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CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Fifty-first plenary session
(Geneva, 10-12 June 2003)

**PROGRAMMES OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL WORK IN THE ECE REGION,
2003/2004 AND 2004/2005: AN INTEGRATED PRESENTATION**

(Excerpt of the pre-plenary session version of document CES/2003/3 and Add. 1-6)

Paper prepared by the ECE secretariat

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians decided at its meeting on 13-14 February 2003 that an excerpt of the Integrated Presentation of International Statistical Work in the ECE Region would be prepared presenting the first part of each programme element.
2. The shorter version of the Integrated Presentation, presented in this document, is composed of approximately 90 pages as compared to some 240 pages of the full document, and offers in an integrated unique document general information on the various statistical areas, including the following sections: goals, issues and problems, strategic medium-term objectives; expected outcomes in the next two years; attention of the Conference is drawn to; meetings and activities of the CES.
3. The CES Bureau also agreed that only the short version of the IP would be translated into French and Russian. In previous years the translation of the Integrated Presentation into French and Russian was often delayed and not available in time for the CES plenary session in the three ECE official languages. It is therefore the hope of the Bureau, and the ECE secretariat who compile the Integrated Presentation, that the shorter version will be translated with no delays.
4. The full version of the Integrated Presentation (approximately 240 pages), presenting detailed information on the statistical activities of the various international organisations, will continue to be produced and disseminated in English only through the official mailing procedure and the ECE website.

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 1
ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF STATISTICAL SERVICES**

PE	Heading	Text
1.1	Title	Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work
1.1	Goal	That multilateral statistical work is consistent, coherent and harmonious in regard to its use of classifications and definitions, publications, work programmes and collection of data.
1.1	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Managing multilateral relations between international statistical organizations on matters relating to national statistical offices. ◆ Coordination of multilateral statistical work in conducting global statistical surveys and joint data collection, so that duplication in data collection from member countries is avoided. ◆ Improve efficiency of data collection by the international organisations and decrease reporting burden to member countries. ◆ Improve incoherent definitions of metadata and the dissemination of metadata. ◆ More transparency regarding the methods used by the international organisations for different compilation methods, as well as the various quality assessment procedures ◆ Quality of the statistical work. ◆ Monitor the satisfaction of the users of the Integrated Presentation.
1.1	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Strengthen the work of the Conference so that it could better respond to major changes affecting countries in the ECE region. ◆ Further strengthen the role of the Conference in its Bureau in providing guidance on statistical activities carried out by other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies. ◆ Contribute to improving the coordination in statistics among the organisations within the UN system depending on developments in this direction. Recently a proposal has been developed for new actions related to the coordination of the various statistical activities of the UN organisations.
1.1	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ OECD/EU glossary of meta-data terms. ◆ Possible extension of the Integrated Presentation to cover statistical activities of other UN Regional Commissions.
1.1	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The need for further work on strengthening the coordination of statistical data collection among the various international organisations.
1.1	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
1.1	Rapporteur	ECE
1.1	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE-Eurostat-OECD: Numerous meetings of various Inter-secretariat Working Groups.

PE	Heading	Text
1.1	Task Forces engaged in coordination	<p>The UN Statistical Commission has set up inter-secretariat working groups to deal with coordination issues and related matters in the following fields of statistics. (Additional information on the work of these working groups is presented in other parts of the integrated presentation, as indicated.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Task force on national accounts. ◆ Task force on finance statistics. ◆ Task force on international trade statistics. ◆ Task force on services statistics. ◆ Task force on price statistics including the International Comparison Programme. ◆ Task force on environment statistics.
1.1	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Coordinate the production of the integrated presentation of international statistical work programmes involving countries in the ECE region, based on input provided by ECE, Eurostat, OECD, UNSD, the UN specialized agencies, CIS-STAT and others. ◆ Collaborate, with Eurostat, OECD, and others in organizing Inter-secretariat Working Group meetings in individual fields of statistics and in organizing Joint Programme Review meetings periodically to deal with potential problematic issues. ◆ Coordinate the statistical activities carried out by other ECE divisions. <p>Secretariat resources: substantial</p>

PE 1.2

PE	Heading	Text
1.2	Title	Management and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of national statistical offices
1.2	Goal	That relationships among the top management level of the national statistical offices as well as contact with the management of international statistical organisations be efficient.
1.2	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The role of the different international players, and the different and partial overlap of groups of countries require special attention. ◆ Focus and give priority to some specific topics for a certain period of time. ◆ The conflict between increased demand for statistics and shrinking resources. ◆ Promotion of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and assessment by the CES of whether they should be revised or updated. ◆ The development strategy of national statistical offices. ◆ The overall design and conception of official statistics. ◆ Professional ethics in statistics. ◆ Promoting the spread of "best statistical practices" among ECE countries. ◆ Enhancing the role and policy relevance of statistics at the national and international level.
1.2	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ensure that data collection activities by international organisations are coordinated and monitored. This objective is also relevant for programme element 6.1 Dissemination of data and coordination of international data collection. ◆ Review the implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and perform benchmark studies. ◆ Review the functioning of different meetings and processes of supporting standardisation, methodological development and exchange of best practice. ◆ Focus on the relevancy of statistics in relation to policy purposes.
1.2	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<p>Regular/ongoing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Proceedings of meetings of Heads of Agencies. ◆ Decisions and guidance from the Conference on the statistical work programmes planned by the international organisations. ◆ Minutes of major Bureau meetings and briefing notes of the meetings of the Conference's parent bodies to be available at the plenary session as room documents. ◆ Substantive papers and in-depth reviews prepared for the plenary sessions on development of international statistical standards and methods and their application in statistical practice. <p>Specific outcomes for the next period</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Review of the application of the Fundamental Principles in all CES member countries. ◆ Find a solution for improved monitoring of international data exchange and document the improved coordination of data collection in specific areas. ◆ Review the meetings' structure within the international framework.
1.2	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The enlargement of the European Union and the need for the Conference to evaluate its activities and priorities.
1.2	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities of CES" below).
1.2	Rapporteur	Statistics Norway

PE	Heading	Text
1.2	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE: CES Plenary session (2004). ◆ ECE: CES Plenary session (June 2005). ◆ ECE: Four meetings of the CES Bureau per year. ◆ EUROSTAT TF: Financial Partnership with the ESS, once a year (23 May 2003). ◆ EUROSTAT: DGINS Conference, once a year (18-19 September 2003). ◆ EUROSTAT WG: ESS Programming and Co-ordination, once a year in June (24-25 June 2003). ◆ EUROSTAT: 4 SPC meetings per year (13-14 March, 15 May, 17 September, 20 November 2003). ◆ EUROSTAT: CEIES - 1 plenary (21 November 2003), 4 sub-committees (2 meetings each), 3 bureau meetings per year. ◆ OECD: Statistical Advisory Group, March 2003 and March 2004. ◆ OECD: High level statistical meeting, June 2003 and 2004.
1.2	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Annual meetings of the plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians. ◆ Regular meetings of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statistician, acting in its capacity as the Steering Committee of the Conference. <p>Secre tariat resources: substantial.</p>

PE 1.3

PE	Heading	Text
1.3	Title	Transition economies in the ECE region
1.3	Goal	That Transition Economies have mature, stable and adequate statistical infrastructure suitable for their needs; that they receive advice and assistance from the international statistical community in applying them; and that they adhere to international statistical standards and norms.
1.3	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Transferring knowledge concerning statistical priorities and the creation of solid statistical programmes from market economy countries to transition economies in the ECE region. ◆ The implementation of international standards in the transition economies in the ECE region. ◆ Evaluation, by both recipient and donor countries, of the progress that is being made as a result of technical assistance given and received. ◆ For EU Candidate Countries, the objective for Technical Assistance is to comply with <i>acquis communautaire</i>.
1.3	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ensure that activities undertaken by countries and international organisations are carried out in a co-ordinated and efficient manner. ◆ Ensure that the building of sustainable national statistical systems meet national and international needs and priorities. ◆ Adopt statistical legislation in those transition economies where it does not exist yet, including an explicit reference to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics ◆ Periodic review of the technical cooperation activities of international and national organisations in Southeast Europe and the CIS
1.3	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Strengthen statistical capacity in transition economies. ◆ Availability of comparable statistics in key areas among EU candidate countries.
1.3	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The development of official statistics in Southeast Europe is lagging behind the other transition economies because of economic and social difficulties in their progress towards a market economy. This calls for a tailored development of statistics in the region supported by a sustained technical assistance by the international organisations active in the region. ◆ Further activities to achieve comparability of CIS statistics with the statistical data of the other countries in the region.
1.3	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
1.3	Rapporteur	ECE
1.3	Meetings	◆ EUROSTAT WG: Management Group PHARE, once a year (20-21 March 2003)

PE	Heading	Text
1.3	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Structuring all programme activities and seminar sessions of the Conference to reflect also the concerns of transition economies.◆ Assistance and guidance to transition economies, through services provided to these countries by the ECE Regional Adviser on Statistics and through the regular CES meetings programme.◆ Participation in inter-agency collaborative efforts aimed at assisting transition economies◆ The ECE Statistical Division is the executing agency for an ECE/UNDP project. The aim of this project is to assist countries in central and eastern Europe and in the CIS to improve the statistics they require for human development reporting and for social planning and policies generally. <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial</p>

PE 1.4

PE	Heading	Text
1.4	Title	Relations with countries outside the ECE region (inc. countries in the Mediterranean region)
1.4	Goal	That Countries outside the ECE region have mature, stable and adequate statistical infrastructure suitable for their needs and adhere to international standards and norms
1.4	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Measurement and monitoring of poverty. ◆ Measurement and monitoring of human rights and good governance. ◆ Transferring knowledge concerning statistical priorities. ◆ The creation of solid statistical programmes. ◆ The implementation of international standards in countries outside the ECE region. ◆ Provision of guidance to countries outside the ECE region in their efforts to take on the characteristics required of statistical agencies of market economy countries.
1.4	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ensure that activities undertaken by countries and international and supranational organizations are carried out in a coordinated and efficient manner. ◆ Periodic consideration by the Bureau of the Conference and by the CES plenary session of ways in which the statistical experience of ECE member countries could effectively be transferred to and /or used by countries outside the ECE region. ◆ Development with other UN regional commissions of regionally relevant sets of Millenium Development Goals indicators and sustainable development indicators in collaboration with the UN standing committee on economic and social indicators ◆ Implementation of the UN statistical standards in economic, social and environmental areas in ACP and Mediterranean countries
1.4	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Completion of statistical training for ACP (Africa, Caribbean, Pacific) countries (COMSTAT). ◆ Completion of PARSTAT project. ◆ Establishing of an integrated customs and statistical system for foreign trade in ACP countries (COMESA). ◆ Harmonisation of EU-Chinese bilateral trade statistics. ◆ Harmonisation of EU-Indian bilateral trade statistics ◆ Implementation of the Paris 21 statistical capacity building indicators in selected countries from all UN regional commissions, following the experimental work conducted by UNSD in Angola and Bolivia in 2002
1.4	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Nothing
1.4	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
1.4	Rapporteur	ECE
1.4	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT TF: MEDSTAT, 3 times a year (27-28 January, 3-4 April, 16-17 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: MEDSTAT once a year (10-11 March 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT TF: Statistical Co-operation with the Developing Countries, once a year (27-28 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: The measurement of Poverty, once a year (15-16 September 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: PARIS21, once a year (1-2 December 2003)

PE	Heading	Text
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Tacis Steering Group on EU Statistical Co-operation with New Independent States and Mongolia, once a year (22-23 May 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: Policy group on statistical co-operation with CARDS Countries, once a year (23-24 October 2003) ◆ OECD: PARIS21 – West Africa Regional Workshop II, 2nd Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 – Central America Regional Workshop, 1st Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 – South Asia, Regional Workshop, 1st Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 - Steering Committee Meeting, 2nd quarter 2003. ◆ OECD: PARIS21 - Rural and Agricultural Statistics, Task Team Meeting, 2nd Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 - Strategic Statistical Development Plan, Task Team Meeting, 2nd Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 – Caribbean Regional Workshop, 2nd Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 – Arab States Regional Workshop, 2nd Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 – East & Central Asia, Regional Workshop, 2nd Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 – Strategic Statistical Development Plan, Task Team Meeting, 3rd Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 - Consortium Meeting and Steering Committee Meeting, October 2003 ◆ OECD: PARIS21 - Andean Community, 2nd Regional Workshop, 4th Quarter 2003 ◆ OECD: 4th joint ADB-OECD-ESCAP Workshop on Business Tendency Surveys and Leading Indicators for countries of the ESCAP region, February 2003 ◆ OECD: Workshop on Cyclical Analysis and Leading Indicators for countries of the ECLAC region, December 2003.
1.4	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To transfer useful knowledge and experience acquired in the programme of work of the Conference relevant to the countries outside the ECE region. ◆ To assist Eurostat in a supportive role in activities it carries out in its MEDSTAT project, particularly in the priority area of international migration statistics.

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 2
TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

PE	Heading	Text
2.1	Title	Management of information technology infrastructure
2.1	Goal	That the benefits of information and communication technology (ICT) be harnessed to the greatest extent possible in the collection, processing and dissemination of statistical data.
2.1	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The potential of the emerging ICT has not yet been realised and it is perceived that considerable such potential exists. ◆ Countries within the ECE area vary considerably in their ICT capabilities. ◆ Priority should be given to re-engineering processes in the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics holistically as a consequence of the rapid proliferation of Internet services in statistical practice. ◆ The Conference at its 2002 plenary session identified various issues requiring follow up by the International Organisations. In particular, the Conference asked: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to investigate the possibility of developing a common system (portal) for monitoring data collection activities by International Organisations; ▪ to ensure the development of data sharing models; ▪ to give both NSOs and other data providers easy access to statistics available at the international organizations in a form allowing comparisons and usage in national dissemination programmes; ▪ to put in place secure and operational methods and tools for the transmission of sensitive information. The experiences from the STADIUM/STATEL solution supporting GESMES CB should be considered in this context; ▪ to investigate the possibility of defining a standard codification scheme for economic time-series (for national accounts and balance of payments) with an initial focus on short term-indicators; ▪ to work with NSOs to facilitate the reuse of their standard products.
2.1	Strategic medium-term objectives	<p>(NOTE: Work is under way on the issues identified by the Conference at its 2002 plenary session requiring follow-up by the International Organisations. These issues are listed in the section “issues and problems”)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improved structure and cooperation with national focal points on the website on IT practices in national statistical offices. ◆ Introduction of video and internet conferencing facilities in the international statistical cooperation <p>For the ECE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A re-designed architecture for collection, processing and dissemination of statistical data under the rapid development in ICT with emphasis on the integration of data sources and data dissemination on both national and international levels. ◆ Improved dissemination of official statistics via Internet. ◆ Increased level of implementation of common EDI messages standards in transition economies. <p>For Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Agreement on common architecture for statistical information services (collection, production & internal reference, external reference, dissemination). ◆ Adoption and integration of open-EDI technologies such as common exchange standards for documents, statistical reports, statistical data, classifications and meta-data. ◆ Agreement on common EDI messages and APIs (Application Programming Interfaces) to couple distributed statistical information services (e.g. locating, extracting and downloading relevant statistical data for a specific domain).

PE	Heading	Text
		<p>For the OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Further standardise and integrate statistical work in the Organisation with the aim of creating a corporate data warehouse. ◆ Further co-ordinate statistical data collection and dissemination with other international organisations and relevant countries. <p>For World Bank:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To develop a web-based statistical data collection and dissemination system for its own staff and for users in other countries and institutions by 2005. Its aims will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ As a first step, socio-economic, external debt and trade indicators and other related Bank/IDA (Interchange of Data between Administrators) data will be included in this warehouse; ▪ The capability of supporting user specified queries over the Internet; ▪ Differentiated access based on privileges; ▪ The development of software that could be disseminated to countries to increase their statistical capacity.
2.1	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improved and publicised website on best applications of statistical information and communication technologies. ◆ Progress in follow up to the priorities towards using the information systems infrastructure for better sharing of data, coordination of international data collection, improved dissemination of statistics by IOs to NSOs. <p>For ECE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improved technological environment for collection, processing and dissemination of data with particular focus on the Internet technology. ◆ A joint programme (with UNSD) of technical assistance to CIS countries focusing on information systems issues related to population and housing censuses. <p>Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Introduction of new ICT architecture. ◆ Construction of a single interface for Eurostat reference bases. ◆ Installation of new version of Eurostat internet site. ◆ Creation of new Data Preparation System. <p>OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Complete the development of new OECD statistical systems (OECD.Stat) ◆ Complete a metadata driven universal interface to OECD.Stat ◆ Installation of a new version of the OECD Statistics Portal <p>IMF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Increase the number of member country correspondents using the GESMES/CB standard UN/EDIFACT message for electronic interchange of monetary, balance of payments and other statistics from countries in the ECE region. ◆ Implementation of a secure web-based data collection system (2003). ◆ New relational database management systems will support detailed access to metadata through a web-based interactive query interface (2003). <p>CIS-STAT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Increase the proportion of data transmitted by CIS member country correspondents using common standards for the electronic interchange of statistics.
2.1	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Nothing
2.1	Decisions recommended by the Bureau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities of CES" below). ◆ To ask the international organisations to report regularly on the follow up towards

PE	Heading	Text
	to the Conference	<p>using the information systems infrastructure for better sharing of data, coordination of international data collection, improved dissemination of statistics by IOs to NSOs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To ask the Steering Group on Management of Statistical Information Systems to review periodically the activities undertaken under Programme Activity 2 with particular attention to the risk of overlap and duplication. ◆ To include the joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on Management of Statistical Information Technology on the meeting programme of the Conference for 2004.
2.1	Rapporteur	ECE
2.1	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on Statistical Information Technology (2004, agenda of the meeting to be decided) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: IT Steering Committee, once a year (13-14 October 2003)
2.1	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on Statistical Information Technology (2004, agenda of the meeting to be decided; The agenda will include the review of the follow up to the objectives set-up by the Conference in the field of statistical information systems) ◆ Continued cooperation on the website on applications of statistical information and communication technologies by national statistical offices (hosted by the OECD) <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial.</p>

PE 2. 2

PE	Heading	Text
2.2	Title	Statistical data collection and processing
2.2	Goal	That the benefits of ICT be harnessed to the greatest extent possible in the collection and processing of statistical data, and that the reporting burden placed on countries be minimised.
2.2	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Electronic data interchange standards are being promoted in order to further integrate technically the statistical systems of countries and international agencies. ◆ The use and sharing of efficient methodology and software in common collection and processing operations carried out by statistical agencies (e.g. sampling, data entry, editing, coding, estimation), best practices in data editing methods and techniques especially those allowing cost savings are to be identified and made available.
2.2	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Progress in putting in place secure and operational methods and tools for the transmission of sensitive information drawing on the best practices (e.g. STADIUM/STATEL, GESMES CB, etc.) ◆ The reuse of NSOs' standard electronic data products by the international organisations when it is cost effective and feasible <p>For the ECE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Progressive re-engineering in data collection for statistical surveys caused by the expansion of web services. ◆ Increased use of electronic data reporting methods and techniques in data collection from enterprises, administration and other sources. ◆ Better use of EDI standards for statistical data collection with focus on transition economies. ◆ Recommendations on the best practices on the evaluation of the efficiency of the data editing process. <p>For EUROSTAT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Adoption of XML version of RDRMES as an international standard by the respective UN standardization body. ◆ Agreement on the use of EDI messages to specify the statistical requirements to the economic operators and their declarers. ◆ Production of documentation on EDI projects for decision-makers, key partners in data collection, key technological players such as software houses, EDI providers, and standardization bodies, etc. <p>For the OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The OECD will continue its efforts to contribute to reducing the burden on national statistical agencies by further co-ordinating data collection activities across the Organisation and with other international organisations both in terms of content, timing and use of common technology (XML / Gesmes). <p>For the World Bank:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Reorganisation of official statistical data collection and processing in the Russian Federation
2.2	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Publication of "Statistical Confidentiality in the EU" (depending on outcome of Calls for Tender). ◆ Creation of a secure environment where researchers can access micro EU data for Scientific purposes (Safe Centre). ◆ Proposals for IT security standards for the ESS. ◆ Windows version of IDEP/CN8.

