on highly qualified human resources in the labour market.

Priority objective of methodological work:

- Improve collection and dissemination of methodological information on the compilation of standardised unemployment rates.
- Rationalise collection and improve dissemination of methodological information on the compilation of labour force statistics.
- Also, provide more methodological information on wages and earnings statistics to enable a more accurate assessment by users of data quality and comparability in relation to international guidelines and recommendations.
- For annual hours of work, a working paper describing the quality assessment, with recommendations for quality improvement. For labour dynamics, a comparative analysis of gross flows to be presented to the Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics.
- Reports outlining a) a categorisation of sources of potential labour supply and impediments to (further) participation b) proposed standard statistical tables for older workers, including reasons for withdrawal from activity, to be presented to the Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics.
- Data collection on and analysis of highly qualified human resources in the labour market.

New activities:

- Publication of standardised unemployment rates by age and gender **in 2001** (jointly with Eurostat for European countries).
- Review with Eurostat the current treatment of armed forces in the compilation of standardised unemployment rates.
- Review collection and dissemination of employment statistics compiled from various sources (household surveys, enterprise surveys and national accounts).
- Expand the coverage of short-term statistics on hourly earnings to include sectors other than manufacturing.
- Improve relevance of the selection of annual labour force statistics collected and disseminated.
- Implementation of regular data collection on earnings.
- Development of capability for indirect access to labour force survey microdata in (non-EU) countries.
- Improve relevance of the selection of annual labour force statistics collected and disseminated.

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 32 - Labour market*):

Ongoing methodological work:

Labour force survey

The following work is planned in 2001:

- gradual implementation in the Member States of Regulation (EC) N° 577/98;
- routine data management;
- processing data from the 2000 additional survey (ad hoc module: "transition from school to work");
- extension of the collection of quarterly data and data from the applicant countries.

Employment and unemployment

- regular dissemination of the monthly series on unemployment and the quarterly series on employment;
- SAM (social accounting matrices): compilation of a pilot matrix by the countries participating in the LEG; continue the work on labour accounts and harmonized labour market statistics.

Statistics on earnings and labour costs

- Improved data quality and regular, timely dissemination of quarterly labour cost indices (LCI);
- development of the various methodological approaches, including the exploitation of existing sources, relating to the establishment of a European labour price index (LPI);

- management of routine wage statistics.

Priority objective of the methodological work

New activities:

- Drawing up the specifications of the 2003 ad hoc module on life long learning.
- Work connected with monitoring the "Employment Guidelines", in particular collection of data on social contributions and taxes affecting the cost of employing low-paid or unskilled workers.
- Development of a framework for the analysis of inactivity.
- Job vacancy survey.
- Implementation of the additional surveys relating to the labour force survey (ad hoc modules).

Other Activities of the European Commission:

Economic and Financial Affairs DG employment surveys.

Activities of other organizations :

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- The ILO will continue its activities in the field of informal sector statistics, in particular, the informal sector data collection practices of member States, updating of the relevant data base, and publish the ILO manual on informal sector surveys.
- Work will be continued on the development of international guidelines on comparison and reconciliation of employment and unemployment data from different sources.
- The major methodological work will encompass the following topics: (a) engendering labour statistics; (b) time-related underemployment and inadequate employment situations (a paper will be published explaining guidelines adopted by the 16th ICLS); (c) statistics of labour market dynamics; (d) working time and productivity; (e) measurement of the quality of employment.
- The following two volumes of Sources and Methods will be revised and updated: (a) Volume 3: Economically active population, employment, unemployment and hours of work (household surveys) and (b) Volume 4: Employment, unemployment, wages and hours of work (administrative records).
- The ILO set of 18 Key Indicators of the Labour Market¹ (KILM) will be further developed and refined.
- The ILO-comparable annual employment and unemployment estimates will continue to be produced for selected countries and gradually merged with a newly developed project on World and regional estimates of employment and unemployment.
- The ILO Yearbook of Labour Statistics and related publications will be more concise and user-friendly, making maximum use of modern technology and available dissemination tools.
- The methodology developed by STAT to probe into the work of children will continue to be used to assist new countries in conducting child labour surveys at the national level (ILO project: Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour (SIMPOC)).
- Technical assistance will continue to be provided at the request of the ILO member States in the field of the ILO competence.
- Preparation for the 17th ICLS will begin, covering a number of topics for new resolutions and international guidelines.

UN Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- UNSD and ILO are collaborating on the preparation of a guide on the collection of data on economic characteristics in censuses. UNSD is collaborating with UNDP and ILO on a project on gender issues and the measurement of paid and unpaid work.

The Paris Group on Labour and Compensation Statistics:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Use of gross flow indicators for statistics on labour dynamics. The aim is now to prepare a synthesis paper on the basis of contributions accumulated during previous session of the Group. A compilation of flow matrixes for the various countries should be added to this material.
- Typologies of patterns of activities. The group will try to make some proposals concerning concept and implementation.
- Measurement of work duration. The Group will concentrate discussions upon the various approaches to the measurement of annual working time: national estimates derived from the LFS, including particular developments on what has been gained with the continuous LFS, in countries where it is already implemented; estimates from various administrative records or establishment surveys; results from other less regular surveys (time use surveys, complementary LFS). One other common point would also be to insist on uses of these measures (for national accounts, for the evaluation of productivity...). Other topics of discussion: measurement problems for specific subpopulations; concept; international comparison in data available in the various countries.

New activities:

- Measurement and follow up of vacancies and Labour accounts will be eventually taken again for further meetings of the group (2002 or 2003).

World Bank:

Ongoing methodological work:

The World Bank will be providing assistance in preparation of re-introduction of the Labour Force survey in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A massive enumeration effort is being undertaken in order to produce a master sample that will be used for the LSMS, a Household Budget Survey, and a Labour Force survey and the panel survey (which uses the LSMS as a baseline) on poverty and labour.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Recommendations for recording self-employment will be prepared and sent to Commonwealth countries in 2001. CIS-STAT will continue work on studying data collection methodology in this area to help Commonwealth countries obtain more reliable information both about the number of self-employed persons and about the total size of the employed population.
- Recommendations on improving statistics concerning wages and salaries are to be prepared in 2001.
- The statistical compendium "Labour market in Commonwealth countries" will be issued in 2001 and in late 2002-early 2003.
- Reviews (reports) are to be prepared annually in 2001-2003 on the following topics: "Labour markets in CIS countries" and "Labour costs and nominal and real wages and salaries".