PE	Heading	Text
2.2	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Possible combined use of business registers data and data collected for fiscal purposes
2.2	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
2.2	Rapporteur	ECE
2.2	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: EDICOM IDEP/EDIFACT, twice a year (16-17 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Workshop on Statistical Metadata, once a year (3-4 April 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT Committee/WG on statistical confidentiality, twice a year (8-9 April, 3 December 2003) ◆ ECE: Work Session on Statistical Data Editing (timing to be decided by the CES Bureau on the basis of proposal put forward by the ECE). ◆ ECE/EUROSTAT Work Session Electronic Data Reporting, 2004.
2.2	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Methodological publication “Statistical Data Editing, Vol. 3” based on the outcomes of meetings on Statistical Data Editing with special regard to evaluation methods and quality indicators for statistical data editing. ◆ Work Session on Statistical Data Editing (timing and agenda to be decided by the CES Bureau on the basis of proposal put forward by the ECE after the 2003 work session). ◆ Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session Electronic Data Reporting, 2004, to consider: (i) National integration (e-government initiatives); (ii) National research (quality issue, organization, administrative sources); (iii) Respondents’ behaviour (security, e-commerce, built-in edits, benchmarking of data); (iv) Communication and support (helpdesk, training); (v) Implementation (in parallel with the programme of work of the work session). <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial.</p>

PE 2.3

PE	Heading	Text
2.3	Title	Dissemination and interchange of statistical information (NOTE: this programme element is focused on the technical and methodological aspects of data dissemination, while the content of dissemination is treated under PE 6.1)
2.3	Goal	That the benefits of ICT be harnessed to the greatest extent possible in the dissemination and interchange of statistical information
2.3	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Implementation of meta-information systems at national level and harmonization of metadata systems of international organizations. ◆ Further spreading of use of Internet for dissemination of statistical data. ◆ Implementation of common EDI standards for statistical data dissemination. ◆ Dissemination of market-sensitive economic data to mass media.
2.3	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improved and user friendly dissemination of statistics collected by the international organisation to NSOs and other data providers. <p>For the ECE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improved tools for dissemination of statistics, with a particular focus on Internet ◆ Progress in the integration of metadata related to the dissemination of statistics by international organisations. ◆ Preparation of a handbook on best practices in disseminating statistical data to the information media and on statistical offices' media relations. ◆ Improved use of common standards for EDI in transition economies. <p>For EUROSTAT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Agreement on concentrated efforts, investments and resources on DSIS 6 priorities (metadata, reference environment, raw data collection, design and integration of EDI technologies, multimedia and information highways, integration with networking technologies). ◆ Agreement on use of standardized EDI messages as a corner to exchange data and metadata between reference environments. ◆ Implementation of reference and dissemination environments (new architecture) conforming to common recommendations, requirements and memorandum of understanding (including access rights, copyrights, accounting practices). ◆ Feasibility studies on how statistical information services can benefit from EDI and multimedia technologies. ◆ Improvement in the quality of publications and reductions in the number of titles. <p>For the OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Further increase the dissemination of free data on the Internet and improve the coherence of on-line dissemination by integrating datasets and improving the descriptive metadata content. ◆ Co-ordinate dissemination policies across NSOs and International Organisations. <p>For the IMF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Completion of the initial set of draft standards for the exchange of statistical information by the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX). <p>For the UNSD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development of the Millennium Indicators Database for monitoring the implementation of the Millennium Declaration.
2.3	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Output delivery in the four SDMX priority areas (practical case study on emerging e-standards, batch time series data exchange; a metadata common vocabulary; and metadata repositories) ◆ A reflection on charging policy will be conducted with EU Member States. ◆ Data Shop and Data Shop Relays action plan will be implemented (EU). ◆ A new version of the Euro-Indicator website will be launched and evaluated (EU).

PE	Heading	Text
2.3	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Nothing
2.3	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
2.3	Rapporteur	ECE
2.3	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Statistics, Telematic Networks & EDI (STNE), twice a year (13-14 March 2003, 16-17 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Dissemination of statistical Information, twice a year, (24-25 April 2003, 9-10 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT TF "Groupe de réflexion sur l'avenir de la diffusion", twice a year, (24 January 2003, 20 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Data Shop Network Meeting, twice a year, (22-23 May 2003) ◆ ECE Work Session on Statistical Output of statistical commentary (4-5 December 2004). ◆ Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Statistical Metadata (2003/2004).
2.3	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Preparation of the methodological material on best practices for dealing with the media (2003/2004). ◆ Work Session on Statistical Output of statistical commentary (4-5 December 2004). ◆ Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Statistical Metadata (2003/2004) to consider the following: (i) Metadata uses over the survey life-cycle; (ii) Uses of XML schema and web services in metadata systems; (iii) Extensions and refinements of metadata models; (iv) Using metadata for searching and finding statistical data in websites and portals. ◆ Active participation in the work on EDI (EEG6, SDMG, GMWG). <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial.</p>

PE 2.4

PE	Heading	Text
2.4	Title	Statistical classifications
2.4	Goal	The world-wide implementation of single statistical classification standards in each area of statistics.
2.4	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Significant discrepancies still exist in the classifications used by NSOs within the ECE region, particularly between ISIC/NACE and NAICS. ◆ Differences exist between official statistical classifications and those used by private corporations. ◆ Limited resources to support national adaptations of ISCO-88. ◆ A socio-economic classification has yet to be created, though progress is being made funded by Eurostat with the ILO participation. ◆ The fast-changing nature of some sectors of the economy compared with the limited capacities to up-date the classifications.
2.4	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To establish an inventory of implementation plans in different countries and current deviations from international classifications. ◆ To bring out greater convergence between NAICS (the North American Industrial Classification System) and NACE (Nomenclature Statistique des Activités Economique dans la Communauté Européenne). ◆ To monitor the program on CPC/CPA revisions. ◆ UNSD revision of ISIC in 2007.
2.4	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development of interim classifications for IT sector of the economy pending full-scale revision of NACE.
2.4	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The effort made by Statistics Canada, the Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática of Mexico, the United States Bureau of the Census and Eurostat on the convergence of industrial classifications NAICS/NACE. ◆ The revision of ISIC.
2.4	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
2.4	Rapporteur	Eurostat
2.4	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT Committee: SPC NACE/CPA – Nomenclatures, twice a year (19-21 February 2003, 3-5 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT Committee: Customs Code Committee - Nomenclature, twice a year (25-26 February 2003, 13-14 March 2003) ◆ UNSD: Meeting of the Expert Group on International Economic and Social Classifications (Nov.2003) ◆ UNSD: Meetings of the Technical Subgroup (March 2003, October 2003)
2.4	Activities of CES	None

PE 2.5

PE	Heading	Text
2.5	Title	Statistical research and development
2.5	Goal	A continuing programme of productive and relevant research and development, whose results are disseminated widely
2.5	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Establishing research and development priorities. ◆ Avoiding duplication. ◆ Disseminating results widely. ◆ To develop guidelines for statistical agencies on policies and practices for managing data quality in statistical programs, including the definition, control and description of data quality, and its implication for data release.
2.5	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To promote an active program of research, technology development and transfer within the region on statistical and methodological issues that cut across other PEs in the Work programme (e.g. seasonal adjustment; data quality measurement: non-sampling error; sampling and estimating; questionnaire design; confidentiality protection; longitudinal surveys). ◆ To ensure that the results of this work are accessible to statistical offices throughout the region. ◆ To publish manuals on best practices for the most common adjustment and estimation procedures in Eurostat.
2.5	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The handbook on seasonal adjustment (Eurostat): The handbook is being developed in order to implement the Eurostat seasonal adjustment policy, and will cover both conceptual and methodological aspects. A chapter will be dedicated to informing the user about the quality of seasonal adjustments. The objective is to have a tool for both Eurostat production Units and the National Statistical Institutes. ◆ Setting up of a competence network on seasonal adjustment among NSI's, Universities, and Central Banks: To improve the co-operation framework for seasonal adjustment activities in the ESS and to implement the co-operative arrangement with the US. The network would bring together the different actors, such as Eurostat, NSI's, Central Banks, and the US Bureau of the Census. It would ease the convergence of Member States policies, and the development (and support) of methods and tools.
2.5	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The increased and widespread implementation of ICT calls for new data and meta-data modelling. ◆ Research in the area of data modelling is lacking and should be given high priority.
2.5	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
2.5	Rapporteur	Eurostat
2.5	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Seasonal Adjustment, once a year (1-2 April 2003) ◆ UROSTAT WG: Quality in statistics, once a year (2-3 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: European Plan for Research in Official Statistics (EPROS), twice a year (4-5. March 2003, 30-31 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT Committee: Scientific Committee, twice a year (11 April 2003, 12 September 2003) ◆ FAO: Workshops for capacity building in food and agricultural statistics in Central and Eastern European countries.
2.5	Activities of CES	None

PE 2.6

PE	Heading	Text
2.6	Title	Geographical and regional data
2.6	Goal	That geographical information standards are universally adopted and that geographically based information is disseminated as widely and efficiently as possible.
2.6	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development and integration of statistics for sub-national and supra-national regions. ◆ The efficiency, quality and comparability of the geographic dimension of official statistics. ◆ The measurement and reinforcement of economic and social cohesion of the European Union using high-quality statistical information on the European regions. ◆ Availability of necessary regional data for the definition, follow-up and evaluation of regional policies (both national and European Union) and the evaluation of the socio-economic situation and evolution of the regions of Europe. ◆ To design and develop concepts and standards, new tools and technology (GIS), dissemination of geographical products and spatial analysis.
2.6	Strategic medium-term objectives	<p>For ECE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Implementing the outcomes of Work Sessions on Methodological Issues Involving the Integration of Statistics and Geography. ◆ Preparation of guidelines on cartography for statistical purposes; presentation of the survey on the use of GIS in NSOs. <p>For Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Publication of statistical yearbook "REGIONS". ◆ Complete classification of regions for the new member states. ◆ Publication of methodology for regional household accounts. ◆ Publication of first results of the screening exercise.
2.6	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Creation of the EU <i>Portrait of the Regions</i> website. ◆ Publication of "OECD Regions at Glance" in the Territorial Outlook 2004. ◆ Report on "Geographic Equity in Health in OECD countries". ◆ Addition of sub-national data to World Bank databases.
2.6	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ There needs to be closer co-operation among National Statistical Offices, national mapping agencies and national administrative systems if the availability and comparability of spatial information is to be improved.
2.6	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Conference approved the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities of CES" below).
2.6	Rapporteur	Eurostat
2.6	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Methodological Issues involving the integration on Statistics and Geography (2004). ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Urban and Infra-regional Statistics, once a year (4-5 December 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Geographical Information Systems for Statistics, once a year (23-24 October 2003) ◆ OECD: Working Party on Territorial Indicators (June 2003; January 2004) ◆ OECD: Experts Workshop on the analysis of the OECD Territorial Database (June 2004)
2.6	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Methodological Issues involving the integration on Statistics and Geography (2004), to consider: (i) infrastructure requirements for geo-statistics; (ii) cooperation between national statistical institutes and geo-data

		<p>providers; (iii) solutions for supporting user needs, and (iv) geocoding and georeferencing of datasets used in statistics in different countries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ One-day training session on GIS implementation for interested countries back -to back to the Work Session. <p>Secretariat resources: Minimal.</p>
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PE 2.7

PE	Heading	Text
2.7	Title	Human resource development
2.7	Goal	That personnel involved in statistical work should be appropriately trained and that adequate systems exist for the on-going training and development of staff.
2.7	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Experience of training in general shall be exchanged, its organisation and practises be reviewed, the complementarity between national and international training be investigated. ◆ The needs of countries with small internal resources for training should especially be considered. ◆ The EU considers a new permanent structure for the organisation of European statistical training necessary. ◆ Training is a fundamental basis of building a harmonised, high quality statistical system. The training aspect should in general be seen to be an important element of most meetings, involving exchange of information on tools, methods and best practises. ◆ Joint international training courses should be promoted, taking into account specific needs for training due to changing methods, tools, staff requirements, and the needs for international harmonisation. ◆ As the main systematic contribution for training in the ECE area is provided by the training programme of Eurostat (TES), it is important to ensure a good functioning of the programme.
2.7	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To ensure a well prepared training programme within the framework of TES, by analysing user requirements and by involving the countries in its preparation and execution. ◆ To seek economy of scale in organisation of training among similar countries. ◆ To ensure wide participation in this training programme by distributing information on the programme. ◆ To ensure improved co-ordination of training offered by international actors and NSIs by exchange of information, Eurostat being the centre for co-ordination. Joint information should be made available via the Eurostat Circa Interest group; to evaluate the training component in different working groups offered by Eurostat, OECD or ECE.
2.7	Expected outcomes in the next two years	None
2.7	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Coordination in the field of statistical training should be increased. As training on an international level shall fill gaps within national training schemes and gain synergies, the exchange of information is an important and basic issue
2.7	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
2.7	Rapporteur	Eurostat
2.7	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Training of European Statisticians (TES), once a year (4 April 2003)
2.7	Activities of CES	None

PE 2. 8

PE	Heading	Text
2.8	Title	Sustainable development
2.8	Goal	To identify best measures for sustainable development; develop indicators or framework to evaluate sustainable development
2.8	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ International organizations have tried to identify a single set of indicators, but the conclusion was that this is not a feasible and/or useful target. In fact, user needs are different in various contexts and there is no scope to try to force them to adopt a single set of indicators. Therefore the focus has been put in the implementation of concrete plans to produce good quality statistics, to be subsequently used for calculating indicators ◆ More attention should be paid to the development of accounting frameworks for measuring sustainable development, able to take into account the economic, social and environmental dimensions ◆ Indicators that are currently being used tend to be more relevant to developing countries rather than European countries. ◆ The OECD has provided a motivating force behind ensuring that indicators do not focus exclusively upon economic and environmental issues. Some moves have been made towards putting together agri-environmental indicators, and towards conceptual thinking on production and consumption. ◆ Statistics on sustainable development need to be produced in such a way as to ensure that they can be integrated across the social, economic and environmental spheres of sustainable development.
2.8	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To produce a set of indicators for sustainable development that are relevant to both developed and developing countries. ◆ To devise a theoretical framework to allow the integration of statistics which is both practical and relevant to policy formulation, execution and monitoring. ◆ Compile a set of indicators suitable for the Commission on Sustainable Development
2.8	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Indicator-based assessment of environmental health status and progress on actions (for 4th ministerial conference on health and environment, Budapest 2004). ◆ Pilot implementation of the EH indicator system in selected countries (WHO Euro). ◆ Development and compilation of a set of indicators on sustainable development supporting the EU Sustainable Development Strategy (Eurostat). ◆ Compilation and improvement of the set of Environmental Pressure Indicators (Eurostat). ◆ Compilation and improvement of indicators on integrating environmental concerns relating to agriculture, energy, transport and industry (Eurostat). ◆ Compilation of a set of indicators on sustainable development supporting the Commission for Sustainable Development (Eurostat).
2.8	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ More coordination is needed between national agencies in charge of sustainable development and national statistical offices ◆ Better coordination is necessary between the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and other international organizations active in this field. OECD-Eurostat-ECE is planning to establish a Steering Committee on Sustainable Development Statistics with the participation of countries and international organizations ◆ Necessity for active cooperation of NSOs in developing measures for sustainable development. ◆ Evaluate the follow-up of the Johannesburg Summit on sustainable development.