4.5 EDUCATION AND TRAINING STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To continue development work on indicators of educational systems, in particular with respect to resolving outstanding definitional and comparability questions, enhancing the comparative understanding of national educational systems and fostering the analytical use of the indicators. To pursue development work in a number of new areas, in particular the school-to-work transition, vocational education, lifelong learning (including continuing education and training), tertiary education (private funding and the separation of research from teaching expenditures) and disparities in educational access, resources and achievement. To implement a strategy for producing regular, reliable and internationally comparable indicators of student achievement in reading, mathematics and science. To

successfully implement the revised International Standard Classification of Education, to take account of the variety of educational provision and the complexities of national educational systems and provide as well a multi-dimensional classification of educational programmes that can be used for both enrolment and attainment data. To continue assistance in the implementation of the UNESCO / OECD / Eurostat questionnaire, definitions and methodology to developing and transition countries.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: The expansion of the UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat data collection procedures and definitions to more countries in the ECE region; the development of indicators on student outcomes, the school-to-work transition, non-institutional tertiary education, and disparities in educational access and attainment; to enhance cooperation and collaboration between the international organizations with regard to the collection and publication of education and training statistics.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Rapporteur of this PE considers that: the absence of long time-series for education statistics and indicators is a general problem in the field of education statistics that needs to be addressed; that there is a need for NSIs to invest the resources that are needed to compile long international time series with respect to the main education statistics aggregates such as total enrolment and expenditures, completion, and educational attainment; that there is volatility and a lack of comparability of data on continuing education and training, and therefore a need to work towards a common definitions and measurement standards in this area.; and that there is a current growing interest in the determinants of educational outcomes and in the measurement of the non-market returns to education

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Eurostat: Working Group Continuous Vocational Training Survey (CVTS), 08 - 09 Oct 2001

Eurostat: Working Group Education and Training, 06 – 07 December 2001

Eurostat: Working Group Continuous Vocational Training Survey (CVTS), once a year in October .

Eurostat: Working Group Education and Training, once a year in December .

OECD Network B: 29-31 January 2001, October 2001.

OECD Network A: March 2001, October 2001.

OECD Network C: 23-25 April 2001, December 2001.

OECD Technical Group: May 2001, December 2001.

UNESCO (UIS): Annual workshops with regional groups of countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Anglophone Africa, Francophone Africa, Pacific Islands, South Asia, Central Asia, Arab States, Eastern Europe.

UNESCO (UIS): Seminar on Education Finance Statistics

Rapporteur: OECD

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Coverage study of public subsidies to households for education
- Coverage study of enrolment data
- Expenditure comparability study
- Classification of educational personnel
- Conceptual framework for the measurement of competencies

- Methodology of education statistics and indicators
- Implementation of international survey of upper secondary schools
- Implementation of international student assessment survey (PISA)
- Development of international module for the measurement of training
- Framework for and development of indicators of lifelong learning

Priority objective of methodological work:

- For first two above, assessment reports on comparability and extent of coverage, respectively (2001)
- Education personnel: guidelines on classification for purposes of data provision (2001)
- Report on the international comparability of data on expenditures on education (2001)
- Forging international consensus on key competencies for assessment purposes,, synthesis report following symposium (2002)
- Methodology of education statistics and indicators: publication (2001)
- Survey of upper secondary schools - indicators for Education at a Glance (2002)
- Student assessment survey: international report on assessment results (2001)
- Document outlining guidelines for the measurement of training (2002)
- Specification of indicators of lifelong learning to appear in Education at a Glance

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 33 - Education*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Collection, validation and analysis of data on pupils, students, teachers, educational institutions and educational finance in the framework of the UOE questionnaires and in close co-operation with OECD and UNESCO. Special assistance to PHARE countries for the completion of finance questionnaires.
- Checking, validation and uploading of CVTS II data. First analysis and first results are to be published by the end of the year.
- Collection, validation and analysis of data on initial vocational education and training (VET data collection). Development of the dissemination practices of the VET data collection results, including more speedy publication and positioning of the data collection in the overall education and training dataweb.
- Continuous support for the development of comparable indicators in the framework of the employment guidelines, especially in the areas of lifelong learning, entrepreneurship, educational outcomes, school drop-outs and transition from school to work.
- Further refinement and detailing of the methodology for measuring lifelong learning developed by the Eurostat Task Force on Measuring lifelong learning with the contribution of OECD networks and the Unesco institute for statistics.

Priority objective of the methodological work :

- Dissemination of education statistics includes the following: a) the joint Eurostat/ Education and Culture DG/Eurydice publication 'Key Data on Education', b) a publication in the Eurostat Social Statistics series covering data on different aspects of education from different sources (paper and electronic version) on 'Education across the EU' c) further development of Eurostat Education indicators in the World Wide Web with hyperlinks with other DGs and international organisations in the framework of the European Gateway to Education project.
- A Users' Manual on Education Indicators should be produced.

New activities:

- Development of indicators on educational finance. Implementation of the manual on 'fields of education and training'. Clarification of the coverage of the joint UOE data collection.
- Development of the Eurostat part of the UOE questionnaires on the basis of the information needs of European Union policy making.
- Analysis on educational and labour force characteristics will be carried out from the LFS, the ECHP and other Eurostat sources. Implementation of the latest international classification ISCED

97 and review of questions under a "lifelong learning" perspective. Further analysis of the results of the ad hoc module on '*transition from school to work*' and longitudinal ECHP analysis of transition.

- Development of a new ad hoc module on transition to be included in LFS in 2004.
- Work on the 2003 LFS module on "lifelong learning" and contribution of questions on "lifelong learning" in the new survey to replace the ECHP.
- Discussion and preparation of a suitable legal framework for the possibility of holding a Continuing Vocational Training Survey on a regular basis.
- Development of data collection instruments on foreign language learning.
- Development of suitable harmonised data collections, where they do not yet exist, or modules in suitable existing instruments, in order to cover other aspects of learning like training providers, informatics skills, learn to learn skills, spending on education etc.

Other Activities of the European Commission:

- CEDEFOP may carry out a survey among main actors of education and training to cover the topics of 'value/effectiveness, needs and trends' in education and training. Cedefop has completed a feasibility study on this subject which was closely followed up by Eurostat.
- Methodological work and stocktaking is carried out both for the Education and Culture and the Employment and Social Affairs DGs. Eurostat is usually involved.

Activities of other organizations :

UNESCO:

Ongoing methodological work

- to finalise different elements of the International Standard Classification of Educations (ISCED) manual;
- to develop methodologies for the projection of key indicators of education;
- methodological work on handling non-response and other missing data;
- to continue and to enhance international and regional cooperation with Member States of UNESCO and with International organizations;
- to review the collection of comparable international statistics in the fields of education, science and technology, culture and communication and to establish a regular programme of data collection based on this review;
- to enhance significantly the activities connected with the building of statistical capacity in Member States, particularly the less developed;
- establish a Resource Centre which shall be accessible to the public through electronic means and through visits at the centre; and
- create special projects beneficial to Member States and organizations such as monitoring equity (with a focus on out-of-school children), financing of educational systems, measuring literacy, and the collection of data on non-formal education.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- Establishing current and emerging needs for statistical data and indicators;
- Improving the collection, dissemination and use of comparative international statistics;
- Building statistical capacity in Member States.

New activities:

- Extended coverage in data collection with OECD and Eurostat.
- Close cooperation will be established with the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) and International Bureau of Education (IBE).
- Conduct an education expenditure comparability study with countries in the World Education Indicators (WEI) project (joint project with OECD).
- Develop a sample school survey with countries in the World Education Indicators project (joint project with OECD).

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Ongoing methodological work

- Collection and collation of data submitted by national statistical services as part of the intra-CIS exchange of information on education.
- Preparation of the annual report entitled "Status of education in Commonwealth countries".

4.6 CULTURE STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To develop an international framework for culture statistics with linkages to social and demographic statistics and to economic statistics (especially national accounts), and to establish or improve programs of integrated data on cultural activities.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches to (1) assess current international culture statistics against the objectives listed above, (2) highlight areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies, and (3) suggest priorities where major advances in line with the objectives would be promising.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Conference's work programme for 2001/2002 made provision for an ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO joint work session on cultural statistics to be held in the upcoming one-year period. However, the secretariats of the three organisations suggested to the Bureau that the meeting be postponed because of the combination of upcoming staffing changes in Eurostat (the Eurostat staff member who is responsible for this work area will be retiring shortly, and it will take time to arrange for and obtain the required replacement), and the upcoming planned move of UNESCO's Institute for Statistics' from Paris to Montreal. The Bureau concluded that, under these circumstances, the meeting should be postponed.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session:

- To postpone the previously planned 2001/2002 ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO work session to a later date (proposed new timing and terms of reference for the meeting to be proposed by the three organisations later).

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO: Joint work session on culture statistics (2002/2003 or later)

Eurostat: Working Group Cultural Statistics, 27 – 28 September 2001

Eurostat: Working Group Cultural Statistics, once a year in September .

Rapporteur: Eurostat, in collaboration with Unesco's Institute for Statistics

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Joint ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO work session (2002/2003 or later): (More precise timing and terms of reference for the meeting to be proposed later by the three sponsoring organisations).

Secretariat resources: Minimal

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 34 - Culture*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Further development of work on cultural employment, cultural expenditure and participation in cultural activities.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- Design of a sample survey on *Participation in Cultural Activities*.
- Adoption of a framework for the regular collection, analysis and dissemination of EU cultural statistics.
- Methodological report on the potential use of current EU household surveys for cultural statistics.

New activities:

- Organisation of a Eurobarometer survey on participation in cultural activities (2001).
- Joint ECE/UNESCO/EUROSTAT work session on the harmonisation of cultural statistics to be held in 2001/ 2002 or later.

Activities of other organizations:

UNESCO:

Ongoing methodological work

- to organise, jointly with UN/ECE and Eurostat, a meeting on culture statistics (see the "Activities of the Conference" section above);
- to continue and to enhance international and regional cooperation with Member States of UNESCO and with International organizations;
- to review the collection of comparable international statistics in the field of culture and to establish a regular programme of data collection based on this review;
- to enhance significantly the activities connected with the building of statistical capacity in Member States, particularly the less developed;
- establish a Resource Centre which shall be accessible to the public through electronic means and through visits at the centre; and
- create special projects beneficial to Member States and organizations such as monitoring equity (with a focus on out-of-school children), financing of educational systems, measuring literacy, and the collection of data on non-formal education.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- Establishing current and emerging needs for statistical data and indicators;
- Improving the collection, dissemination and use of comparative international statistics;
- Building statistical capacity in Member States.
- Producing a report on international flows of selected cultural goods (1980-1998)

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Ongoing methodological work

- Collection and collation of data submitted by national statistical services as part of the intra-CIS exchange of information on culture and art.
- Preparation of annual analytical materials including selected data on culture and art in Commonwealth countries.

4.7a STATISTICS OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURES, OF THE WELFARE OF THE POPULATION, AND OF POVERTY AND INCOME STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To facilitate the development of comprehensive, comparable, reliable and timely statistics describing the distribution of the capacity of individuals, families, and households to acquire goods and services; to identify the sources of inequality in incomes; to understand processes of social exclusion; to assess the need for intervention in the distribution of incomes to target interventions deemed necessary and to monitor the effectiveness of such interventions.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: Identification of conceptual and methodological issues impeding the production of internationally comparable measures of household income, and development of an approach to eliminate these impediments (e.g. through expert meetings, seminars, commissioned studies, and promotion of international collaboration in research). Development of summary measures such as measures of low income and on the role of income in shedding light on social exclusion and on labour-market exclusions.

For ILO, development of new international standards on income from employment (paid employment and self-employment).

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Canberra Group on household income has made significant advances in finalising the draft chapters on a future handbook on household income statistics. The Canberra Group held a meeting in Luxembourg in May of 2000, and that is likely to be the last meeting that the Group will have, because the handbook is expected to be presented to the spring 2001 session of the UN Statistical Commission for endorsement.
- The recommendations of the Canberra Group have been taken up by Eurostat and treated concretely in its work on reporting on social exclusion and poverty at the EU level that focuses on income concepts and definitions, measurement of income and poverty, and social exclusion and rules for quality reporting. The plan is to develop a more practical manual for the EU countries.
- Co-operation is now established between Eurostat, the OECD, LIS and the UN on income, poverty and social exclusion statistics.
- Future activities by EU and EEA countries conducted under the umbrella of Eurostat will be related to further harmonisation of income concepts and variables and longitudinal analysis of social exclusion and poverty based on the ECHP.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Eurostat meetings: (*Theme 36 - Distribution of income and living conditions (363)*):

Eurostat: Community Household Panel: 10-11 December 2001 (**annual**)

Eurostat: Income, Poverty and Social Exclusion (every year in spring; please note that in 2001 a joint working group "Community Household Panel and Income, Poverty & Social Exclusion will be held on 25-27 April).

Eurostat: Working Group Household Budget Survey: 28-29 May 2001 (**annual**)

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Benefit Systems and Work Incentives: Further extension of biennial Publication, which includes a description of all the different benefits made available to those without work, the taxes they pay and tables facilitating international comparisons of work incentives. Methodological chapters contain detailed information about benefit and tax systems, country-by-country, are available (in pdf format) on the OECD Internet site <http://www.oecd.org/els/spd/benefits/index.htm>. Maintenance of models used for calculating net replacement rates and gross replacement rates for out of work persons, across a variety of different circumstances, in OECD countries. Development work will focus on identifying better indicators of incentives for those with low earnings potential.
- Social Expenditure Database: Building on an annual collection (in co-operation with Eurostat for EU countries) and dissemination of expenditure data, programme by programme, also grouped in 13 expenditure categories, ongoing methodological work will focus on treatment of refundable tax credits to ensure consistency with OECD Revenue Statistics and the OECD Active labour market programmes data base. Extensions to the methodology will build on: (i) recent work which adjusts gross social expenditure to take account of interactions with the tax system; (ii) recent work which classifies social benefits provided through the private sector.

Priority objective of methodological work:

- Final report draws on national responses (based on survey and fiscal data) to a standardised OECD questionnaire on incomes, using a common set of definitions and methodology.
- New definitions of low earnings benchmark (currently 2/3 average earnings) to be discussed with countries via an OECD working paper (release in 2000) based on empirical evidence from various household panel data sets.
- Net (after tax) aggregates of social expenditure and private social expenditure indicators to be included in the 2000 edition of the Social Expenditure Database.

Recurring activities which will cease to be undertaken in future:

- Work on income distribution and poverty in selected OECD countries cease in 2000.