PE	Heading	Text
2.8	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	◆ Sustainable development – indicators and accounting frameworks – could be a candidate topic for a seminar session of the CES in 2004.
2.8	Rapporteur	OECD
2.8	Meetings	None
2.8	Activities of CES	ECE is planning to start statistical activities related to Sustainable Development, as a regional complement to UNSD activities. The activities proposed by ECE will be coordinated with those of other organizations and reviewed through a steering group to be created, which in turn will report to the Bureau

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 3
ECONOMIC STATISTICS**

PE	Heading	Text
3.1	Title	Implementation of the system of national accounts
3.1	Goal	That there exists the full range of high quality national accounts data produced according to SNA/ESA standards for all CES countries with lengthy time-series.
3.1	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The following task forces of national accounts experts have been set up: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Insurance services with emphasis on catastrophe insurance ▪ Banking services, especially portfolio management ▪ The Canberra Group has been called upon by ISWGNA to review the treatment of non-financial assets. A Canberra II group (secretariat OECD) has been instituted. The group is chaired by Australia. An EDG has been opened. ◆ Consistent application of SNA/ESA. For the OECD countries with the most developed statistical databases, these include a full range of accounts - production accounts, distribution, redistribution and use of income accounts, and accumulation accounts, balance sheets accounts, balance of payments, input-output tables, productivity measures, satellite accounts. ◆ Timeliness of transmission of the accounts, especially institutional sector accounts and general government accounts remains a serious issue ◆ The availability of balance sheet data on households is poor. The OECD is reviving its Financial Accounts Database. Significant progress is expected for the end of 2003. ◆ The comprehensiveness of the accounts compiled on the basis of the new SNA/ESA is also quite variable. ◆ For the transition economies, improvements in national accounts over the next few years are conditional on the improvement in the basic data underlying them to which priority should be given. ◆ Replacement of GNP with GNI in Eurostat's "fourth resource" calculations.
3.1	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Prepare SNA 93 Rev 1, for publication around 2008 ◆ Develop a common policy on the timing of national accounts revisions ◆ Implement the reform of the questionnaire, less annual data, more quarterly data ◆ Test the NAWWE (National Accounts World Wide Exchange) initiative, designed to significantly lower response burden in the future
3.1	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE to undertake survey of best practice in estimating service lives of fixed assets ◆ ECE to update Inventory of National Practices in Estimating Hidden and Informal Economic Activities for National Accounts. The inventory will be carried out as complimentary work to the Handbook on Non-Observed Economy developed by OECD/IMF/ILO/CIS-STAT ◆ EU manual on best practice in compiling price and volume indices in national accounts ◆ Common EU method to produce FISIM ◆ Improvements to quarterly national accounts ◆ Production and implementation of EU handbook on the compilation of Input-Output tables ◆ Draft EU handbook on compilation of capital stock ◆ Release of OECD data on capital services for productivity measurement. ◆ IMF report on the accrual of interest ◆ IMF report on treatment of non-performing loans

PE	Heading	Text
3.1	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Future action in joint data collection</u> : Eurostat, in cooperation with the OECD, is preparing a reform of the common questionnaire. The OECD has launched the NAWWE initiative, which objective is to have countries to update the tables of the questionnaire directly on their web-sites. Australia and Canada accepted to participate in the tests. This initiative should avoid any double or triple transmission by countries. International organisations would use directly these tables.
3.1	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below). ◆ That the Conference backs the NAWWE initiative
3.1	Rapporteur	OECD
3.1	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ISWGNA: Working group meetings, spring and autumn 2003 ◆ EUROSTAT WG: National Accounts, 3 times a year (25-26 February 2003, 20-21 May 2003, 17 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: National Accounts Directors, twice a year (28 January 2003, 17 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured (FISIM), once a year (15 December 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT Seminar: Quarterly National Accounts, once a year (7-9 July 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: GNP Management Committee, 3 times a year (25-26 March 2003, 3-4 July 2003, 5-6 November 2003) ◆ OECD: task-force on insurance: February 2003 ◆ OECD: task-force on banking services: February 2003 ◆ Canberra II Group on non-financial assets: First meeting, 15-17 April 2003 ◆ Canberra II Group on non-financial assets: Second meeting, 13-14 October 2003 ◆ OECD: meeting of Financial Statistics Working Party, October 2003. Special session on pension funds. ◆ OECD Annual expert meeting, October 2003 and 2004 ◆ OECD Workshop on National Accounts for Balkan countries, April 2003 ◆ Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics: the next meeting will be held in 2003. It will most likely be a joint meeting with the Rio Group on Poverty Statistics and held in New Delhi. ◆ Joint ECE/OECD/Eurostat Meeting on National Accounts, Geneva, Spring 2004

PE	Heading	Text
3.1	Activities of CES	<p><u>Ongoing methodological work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In conjunction with the OECD's autumn 2003 meeting on national accounts, the ECE will organise a session devoted to issues of specific concern to transition economies. ◆ Joint ECE/OECD/Eurostat Meeting on National Accounts, Geneva, Spring 2004, to be held under the general motto of "Responding to user needs" to consider: (i) Short-term statistics and their relation to national accounts; (ii) Consistency of time series: practical solutions for defining long series when there are changes in methodologies and classifications; (iii) The link between satellite accounts and national accounts (including: do we have to benchmark satellite accounts to national accounts?); (iv) Quantitative methods to control the quality of national accounts (including the interaction with basic statistics); (v) Conceptual issues and recent methodological developments. <p><u>Priority objective of the methodological work to be undertaken in the next two years:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Complete surveys on (i) Best practices in estimating service lives of fixed assets; and (ii) Update the volume on Inventory of National Practices in Estimating Hidden and Informal Economic Activities for National Accounts published by the ECE secretariat in 1993. ◆ Initiate work on Countries' practices in estimating prices of exports and imports (including unit values). <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial.</p>

PE 3.2

PE	Heading	Text
3.2	Title	Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments
3.2	Goal	That there exists a comprehensive, coherent and balanced system of money, banking government finance and balance of payments statistics capable of supporting government activities relating to developing and adjusting policy, and deepening the understanding of the determinants of globalisation.
3.2	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Rapid change in the areas covered by finance statistics - especially in monetary and financial statistics. ◆ How to put in place an international financial architecture that will enhance and spread the benefits of globalization while minimizing its risks. ◆ Dissemination of data and metadata in finance statistics is especially challenging in part because, first, the use of data for monetary policy puts a high premium on timeliness of dissemination and, second, because the increasing extent to which data and metadata are needed beyond the national boundaries puts a high premium on rapid and user-friendly modes of distribution. ◆ Data quality is an especially important and/or difficult issue in areas of statistics that are, inter alia, derived from multiple sets of source data; are relatively newly developed and thus less familiar to users; and are used for policy and operational purposes. Several of the sets of finance statistics meet one or more of these criteria. ◆ Harmonisation with 1993 SNA of balance of payments, international investment position (IIP), government finance, and money and banking statistics.
3.2	Strategic medium-term objectives	<p>For IMF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ An IMF database consistent with the standards in the <u>Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual</u> ◆ A compilation guide to accompany the Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual. ◆ Updating the fifth edition of the IMF's Balance of Payments Manual to take account of rapid changes in relevant areas such as services, financial derivatives and other financial activities, and to provide more detailed IIP guidelines. ◆ Assist member countries to compile IIP statistics. The Statistics Department released a document entitled International Investment Position: A Guide to Data Sources in November 2002 to provide practical advice on existing data sources that could be used to build an IIP statement within a relatively short time. ◆ Collection of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flow and stock data. ◆ Development of guidance on the compilation of financial soundness indicators to meet mandate from the IMF Executive Board. <p>For Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Production of statistics needed for the conduct of macroeconomic policy and to support the Stability and Growth pact. <p>For OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ OECD will provide Internet access to the public at large to the information on Member countries resulting from the joint IMF/OECD Survey of Implementation of Methodological Standards of Direct Investment (SIMSDI). ◆ A joint OECD/World Bank web site will be organised and opened to the public on privatisation statistics.

PE	Heading	Text
3.2	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ OECD working papers on various methodological studies, including additional operational guidelines to foreign direct investment statistics, will be issued to the public as they become available. ◆ Eurostat compilation manual on sources and methods for financial accounts. ◆ Further improvements to bank (MFI) balance sheet data and derivation of monetary statistics and counterparts from them. ◆ Improvements to data on securities issues, interest rates. ◆ Data on (non-monetary) financial institutions. ◆ Better data on the balance of payments (notably in the areas of investment income and portfolio account). ◆ Better links between balance of payments and monetary statistics. ◆ Financial accounts for the euro area, starting with financing and investment of non-financial sectors. ◆ The ECB intends to develop a Centralised Securities Database as a means of improving the treatment of negotiable securities across the financial accounts. ◆ IMF Compilation Guide on Financial Soundness Indicators (end-2003). ◆ Conversion of the IMF's databases for the <i>Government Finance Statistics Yearbook</i> and for <i>International Financial Statistics</i> to comply with the <i>Government Finance Statistics Manual</i> (end-2003). ◆ Conversion of the IMF's databases of monetary and financial statistics to comply with the <i>Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual</i>. ◆ Publication of <i>Producer Price Index Manual</i> (2003). ◆ Automated data collection of balance of payments statistics (IMF). ◆ Issuing of guidance for the compilation of FDI flow and stock data and their dissemination via UNCTAD. ◆ Issuing of guidance for the compilation of external debt statistics. ◆ Preparation for CIS countries in 2004 of <i>Basic provisions of a new international standard for monetary, credit and financial statistics (CIS-STAT)</i>.
3.2	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Future action in joint data collection (concerns transition economies)</u>: UNCTAD and Eurostat will endeavour to resolve the issue, subject to resource constraints. ◆ Problems that countries are facing in collection of good quality data on balance of payments.
3.2	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.2	Rapporteur	IMF

PE	Heading	Text
3.2	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECB Statistics Committee: about 5 meetings per year (Working groups reporting to the Committee meet with varying frequency) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Financial Accounts, twice a year (13-14 May 2003, 20-21 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Short Term Public Finance Statistics, twice a year (18-20 June 2003, 11-12 December 2003) ◆ (Meeting in June a Joint Eurostat-ECB WG incl. Quarterly Financial Accounts for the Government Sector) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Balance of payments, twice a year (20-21 March 2003, 15-16 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of payments statistics (CMFB), twice a year (30-31 January 2003, 26-27 June 2003) ◆ OECD: Steering Group on Revenue Statistics, 3 June 2003 ◆ OECD: Steering Group on Revenue Statistics, 25 November 2003 ◆ OECD: Steering Group on Revenue Statistics, 8 June 2004 ◆ OECD: Working Party on Financial Statistics, November 2003 ◆ OECD: Working Group on Insurance Statistics (ad hoc meetings, as required) ◆ Inter-Agency Task Force on Finance Statistics (ad hoc meetings, as required)
3.2	Intersecretariat Task Force on Finance Statistics	<p>The IMF-chaired Inter-Agency Task Force on Financial Statistics (TFFS) has developed, and now disseminates on a quarterly basis, high frequency data on external debt through the joint <u>BIS-IMF-OECD-World Bank Statistics on External Debt</u>. The TFFS, in close consultation with national compilers, has developed new methodological guidelines for measuring external debt, and a final draft <u>External Debt Statistics: Guide for Compilers and Users</u> was published on the IMF's external website in late 2001. The IMF is editing the guide, and expects to publish it in English in early 2003. It is being translated into Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish. The IMF, with the assistance of other TFFS members, has conducted eight seminars to disseminate the new standards. Other agencies represented in the TFFS have conducted seminars, in collaboration with other TFFS members.</p>
3.2	Activities of CES	None

PE 3.3

PE	Heading	Text
3.3	Title	International trade in goods
3.3	Goal	To provide or make available consistent and comprehensive traded goods sector statistics that are up-to-date and consistent with international standards and definitions.
3.3	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Countries generally tend to implement the recommended international concepts and definitions for international merchandise trade statistics. However, there are still differences in the levels and details of implementation between countries. ◆ National authorities also tended to report international merchandise trade statistics to international organizations on different time schedules. In response to this, UNSD and OECD agreed in a Memorandum of Understanding that UNSD sources directly from OECD merchandise trade data for 22 OECD countries in 2002 and for 29 OECD countries in 2003 (Mexico being the exception). ◆ At the international level, organizations adjust the data for comparability and can estimate non-reported data. The methodologies applied are not fully harmonised, leading to different results that unnecessarily confuse users. UNSD and OECD agreed to compare the respective harmonisation and standardisation practices with the aim of identical data published. ◆ The treatment of e-commerce in international trade statistics ◆ Assessment of data quality ◆ Metadata standards for trade.
3.3	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To develop implementation guidelines for internationally agreed concepts and definitions in international trade statistics (see also P.E. 2.4). ◆ Reduce the response burden on countries by further rationalizing data collection of international organisations, for example through increased data sharing. ◆ To ensure consistency of data held by each organization, including estimates ◆ To continuously improve the coverage of Comtrade and to develop strategic plans for its platform. ◆ To migrate OECD's ITS (International Trade Statistics) database to a new platform (based upon SQL) ◆ To develop a commonly agreed consistent aggregate data set on merchandise trade (WTO-UNSD-OECD-Eurostat). ◆ Consolidation of Intrastat and Extrastat systems (EU)
3.3	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To publish the Compilers' Manual for International Merchandise Trade Statistics and the Technical Report on Index Numbers in International Trade. ◆ New version of Eurotrace software. ◆ Full implementation of the OECD -UNSD data sharing agreement, covering all OECD Member countries (except Mexico) and including processed, published data. ◆ Evaluate feasibility of shared UNSD-OECD trade statistics platform ◆ Resumption of the calculation of volume, price, and terms of trade indices (UNCTAD).
3.3	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The work led by WTO to develop commonly agreed data sets through an interagency cooperation with a view to reducing the response burden on national statistical offices. ◆ <u>Future action in joint data collection UNSD-OECD</u>: agreement to cover 29 OECD countries by end 2003. ◆ <u>Future action in joint data platform UNSD-OECD</u>: testing of feasibility of common approach towards IT solution

PE	Heading	Text
3.3	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.3	Rapporteur	WTO
3.3	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT Committee: Trading of Goods - Intrastat/Extrastat (joint with EDICOM – Electronic Data Interchange for the Commission), 3 times a year (12-14 March 2003, 25-27 June 2003, 10-12 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: EDICOM Information & Communication Technology (EDICOM-ITC), twice a year (5-6 February 2003, 15-16 October 2003) ◆ OECD: 4th Meeting of Experts on International Trade Statistics, 7-9 April 2003, followed by the Trade in Services meeting ◆ WTO: Inter-secretariat Task Force on International Trade Statistics, 2004 and 2005
3.3	Activities of Intersecretariat Task Force on International Trade Statistics:	<p>An Inter-secretariat Task Force has been established by the UN Statistical Commission. The WTO is the convenor of this Task Force. The OECD has set up an electronic discussion forum, which is jointly operated together with the WTO, to facilitate the Task Force's ongoing cooperation work.</p> <p><u>Ongoing work:</u></p> <p>a) <u>Methodological work:</u> Study country practices and other material for inclusion in a planned Supplement to the Compiler's Manual for International Merchandise Trade. Finalise the publication on national practices for compiling and disseminating trade indices.</p> <p>b) <u>Data collection and processing:</u> Increase shared data collection between international organisations with a view of eventually also sharing data processing. Develop a consistent set of aggregate trade data that includes hard data and estimates.</p> <p><u>Priority objectives:</u> To finalise work on the Technical Report on Index Numbers in International Trade. To develop a commonly agreed, consistent aggregate data set on merchandise trade.</p> <p><u>New activities to be undertaken in the next two years:</u> To prepare a Supplement to the Compiler's Guide that will include country experiences and other materials. To prepare a Manual on Foreign Trade Indices. Collect and exchange information on metadata practices attached to international trade data sets.</p>
3.3	Activities of CES	None

PE 3.4

PE	Heading	Text
3.4	Title	<p>Transport Statistics (NOTE: For statistical work in the area of information and communications technology see PE 3.8 - Other marketed services, and non-marketed services)</p>
3.4	Goal	<p>That there exist transport statistics that are consistent with the standards, classifications and needs of mainstream economic statistics and with international standards and definitions.</p>
3.4	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improve data comparability through the development of a standardized terminology, definitions and classifications in transport statistics. ◆ Develop a set of standard price and quantity indices for transport services. ◆ Monitor developments in the field of transport database and information systems and promote the co-ordination of these.
3.4	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Publication of a third expanded edition of the Glossary for Transport Statistics (ECE-ECMT-Eurostat). ◆ Harmonisation of existing classifications for the transport of goods. ◆ Conduct the first Combined Census of Rail Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters in 2005.
3.4	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<p>Inter-secretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (OECD/ECMT/Eurostat)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Finalise in co-operation with EUROSTAT and ECE an electronic version of the Common Questionnaire. Catch up with the delays in publications and improve their timeliness. ◆ Produce an Internet version of the Common Questionnaire. ◆ 3rd edition of Glossary of Transport Statistics. <p>ECE/Eurostat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Agreement on the second digit of the NST/R classification of transport commodities. <p>Eurostat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Reference manual for road freight transport statistics (1998 Council Regulation). ◆ Reference manual for maritime transport statistics (1995 Council Directive). ◆ Glossaries for air and maritime transport statistics and road accident statistics. ◆ Methodological guidelines for inter-modal freight transport. ◆ Implementation of EU Regulation on rail transport statistics (passengers and freight), rail safety, including draft reference manual. ◆ Implementation of EU Regulation on air transport statistics. ◆ Publication of pan-European survey on long distance mobility.
3.4	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Very little progress has been made in developing price indices for transport, which remains an area of high demand.
3.4	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.4	Rapporteur	Eurostat

PE	Heading	Text
3.4	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE (ICT) Working Party on Transport Statistics (Fifty-fourth session, Geneva, 11-13 June 2003) ◆ ECE (ICT) Working Party on Transport Statistics (Fifty-fifth session, Geneva, 2004) ◆ ECE (ICT) Working Party on Transport Statistics (Fifty-sixth session, Geneva, 2005) ◆ ECE: Ad Hoc preparatory meeting for the 2005 Combined Census of Motor Traffic and Inventory of Standards and Parameters on Main International Traffic Arteries in Europe, Geneva, 29-30 September 2003 ◆ ECE: Ad hoc Meeting on the Rail Traffic Census, Geneva, 2-3 October 2003 ◆ ECMT: Meeting of the ECMT Group of Statisticians, May 2003 and May 2004 (to be confirmed) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Co-ordinating Committee for Transport Statistics, once a year, (11-12 March 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Passenger Transport Statistics, every 1-2 years, (24-25 April 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Road Transport Statistics, every 1-2 years (9-10 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Rail Transport Statistics, every 1-2 years (April 2004) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Maritime Transport Statistics, every 1-2 years (23-24 January 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Inland waterway transport statistics, every 1-2 years (2005) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Airt transport statistics, every 1-2 years (10 March 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Intermodal Transport Statistics, every 1-2 years (November 2004)
3.4	Activities of Inter-secretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Inter-secretariat Working Group on Transport Statistics (IWG) is made up of representatives from the secretariats of the ECE, ECMT and Eurostat. The IWG meets 2-3 times per year, with the location rotating between Geneva, Paris and Luxembourg. The objectives of the IWG are to promote the cooperation among the three main international organizations involved in transport statistics in Europe with the aim to harmonise the collection, publication and dissemination of transport statistics at the international level, as well as to eliminate duplication of work. ◆ The main vehicle for the harmonised work of the IWG is the Common Questionnaire for Transport Statistics, developed jointly by the IWG in order to avoid the duplication of efforts by any one organisation and to reduce the response burden of member countries. ◆ Linked to the Common Questionnaire is the Glossary for Transport Statistics, available in all languages of the ECE and the European Union and available on the Internet. The Glossary contains commonly agreed definitions used in transport statistics and is intended to be used by member countries when filling out the Common Questionnaire. ◆ An electronic version of the Common Questionnaire has also been developed and allows the three organisations an easier maintenance and interchange of the datasets in their respective database systems. In order to facilitate further the work from the member states, an Internet version of this questionnaire is under development. In addition, the IWG is developing a Common Questionnaire for Road Accident Statistics.
3.4	Activities of CES	None