Activities of Eurostat: (Theme 36 - Distribution of income and living conditions (363)):

Ongoing methodological work:

- The Household budget survey (HBS) methodology revised on the basis of the 1994 and 1999 waves of surveys is expected to be published.
- The ECHP will be replaced by the Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) after 2002. All methodological work concerning this new instrument should be developed during the year in order to be tested in 2002.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- Eurostat plans to diffuse the EU recommendations on Satellite accounts of household production.

New activities:

- For the Household budget survey (HBS), the preparation of a new wave of surveys should be started taking into account the work on harmonisation of concepts and definitions and specifying a scope by domains, consistent with the SILC.
- The last wave of the ECHP will refer to the year 2001 and the new instrument producing Statistics on Income and Living Conditions will be implemented in 2003
- Work on poverty and social exclusion will focus on the consolidation of the methodology on income and absolute poverty. The social exclusion scheme will be further developed including longitudinal analysis based on four years time series.
- Time use surveys are expected to be conducted in more than half of the Member States. With this participation it would be convenient to develop a Community database including microdata.

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Research work on household sector accounting including household satellite accounting;
- Regional workshops on informal sector statistics and supporting the efforts of the Delhi Group on informal sector statistics;
- Methodological work in the wider field of social indicators.

World Bank:

- The World Bank will continue its theoretical and practical work in the area of measuring and analyzing income poverty, as well as efforts in developing tools to measure the many other dimensions of poverty. Last year the WB prepared a Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRSP) Source Book, which is designed as a handbook for the 42 PRSP countries (9 of them are in the ECE region) in developing their strategy for poverty alleviation. A considerable part of the book is focused on the issues of data on poverty, poverty measurement, and poverty monitoring.
- The World Bank will be providing assistance in planning, designing, implementing and analyzing of the Living Standard Measurement Study (LSMS) surveys. At present there are three surveys in the planning stages in Central Europe: in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria and Albania. (A LSMS was just completed in December, 2000 in Kosovo. Other surveys have been done recently in the Caucus and Central Asia). The LSMS surveys represent one piece of larger, integrated efforts to improve the overall statistical system of each country by providing quality household level data. In BiH a massive enumeration effort is being undertaken in order to produce a master sample that will be used for the LSMS, a Household Budget Survey, and a Labor Force survey and the panel survey (which uses the LSMS as a baseline) on poverty and labor. The Bulgaria program envisions another round (panel) of the slightly reduced version of the LSMS that has been done previously by a private firm. The data analysis will be done with the National Statistical Office and will feed into the design and implementation of a future LSMS to be done by the National Statistical Office. In Albania, the population census will be carried out in early 2001 and the LSMS will then benefit from the data and the sample frame that will be provided.

Assistance in planning, designing, implementing and analyzing LSMS surveys is provided by staff in DECRG-Poverty Group. Assistance includes technical advice on all stages of the work, from deciding on the need for an LSMS survey, how best to design and implement such a survey, to how the resulting data can be analyzed. A variety of printed and electronic materials are also available to survey planners and analysts. Several of these are: (i) the recent book on *Designing Household Survey Questionnaires for Developing Countries: Lessons from Fifteen Years of the LSMS Surveys*, that links the policy questions to be answered to the actual data that must be collected; (ii) *A Manual for Planning and Implementing LSMS Surveys*, that covers all phases of an LSMS survey, from budgeting, to sampling, field work and data management and analysis; (iii) examples of questionnaires, manuals and other field work material from all countries where LSMS surveys have been done; (iv) case studies on how to increase the analytic capacity in country; (v) data bases from more than 40 LSMS surveys.

- The Bank will continue maintenance and updating of the four databases on Poverty developed to assist countries in monitoring poverty trends and embarking on strategies to help them reduce poverty. The aim is to help countries reach the Strategy 21 goals of fostering economic well-being and social development.
- The **Poverty Monitoring Database** provides quick access to comprehensive poverty information. It's main components are: (i) Household surveys, which provide key features and general information on income/consumption surveys conducted recently. The information sheets indicate whether

household survey data are available to the general public. Links to the data set are provided when they are available on the web; (ii) Poverty Assessment Summaries conducted by the World Bank since 1993; (iii) Participatory Poverty Assessments, which provide basic information on assessments conducted by the Bank and other institutions.

- Database on **Household Expenditure and Income Data for Transitional Economies**, developed as part of a project analyzing poverty and social assistance in the transition economies. The data address critical questions, such as the group most likely to be poor, how well social assistance programs reach the most needy, and the kinds of programs that would most effectively reduce poverty.
- **Data for the Analysis of Poverty Reduction**, which aims to provide support to countries developing poverty reduction strategies. It provides access to a range of cross-country comparable aggregated and disaggregated for poverty diagnostics and monitoring; and classification of indicators and data according to categories of economic opportunities, capabilities, empowerment, and security.
- The **Global Poverty Monitoring** database, which provides various poverty and inequality measures made by staff of the World Bank's Research Group. All the estimates are based on primary survey data and regularly updated.
- Training of statisticians and policy makers how to use household survey data for analysis and policy is and will continue to be provided by the World Bank Institute on a regional basis.

The Household Income Statistics Group:

- *All papers and reports of the Canberra Group meeting can be downloaded from the Canberra Group's web site at the following URL: <http://lissy.ceps.lu/canberra.htm>.*

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Ongoing methodological work

- Collection, processing and analysis of data submitted quarterly and annually by national statistical services on the structure of household money income and consumer expenditures, the minimum consumer budget (minimum subsistence level) for countries where this indicator is used to evaluate standards of living, and differentiation of the population by average per capita income (2001-2003). Preparation of reports on living conditions and nutrition in Commonwealth countries.
- General conclusions will be drawn in 2001 from the experience of Commonwealth countries' national statistical services in organizing a statistical survey of households and studying poverty.

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

- International Association for Research on Income and Wealth (IARIW)

4.7b SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To facilitate the development of comprehensive, comparable, reliable and timely statistics related to social security systems. Clarifying and improving the link between social protection statistics and the national accounts.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: For Eurostat: Implementation of the ESSPROS 1996, completion of the model on retirement replacement rates, projects on estimation of participants of different social protection functions and estimation of expenditure.

For the ECE's Population Activities Unit (PAU): In the field of population ageing and the status of older persons, (i) PAU's collection of census samples; (ii) studies on the implications of population ageing for social security systems and pension schemes, and on the consequences of disordered cohort flows in transition countries;

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Bureau noted that further work is needed in the field of social protection statistics on analysing differences and inconsistencies between the SOCX (OECD data base on social expenditure) and the ESSPROS (Eurostat's European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics) data bases, so that the questionnaires and, eventually, the methodologies can gradually be harmonised. It also noted that in the field of social protection, closer co-operation is needed between NSIs and other Ministries involved in collecting and compiling administrative data -- such as the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Social Security -- so as to ensure higher quality data could become available.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Eurostat:(372) Working Group Labour Market Policies: 17 – 18 December 2001 (**annual**)
Eurostat:(371) Working Group Social Protection: 25-26 June 2001 (**18 months**)

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (Theme 37 - Social protection):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Further implementation of the ESSPROS 1996 methodology is expected to concentrate on the development of a module on net expenditure and the estimation of participants for the old-age function.
- For the Labour Market Policies (LMP) database, further development of the methodology is progressing.

New activities :

- For Labour Market Policies (LMP) further development of the European Union methodology will be undertaken in order to enhance completion and comparability.

Other Activities of the European Commission:

- The LMP database is being developed in partnership with the Employment and Social Affairs DG, which is presently ensuring the financial support for technical assistance.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Collection, collation and analysis of statistical data indicative of social protection, pension coverage and infirmity in Commonwealth countries (2000-2002).

4.8 CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To develop a reliable, comprehensive and internationally comparable system of crime and justice capable of supporting social policy development and enhanced public awareness and accountability, building on the contributions of several governments and United Nations agencies (through the United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, the International Crime Victim Survey, the International Survey on Businesses as Victims of Crime, the International Violence against Women Survey).

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches to (1) assess current international statistics related to crime and criminal justice against the objectives listed above, (2) highlight areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies, and (3) suggest priorities where major advances in line with the objectives would be promising.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- A publication entitled "Surveying Crime: A Global Approach" was recently published by ISTAT and UNICRI. The volume provides a broad overview on the issue of integration of data sources on crime and criminal justice.
- The topic of monitoring corruption is being dealt with by UNICRI and CICP as a priority field, within the framework of the UN "Global Programme against Corruption".

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

UNICRI Second meeting on the World Organised Crime Report in the course of 2001.
HEUNI Meetings of the International Project Team and Experts of the International Violence against Women Survey (IVAWS) in the course of 2001 and 2002.

Rapporteur: UNICRI

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: None

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Handbook on Criminal Justice Statistics— expected publication date 2001
- Co-operation with CICP in the conduct of the United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems

UN Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Elaboration of a Dangerousness Index for Organized Crime Groups, as part of a project on "Assessing Transnational Organized Crime Groups: Dangerousness and Trends" (hereafter, Assessment Project). Ongoing activity throughout this reporting period.

- Expansion of the United Nations Crime and Justice Information Network (www.uncjin.org) which is integrated into the web site of the UN Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (ODCCP) since December 4, 2000. Under the new umbrella UNCJIN will serve as a comprehensive collection of crime prevention links on the web.
- Publication of data collected through the 6th United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems covering the period 1995 - 1997.
- Continuation of the "Crime Count Group" (CCG): a task force formed among staff of the Crime Reduction and Analysis Branch (CRAB) of CICP to research various aspects of crime statistics. CICP has also been charged to be the lead agency for the development of the CSD indicator "Number of Crimes per 100,000 population".

New activities:

- Conduct the 7th United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems covering the period 1998 - 2000.
- Analyse, design, develop and implement databases to support the work of the Global Programmes against Corruption, Organised Crime and Trafficking in Human Beings

New data collection:

- Data and information from the Seventh United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems will be collected during the reporting period. The Survey is conducted in co-operation with the UN Statistics Division. The Survey will cover the years 1998-2000 and will address all manner of national level criminal justice: police, courts, prosecution, prisons, and resources.

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI):

Ongoing methodological work:

- UNICRI will continue providing assistance on specific demand to concerned countries with needs assessment, technical assistance and training in the area of development, management and policy analysis of crime and criminal justice statistics.
- International Crime Victim Survey and related activities: international comparative project in crime prevention and criminal justice focused on citizens' experience of crime, reporting to the police, crime prevention measures and attitudes towards law enforcement and punishment.
- International Crimes against Businesses Survey (ICBS): the project is aimed at assessing the extent and pattern of crimes against businesses. The ICBS provides a unique perspective of the crime phenomena, for example as regards experiences of retailers-small businesses with corruption/bribery/ extortion which are crucial to reveal the extent of corruption among medium-sized businesses and retailers, with particular attention to organised crime involvement.
- Assessment of corruption: within the framework of the joint CICP-UNICRI Global Programme against Corruption, UNICRI is in charge of the collection of data on: (i) public administration and "street level" corruption; (ii) corruption in business; and (iv) top level (political, administrative and financial) corruption.
- World Organised Crime Report (WOCR): within the framework of the joint CICP-UNICRI Global Programme against Organised Crime, UNICRI has started the process of conceptualising a format for the collection and exchange of information on various aspects of the continuum conventional-organised crime and the activities of organised crime groups. An informal consultation group was established with representatives of partner institutions.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- To provide survey datasets on crime and victimisation that may support and integrate official crime statistics.
- To publish a volume on "Victimisation in Europe" with analysis of the 2000 ICVS data from more than 30 European urban areas, including 16 Eastern-Central European cities.
- To develop, together with CICP, indicators for the "Global Assessment of Corruption Trends"

- To draft the format of the WOCR as a research support to the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime.

New activities:

- International Violence against Women Survey: the project will be co-ordinated by HEUNI and jointly carried out with Statistics Canada in selected (European) countries.

European Institute for Crime prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Preparation of a report on the proceedings of the workshop on women in the criminal justice system (in the framework of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, April 2000).
- Finalisation and publication of the report on the results of the analysis of the Sixth United Nations survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (1995-97) in Europe and North America (to be released in the year 2001).

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- To provide an overview of ongoing work re. women in criminal justice.
- To publish country profiles on crime trends and operations of criminal justice systems.

New activities:

- Follow-up to project on prison systems in Central and Eastern Europe.
- International Violence against Women Survey: the project will be jointly carried out with UNICRI and Statistics Canada in selected (European) countries in order to analyse in greater detail different aspects of the phenomenon.
- Participation in the Seventh United Nations survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (1998-2000). HEUNI will be responsible for the European and North American analysis.

4.9 HEALTH STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To develop a comprehensive and coherent system of health statistics capable of supporting policy analysis and decision-making in the field of health, particularly monitoring the performance of health care systems by tracing the inputs, throughputs and outcomes of health care system in both monetary and non-monetary terms.

Strategic Medium Term Goals Major components include the development of conceptual frameworks, definitions and methodologies for measurement and collection of health statistics in particular health accounts and expenditure data and indicators of population health status and performance of the health care system. Also, work will focus on improvement of health resource and utilisation data (e.g. beds and employment) and health care activities (e.g. surgical procedures in inpatient and ambulatory settings and pharmaceutical consumption and sales). Promotion of the standardised instruments in household surveys to measure disability to supplement administrative health data. A priority should be integrating these diverse statistics into a coherent statistical system and assisting countries in forming national health information strategies.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The expected adoption by the World Health Assembly of a Common Framework on Measuring and Reporting on the Health of Populations (see CES/2001/28, report of the October 2000 Joint ECE/WHO preparatory Meeting on measuring Health Status).
- OECD and WHO have established a framework for co-operation between the two organisations in the field of health statistics. Ongoing co-operation is occurring between them in the development of

guidelines for the collection of health data and accounts. A Steering Committee has been established that, among other things, brings together experts on health accounts from WHO, OECD, World Bank, USAID and a number of other experts from the donor community.