PE	Heading	Text
3.4	Activities of ECE Transport Division (Inland Transport Committee)	<p><u>Publications:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics ◆ Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (annual) ◆ Main Transport Indicators for the UNECE Region (annual) ◆ Glossary of Transport Statistics (Third edition) 2003 ◆ Census of Motor Traffic on Main International Traffic Arteries 2005 (quinquennial) ◆ Census of Rail Traffic 2005 (expected to be done for the first time in 2005 - quinquennial) <p><u>Data collection:</u></p> <p>Common questionnaires for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics (with ECMT and EUROSTAT) ◆ Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (annual with ECMT)

PE 3.5

PE	Heading	Text
3.5	Title	Distributive trade (Note: The classification of this activity will be reviewed in October 2003)
3.5	Goal	That there exist internationally comparable and timely statistics on the distributive trades.
3.5	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Keep international manuals and standards in this field up-to-date in the light of changes taking place in the structure of the retail and wholesale sectors. ◆ Provide a forum for transition economies and other countries to discuss methodological problems in this field.
3.5	Strategic medium-term objectives	For Eurostat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Implementation of the new regulation on business structural statistics (see PE 3.11).
3.5	Expected outcomes in the next two years	None
3.5	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Nothing
3.5	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.5	Rapporteur	Eurostat
3.5	Meetings	None
3.5	Activities of CES	None

PE 3.6

PE	Heading	Text
3.6	Title	International trade in services
3.6	Goal	That there exist consistent and comprehensive statistics on international trade in services that are consistent with international standards and definitions.
3.6	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To develop suitable international nomenclatures and standards to ensure that national measurements are internationally comparable and consistent with basic economic statistics. ◆ To identify and establish a basic set of comparable data that meet the requirements of revised international standards for reporting Balance of Payments (BOP), National Accounts (SNA) data, the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS) and of recent agreements on international services trade. ◆ To provide further detail and analysis usable for promoting and developing services trade in a globalized competitive setting; to improve and selectively extend multilateral comparisons and exchanges of partner country data. ◆ To ensure that transition economies have access to the methods and practices developed for the measurement of trade in services. ◆ To contribute to the adaptation of the CPC to the specific needs of international trade in services. ◆ Economic and monetary union has implications for reporting thresholds. ◆ Change from settlements to direct survey/reporting systems (EU MSS).
3.6	Strategic medium-term objectives	<p>For OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Implementation of recommendations of MSITS and the corresponding coordinated collection of data. (OECD, WTO, Eurostat, UNSD, UNCTAD and the IMF) ◆ The OECD-Eurostat trade-in-services statistics expert group will monitor the implementation of the Extended Balance of Payments Services classification and work towards improving questionnaires for reporting data on activities of foreign affiliates in line with the recommendations of MSITS. MSITS provides a link between trade-in services statistics and GATS requirements. ◆ OECD is to work with Eurostat and other international organisations on a <u>Compilation Guide</u> concerning methods of collecting information in line with the recommendations of MSITS. ◆ Defining and measuring international trade in software and online delivery of products ◆ Measuring trade by GATS mode of supply ◆ Reduction of bilateral asymmetries (OECD/EU)
3.6	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Change in data collection systems. This work is top priority, as most MSs will shift from settlements to direct reporting/surveys (DR/surveys) systems. Eurostat (in co-operation with the ECB) will monitor the whole process in following up the national plans. ◆ Expansion of data collection to provide a wider and more detailed picture of trade in services ◆ Issuing of guidance on the compilation of statistics on the activities of TNC's and their affiliates, and their dissemination (UNCTAD).
3.6	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	The need for resources to be devoted to technical assistance in development of country reporting of trade in services

PE	Heading	Text
3.6	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.6	Rapporteur	OECD
3.6	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Inter-Agency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services, twice a year ◆ OECD: Meeting of Experts on Statistics of International Trade in Services, (9-10 April 2003) ◆ OECD meeting on Measuring Economic Globalisation is provisionally planned for November 2003
3.6	Activities of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS) is now published in English electronically and is available free on the internet from UNSD and from the other joint publishers Eurostat, IMF, OECD, WTO and UNCTAD. UNSD is preparing a hard copy book for sale. Translations into the UN official languages will follow as soon as possible. ◆ The Task Force is giving priority to development of compilation guidance material to aid countries' implementation of the new MSITS's recommendations. The Task Force is developing in 2003 a training module on trade in services with and for the World Bank. ◆ A new UNSD web page is the central reference point for information about MSITS and new developments (http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/default.asp). This provides links to the other organisations web pages on trade in services. OECD has established an email hotline for questions <std.servstat@oecd.org>. ◆ Parallel to this, work has begun on promoting implementation of the recommendations of MSITS e.g. through standard questionnaires and codes for reporting the data. Data collection is being coordinated by the organisations. ◆ Further development work is planned on measurement of online delivery of products, trade in software and movement of natural persons.
3.6	Activities of CES	None

PE 3.7

PE	Heading	Text
3.7	Title	Tourism statistics
3.7	Goal	That there exists a comprehensive, coherent and balanced system of tourism statistics capable of supporting government activities relating to developing and adjusting policy, and deepening the understanding of the determinants of tourism.
3.7	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The development of conceptual frameworks. ◆ Common concepts and methodologies for measurement and integration of data. ◆ Information should also support the broad range of non-government interests (industry, public) including research, and coherent linkages with other areas such as social, demographic, business, economic and environmental studies. ◆ Development of sustainability indicators.
3.7	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A work plan for a co-ordinated and co-operative development of approaches to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess current international tourism-related statistics. • Examine the compatibility and the consistency of concepts, definitions and classifications. • Conclude special agreements with neighbouring countries on the harmonization of methodologies and exchange of statistics on tourism flows between them. • The development of a credible economic statement of the size and significance of tourism industries and their linkages with other industries in the economy. ◆ Manual for measuring the effects of tourism on employment.
3.7	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<p>OECD in co-operation with interested international organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To produce an up-to-date inventory of Member countries' experiences, analysis and problems in regard to Tourism Satellite accounts implementation. ◆ To produce with the Environment Directorate a methodology for developing national sustainable tourism indicators. ◆ To contribute to the update of the 1993 UN recommendations on tourism statistics. <p>Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Producing various publications including a Yearbook on CD-ROM; Tourism in Europe, in the Central European countries and in the Mediterranean countries - Key figures; and Tourism in Europe – Trends. ◆ Making regional data available in the TOUR, REGIO and New Cronos databases. ◆ Developing a practical implementation manual adapted to the Community situation to assist Member States starting to produce Tourism Satellite Accounts (TSA). <p>World Tourism Organisation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Guidelines for estimating tourism expenditure</u>: A specific questionnaire on tourism expenditure will be designed to be applied to non-residents, preferably at national borders on departure from the country of reference. The corresponding guidelines will be prepared to make it operational. ◆ <u>Conceptual framework for a tourism satellite account</u>: Ongoing process for improving and expanding the methodological framework for the development of the TSA, making use of the experience of those countries that have a TSA. ◆ <u>Publications related to the TSA</u>: Set of technical documents designed to be used for the preparation of TSAs in countries with different levels of statistical infrastructure, as well as training material and other instruments of support for the development of ad hoc initiatives with a view to support the WTO-TSA project. ◆ <u>Enzo Paci papers on measuring the economic significance of tourism</u>: Publication to be prepared every year, which may bring a better knowledge in the preparation of a TSA and its use by the different users (public and private).

PE	Heading	Text
3.7	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ International cooperation in the field of tourism statistics continues to work well. The next important field to work on is the update of the 1993 UN Recommendations on Tourism Statistics.
3.7	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.7	Rapporteur	Eurostat
3.7	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Tourism Statistics, once a year (16-17 January 2003) ◆ OECD: Statistical Working Party of the Tourism Committee (30-31 October 2003) ◆ World Tourism Organisation: International Conference "Understanding and measuring tourism in a global economy" (First half of 2005) ◆ CIS-STAT: Seminar on tourism statistics to assist CIS countries (2003)
3.7	Activities of CES	None

PE 3.8

PE	Heading	Text
3.8	Title	Other marketed services, and non-marketed services
3.8	Goal	To provide or make available service sector statistics that are consistent with international standards and definitions.
3.8	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development of suitable international nomenclatures and standards to ensure that national measurements are internationally comparable. ◆ To support policy-makers' analytical needs with data offering new possibilities for analysis in the areas of emerging activities, small- and medium-sized enterprises, productivity or employment at a disaggregated level. ◆ To ensure that transition economies have access to the methods and practices developed for the measurement of activity in the services industries. ◆ To keep pace with developments in business services and e-commerce. ◆ Supplementary detail in NACE/CPA needed in this area. ◆ International comparison of the public sector and its management. ◆ Measurement of public sector pay.
3.8	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To continue to develop the detail, comparability and timeliness of the annual publication giving detailed statistics on output and employment in service activities. ◆ Development of price indices for services purchased by producers. ◆ The measurement of labour productivity in government: to improve output measures in real terms. ◆ Apply existing concepts, definitions and data collection procedures relevant to international comparison of the public sector to all member states (OECD). ◆ The partial integration of the standard balance of payments items on transactions in services with measures of domestic production.
3.8	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Best practice guidance on the compilation of e-commerce statistics (UNCTAD) ◆ Publication of OECD's <i>Measuring the Information Economy</i> ◆ Publication of detailed statistics on enterprises by size class (SEC) in 2003 (OECD) ◆ Framework and guidelines for the development and measurement of Indicators for the Information Society (OECD) (see also PE 3.13) ◆ Publication of OECD's <i>Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard 2003</i> ◆ Possible recommendations and guidelines for SME statistics at the Istanbul Ministerial Meeting in 2004 following the OECD workshop 2003 (OECD) ◆ Updating of methodological manual for telecommunications statistics (EU)
3.8	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The 2007 revision of ISIC and the need for substantially better coverage of the information sector and other service sectors. ◆ <u>Information Society Statistics</u>, see also PE 3.11 and PE 3.13: The OECD Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society (WPIIS), after having developed an OECD activity-based definition of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector, is now extending the ICT sector definition to a commodity-based one. ◆ The publication of databases on "Indicators of Industry and Services" and "Services Statistics: Value Added and Employment" are suspended (OECD).
3.8	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.8	Rapporteur	Eurostat

PE	Heading	Text
3.8	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Information Society, twice a year (10-11 February 2003, 29-30 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Communication, once a year (17-18 March 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Audio-visual services, once a year (2-3 June 2003) ◆ OECD: Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society (WPIIS), 5-7 May 2003 ◆ OECD: CSTP Working Party of National Experts on Science and Technology Indicators (NESTI), June 2003 ◆ OECD: Statistical Working Party of the Industry Committee (SWIC), 1-3 December 2003; (special session on globalisation: 3-7 November 2003) ◆ OECD: ICCP Committee, Working Party on the Information Economy (WPIE), 5-6 June 2003, 2004 ◆ OECD: Short-term Economic Statistics Expert Group (STESEG): 26-27 June 2003 ◆ OECD: SME Workshop: 16-17 September 2003 ◆ OECD-Eurostat Task Force on Services Producer Prices 12-13 Feb 2003 ◆ Voorburg Group: 6-10 October 2003 (Tokyo, Japan) ◆ Voorburg Group: Autumn 2004
3.8	Activities of CES	None

PE 3.9

PE	Heading	Text
3.9	Title	Price statistics, including purchasing power parities
3.9	Goal	That there exist internationally comparable and reliable measures of price changes, levels and trends of purchasing power parities
3.9	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To define standards for the collection, compilation and dissemination of timely, reliable and internationally comparable measures of changes over time in the prices of goods and services acquired by households that are relevant for users' needs, and for their correct interpretation. ◆ To help transition economies convert their measures of price change into internationally comparable indexes. ◆ To calculate regional PPPs to be used, for example, in the allocation of structural funds. ◆ Timeliness of PPP statistics. ◆ Consistency over time between results based on national accounts and those based on PPP (measurement of dwelling services and wages and salaries).
3.9	Strategic medium-term objectives	<p>For Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Further work on CPI harmonisation, in particular concerning quality adjustment, sampling, and owner-occupied housing. A consolidated Regulation and a manual are planned. ◆ A formal system of monitoring compliance with HICP regulations has been established, starting in 2001. The system will aim to raise HICP quality standards generally, through observation and dissemination of examples of good practice. ◆ Regarding PPPs, a Regulation has been prepared. It will be adopted in 2003 and will provide the legal basis for PPP work in the EU. The system of organising consumer price surveys in sub-groups comprising EU Member States and candidate countries which was established in 1999 is expected to continue to operate throughout 2001-03 and beyond. ◆ Research is being done into the possibility of obtaining price data more efficiently using existing sources including barcode scanner data. ◆ Contribution to the International Comparison Programme (ICP project) <p>For OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Co-ordinating the methodology used between Eurostat and OECD within the OECD –Eurostat PPP Programme and reinforcing linkage between the European and non-European countries participating in the programme. ◆ Contribution to the International Comparison Programme (ICP project)
3.9	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ International manuals on CPI and PPI to be published in 2003. ◆ ECP PPP manual to be drafted (joint OECD - Eurostat project) ◆ ECP 2000 to be published by ECE in 2003. ◆ The 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (24 November - 3 December 2003) will adopt new international guidelines for consumer price indices. ◆ Rebased and expanded range of commodity price indices to 2000=100 (UNCTAD) ◆ Pilot index for owner-occupied housing (EU). ◆ Database on quality adjustment methods will be developed (EU).
3.9	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Work on the preparation of new international manuals on price statistics is to be completed in 2003. ◆ PPP work could benefit significantly from the participation of national accountants.

PE	Heading	Text
3.9	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
3.9	Rapporteur	Eurostat (Consumer prices), OECD (other prices)
3.9	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE - Eurostat - OECD Joint consultation on the European Comparison Programme, March 2003 and Spring 2004 ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Harmonisation of consumer prices indices (HICP), 3 times a year (17-19 March 2003, 24-26 September 2003, 9-11 December 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT HICP-seminar: once a year, most likely 25-27 June 2003 in Rome ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Purchasing Power Parities (PPP), twice a year (22-23 May 2003, 15 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Joint meeting on PPP and National Accounts, once a year (16 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Article 64 of Staff Regulations, 3 times a year (27 February 2003, 16 June 2003, 12 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Article 65 of Staff Regulations, once a year (24 March 2003) ◆ OECD: Meetings of ‘The Pacific Group’ countries on PPPs: end 2003/early 2004 New Zealand ◆ Ottawa Group: 27-29 May 2003 in Paris, France (meeting deferred from 2002) ◆ Ottawa Group: Autumn 2004 in Finland ◆ ILO: 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 24 November - 3 December 2003. ◆ ECE/ILO Meeting on Consumer Price Indices, 4-5 December 2003.
3.9	Activities of the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Price Statistics	<p><u>Ongoing methodological work</u> The technical expert groups set up by the IWGPS to advise the Group on the preparation of the new manuals on CPI and on PPI have nearly completed their work. The IWGPS keeps the Ottawa Group and the Voorburg Group informed about its work.</p> <p><u>Priority objective of the methodological work to be undertaken in the next two years</u> The new manuals on CPI and on PPI are expected to be published by the end of 2003. Proposals for the future work of the IWGPS are under consideration.</p>
3.9	Activities of CES	<p><u>Ongoing methodological work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>European Comparison Programme</u>: In cooperation with Eurostat, OECD and CIS STAT organized joint consultation of the 2000 round of ECP in March 2003. ◆ <u>Consumer prices</u>: ECE-ILO joint meeting on consumer price indices (4-5 December 2003) to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Owner-occupied housing</i> ▪ <i>Families of indices for different purposes – core inflation/forecasting; definition of inflation index; regional indices</i> ▪ <i>Data quality (weights)</i> ▪ <i>Sampling and quality adjustment</i> ▪ <i>Seasonality and seasonal adjustment</i> ▪ <i>Financial services (including report from the November 2002 Ottawa Group Meeting)</i> <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial</p>

PE 3. 10

PE	Heading	Text
3.10	Title	Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics
3.10	Goal	To provide or make available internationally comparable and reliable statistics on sustainable agricultural, forestry and fishing activities as well as on rural development that provides national and international policy makers with adequate information.
3.10	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To adapt the concepts and definitions used in agricultural statistics to encompass a wider view of agriculture reflecting economic, rural, social and environmental linkages. ◆ To exchange information on experiences in collecting and compiling food, agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics including their environmental aspects, to ensure that such data are integrated, comply with comparable conceptual frameworks and help answer current policy concerns. ◆ To develop recommendations for agricultural censuses and to ensure that the concerns and requirements of transition economies are adequately reflected. To assist national statistical offices to develop agricultural statistical systems capable of being used for organizing agricultural surveys for the collection, analysis and dissemination of current data on both crops and livestock. ◆ To continue close inter-organisation co-operation in collecting and publishing forest sector data, relevant to the monitoring of sustainable forest management. <p>For Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ to provide the essential data required for the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) within the European Union and the plans for its reform. ◆ Income statistics, productivity, measuring and forecasting food supplies, GIS and administrative data <p>For OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To provide the essential data needed for agricultural policy analyses ◆ Structural and economic agricultural statistics, agri-environmental indicators, agricultural trade and commodity forecasts, fishery
3.10	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Building up an agricultural information system with focus on integrated information of the natural resource base of a country (IWG.AGRI) ◆ Progressively implementing the recommendations from the 8th IWG.AGRI Seminar "PARIS" to set up Inter-Agency Task Forces on identified themes requiring intensified attention, such as rural statistics, environmental EAA, review of basic unit. ◆ Agreed concepts and definitions for implementation in the forthcoming round of agricultural censuses. ◆ A centrally developed and supported training programme in food and agricultural statistics for developing countries and transition economies. Training Seminars organized jointly by ECE-OECD-FAO-Eurostat (IWG.AGRI). ◆ Preparation and publication of a new methodological manual for agricultural price statistics is being undertaken by Eurostat. ◆ A work programme to develop the use of agricultural statistics to obtain environmental information. <p>(Cross-reference: See also Programme Activity 5, environment statistics, CES/2003/3/Add.5).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ An improved, more comprehensive set of forest sector statistics collected jointly by FAO, ECE, Eurostat and ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organization).

PE	Heading	Text
3.10	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<p>Timber Branch of UNECE Trade Division and FAO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Capacity building in member countries through workshops and meetings of national correspondents. ◆ Agreed plans for next forest resource assessment, closely respond to Ministerial Conference on the Protection of Forests in Europe for reporting on indicators for sustainable forest management. <p>EU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Rebasing agricultural prices to 2000=100. ◆ <u>Fisheries statistics</u>. In collaboration with FAO particular attention will be given to updating and extending the content of the joint publication "Handbook of Fishery Statistics" and the production of a CD-ROM version of the publication. ◆ <u>Land use and landscape</u>: possible repetition of the LUCAS project in 2003. <p>FAO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To prepare and publish The Handbook on Food Balance Sheets. ◆ To publish in CD-Rom format Technical Conversion Factors. ◆ To update the information on the web page on agricultural census: www.fao.org/WAICENT/FAOINFO/ECONOMICS/ESS/wcares/wcaresfr.htm ◆ To publish the Handbook on Preparation of Economic Accounts for Agriculture for Use of Developing Countries. ◆ To publish a handbook on collection of data for compilation of environmental indicators and accounts relating to agriculture. ◆ To complete the documentation of the Handbook of Fishery Statistics. ◆ To release the revised and updated version of the Handbook on Internet. <p>OECD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To release a new series of agricultural accounts with more harmonised data SNA93/EAA97 <p>IWG.AGRI: A manual on statistics on rural development and the agriculture household unit</p>
3.10	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Existing joint data collection</u>: Eurostat and OECD have implemented a unified and harmonised framework for the Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EAA). ◆ <u>Future action in joint data collection (agriculture other than economic accounts for agriculture)</u>: Eurostat and FAO have agreed to co-operate in the area of agriculture price statistics. Other types of data sets are successively to be identified and included in framework of Common Data Consultation and Utilization. ◆ <u>Future action in joint data collection (fishery statistics)</u>: Following a joint Eurostat/FAO/OECD meeting with national statisticians in February 2000 and discussions on this topic in the OECD Committee for Fisheries proposals are being formulated to minimise the duplication of demands made on the national services and to improve the exchange of data between the international agencies. ◆ <u>Future action in joint data collection (agro-environment indicators)</u>: See PE 5.1.
3.10	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves and encourages the activities led by the IWG.AGRI. ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities of CES" below).
3.10	Rapporteur	Eurostat

PE	Heading	Text
3.10	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Inter-secretariat Working Group on Agriculture Statistics (IWG.AGRI, composed of ECE, Eurostat, FAO and OECD. Meetings twice a year on a rotating basis ◆ Inter-secretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics, meetings about twice a year (membership: ECE, FAO, Eurostat, ITTO, OECD, EEA, CEC) ◆ Third International Conference on Agricultural Statistics (ICAS III), Cancún, Mexico, November 2004. ◆ PARIS21 Agricultural and Rural Statistics Task Team. The Team may organize seminars on specific areas of interest to donors and recipients of technical assistance in agricultural and rural statistics. ◆ Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics (March 2004 and 2005) ◆ Global Forest Resource Assessment Advisory Group ◆ ECE/FAO: Meeting of national statistical correspondents (as funds allow) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Land use statistics, twice a year (10-12 March 2003, 20-21 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Rural development statistics, once a year (4-5 December 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Farm structure survey and typology, twice a year (6-8 May 2003, 2-3 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Agricultural price statistics + Economic accounts for agriculture, twice a year (30 June – 1 July 20, 2-3 December 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: Meeting on Vineyards + Fruit Trees + Crop products, once a year (9.11 July 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Animal products statistics, twice a year (19-21 March 2003, 20-21 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG + Committee: Crop products statistics + CPSA + 3rd workshop for CCs (8-10 December 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG + Committee: Animal products statistics + CPSA + 3rd workshop for CCs (10-12 March 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG + Committee: Livestock and Meat Statistics + CPSA + Workshop for CCs, twice a year (19-21 March 2003, 20-21 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Milk statistics, once a year (26-27 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Agro-industry statistics, twice a year (10-11 April 2003, 17-18 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Food security statistics, once a year (12-13 May 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG + Committee: Agricultural Statistical Committee (ASC) and CPSA, twice a year (7-11 July 2003 incl. Agriculture Seminar in Poland, 4-5 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Agriculture / environment statistics, twice a year (6-7 March 2003, 29-30 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Forestry Statistics, once a year (6-7 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG + Committee: Fishery Statistics + CPSA + 3rd workshop for CCs (5-7 May 2003) ◆ ECE-Eurostat-FAO-OECD Meeting on Food and Agriculture Statistics, 2-4 July 2003.

PE	Heading	Text
3.10	Activities of Inter-secretariat Working Group on Agricultural Statistics	<p>Ongoing methodological work: The activities of the ECE, FAO, OECD and Eurostat in the field of agricultural statistics are coordinated and integrated by means of the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Agricultural Statistics (IWG.AGRI). Meetings and seminars are convened jointly (additional information on joint work is given below in the section "Activities of CES"). IWG.AGRI is continuously working towards common data consultation among the organizations. The IWG.AGRI meets twice a year and is convened on a rotating basis. IWG.AGRI has agreed to create a Task Force on Statistical on Rural Development and the Agriculture Household Unit. Terms of reference to be submitted to the CES Bureau.</p> <p>Priority objective of methodological work to be undertaken in the next two years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Establish routines for common data consultation to an increasing number of data sets. ◆ Continue the series of focused seminars. ◆ Work on indicators concerning sustainable agriculture and rural development.
3.10	Activities of the CES	<p>Ongoing methodological work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE-Eurostat-FAO-OECD Meeting on Food and Agricultural Statistics (2-4 July 2003), to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Stocktaking of recent developments and future needs in food and agricultural statistics (i) the future role of agricultural statistics and (ii) how to meet the needs for ad hoc statistics and flash statistics ▪ Measurements of farm household income and wealth versus agriculture activity income; ▪ Statistics related to multi-functionality, sustainability, rurality and environment, and their interaction with agriculture ▪ Statistics and analysis of food supply, food quality, food safety) including traceability), consumer needs and analysis of trade flows ▪ Classification systems and their adaptation to new needs ▪ Implications of new technologies on the production and dissemination of agriculture statistics ◆ ECE-Eurostat-FAO-OECD-ISI to organize the 3rd World Conference on Agriculture Statistics in 2004. Agenda to be developed by the organizations involved and presented to the CES Bureau. <p>Priority objective of methodological work to be undertaken in the next two years: Prepare an inventory of indicators for sustainable agriculture Within the framework of an IWG.AGRI Task Force prepare a manual on statistics on rural development and the agriculture household unit.</p> <p>Secretariat resources: Moderate.</p>
3.10	Joint activities of the Timber Branch of the ECE Trade Division and the FAO	<p>Ongoing methodological work: (data collection, see P.E. 6.1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Elaboration of parameters/variables/data items to be reported in Global Forest Resources Assessment 2005, including corresponding terms and definitions under close review by the Joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics. <p>Priority objective of methodological work to be undertaken in the next two years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Capacity building in member countries through workshops and meetings of national correspondents. ◆ Update definitions for HS2002. ◆ Agreed preliminary plans for next forest resource assessment. <p>New activities to be undertaken in the next two years Essentially all the activities described above represent a continuation of methods and arrangements already in hand.</p>

PE 3. 11

PE	Heading	Text
3.11	Title	Industrial statistics
3.11	Goal	To provide or make available industry sector statistics that are consistent with international standards and definitions, and ensure that policy-makers have adequate information in the areas of SME's, productivity, technology and employment at an appropriate disaggregated level.
3.11	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To ensure that industry statistics are consistently classified for purposes of international comparability. ◆ To ensure that all OECD Member countries, particularly those in transition, apply the latest version of international standards and classifications; ◆ To ensure that recent trends in the structure of the economy (industry and services) can be analysed by means of series of statistics that are harmonised, comparable, detailed and up-to-date. ◆ To support policy-makers' analytical needs with longitudinal micro-level databases offering new possibilities for analysis in the areas of small and medium-sized enterprises, entrepreneurship, productivity, technology or employment at a disaggregated level. ◆ To contribute to the development of internationally comparable and policy-relevant indicators such as productivity measures at detailed industry level. ◆ Changeover from ISIC (Rev.2) to ISIC (Rev.3). ◆ To provide relevant short-term economic indicators for industry and services sectors.
3.11	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Advance the compilation and publication of core industry-level data in ISIC Rev. 3 (NACE Rev. 1) with the objective of providing time series that can be used for policy-relevant analysis. ◆ Examine measurement issues in industry statistics such as those associated with information and communication technology. ◆ Publish international SME statistics. ◆ Advance the development of a manual for the development of globalisation indicators and for the measurement of productivity. ◆ Creation of Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) database (UNCTAD)
3.11	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Reduced set of Steel Statistics after the expiry of the ECSC (European Coal and Steel Community) Treaty. ◆ Production of PRODCOM methodological manual (EU) ◆ Production of a Short Term Statistics methodological manual (EU) ◆ Production of a methodology of Business Demography (EU) ◆ Production of a methodology of Business Services (EU) ◆ Production of a methodology of Foreign Affiliates Trade Statistics (FATS) (EU) ◆ Publication of OECD's Science, Technology and Industry Scoreboard (2003) ◆ UNIDO's <i>International Yearbook of Industrial Statistics</i> will be published in paper form in 2003 and 2004 and also on the Internet ◆ UNIDO's INDSTAT database will cease at the 4-digit level of ISIC(Rev.2) but continue for 3-digit level by conversion from ISIC (Rev.3) data ◆ UNIDO's Set of Industrial Development Indicators will be expanded both in terms of number of indicators and the number of countries covered.

PE	Heading	Text
3.11	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Future action in joint data collection (structural business statistics)</u>: agreement on joint data collection has been reached between OECD and Eurostat. ◆ <u>Future action in data collection on SME statistics</u>: Data collection will continue to be carried out by OECD. ◆ Development of recommendations and guidelines for the compilation of output indicators for services. OECD work is carried out under the auspices of the newly created Short Term Economic Statistics Expert Group (STESSEG) which will hold its second meeting in June 2003.
3.11	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
3.11	Rapporteur	OECD
3.11	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: SBS Implementation Annex 6 and 7, once a year (4-5 March 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Business Statistics Directors, once a year (11-12 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Business Statistics Directors - PHARE, once a year (13 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: SBS Implementation + SBS Quality, once a year (29 September-1 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Foreign Affiliates Trade Statistics (FATS), once a year (13-15 January 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Structural Business Statistics (SBS) Steering Group, once a year (11-12 February 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Business Services Statistics/Demand for services, twice a year (31 March – 2 April 2003, 3-5 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Enterprises Demography, once a year (10-11 April 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Short-term Statistics (STS) General Working Party, twice a year (30 June-1 July 2003, 24-25 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Short-term Statistics (STS) Special Thematic Working Party, once or twice a year (15 September 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Factors of success, once a year (7-8 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: Committee: Statistical Programme Preparatory Committee for European Statistical System Regulation PRODCOM , twice a year (16-17 June 2003, 17-19 November 2003) ◆ ECE/FAO Joint Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics, spring 2003, Geneva ◆ OECD: Statistical Working Party of the Industry Committee, Autumn 2003 ◆ OECD: Short-term Economic Statistics Expert Group, once a year (two days). Second meeting to be held on 26-27 June 2003 ◆ Joint OECD – European Commission meeting on Business Tendency Surveys and Consumer Surveys to be held around November 2003.

PE	Heading	Text
3.11	Activities of the CES	<p>Within the EU 5th Framework Programme on "Specific programmes promoting competitive and sustainable growth", the European machine-tool builders association CECIMO (Comité Européen de Coopération des Industries de la Machine-Outil) has been appointed the co-ordinator of a four year project on socio-economic aspects of manufacturing technologies. CECIMO has asked ECE to participate in the statistics related aspects of this project. This work will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ defining the manufacturing technology sector (in the same way as the ICT sector has been defined and which partly overlap with the manufacturing technology sector),▪ develop statistics which better capture production and supply of manufacturing systems, in contrast to stand-alone machining concepts,▪ suggest improvements in the classification systems;▪ create short-term indicators; and▪ establish networks of competence in this area. <p>Secretariat resources: minimal</p>

PE 3.12

PE	Heading	Text
3.12	Title	Energy statistics
3.12	Goal	That there exist energy sector statistics that are consistent with international standards and definitions
3.12	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The integrated compilation of statistics on energy; ◆ The use of internationally agreed and harmonised concepts and definitions; ◆ Proper linkages between energy statistics, other fields of economic statistics (e.g. conventional industrial statistics and transport statistics) and environmental statistics. ◆ Reducing the gap between supply and demand in monthly oil statistics. ◆ Monitoring of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) (EU) ◆ Development of methods for temperature correction of monthly statistics (EU)
3.12	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Consistent, integrated data on energy statistics - flows of production and consumption – compiled according to agreed frameworks. ◆ Assessment of whether different databases for energy statistics are needed. ◆ Dissemination from time to time of updates to existing standards and methods for the compilation of energy statistics. ◆ A PRODCOM/Energy list will be drawn up and published by Eurostat. ◆ Establishing a Renewables database (IEA/OECD) ◆ Improvement of the transparency of oil data (IEA/OECD) ◆ Development of statistics on useful energy (EU) ◆ Define list of indicators of effectiveness of competition in gas industry (EU)
3.12	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Production of a manual on energy questionnaires (IEA/OECD) ◆ An inter-organisations website on monthly statistics (IEA/OECD-EU) ◆ Pocketbook <i>Sustainable development – Energy Indicators</i> (EU) ◆ Inventory of national methodologies (EU) ◆ Revised methodological manual (EU)
3.12	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Nothing
3.12	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
3.12	Rapporteur	OECD/IEA
3.12	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Energy Statistics Committee, once a year (13-14 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG/TF: Price Statistics, once a year (6 March 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Energy Efficiency, once a year (26 March 2003) ◆ IEA/OECD-EU: 4th International Meeting on Oil Statistics – Cairo – May 2003 – Joint meeting with Eurostat/APEC/OLADE/OPEC and UNSD ◆ IEA/OECD-EU International meeting on Energy Statistics (2004)
3.12	Activities of CES	No ECE-OECD/IEA-Eurostat joint meeting is planned in the next biennium. The shared work on data collection will continue as before. Secretariat resources: Minimal

PE 3. 13

PE	Heading	Text
3.13	Title	Science and technology statistics
3.13	Goal	Establish and maintain international statistical standards in the field of science and technology (S&T) statistics, including definitions and statistical methods. S&T covers research and development (R&D), innovation, patents, -technology balance of payments and human resources in S&T (HRST).
3.13	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Describe statistically the role of S&T in the national innovation systems of member countries and the economic impact and determinants of S&T activities; ◆ Improve the set of internationally agreed standards and conceptual frameworks for the compilation of S&T statistics, adapt them to evolving economic conditions (e.g. emergence of new activities such as IT and biotechnologies) and changing policy needs.
3.13	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The review of the Oslo Manual for innovation surveys will start in 2003, with a meeting at OECD in March and a Eurostat conference in April ◆ The work on HRST, for methodological improvement and extension of data collection will continue. ◆ The activity of patents, aimed at building an international statistical infrastructure (methods and data bases) will continue, in co-operation notably with patent offices and the WIPO. ◆ Bridging the gap between the Frascati approach and national accounts for R&D statistics. ◆ Developing countries launch their own statistical compilation programmes on e-commerce and the use of ICT ◆ Development of IT indicators database
3.13	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development of R&D data consistent with national accounts. ◆ Revised Oslo manual (finalised possibly in 2005). ◆ Revised guidelines for HRST statistics. ◆ Revised guidelines for patents statistics.
3.13	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Finalise improvements of various aspects of the Frascati Manual for R&D surveys and put them into practice. ◆ Continue to develop and improve surveys of technological innovation and the associated indicators and, where necessary, improve the Oslo Manual. ◆ Update and expand existing methodologies and surveys in order to provide better indicators of the internationalization of science and technology and its application. ◆ Improve regional breakdowns within member countries. ◆ Continue analytical and methodological work on patents and where necessary improve the Patent Manual.
3.13	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.13	Rapporteur	OECD

PE	Heading	Text
3.13	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE/OECD/EUROSTAT/UNCTAD/ITU/UNESCO Workshop on Monitoring the Information Society: Data, Measurement and Methods (8-9 December 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: S&T and Innovation Statistics (19-21 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: R&D Benchmarking and Innovation statistics, 3 times a year (7-8 May 2003, 23-24 September 2003) ◆ OECD in co-operation with Eurostat: workshop for launching the revision of the Oslo manual, March 2003. ◆ OECD: workshop on HRST statistics, March 2003. ◆ OECD and WIPO: Conference on Patent indicators, April 2003. ◆ OECD: meeting of the ad-hoc group of NESTI for biotechnology, May 2003. ◆ OECD: Working Party of National Experts on Science and Technology Indicators -- NESTI--, yearly meeting, June 2003. ◆ OECD: Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society (WPIIS), 5-7 May 2003
3.13	Activities of CES	<p>Back-to-back with the World Summit on the Information Society a Statistical Workshop will be jointly organized by ECE, OECD, EUROSTAT, UNCTAD, ITU and UNESCO under the general motto: Monitoring the Information Society: Data, Measurement and Methods. The Workshop, which will take place in Geneva on 8 and 9 December 2003, will consider the following main topics: (i) Overview of ICT Production and Usage, (ii) Household Usage; (iii) Enterprise Usage; and (iv) Government and Social Impact.</p>

PE 3.14

PE	Heading	Text
3.14	Title	Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics
3.14	Goal	That there exist business registers of sufficiently good quality to support required statistical activity and that the best use is made of administrative records for statistical purposes.
3.14	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Promoting the use of business registers and general purpose survey frames for business surveys. ◆ Dissemination of best practices used by countries in the construction and maintenance of business registers. ◆ Assisting transition economies in constructing sampling frames, in maintaining their coverage and quality with particular emphasis on new business accessions and changes, and in defining their structure and major applications, particularly in the area of statistics on small and medium-sized enterprises and in the long run, to develop techniques for obtaining full information on the demography of enterprises. ◆ The harmonization of the coverage of business registers and the concepts used, and of the uses of business registers. ◆ Training on the definition and application of statistical units in business registers and on the use of business registers as a coordinated survey tool. Although this need is particularly striking in the case of CITs, it is not limited to this group of countries.
3.14	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The harmonization of the treatment of enterprise groups, which is essential for improving statistics on globalisation; in this context, the development of the OECD Manual on Economic Globalisation Indicators is important and an agreement at the UN level should be achieved. ◆ Revision of the Eurostat Business Registers Manual of Recommendations. ◆ Occasional bulletins with details on standard frame contents (Eurostat); methods, costs, and pitfalls related to the construction of frames (Roundtable on Business Frames).
3.14	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Recommendations for inclusion in the Manual on the harmonisation of the treatment of enterprise groups. ◆ Completion of the update of the Manual of Recommendations regarding registers.
3.14	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Many countries are still in the implementing phase of the harmonization and development of business registers as a survey frame and source of information. ◆ A global harmonization of the treatment of enterprise groups is necessary, as the information on enterprise groups is essential for improving statistics on globalisation; in this context, the development of the OECD Manual of Economic Globalisation Indicators is important and an agreement at the UN level should be achieved.
3.14	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
3.14	Rapporteur	Eurostat
3.14	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Joint ECE/EUROSTAT Seminar on Business Registers (25-26 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT TF: Statistical Units, 3 times a year (20 May 2003, 15 December 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Statistical Units – Enterprise Group, once a year, October 2003 (2 days) (not yet defined) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Business Registers, once a year (24-25 June 2003) ◆ Roundtable on Business Survey Frames: Next meeting is scheduled for October 2003 in Rome, Italy.