- The Bureau noted the good relations between the OECD and Eurostat in this area, and emphasised the need for co-ordination of work on health care and resource definitions, but it also considered that co-ordination problems in this field by all players have not yet been entirely resolved, particularly with respect to data collection.
- Co-ordination issues and points on joint data collection: Informal agreements exist between WHO, OECD and Eurostat for improvement of data collection, harmonised data collection and analysis, the use of common instruments, mutual exchange of data of common interest. Close collaboration has also been developed with ILO in the field of Occupational Health and Safety statistics.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session:

- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Joint ECE/WHO Meeting on Health Statistics, 15-17 April 2002

Joint OECD/Health Canada Conference in Fall 2001 on Health Care Performance Measurement and Reporting.

Eurostat Working Group: European Occupational Diseases Statistics, 12 September 2001

Eurostat Working Group: European Statistics on Accidents at Work, 17 October 2001

Eurostat Working Group: Public Health Statistics, 22 - 23 November 2001

Eurostat Working Group: European Occupational Diseases Statistics, once a year in the second half of the year.

Eurostat Working Group: European Statistics on Accidents at Work, once a year in the second half of the year.

Eurostat Working Group: Public Health Statistics, once a year in the second half of the year.

UNSD: United Nations International Seminar on Measurement of Disability, New York, 4-6 June 2001

WHO/EURO: Meeting of national counterparts on Health Statistics of WHO European Member States (Autumn 2001)

WHO/EURO: Meeting of Accession Country counterparts for Highlights on Health (back-to-back with EU Health Monitoring Programme meetings)

Rapporteur: OECD

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Joint ECE-WHO meeting on health statistics (in 2001/2002) to consider: (i) Use of health information in health policy, management and delivery; (ii) Conceptual and statistical issues in health status measurement; (iii) Integration of key national health and health related statistics into coordinated and easy accessible databases; (iv) International and national harmonisation of definitions and reporting on health statistics.

Secretariat resources: Substantial

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Health Statistics: further work on data on health care resource statistics and utilisation statistics in non-monetary terms as well as coverage of the population by insurance schemes; and access to services.
- Health Accounting: Further co-operation with Eurostat, WHO Geneva, European Region, Pan-American Office and the World Bank, in order to harmonise measures towards a world accounting standard among the industrialised countries and the developing countries' efforts.
- Health status indicators: on-going co-operation with Eurostat, WHO Geneva, European Region, in order to harmonise measures of health status and disability. Release in Fall 2000 of "An inventory of health and disability-related surveys in OECD countries" as an OECD Occasional Paper (no. 44). The inventory builds on previous work by Eurostat.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- Consolidation and expansion of the Health Accounting blueprint with a view to pilot-testing and adoption.
- Improving the comparability of existing data collections on health resource and utilisation data, surgical procedures, and pharmaceutical consumption and sales.

New activities:

Health care performance: Joint OECD/Health Canada Conference in Fall 2001 on Health Care Performance Measurement and Reporting.

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 35 - Health, safety and consumer protection*):

Work takes into account ongoing Community action programmes on public health, in particular on health monitoring (HMP), cancer, injury prevention and health promotion and will include further activities needed to develop the statistical part of health information, as mentioned in the Commission's proposal for a new Community programme on public health (2001-2006).

Activities are co-ordinated with international organisations and supported by partners of the LEG Health.

Work on statistics on disabled people and their integration into society depends on policy needs as formulated in the Commission's communication "Towards a Barrier Free Europe for People with Disabilities".

Work on statistics on Occupational Health and Safety has been developed in agreement with the Community programme on Safety, Hygiene and Health at Work (1996-2000) and will include further activities required by the future programme 2002-2006.

a) **Ongoing methodological work:**

Public Health

Annual data collection, analysis and dissemination for *causes of death (COD) statistics*, improving practices on certification and codification of COD data.

Regarding *Health and health related survey data (HIS)* actions will continue on

- updating, analysis and dissemination of data obtained on health items from national surveys and from surveys at Community level, incl. data of the ECHP and development of a methodology for obtaining health data from 'communal establishments' on persons living in institutions;
- for *diagnosis statistics*: completion of the inventory of reliable national sources on morbidity data, and on *disability statistics*: preparation of the analysis of the module on disability to be included in the LFS 2002.

Work on Health Care Statistics (**CARE**) will focus on:

- implementation of a "rule-based translation system" derived from meta data;

- collection of financial data and health care data on the basis of a new OECD manual for a System of Health Accounts (SHA);
- pilot for a revised data collection on Health Care Human Resources (HCHR).

Occupational health and safety

Work on Health and Safety at Work statistics will focus over the period 2001-2003 on :

- implementation of ESAW Phase 3 and EODS Phase 1 data ;
- detailed analysis of ESAW Phase 2 data and data from the 1999 Community LFS ad-hoc module on accidents at work and occupational diseases ;
- development of reliable indicators on socio-economic costs of work accidents.

b) Priority objective of the methodological work:

Public health

- on COD statistics : to produce a Manual on Improving Notification of causes of death ;
- on CARE statistics : to produce practical assistance and guidelines for the application of the Manual of Health accounts.

Occupational health and safety

- on ESAW statistics : to publish and follow the implementation by the MS of the ESAW Phase 3 methodology ;
- on EODS statistics : to publish and follow the implementation by the MS of the EODS Phase 1 methodology .

c) New activities:

Public Health

- Using existing data available from existing national, Community and other sources, carry out pilot work on a list of indicators on integration of disabled persons into social life.
- improve survey data on health topics not yet well covered at Community level;
- improve data availability on a selection of diseases.

Occupational health and safety

Annual data collection, analysis and dissemination of the European Statistics on Accidents at Work (ESAW) Phase 2 data. For the reference year 2001, Member States will implement at least a core set of variables of the ESAW Phase 3 (on causes and circumstances of the accidents at work) and the European Occupational Diseases Statistics (EODS) Phase 1.

c) Other activities of the European Commission:

Public health

Statistics on *home and leisure accidents* may be collected directly by the Health and Consumer DG under the Community action programme on injury prevention. For some HMP projects, not steered by Eurostat, health data could be collected directly by the Health and Consumer Protection DG.

Occupational health and safety

The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions has carried out the third European Survey on Working Conditions and will publish the results in 2001.

Activities of other organizations :

Activities of WHO (Headquarters)

Ongoing methodological work:

- Mortality statistics:
- Health status measurement:
- Health State Valuation:
- WHO Family of International Classifications:
- National Health Accounts
- Priority objective of the methodological work:

Responsiveness level and distribution

Ongoing methodological work

The methodology for measuring the average level of responsiveness of a health system, and inequalities in responsiveness across the population is being developed through the design and testing of a standard survey module on responsiveness, that has several modes of delivery: through a household face-to-face survey; household telephone interview survey; a self-administered postal survey; and a key informant survey. These are being applied in countries in and outside the European Commission.