PE	Heading	Text
3.14	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Joint ECE/EUROSTAT Seminar on Business Registers (25-26 June 2003), to consider:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Development and harmonisation of a common glossary for business registers and of the Eurostat manual;▪ Quality issues and coverage of business registers;▪ Implications of globalisation for statistical business registers;▪ Links between administrative and statistical business registers;▪ Collection of information and further development of identity cards on business registers within member countries▪ Uses and dissemination of information from business registers within member countries

PE 3. 99

PE	Heading	Text
3.99	Title	Other work in the field of economic statistics
3.99	Goal	That there exist consistent and comprehensive statistics on the areas covered below that are consistent with international standards and definitions.
3.99	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Enhancement of euro-zone statistics and indicators.
3.99	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To provide a set of high quality short-term indicators for the Euro-zone. ◆ Increase coverage of Eurostat's Concepts and Definitions Database (CODED) to over all Eurostat's work areas.
3.99	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improvements in the Euro Indicators web site.
3.99	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Short-term statistics are ever more demanded for policy makers and analysts having to monitor the short-term economic situation. Therefore, the production of a high level quality service is regarded as a project of the utmost importance in the euro-zone as well as for the European Union as a whole. ◆ The European Statistical System High Level Group has been created to guarantee the improvement of key EU/EMU short-term economic indicators (define a draft list of Principal European Economic Indicators as well as a plan for improving in particular the timeliness of the indicators) and assure the follow-up of the EMU Action Plan and EU/USA Benchmarking. ◆ The increasing importance of international accounting rules (reference: Enron and similar cases) and the need to study their likely impact on statistics should urge statisticians to: integrate the existing discussion fora; to endorse standardisation of accounting and support reduction of reporting burden for enterprises; and try to have an influence in the use of accounting concepts to statistical purposes.
3.99	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
3.99	Rapporteur	Eurostat
3.99	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT: WG FEBI-FEBS-UNICE-Eurostat-INS, once a year (10 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Euro-Indicators, once a year (10-11 June 2003)
3.99	Activities of CES	None

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 4
SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS**

PE	Heading	Text
4.1	Title	Demographic statistics (including projections, migration, fertility and families and households)
4.1	Goal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That member states be able to produce reliable, internationally comparable and timely demographic statistics and projections according to international standards, thereby facilitating national policy-making and internationally comparative analysis.
4.1	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Poor quality migration estimates (international and internal). ◆ Varying quality of local population registers (undercounting and over-counting). ◆ Relative infrequency of national population censuses.
4.1	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Registers</u>: Improved quality of population registers, including conversion into electronic form. ◆ The role of high quality local, regional and centralised population registers and their integration should play a more prominent role in the planned future work of NSIs in the region. ◆ <u>Projections</u>: Use of best practices for demographic estimates and projections (for Eurostat). ◆ <u>Migration</u>: 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 (ECE, Eurostat and UNSD). ◆ Increased compliance with the international recommendations on international migration statistics adopted in 1997 by the UN Statistical Commission (applicable to all Organizations). ◆ Improved data on international migration flows (for all Organizations). ◆ Improved integration between migration stock and flow data (applicable to all Organizations). ◆ Provision of monthly immigration and asylum data in support of Treaty of Amsterdam provisions on security and free movement of people (for Eurostat). ◆ Provision of guidance and technical assistance to transition economies, countries in the Mediterranean region and other countries interested in putting in place statistical systems for measuring immigration and emigration flows (ECE and Eurostat). ◆ <u>Fertility</u>: Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in transition economies comprising work on the ECE population database (for the ECE PAU). ◆ Promotion and coordination of conduct of a new round of surveys. Search for funding modalities at the regional and national level (for the ECE PAU). ◆ Improved documenting and understanding of changes in the fertility behaviour in the context of family and society changes (for ECE/PAU). ◆ <u>Families and households</u>: Promotion and coordination of conduct of a new round of surveys on the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations. Search for funding modalities at the regional and national level (ECE and Eurostat). ◆ Further elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey data, census-based microdata samples and macro-level contextual indicators in support of this research (for the ECE PAU, subject to the availability of additional extra-budgetary funds).
4.1	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Projections</u>: The next update of demographic, labour and other base data for the 2003/2004 projections; Report of a group of experts to study and discuss the relationship between population and labour market trends (Eurostat). ◆ <u>Migration</u>: Develop a plan for the field of international migration statistics aimed at having a small number of countries in the region attempt to assess whether, how and

PE	Heading	Text
		<p>to what extent the 1997 set of UN recommendations on international migration statistics can be used by them in real life situations to derive immigration and emigration statistics that would be more internationally comparable than the statistics they are currently compiling (ECE and Eurostat in Europe and North America; UNSD in other regions).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Fertility</u>: The collection of new internationally comparable survey data to document and explain fertility behaviour. Data to include information on fertility outcomes and their contexts – 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 (ECE). ◆ To promote further analysis of the FFS data by making standard recode tapes available to researchers and, subject to availability of resources, carry out further analysis (ECE). ◆ <u>Families and households</u>: Assessment of current definitions and classifications of families and households, particularly with reference to emerging new types of family and household units; development of improved concepts, definitions and classifications for them for use in the 2010 round of censuses and in other sources (ECE, Eurostat and UNSD). ◆ <u>Demographic accounting, and the integration of population flow and stock data</u>: The integration of population flow and stock data, both in spatial and in temporal dimensions, is a basic requirement of any coherent demographic accounting system, and in this respect the situation in the ECE region is far from satisfactory. The first step towards better integration of flows and stocks should be a concrete specification of demographic accounts for the ECE region (Eurostat). <p>For Council of Europe the following studies will be published in 2003:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Catalogue of the definitions of existing data sources and of their objectives, data collection and processing, particularly in the areas of: ◆ The Economically Active Population in Europe: perspectives and policies ◆ Very low fertility: the patterns and their implications ◆ Active ageing in Europe ◆ Contraceptive behaviour of young Europeans ◆ The economically active population in Europe ◆ Reproductive health ◆ Changing family formation trends in Europe ◆ Social exclusion <p>For Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Updated version of <i>Definition and methods of collection of demographic statistics</i>. <p>For UN Population Division :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Review and appraisal of implementation of Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.
4.1	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>International migration</u>: In the field of international migration statistics there are various problems that need particular attention, including the limitations of traditional statistical methods, the poor comparability of data, and thus the limited applicability of the UN recommendations by Member States. ◆ The Bureau urges countries to work towards achieving a greater degree of harmonisation in national definitions of immigration and emigration, and encourages them to seriously consider complying more fully with the UN recommendations. This will entail NSIs considering the many basic issues that are involved here, and looking at the policy implications and not just the statistical ones. ◆ Estimates of international migration flows remain very low in quality, and in order to improve them it is important that NSIs work in close cooperation with the other Government agencies and administrations concerned

PE	Heading	Text
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Families and households</u>: It is becoming increasingly difficult to use the existing internationally recommended concepts, definitions and classifications of families and households to statistically account for emerging new types of households and families in countries throughout the region. ◆ The Bureau commended the proposal that Norway submitted to Eurostat's 2002 and 2003 Meetings of Directors of Social Statistics, calling for ECE and Eurostat to work together in an attempt to study the statistical implications of the many new types of families, households and living arrangements growing in importance in countries in the region. The Bureau welcomed the proposal that ECE and Eurostat collaborate closely with interested NSIs in the region in addressing these problems in the coming few years. The Bureau reaffirmed the importance of advancing work in this area. ◆ The cooperation among international organisations in data collection should be further improved.
4.1	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities of CES" below). ◆ That interested NSIs support the ECE initiative on the Generations and Gender Programme (GGP) in implementing in their country a GGP survey. ◆ That Eurostat and ECE collaborate closely with interested NSIs in the region in addressing the statistical implications of emerging new types of families and households in the region, and that the work be advanced so that it can inter alia feed into the content of the new set of ECE-Eurostat recommendations for the 2010 round of censuses in the region. ◆ See also Add. 7 of the Integrated Presentation for recommendations emanating from the April 2003 ECE-Eurostat joint work session on migration statistics.
4.1	Rapporteur	ECE (migration, fertility), Eurostat (demographic estimates and projections, statistics of families and households).
4.1	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Joint ECE/EUROSTAT Work session on migration statistics, once every two years, in spring (next on 28-30 April 2003). ◆ Joint ECE/EUROSTAT Work session on demographic projections (Vienna, 15-18 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Demographic Statistics and Census, once every two years in February (19-21 February 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: CIREA Statistical experts group (25 September 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: CIREFI Statistical experts group (7 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Migration Statistics, once every two years in February (next in 2004) ◆ OECD: Continuous reporting system on migration (SOPEMI) Expert Group, 10-12 December 2003 ◆ UNSD: Interregional workshop on compiling international migration statistics (June 2003) ◆ UNSD: Expert Group on Review of demographic yearbook: collection, compilation and dissemination of demographic statistics (October 2003) ◆ United Nations Population Division: Expert Meeting on the Measurement of Adult Mortality (14-18 July 2003) ◆ United Nations Population Division: Expert group meeting on mortality and HIV/AIDS (2004-2005) ◆ United Nations Population Division: Expert group meeting on population policies: past, present and future (2004-2005) ◆ United Nations Population Division: Expert group meeting on social and economic implications of changing population age structures (2004-2005) ◆ United Nations Population Division: Technical meeting on projections methodology, with special emphasis on the projection of the impact of HIV/AIDS (2004-2005)

PE	Heading	Text
		<p><u>Meetings organized by the ECE Population Activities Unit:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Seventh meeting of the Consortium Board of the Generations and Gender Programme on the launching of the data collection (Fall 2003). ◆ Third meeting of the Informal Working Group of the Generations and Gender Programme (Fall 2003 or Spring 2004) ◆ Eight meeting of the Consortium Board of the Generations and Gender Programme on the launching of the data collection (Spring 2004) ◆ Fourth meeting of the Informal Working Group of the Generations and Gender Programme (Fall 2004 or Spring 2005) ◆ Ninth meeting of the Informal Working Group of the Generations and Gender Programme (Spring 2005)
4.1	Activities of CES	<p><u>Migration:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Annual collection of statistics on international migration flows (joint data collection of Eurostat, ECE, UNSD, Council of Europe and ILO). ◆ Work session on migration statistics (28-30 April 2003), jointly with Eurostat, to consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ First results on international migration from the 2000 round of population censuses, comparison with other sources and any indications on coverage and reliability; ▪ Results of the pilot exercises on border card systems and work on residence permit systems carried out in 2002 in specific MED-MIGR and other countries, and the collection of international migration data from the MED-MIGR countries; ▪ Estimates of undocumented migration and of other major categories of migrants not included in standard immigration and emigration statistics; ▪ Synergies between international migration statistics and statistics on other topics with particular relevance to policy needs, including the need for international flow statistics in providing services across borders; ▪ Development of a regional strategy to promote progress by ECE and Eurostat countries towards complying more fully with the UN recommendations on international migration statistics. <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial</p> <p><u>Projections:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Work session on demographic projections (Austria, 15-18 October 2003, jointly with Eurostat), to consider the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Latest international, national and sub-national population and household projections; ▪ New approaches and experiences in estimating, analysing and projecting trends and patterns of fertility, mortality, migration and household structures and dynamics; ▪ Accuracy and uncertainty in international, national and sub-national population and household projections; ▪ Documentation and dissemination strategies; ▪ Users and uses of projections; and ▪ Evaluation and use of projections software. <p>Secretariat resources: Minimal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Fertility, family and reproductive health:</u> Further promotion of cross-national comparative research with the FFS data. ◆ <u>Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development:</u> Further development and regular updating of the ECE population database. ◆ <u>Generations and Gender:</u> (subject to availability of additional extra-budgetary funds): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) promotion and coordination of conduct of a new round of cross-nationally

PE	Heading	Text
		<p>comparable surveys conducive to documenting and explaining changes in the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations; (ii) promotion and collection of census samples from the 2000-round of censuses in cooperation with the Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota, within the framework of the IPUMS Europe project; this will support the research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations and (iii) inventory of national and international databases for the contextual macro-level indicators. Further elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey and census sample data and macro-level contextual data for the study of the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations.</p> <p><u>Priority objective of the methodological work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Generations and Gender:</u> Technical documents pertaining respectively to the collection and standardization of (i) new survey data; (ii) 2000-round micro-data census samples and (iii) contextual macro-level indicators. <p><u>New activities to be undertaken:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <u>Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development:</u> (i) development of a system to make data available through the Web; (ii) conduct of studies on recent population developments in transition economies. ◆ <u>Generations and Gender:</u> 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. For the contextual analysis: inventory of relevant national and international databases; designing a conceptual framework for contextual data and analysis.

PE 4. 2a

PE	Heading	Text
4.2a	Title	Population and housing censuses
4.2a	Goal	That censuses be conducted according to international standards and norms of efficiency and effectiveness while meeting the needs of individual countries.
4.2a	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Sensitive topics (e.g. ethnicity, families and the measurement of unpaid work in the household). ◆ Concepts, definitions and classifications of families and households that were used in the recommendations for the 2000 round of censuses are not very well suited to emerging new types of households and families in many ECE countries, and therefore are in need of revision (see also PE 4.1 above).
4.2a	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Preparation of sets of regional international recommendations for new rounds of censuses, tailored to the circumstances and needs of countries in the ECE region (work on the preparation of the new set of ECE-Eurostat recommendations for the 2010 round of censuses will have to be carried out in the 2003-2007 period. UNSD will have to engage in this activity as well, but its work will be primarily geared to the circumstances and needs of developing countries whereas the ECE recommendations are geared primarily to the circumstances and needs of statistically more advanced countries.). <p>For ECE and Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Exchanges of experiences among national and international statistical services on critical issues emerging in the 2000 round of censuses. ◆ The provision of advisory services and technical assistance to national statistical offices in the ECE region, and particularly newly independent states, on the utilisation 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. <p>For Eurostat, UNSD, the ILO and CIS/STAT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The preparation and publication of guidelines and methodological materials on censuses. <p>For countries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 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).
4.2a	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Distribution by ECE to all member countries and to international organizations of compendia of census questionnaires used by ECE countries in the 2000 round of censuses (ECE). ◆ Publication of Handbook on the collection of data on fertility and mortality (UNSD, 2003). ◆ Publication of Handbook on the collection of economic characteristics on population censuses (UNSD and ILO, 2004). ◆ Preparation of a new set of ECE-Eurostat recommendations for the 2010 round of population and housing censuses in the ECE Region (ECE, in collaboration with Eurostat)
4.2a	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Several countries were unable to carry out the censuses for financial or technical reasons. ◆ The planned transition from traditional censuses to register-based censuses that is to take place in some countries in the region can have important consequences (e.g. in areas such as statistics on special groups).

PE	Heading	Text
4.2a	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below). ◆ See also Add. 7 of the Integrated Presentation for recommendations emanating from the May 2003 ECE-Eurostat joint work session on population and housing censuses.
4.2a	Rapporteur	ECE
4.2a	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Joint ECE-Eurostat Work Session on population and housing censuses (21-23 May 2003, Ohrid, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). ◆ EUROSTAT WG regional statistics (accounts), (22-23 May 2003). ◆ EUROSTAT: See also P.E. 4.1 – Demographic Statistics. ◆ UNSD: Workshop on Census Management in ESCWA countries – 2003.
4.2a	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Joint ECE-Eurostat Work Session on population and housing censuses (21-23 May 2003, Ohrid, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia). Items on the agenda are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Lessons learned from the 2000 round of population and housing censuses (concepts, collection, processing, outputs);</i> ▪ <i>Planning for the next census; and</i> ▪ <i>Process to be used in producing an updated set of “Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses”.</i> ◆ Distribution to countries of compendia of questionnaires used by countries in the 2000 round of censuses, as reference material to be used by them in planning their next censuses. ◆ Planning and commencement of work on the preparation of a new set of recommendations for ECE-Eurostat countries for use by them in the 2010 round of censuses (ECE and Eurostat, commencing in 2003/2004). <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ See also the work carried out by the Population Activities Unit in PE 4.1 and 4.2 b) under <u>Generations and Gender</u>, which is related to gender statistics.