Priority objective on methodological work over next two years

Book on methodology in 2001

Refinement of standard survey module on responsiveness following application

Development of an explicit distributional summary measure for responsiveness, using survey data for individual respondents

New activities to be undertaken in the next two years

Application of survey modules in wide range of countries. Use of more than one modality in the same country, to allow the bias and estimation uncertainty associated with different survey modalities to be quantified.

Fairness in financial contribution

Ongoing methodological work

WHO's methodology for assessing fairness of financial contribution is based on the premise that a health system is fairly financed if the ratio of total health system contribution of each household through all payment mechanisms to that household's capacity to pay (effective non-subsistence income) is identical for all households, independent of the household's health status or use of the system. Micro data from income and expenditure surveys is used. Work to improve the methodology in 2001 will focus particularly on improved methods to estimate effective income.

Priority objective on methodological work over last two years

Book on methodology in 2001

Refinement following application of methodology in countries in all WHO regions

Health expenditure statistics: national health accounts

Ongoing methodological work

WHO is developing estimates for national health accounts for the period 1970 – 1998, using a standard format. This time series will, amongst other things, contribute to the improved measurement of health system efficiency. Estimates are based on nationally reported data to various international bodies, plus data from household surveys.

In a joint attempt to produce more comparable health expenditure data, WHO, together with the World Bank and OECD, is also producing a 'Producer's Guide to National Health Accounts' for low and middle income countries, that will complement the new OECD manual for its member states.

Priority objective on methodological work over next two years

Book on methodology, in 2001

Systematic measurement of the functions of health systems

Ongoing methodological work

In 2001, a key area of work will be the development of a parsimonious set of key attributes and measures of provision, financing, resource generation and stewardship. The measures of these attributes will then be used in a series of empirical analyses to test their impact on health system outcomes and performance. They will also in themselves provide important information for health policy debates.

WHO (Regional Office for Europe):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Further development and adaptation to changing requirement of the system of international health statistics ("Health for All" (HFA) indicators, maintained by WHO/EURO), to support the health policy formulation, analysis of health status and trends at international and national levels.
- Development of methods and tools to provide better access to the international HFA database and linking it to corresponding national databases.
- Development of common instruments for use in population surveys to improve international comparability of data collected by national surveys.

Priority objective of methodological work:

- Expanded list of operational HFA indicators to integrate data collected by various WHO technical programmes and corresponding harmonised definitions.
- Improvement of the international data comparability by encouraging countries to apply standard definitions and assisting in implementation of the 10th Revision of International Classification of Diseases.
- Development and publication of common questionnaires for health interview surveys.

New activities:

- Consider extending EUPHIN-EAST network and its use for reporting of data to WHO.

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Development of new methodologies for collection of information on occupational injuries through household surveys, establishment surveys, administrative sources such as occupational health clinic records, etc. In the first instance, these methodologies will be developed and tested by the Bureau of Statistics in conjunction with the ILO Occupational Safety and Health Branch through the design and test of appropriate modules that can be attached to a regular programme of surveys, with a view to collecting information on safety and health aspects of the working population. The modules and advice on their implementation will be incorporated into a technical manual on the measurement of occupational.

United Nations Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work

- Development of methods to improve the collection and compilation of disability statistics through surveys and censuses.

Data collection

- Disability Statistics Database-version 2 (Distat-2) expected release (electronic) mid- 2001

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Preparation of a report on morbidity and mortality owing to infectious and parasitic diseases in Commonwealth countries (2001, fourth quarter).

- Work will continue on the collection and collation of public health data submitted by Commonwealth countries' national statistical offices (2001-2003).

4.10 GENDER STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To encourage the integration of the gender perspective in all statistical areas by promoting the collection and harmonisation of data disaggregated by sex, including the improvement of concepts and methodologies. Further to facilitate the exchange of documentation describing country experiences in developing policy-relevant approaches for monitoring and assessing women and men's contribution to both the national and household and family economies.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: To focus on activities and reports in order to assess and monitor women's and men's contribution to the economy and society; and to identify sex differences in living conditions and status over the life course.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The establishment of a joint ECE/UNDP regional Gender Statistics Website.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session:

- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

ECE: Work Session on Gender Statistics, Autumn 2002

Rapporteur: UN Statistics Division (UNSD)

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference

Ongoing methodological work:

- ECE work session on gender statistics (2002/2003) to consider: (i) Gender differences as the consequence of macro-economic changes and policy decisions; use of institutional (business) surveys and registers as measurement tools for gender dimensions in economic development processes; (ii) Gender equality indicators at national, regional and local levels; identification of a gender perspective in statistics in order to establish feasible sets of indicators, with special attention to international comparability and policy relevance, common efforts of statisticians and policy-makers; (iii) Attitudes, norms and values as factors in changes of gender inequality and related measurement and methodological issues; (iv) Balancing work and family responsibilities in different life-cycle positions; time-use, labour force and other surveys as relevant monitoring vehicles.

Other work to be carried out by the ECE Statistical Division that is not part of the CES work programme

New activities:

- A regional Gender Statistics Website for monitoring change, to be established with UNDP support. Together with an ad hoc Task force the secretariat will finalise the content of the website which inter alia will contain a set of common indicators.

Secretariat resources: Substantial

Activities of ECE's Population Activities Unit:

- See Programme Elements 4.1 and 4.2b for work that the ECE Population Activities Unit (Economic Analysis Division) will carry out in its "Generation and Gender" project.

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (Theme 36 - Distribution of income and living conditions (362)):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Development of EU recommendations on Household satellite accounts.

Priority objective of the methodological work :

- Eurostat plans to diffuse EU recommendations on Household satellite accounts.

New activities:

- Time use surveys are expected to be conducted in more than half of the Member States. With this participation it would be convenient to develop a Community database including microdata.

Activities of other organizations :

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW):

United Nations Population Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Gender analysis and gender factors are included in all studies in the field of demographic statistics (See also programme element 4.1)

Interstate Statistical Committee of the commonwealth of the Independent States (CIS-STAT):

New methodological work:

- CIS-STAT plans to elaborate a model scheme/schedule for the analysis of gender-statistics indicators on the basis of data from new population censuses in Commonwealth countries (2001-2002).

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

United Nations Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work

- Development of a Guide to producing statistics on time-use for measuring paid and unpaid work
- Time-use Surveys: Improving Measurement of Paid and Unpaid Work (web site containing methods publications and meeting documents; updated in 2001 to include tabulations of time-use data from developing countries)

4.11 OTHER WORK IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

4.11a SOCIAL INDICATORS AND FRAMEWORKS

Problem Statement: To establish a renewed effort to develop a coherent framework of internationally comparable social indicators in selected fields such as health, education, crime and social safety nets, building selectively on the ideas developed in the 1960s and 1970s, and taking cognizance of the reasons for the failure of efforts at that time. Work on frameworks should also build on the sectoral work and on links between different sectoral levels. Initially, work should focus at the conceptual level given the problematic history in this area. Questions of standardization of concepts and definitions can follow the general conceptual work, and the detailed work of the specific sectors.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of a coherent social indicators framework, identifying existing areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies, and taking account of developments in other sectoral work plans.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Siena Group on Social Statistics held its seventh meeting in Maastricht in May 2000. The theme of the meeting was accounting in social statistics and indicators for social development. The themes of future meetings of the Siena Group will concentrate on social indicators and developments in social statistics.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Continued development work on social indicators, using existing data, with a focus on social policy effectiveness and presenting data on policy interventions, on the one hand, and social outcomes, on the other;

Priority objective of methodological work:

- A publication on social indicators, expected for spring 2001.

New activities:

- A comparison of the SOCX (OECD) and ESSPROS (Eurostat) methodologies for classifying data on social expenditures, in collaboration with Eurostat.
- A disaggregation of household accounts, according to dimensions of interest to social policy, such as income decile, composition of household and main source of income.

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 38 - Other social statistics (382)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

Key indicators

- Work will continue to focus on the development and dissemination of (key) social indicators, making the best use of all available harmonised sources.
- In addition work will also continue on the promotion of the implementation of the set of core variables. Further work has to be developed on selection of other variables to be included in the set of harmonised core variables. The meta information system on the harmonised variables has to be extended. Work on specific pilots has to be done to investigate more details of the result of the combination of information from different sources .

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- The 2001 and 2002 annual Reports on the Social Situation in the European Union are foreseen in collaboration with the Employment and Social Affairs DG. Eurostat's main contribution to the report is based on its set of key social indicators which will be adapted to take account of changing policy needs and future improvements in data availability.
- The 2001 and 2002 editions of the statistical pocketbook on Living Conditions in Europe are also foreseen.

New activities:

- A joint Eurostat/ECE meeting is foreseen on the use of administrative data for social statistics.

Activities of other organizations:

The Siena Group:

Ongoing methodological work: The aim of the Siena Group for Social Statistics is to promote and coordinate international cooperation in the areas of social statistics by focusing on social indicators, social accounting, concepts and classifications, and an analysis of the linkages and frameworks for integrating social, economic and demographic data for the purposes of policy formulation and analysis.

The next meeting of the Siena Group will be organised by the National Statistical Institute of Portugal (INE) and held in winter 2001 or spring 2002. The theme of the meeting (tentatively) will be a combination of more deepening the theme of the Maastricht meeting harmonisation and indicators and the discussion on Human and social capital.

Additional information on Siena Group can be found on the website:

<http://www.istat.it/Primpag/siena2.htm>.

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

United Nations Statistics Division:

Data collection:

- Social Indicators (web site updated quarterly)

WHO (Headquarters)

(See P.E. 4.9 for its work that is shown under the field of health statistics.)

4.11b MULTI-PURPOSE SOCIAL SURVEYS

Problem Statement: To provide a comprehensive range of reliable, timely and comparable social statistics and indicators for policy formation and implementation purposes, as well as monitoring policy outcomes in areas such as poverty, social exclusion, convergence, cohesion and social reporting.

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: To produce a wide range of comparable, multidimensional social statistics and social indicators, including harmonised income distributions and related measures, with subsets of information on the dynamics of social processes and traditions, based on integrated data that are drawn from different data sources. To produce associated social reports. To support developments in survey methodologies, including questionnaire design and implementation, sampling, design, non-response aspects, imputations, longitudinal data bases and so on. To work on definitions and measurement rules of harmonised variables, also using national sources, related to persons and households and the meta data linked to these variables.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Bureau noted Eurostat's plans to continue working towards definitions and measurement rules of harmonised basic variables on persons and households that are to be included in all social surveys.
- Some NSIs are becoming increasingly concerned about procedures for ensuring the confidentiality of data drawn from panel surveys and other sources.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

Eurostat Working Group: Household Community Panel, 10 – 11 December 2001

Eurostat Working Group: Household Budget Survey, once a year in May .

Eurostat Working Group: Household Community Panel, once a year in December .

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 36 - Distribution of income and living conditions (361, 364)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- The HBS methodology revised on the basis of the 1994 and 1999 waves of surveys is expected to be published.
- The ECHP will be replaced by the Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (SILC) after 2002. All methodological work concerning this new instrument should be developed during the year in order to be tested in 2002.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- For the Household budget survey (HBS) the preparation of a new wave of surveys should be started taking into account the work on harmonisation of concepts and definitions and specifying a scope by domains, consistent with the SILC.

New activities:

- The last wave of the ECHP will refer to the year 2001 and the new instrument producing Statistics on Income and Living Conditions will be implemented in 2003

Activities of other organizations :

World Bank:

The World Bank will continue providing technical and financial assistance in planning, designing, implementing and analyzing of the participatory surveys on poverty, governance, public service delivery, etc.

4.11c REGISTERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS FOR SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To encourage the use of registers and administrative records for national and international statistics with a view to reducing the costs of data collection, reducing the burden on respondents, or improving the quality of data. To establish a framework to integrate data from administrative sources, surveys and other sources. To conduct methodological research on the characteristics of administrative sources such as timeliness, coverage, completeness and reliability

Strategic Medium-Term Goals: The organization of a programme of exchange of documentation on the experiences of member countries in the field of exploiting registers and administrative sources. In addition, other activities in the international programmes of work on social statistics should contain, as an element in the plan, the exchange of information on exploiting administrative sources.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- The Bureau considered that work being undertaken by international organisations on socio-economic classifications and on key indicators should be more closely associated and strengthened.
- Some NSIs are becoming increasingly concerned about procedures for ensuring the confidentiality of data drawn from administrative records and registers.

Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2001 plenary session:

- To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (See "Activities and means" section below).

Meetings from July 2001 to June 2003:

ECE-Eurostat: Joint work session/seminar on registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics (in 2001/2002)

Eurostat Working Group: Directors of Social Statistics, once a year in June.

Rapporteur: Eurostat

Activities and means from July 2001 to June 2003:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Work session/seminar on registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics, (jointly with Eurostat, Luxembourg, 2001/2002), to consider: (i) Quality considerations in the use of administrative data and registers for statistical purposes; (ii) New developments in methodology for linking of registers and administrative records (including methods of editing); (iii) Use of business register in social statistics; (iv) Innovative usage and planned future use of information technology in social and demographic statistics; and (v) Progress reports by Eurostat on harmonisation and integration, and specific research programmes under the "Fifth Framework".

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 38 - Other social statistics (383)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- An inventory of registers and administrative sources currently being used in EU and selected other ECE countries in the field of social and demographic statistics.
- Publication of national papers on strategies for the use of administrative registers in the development of social statistics.

New activities:

- A joint Eurostat-ECE meeting is foreseen for 2001/2002 on the use of administrative data for social statistics.

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Guidelines on the effective direct use of administrative records (such as: registers of job placement offices, unemployment insurance schemes, social security schemes and labour inspection records, the recording and notification of occupational accidents and diseases) as basis for relatively inexpensive indicators on the state and development of the labour market, e.g.

employment, unemployment, wages, income from employment, occupational injuries, and labour conflicts.

- Revised and updated edition of “Sources and Methods, Labour Statistics, Vol. 4: Employment, Unemployment, Wages and Hours of Work (Administrative records and related sources)”.