PE 4. 2b

PE	Heading	Text
4.2b	Title	Statistics on population groups of special interest (NOTE: for disability statistics, see P.E. 4.9 – Health statistics.)
4.2b	Goal	That comprehensive and comparable data are collected on population groups of special interest.
4.2b	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Better coordination of research on the older population, minorities, children, refugees, the homeless, etc. ◆ Integration of data collection on these groups with that of current surveys (an example is the 2002 ad-hoc Labour Force survey module on employment of disabled people, discussed in P.E. 4.9, Health statistics).
4.2b	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Preparation of recommendations for a series of internationally comparable reports on population groups of special interest (ECE). ◆ Agreements on data collection priorities and related research concerning the behaviour and conditions of certain groups of special interest with national and regional partners; (ECE, ILO). ◆ <i>Generations and Gender</i> project (ECE).
4.2b	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Several Child Labour Surveys in 2003-4 (ILO). ◆ Manuals on Child Labour Surveys: Manual on survey methods, and Manual on data analysis (ILO). ◆ Production of technical documents relating to <i>Generations and Gender</i> on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New survey data; ▪ Micro-census data samples; ▪ Contextual macro-level indicators. ◆ Testing of <i>Generations and Gender</i> model questionnaire.
4.2b	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Nothing
4.2b	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the ECE in this programme element (see “Activities of the CES” below).
4.2b	Rapporteur	ECE
4.2b	Meetings	<u>Meetings organized by the ECE Population Activities Unit:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Seventh meeting of the Consortium Board of the Generations and Gender Programme on the launching of the data collection (Fall 2003). ◆ Third meeting of the Informal Working Group of the Generations and Gender Programme (Fall 2003 or Spring 2004). ◆ Eighth meeting of the Consortium Board of the Generations and Gender Programme on the launching of the data collection (Spring 2004). ◆ Fourth meeting of the Informal Working Group of the Generations and Gender Programme (Fall 2004 or Spring 2005). ◆ Ninth meeting of the Informal Working Group of the Generations and Gender Programme (Spring 2005).

PE	Heading	Text
4.2b	Activities of the CES	<p><u>Ongoing methodological work:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 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 in cooperation with the Minnesota Population Center, University of Minnesota, within the framework of the IPUMS Europe project (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. <p><u>Priority objective of the methodological work:</u></p> <p><u>Generations and Gender:</u> Technical documents pertaining respectively to the collection and standardisation of (i) new survey data; (ii) 2000-round micro-data census samples and (iii) contextual macro-level indicators.</p> <p><u>New activities to be undertaken:</u></p> <p><u>Generations and Gender:</u> 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. For the contextual analysis: inventory of relevant national and international databases; designing a conceptual framework for contextual data and analysis.</p>

PE 4.3

PE	Heading	Text
4.3	Title	Human settlements and housing statistics (For household income statistics see P.E. 4.7a – Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income statistics.)
4.3	Goal	That housing statistics be adequate for policy needs and public purposes and conform to international standards and norms.
4.3	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Social aspects of housing and in particular social exclusion to be included. ◆ This is a low priority area e.g., in Eurostat this work depends entirely on data sources that currently exist, namely, the European Community Household Panel (ECHP), population and housing surveys and household budget surveys.
4.3	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Review of the data collected by UNECE for the Housing Bulletin. ◆ Continuation of work as described above. It should be noted that ECE and Eurostat are among the few international organisations working in this field.
4.3	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Introduction of <i>EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC)</i>. ◆ Revision of the UNECE Bulletin on Housing. ◆ Production of <i>Basic areas for improvement in the housing market and living conditions</i> (taking account of the results of new population censuses in the CIS) in 2003 (CIS-STAT).
4.3	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Nothing
4.3	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference notes and endorses the activities to be undertaken by other Divisions and PSB's in the ECE. ◆ That the Conference and Eurostat work in collaboration with the ECE's Committee on Human Settlements in organizing a consultation among interested countries (represented by housing specialists and NSO experts) to review data collected and published in the ECE's Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics.
4.3	Rapporteur	Eurostat (in cooperation with Habitat).
4.3	Meetings	None
4.3	Activities of CES	Interested statistical offices in the region (CES and Eurostat) to collaborate in the consultation proposed by the ECE Committee on Human Settlements (see Committee work below) aimed at reviewing data collected for inclusion in the ECE's Annual Bulletin for Housing and Building Statistics and further considering what statistical data are needed for housing policy purposes and assessing how to better coordinate work carried out in the region.

PE	Heading	Text
4.3	Activities of ECE Committee on Human Settlements:	<p><u>Ongoing methodological work:</u> 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. The secretariat presented an analysis of data available for the ECE Bulletin as well as possible actions to streamline the preparation and presentation of housing and building statistics for the ECE countries.</p> <p><u>Priority objective of the methodological work:</u> The Committee on Human Settlements invited interested delegations to send to the secretariat information on additional data to be collected and needed for housing policy purposes.</p> <p><u>New activities</u> The Committee agreed to organize a consultation in cooperation with the Conference of European Statisticians and with Eurostat to review data collected and further consider which statistical data are needed for housing policy purposes and better coordinate work carried out in the region.</p> <p><u>Data collection:</u> 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.</p> <p><u>Housing database:</u> The Environment and Human Settlements Division has developed and maintains a Housing database (HS), with specific reference to data on housing and building. Data are collected for the "ECE Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics" and through the Country Profiles on the Housing Sector from a number of both national and international sources. Provenance is clearly indicated for each entry. The database is available on ECE's intranet, but also on the Internet through the address <http://w3.unece.org/environment/humansettlements.asp>. Data on the Internet are replicated every night from the internal database. Therefore information is up to date according to the data entry schedule.</p>

PE 4.4

PE	Heading	Text
4.4	Title	Labour statistics
4.4	Goal	That labour statistics be adequate for describing labour market conditions and identifying 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 and conform to international standards and norms.
4.4	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development of statistics on labour market dynamics. ◆ Need to revise ISCO-88. ◆ Reconciliation of labour statistics from different sources. ◆ Child labour. ◆ Informal employment. ◆ Social dialogue. ◆ Quality of employment. ◆ Working time. ◆ Demand for labour.
4.4	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 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. ◆ To develop statistics on informal employment (see programme element 3.1). ◆ To develop statistics on social dialogue. ◆ A co-ordinated work plan for data collection in the field of labour statistics for statistics to be collected by Eurostat, the ILO and the OECD. ◆ Co-operation and co-ordination among the international organisations concerned in the development and improvement of international statistical instruments and in technical co-operation and training. ◆ Publication of methodological analyses on earnings labour costs and labour prices and on employment and unemployment statistics.
4.4	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 2003 ◆ Collection of job vacancy data (EU) ◆ Statistical compilation on "The labour market in Commonwealth countries" (in Russian and English), 2003 (CIS-STAT)
4.4	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The need to revise ISCO-88 will be discussed at the 17th International Conference of Labour Statistics end of November 2003. When the need to revise or only to update the ISCO-88 (and its Community version) is confirmed, Eurostat could co-operate with ILO assuming also the availability of necessary resources. ◆ Work is needed on the harmonization of the measurement of income earnings. A higher degree of harmonisation of the measures of income should be achieved with the Statistics on Income and Living Conditions developed by Eurostat. ◆ The ILO considers that there is a growing need for NSIs to collect information needed for measuring the quality of work, and to measure progress being made by countries towards decent work. ◆ At the Lisbon Special European Council (March 2000) the EU set itself as the strategic goal for the next decade to become the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs, and greater social cohesion. ◆ There is a need to reinforce communication and coordination between international and supranational agencies working in the field of labour statistics, particularly with reference to the collection of data from NSIs and the development of international guidelines.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Bureau has decided to invite the ILO to participate in one of the Bureau's meetings in the upcoming year, in order to discuss some of the critical issues it identified in its Rapporteur Report and to receive advice from it on how best the Bureau could address some of those issues.
4.4	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities of CES" below).
4.4	Rapporteur	ILO
4.4	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Employment Statistics, twice a year (18-19 September 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: WG: Statistics on Wages and Labour Costs, twice a year (27-28 March 2003, 7-8 October 2003) ◆ ILO: 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 24 November - 3 December 2003: The two main topics on the agenda will involve the revision of existing international standards: consumer price indices and household income and expenditure statistics. Other topics to be discussed include: statistics and indicators of decent work, working time, measurement of informal employment, gender mainstreaming in labour statistics, occupational safety and health statistics, statistics of trade union membership and collective bargaining agreements, statistics of disabled workers, and the need for revision of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO-88). ◆ Joint ECE-Eurostat-ILO Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment (see section "Activities of CES"). ◆ Paris Group: Meeting in 2003 on (most probably) measurement of working time
4.4	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment (jointly with Eurostat and ILO) on the theme "Equitable opportunities for employment: conceptual and methodological issues", to consider the following topics: (i) Access to the labour market, social exclusion; (ii) Inadequate employment situations (skill-related, income-related, etc.); (iii) Non-discrimination at work or in access to work (sex, age, education, ethnic origin, migration status, balance between work and family life, etc.); (iv) Workers' representation and participation. (Timing of the meeting to be proposed to the CES Bureau based on consultations to take place between ILO and Eurostat and interested countries serving on the meeting's Steering Committee). <p>Secretariat resources: Minimal</p>

PE 4.5

PE	Heading	Text
4.5	Title	Education and training statistics
4.5	Goal	That education and training statistics be adequate for policy needs and public purposes and conform to international standards and norms.
4.5	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development work is still required 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. ◆ Development of “learning outcomes” indicators. ◆ Development of statistics on adult education and early childhood education.
4.5	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Produce regular, reliable and internationally comparable indicators of student achievement in reading, mathematics and science. ◆ Fully take advantage of the 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. ◆ The expansion of the UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat data collection procedures and definitions to more countries in the ECE region. ◆ Consolidation of data collection on teachers. ◆ The improvement of comparability of Finance statistics in Education and training. ◆ The development of indicators on student outcomes, the school-to-work transition, non-institutional tertiary education, disparities in educational access and attainment; early childhood education, teacher training and professional development, decision making and school autonomy, school leadership, and the use of information technology in the classroom. ◆ To enhance cooperation and collaboration between the international organisations with regard to the collection and publication of education and training statistics. ◆ To develop methodology and tools for measuring teacher quality, teachers’ work conditions and socio-economic factors affecting teacher supply. ◆ To pursue development work in a number of areas, in particular the school-to-work transition, vocational education, lifelong learning (including continuing education and training), early childhood education, tertiary education (private funding and the separation of research from teaching expenditures) and disparities in educational access, resources and achievement. ◆ To continue assistance in the implementation of the UNESCO / OECD / Eurostat questionnaire, definitions and methodology to developing and transition economies.
4.5	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Database on investments in training will be established (ILO) ◆ Implementation of LFS modules on lifelong learning (2003) (EU) ◆ Development of an EU Adult Education Survey (Target: 2006) (EU) ◆ Preparation of the 3rd Continuing Vocational Training Survey (CVTS) (target: 2005) (EU) ◆ International Survey of Upper Secondary Schools – Initial report (2003) ◆ On-line teacher database
4.5	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Work by the CES in this field has been essentially dormant for several years, awaiting UNESCO’s Institute for Statistics, the international organization that has primary competence in this work area, to propose work of possible mutual interest to it, the CES and other international organizations.

PE	Heading	Text
4.5	Rapporteur	OECD
4.5	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Education and Training Statistics (ETS), once a year in January ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Technical subgroup of the ETS WG on “UOE (UNESCO-OECD-Eurostat) data collection”, once a year (10 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Continuous Vocational Training Survey (CVTS), twice a year (3-4 July 2003, 13-14 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT TF: AES, 2nd meeting (26-28 March 2003) (Paris) ◆ EUROSTAT TF: AES, 3rd meeting (16-18 June 2003) (Helsinki) ◆ EUROSTAT TF: AES, 4th meeting (23-24 October 2003) (London) ◆ OECD Network A: 20-21 March 2003, Mexico; October 2003. ◆ OECD Network B: 3-5 February 2003, Spain; November 2003. ◆ OECD Network C: 14-16 May 2003, Netherlands; December 2003. ◆ OECD Technical Group: July 2003, Paris; December 2003, Mexico.
4.5	Activities of CES	None

PE 4.6

PE	Heading	Text
4.6	Title	Culture statistics
4.6	Goal	That cultural statistics be adequate for policy needs, and can meet the increasing expectations of both new and traditional communities for official statistics to span all aspects of their way of life.
4.6	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The lack of an international framework for culture statistics with linkages to social and demographic statistics and to economic statistics (especially national accounts). ◆ The need to establish or improve programs of integrated data on cultural activities. ◆ Exploration of the link between cultural participation and social goals.
4.6	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To develop a work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess current international culture statistics against the goal listed above. ▪ Highlight areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies. ▪ Suggest priorities where major advances in line with the objectives would be promising. ◆ To develop an internationally agreed common language on culture statistics that goes well beyond the current UNESCO framework. Only joint efforts of international organisations will make possible acceptable proposals on this matter.
4.6	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The next ECE-Eurostat-Unesco-OECD joint meeting to be organized by the four organizations should not focus on international comparability but on more basic issues such as clarifying what is meant by culture and cultural statistics, who the users are, what the users expect and need and what the next joint meeting should aim at achieving.
4.6	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Work by the CES in this field has been essentially dormant for several years, awaiting UNESCO's Institute for Statistics, the international organization that has primary competence in this work area, to propose work of possible mutual interest to it, the CES and other international organizations. ◆ Countries are encouraged to start using international classifications already available (NACE, ISCO) in the production of their national statistics on culture. This would be a useful starting point for the design and implementation of the common framework referred to above in the medium-term objectives. ◆ The OECD has offered to associate itself with the next ECE-Eurostat-Unesco joint work session on cultural statistics, because of its experience in the related field of education statistics, and as a possible means of facilitating more rapid progress occurring in the field of cultural statistics.
4.6	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
4.6	Rapporteur	Eurostat (in collaboration with UNESCO's Institute for Statistics)
4.6	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO-OECD: Joint work session on culture statistics (2004/5 or later). Timing of the meeting to be proposed to the CES Bureau based on consultations to take place between Unesco, Eurostat, ECE and interested countries serving on the meeting's Steering Committee. ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Cultural Statistics, once a year (23-24 September 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: Meeting of the three TFs twice a year; first meetings in January/February and second meetings in June/July each year. These meetings are mainly prepared and chaired by Member States.

PE	Heading	Text
4.6	Activities of CES	♦ Joint ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO work session (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

PE 4. 7a

PE	Heading	Text
4.7a	Title	Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income statistics
4.7a	Goal	That there exist 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.
4.7a	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Lack of internationally comparable measures of household income. ◆ Difficulties in measuring non-income poverty. ◆ International comparability of earnings.
4.7a	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Identification of conceptual and methodological issues impeding the production of internationally comparable measures of household income and expenditure, and development of an approach to eliminate these impediments (e.g. development of international guidelines, 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, to follow national developments in collecting and compiling statistics of income related to paid and self-employment in order to evaluate the implementation of the resolution concerning the measurement of employment-related income adopted by the 16th ICLS in October 1998. ◆ To carry out further work on the consistency between the various ILO guidelines dealing with income and expenditure, CPI and employment-related income, with a view to harmonizing them.
4.7a	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Technical handbook on methods for income, poverty and social exclusion (EU, 2003) ◆ Given the Maastricht criteria and the emphasis on employment and social conditions at the 1997 Amsterdam summit and the 2000 Lisbon summit, major efforts should be continued on harmonising basic variables in the social surveys (Eurostat). ◆ For the time being, major improvements have been achieved in relation to the income definition and for monetary income poverty, and therefore the current need is to work on non-monetary indicators of social exclusion (including longitudinal indicators) (Eurostat). ◆ The 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (24 November to 3 December 2003) will adopt new international standards on household income and expenditure statistics. ◆ Recommendations on the simultaneous observation of household composition and tax payments will be drawn up in 2004 (CIS-STAT)
4.7a	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The final report and recommendations of the Canberra Group on Household Income Statistics are available at the following address: http://www.lisproject.org/links/canbaccess.htm ◆ Major improvements have been made in relation to the definition of income and for monetary income poverty, but there is a need to do more work on non-monetary indicators of social exclusion (including longitudinal indicators). Further work is also needed in the area of the measurement of income earnings, to improve data quality and international comparability.

PE	Heading	Text
4.7a	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
4.7a	Rapporteur	Eurostat
4.7a	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 24 November to 3 December 2003 ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Income, poverty and social exclusion, once a year (28-29 April 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT TF: Income, poverty and social exclusion, once a year (14-15 July 2003)
4.7a	Activities of CES	None

PE 4. 7b

PE	Heading	Text
4.7b	Title	Social security statistics
4.7b	Goal	That social security statistics be adequate for policy needs and public purposes and conform to international standards and norms.
4.7b	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Clarifying and improving the link between social protection statistics and the national accounts.
4.7b	Strategic medium-term objectives	<p>For Eurostat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Implementation of the ESSPROS (European System of Social Protection Statistics) ◆ Projects on estimation of participants of different social protection functions and estimation of net expenditure. ◆ Integration of CEEC countries in to ESSPROS should be a priority. <p>For the ECE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In the field of population ageing and the status of older persons, (i) 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 economies.
4.7b	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Publication of ESSPROS 2001 results (2003). ◆ Social protection statistics: Further work in analysing differences and inconsistencies between the two databases (SOCX and ESSPROS) should be carried out in order to gradually harmonise the questionnaire and, in a longer term, the methodology (Eurostat) ◆ In the field of Social Protection, it is particularly important to involve the Ministries of Labour, Social Security, etc., in the production of statistical data. Therefore, a close co-operation between the National Statistical Institutes and the different Ministries which collect administrative data should be encouraged in order to ensure good quality of data (Eurostat).
4.7b	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The increasing attention and the various activities on the ageing of the population and the costs associated with it. ◆ In the field of Social Protection, it is particularly important for NSIs to collaborate with and involve in the work the Ministries of Labour, Social Security, etc., in the production of statistical data. Therefore, closer co-operation between the NSIs and the different Ministries involved in collecting administrative data should be encouraged in order to ensure better quality of the data. ◆ Further work in analysing differences and inconsistencies between the SOCX and ESSPROS databases should be carried out in order to gradually harmonise the questionnaires and, in the longer term, the methodologies.
4.7b	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
4.7b	Rapporteur	Eurostat
4.7b	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT: WG: Social Protection, every 18 months (17-18 February 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Labour Market Policies, (13-14 November 2003) (once a year in November/ December)
4.7b	Activities of CES	None

PE 4.8

PE	Heading	Text
4.8	Title	Crime and criminal justice statistics
4.8	Goal	That there exist reliable, comprehensive and internationally comparable system of crime and justice statistics capable of supporting social policy development and enhanced public awareness and accountability.
4.8	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Measurement of and reporting of illegal activities, e.g., corruption, organised crime and trafficking in human beings. ◆ Vast differences in legal and justice systems create problems for statistical comparability.
4.8	Strategic medium-term objectives	<p>A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Assess current international statistics related to crime and criminal justice against the objectives listed above. ◆ Highlight areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies. ◆ Define priorities where major advances in line with the objectives would be promising.
4.8	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Manual for the Development of a System of Criminal Justice Statistics (UNSD, 2003). ◆ Second European Sourcebook project (Council of Europe)
4.8	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Further work is needed to improve data comparability of crime statistics. ◆ Attention should also be paid to the differences existing between survey data and administrative data.
4.8	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
4.8	Rapporteur	UNICRI
4.8	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Meeting of the International Crime Victim Survey Board in preparation for the fifth “sweep” of the ICVS.
4.8	Activities of CES	None

PE 4.9

PE	Heading	Text
4.9	Title	Health statistics
4.9	Goal	That there exists a coherent system of health statistics capable of supporting policy analysis and decision-making in the field of health (including long-term nursing care)
4.9	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Monitoring the performance of health care systems by tracing the inputs, throughputs and outcomes of health care systems in both monetary and non-monetary terms. ◆ Development of standardised instruments in household surveys to measure health and disability in order to supplement health data from administrative sources, and promotion of their use in national and international surveys. ◆ Integrating the many diverse statistics into a coherent system of health statistics and assisting countries in developing national health information strategies. ◆ Agreed common methodology in public health issues such as morbidity, disability, injuries and performance of public health systems needs further development.
4.9	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Development of conceptual frameworks, definitions and methodologies for measurement and collection of health statistics in particular for indicators of population health status and performance of health care systems. ◆ Improving data availability and comparability of health resources (e.g. beds and employment) and health care activities (e.g. surgical procedures in inpatient and ambulatory settings and pharmaceutical consumption and sales). ◆ Development of methodology for the preparation of comparable estimates of occupational diseases and injuries, and work-related fatalities. ◆ Development of methodology for statistics on disabled workers. ◆ Improve estimates of national health accounts and support exchange of national administrations on implementations of international health accounting standards. This includes the ongoing development of supporting guidelines, in particular to complement the OECD manual "A System of Health Accounts". ◆ Development of indicators for the technical quality of medical care. ◆ Develop database of comparable hospital data (EU/WHO Euro)
4.9	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ SILC (Survey on Income and Living Conditions) module on health (EU 2003) ◆ EU manual on Causes of Death certification and coding (linked with the implementation of the International Classification of Diseases established by the WHO). ◆ Report on persons in communal establishments from <i>Health and health-related survey</i> (EU) ◆ Methodology for collection and analysis of data on efficiency and effectiveness in healthcare provision (EU) ◆ Recommendation of a core set of quality of care indicators ◆ Completion of EUROHIS (Health Interview Surveys) methodology project (WHO Euro) ◆ Review of disability general measures used in censuses and surveys and on-going discussions on the design and use of these measures (Washington City Group) ◆ Report on a common module on health status (EU). ◆ EU database on health surveys in EU and Candidate countries (EU). ◆ Report on a minimum dataset for health care data (EU).

PE	Heading	Text
4.9	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Coordination needs to be improved between the WHO programme on the World Health Survey and the activities related to health surveys carried out by other national and regional organizations. This issue was addressed in considerable detail by the CES Bureau at its February 2003 meeting and by the UN Statistical Commission at its March 2003 session. ◆ The issue of data confidentiality, which is particularly felt in the area of health statistics. ◆ While good progress has been made in recent years towards a common framework on health care statistics, as well as progress with survey instruments, the absence of a comprehensive and up-to-date international classification on procedure in health care poses a major challenge for future work on health care statistics. ◆ <u>Joint data collection</u>: 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. A close collaboration is also developed with ILO in the field of Occupational Health and Safety statistics. ◆ <u>Exchange of information</u>: Informal agreements exist between OECD and Eurostat to exchange information and data obtained from MS for the purpose of cross-checking and completing respective own data collections.
4.9	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
4.9	Rapporteur	OECD
4.9	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Joint ECE/WHO Meeting on Health Statistics, 2004. ◆ Washington Group on Disability Measurement (October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: Techn. Meeting on Causes of Death statistics (15-16 May 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: Techn. Meeting on Health Care Statistics (20-21 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Public Health Statistics, once a year (26-27 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Public Health Statistics with PHARE countries, once a year (28 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: European Statistics on Accidents at Work, twice a year (3 April 2003, 16 September 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: European Occupational Diseases Statistics, twice a year (6 May 2003, 15 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT: Techn. Meeting on Health and health-interview survey data (12-13 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Statistics on Accidents at Work with PHARE countries, once a year (17 September 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: European Occupational Diseases Statistics with PHARE countries, once a year (16 October 2003) ◆ OECD: Meeting on waiting times project, 15-16 May 2003 ◆ OECD: Meeting of OECD Health Data National Correspondents; once a year in February/March (next meeting 6-7 March 2003) ◆ OECD: Annual meetings of experts in national health accounts (27-28 October 2003) ◆ OECD: Meeting of experts on human resources for health care, Fall 2003 ◆ OECD: Meeting of Task Force on Private Health Insurance, Fall 2003 ◆ OECD: Meeting of experts on health care quality indicators, September 2003 ◆ ILO: 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 24 November - 3 December 2003 (see programme element 4.4).

PE	Heading	Text
4.9	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Joint ECE/WHO Meeting on Health Statistics, 2004. Recommended items on the agenda:<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ <i>Recent advances in measurement of population health status</i>▪ <i>Comparative risk assessment and risk factor measurement</i>▪ <i>Improving comparability of health status surveys</i>◆ Discussions are underway between ECE and UNDP to organize workshops in CIS countries and South East Europe to improve the measurement of health status and accessibility to health care services within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial</p>

PE 4.10

PE	Heading	Text
4.10	Title	Gender statistics
4.10	Goal	To mainstream gender into the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical data
4.10	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Integration of the gender perspective, not only by having data disaggregated by sex, but also by the improvement of data collection methods, concepts and definitions. ◆ Developing policy -relevant approaches for monitoring and assessing women and men's conditions in countries and highlight the concerns that are related to unequal access to resources and participation in social, economic, and political life ◆ Assessing and monitoring women's and men's contribution to the economy and society in the form of paid and unpaid work. ◆ Implementation of EU recommendations on household satellite accounts.
4.10	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ <i>Generations and Gender</i> project (ECE) ◆ To improve the mainstreaming of gender into the production, analysis and dissemination of statistics into all relevant areas ◆ To identify and quantify sex differences in living conditions and status ◆ Improving the measurement of paid and unpaid work
4.10	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A general discussion of “Best practices for gender Mainstreaming in labour statistics” at the 17th ICLS (2003) with the possible adoption of guidelines for good practice. ◆ Completion of the regional gender statistics website with indicators and gender-related information (ECE).
4.10	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Further work is needed to improve the measurement of gender differences in earnings. Eurostat will try to improve this measurement using the best sources (or a combination) available from each country in order to cover the whole labour market. ◆ To respond to the policy concerns that have been addressed or will be addressed at the 2003 and 2004 Commission on the Status of Women, organizations should work towards developing and/or harmonizing statistical methods and improving statistical data related to the following areas: i) women and men accessibility to media, information and communication technologies, ii) women’s human rights and elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, iii) the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality, and iv) women’s equal participation in conflict prevention, management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building.
4.10	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
4.10	Rapporteur	UNSD
4.10	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Time Use Survey, once a year (4-5 December 2003) ◆ 17th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, 24 November - 3 December 2003 (see programme element 4.4) ◆ ECE: Work session on gender statistics (timing and refined terms of reference of the meeting to be decided later – see below).

PE	Heading	Text
4.10	Activities of CES	<p>Ongoing work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Work session on gender statistics to consider: (i) Fostering links between statisticians and policy makers and other users of gender statistics; (ii) Organizing the production of gender statistics and coordination of work on gender statistics; (iii) Social networks from a gender perspective; and (iv) Violence from a gender perspective. These terms of reference, that were proposed by the September 2002 work session, will be reviewed by a yet-to-be-established Steering Committee for the next meeting. The Steering Committee will also be requested to define the future activities of work by the Conference in this field, and propose an appropriate timing for the scheduling of the meeting as well as new terms of reference for the meeting, if they deem it appropriate. Representatives of interested international organizations will also serve on the Steering Committee. The Committee is also expected to contribute towards launching and maintaining the ECE regional Gender Statistics Website for monitoring change (established with UNDP support). ◆ Discussions are underway between ECE and UNDP to organize workshops in CIS countries and South East Europe to facilitate the integration of a gender perspective into statistical systems and the measurement of paid and unpaid work within the framework of Millennium Development Goals <p>Secretariat resources: Substantial</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ See also Programme Elements 4.1 and 4.2b for work that the ECE Population Activities Unit will carry out in its “Generation and Gender” project.

PE 4. 11a

PE	Heading	Text
4.11a	Title	Social indicators and frameworks
4.11a	Goal	That there exists a coherent framework of internationally comparable social indicators in selected fields such as health, education, crime and social safety nets
4.11a	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ How to continue the work on social indicators by building selectively on the ideas developed in the 1960s and 1970s, and taking account of the reasons for the failure of efforts at that time. This work should also build on the sectoral work and on links between different sectoral levels. Initially, work should focus at the conceptual level. ◆ Questions of standardization of concepts and definitions to follow the general conceptual work, and the detailed work of the specific sectors.
4.11a	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A work plan for a co-ordinated and co-operative 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.
4.11a	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Publication of <i>The Social Situation in the European Union</i> (EU Commission) ◆ Publication of the statistical pocketbook <i>Living Conditions in Europe</i> (2003, Eurostat) ◆ EU manual on income statistics in EU countries (2003, Eurostat) ◆ Guidebook for the use of Social Indicators (Council of Europe)
4.11a	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The Bureau considered that more work is required to improve international collaboration on social statistics, and it noted that there is a need to establish a new mechanism where the work on social statistics could be coordinated, especially since existing groups like the Siena Group have not been as effective as desired. ◆ It also concluded that the work of the proposed new group should focus more on specific outputs. The Bureau agreed to come back to this issue at one of its future meetings, based in part on the outcome of the March 2003 session of the Statistical Commission and the May 2003 Expert Group Meeting on Setting the Scope of Social Statistics that UNSD and the Siena Group are collaborating in organizing in New York in May 2003. ◆ The Siena Group on Social Statistics held its eighth meeting in London in November 2001. Social capital was the theme of the meeting.
4.11a	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
4.11a	Rapporteur	Eurostat
4.11a	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Siena Group, general meeting to be hosted by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, autumn 2003 (Subsequent meetings are envisaged in 2004 and 2005)
4.11a	Activities of CES	None

PE 4. 11b

PE	Heading	Text
4.11b	Title	Multi-purpose social surveys
4.11b	Goal	That there exists 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.
4.11b	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The multi-dimensional nature of social change
4.11b	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 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. ◆ To produce associated social reports. ◆ To support developments in survey methodologies, including questionnaire design and implementation, sampling, design, non-response aspects, imputations, longitudinal databases 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.
4.11b	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Completion and testing of methodology on production of satellite accounts on household production in agreement with national accounts concepts (EU) ◆ The EU methodology for a satellite account on household production in agreement with national accounts concepts will be finished and tested using Time Use data from the countries available. ◆ For the ECHP (European Community Household Panel) six waves (1994-1999) are available at the end of 2002, seven waves (1994-2000) will be finalised in June 2003 and eight waves (1994-2001) at the end of 2003, improving the timeliness of the project. ◆ SILC (Statistics on income and living conditions), which will replace the ECHP after 2002, was tested in 2002 and will be implemented on the basis of gentlemen's agreement in seven countries and under the Framework Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council in 2004 or in 2005. (Eurostat)
4.11b	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Eurostat is the only organization doing this kind of Europe-wide multipurpose social surveys. ◆ Improving the timeliness and comparability of data from multi-purpose social surveys is of prime importance.
4.11b	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
4.11b	Rapporteur	Eurostat
4.11b	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Household Budget Survey, once a year (5-6 May 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT TF: EU-SILC (Survey on Income and Living Conditions), (10-11 June 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: EU-SILC (Survey on Income and Living Conditions), (16-17 December 2003)
4.11b	Activities of CES	None

PE 4. 11c

PE	Heading	Text
4.11c	Title	Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics
4.11c	Goal	That statistical systems make the best use of administrative data.
4.11c	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The costs of data collection. ◆ The burden on respondents. ◆ The quality of data. ◆ Combining administrative and statistical requirements in the same system.
4.11c	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ 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. ◆ A programme of exchange of documentation on the experiences of member countries in the field of exploiting registers and administrative sources. ◆ 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.
4.11c	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ COnccepts and DEfinitions Database (CODED) data base available on Eurostat website ◆ Documentation of national data sources of annual demographic statistics covering 36 European countries (available as a draft)
4.11c	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ In many countries of the region registers and administrative records are increasingly used for census purposes, representing in some cases the main sources of information (see P.E. 4.2a).
4.11c	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
4.11c	Rapporteur	Eurostat
4.11c	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE-Eurostat: Joint work session/seminar on registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics (to be confirmed depending on the proposal to be elaborated by the Steering Group and subject to approval by the CES – see section “Activities of CES”). ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Directors of Social Statistics, once a year (7-9 April 2003)
4.11c	Activities of CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ At the December 2002 Joint UNECE-Eurostat Work Session on Registers and Administrative Records for Social and Demographic Statistics, it was agreed that a Steering Group would be appointed to elaborate a concrete proposal for future work to be submitted to the CES Bureau. The Steering Group is composed of representatives of Israel, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 5
ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS**

PE	Heading	Text
5.1	Title	Sectoral concepts, definitions, classifications and environmental databases
5.1	Goal	Move towards an integrated system of internationally comparable environmental statistics capable of assisting governments in setting and adjusting regulatory, taxation and resource management policies which directly or indirectly affect the environment.
5.1	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Need for further work on developing methodologies, harmonising the concepts and identifying common sets of indicators. The following areas can be mentioned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - measuring emissions to air, especially relating to climate change, - monitoring hazardous waste generation and movements, - bio-diversity and chemicals. ◆ Need for filling the gaps and improving the quality of data collected in the field of environment.
5.1	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Produce agreed standard methodologies for environmental protection expenditure and facilities; waste and recycling; eco-industries; environmentally related taxes and other economic instruments. ◆ Improve the quality of data available in international databases. ◆ Review and assess current questionnaires and ensure the joint development of any new questionnaire with a view to eliminating redundancy and avoidable differences in concepts and definitions. ◆ Extension of EEA monitoring networks to include EU accession countries and the Balkans. ◆ Review the list of indicators for environment statistics and update the respective classifications. ◆ Streamline and harmonise the dataflow from countries to international databases, by developing concepts such as a shared European Environmental Information System.
5.1	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ A reviewed core indicator list to be used by EEA networks and in EEA assessments, 2003 (EEA). ◆ <i>Environmental Signals</i> indicator report 2003, 2004 (EEA). ◆ The Kiev report, the 3rd pan-European assessment report on the environment, by May 2003 (EEA). ◆ Draft of second volume of <i>Manual of Environment Statistics</i> (UNSD, 2003) – <i>to be confirmed</i>.
5.1	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The UN Statistical Commission (March 2003) approved the creation of an Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Environment Statistics. ◆ Need for better coordination of data collection, avoid duplication and focus on priority data sets (“streamlining data collection”). ◆ Need to fill data gaps for prioritised environment statistics and to improve the data quality. ◆ The development of indicators to monitor progress towards sustainable development (see also PE 2.8 Sustainable development indicators).
5.1	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of CES” below).
5.1	Rapporteur	Eurostat

PE	Heading	Text
5.1	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Work Session on Methodological Issues of Environment Statistics (2004/05) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Environment statistics incl. economic accounts for the environment, once a year (10-12 September 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Environmental expenditure statistics once a year (24-26 November 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Waste statistics, twice a year (9-10 April 2003, 27-28 October 2003) ◆ EUROSTAT WG: Sustainable Development indicators (3-4 February 2003) ◆ OECD: Working Party on Waste Prevention and Recycling (two meetings per year) ◆ OECD: Joint Working Party of the Committee on Agriculture and the Environment (16-18th June 2003; 17-19 November 2003) ◆ OECD: Working Group on Environmental Information and Outlooks (one or two meetings per year, next: 24 June 2003; 26-28 November 2003) ◆ OECD: Working Party on National Environmental Policies (two meetings per year) ◆ OECD: Joint Meeting of Environment and Tax Experts (one meeting per year) ◆ OECD: Working Party on Territorial Indicators (one or two meetings per year; next: June 2003) ◆ UNSD: Expert meeting to discuss the draft second volume of the Manual of Environment Statistics (2003) – ? (<i>to be confirmed</i>) ◆ EEA: National Focal Point meetings (4-5 February 2003, 7-8 May 2003, 7-8 October 2003)
5.1	Activities of the CES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ ECE/Eurostat/OECD Joint Work session on methodological issues of environment statistics to consider in 2004/05 the following topics: (i) Linking environmental statistics to environmental accounts; (ii) Keeping up the momentum of Johannesburg 2002; (iii) Environment, transport and tourism; (iv) Coordination of data collection. ◆ Resources permitting, participating in coordination schemes, in particular in jointly sponsored Task Forces. ◆ Preparing, if resources permit and when required, 'readings volumes' of methods used in the collection, compilation and dissemination of environment statistics. ◆ Organisation according to need of cross-sectoral activities, with other organisations and within the ECE.
5.1	Activities of the ECE Environment and Human Settlements Division (ENHS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The <u>Ad Hoc Working Group on Environmental Monitoring</u> serves as an instrument to provide recommendations, to propose action plans, and to strengthen international initiatives within the region in the area of environmental monitoring and related areas (http://www.unece.org/env/europe/environmental_monitoring.htm). The Working Group assists the European Environment Agency (EEA) to produce a 3rd pan-European assessment report on the environment based on region-wide indicators. The report will be prepared by the time of the Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe" to be held in Kiev in May 2003. The work on the indicators for the Kiev report is accompanied by support to countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia to improve and streamline the development and the application of environmental indicators at the national level. An inventory was also compiled of international environmental data bases in the UNECE region.

PE 5. 2

PE	Heading	Text
5.2	Title	Environmental accounting
5.2	Goal	That there is an integration path between accounts in physical terms and the corresponding elements on national accounts in money terms
5.2	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To review developments in natural resource accounting. ◆ Further methodological work on water accounting and practical implementation of environmental accounts. ◆ To suggest ways in which a synthesis of different approaches may be constructed to ensure flexibility for special cases within a framework that is consistent overall. ◆ Avoid a divergence in approach taken by ECE Members and that taken by countries outside the region (specifically developing countries).
5.2	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Some form of monitoring of the voluminous studies on environmental issues to ensure that quick and comprehensive information is available about developments in environmental accounting; new studies undertaken; new approaches developed. ◆ To determine how to account for the environmental impact of economic activities in relation to marketed natural assets (such as minerals and forests which may be exploited beyond sustainability) and non-marketed natural assets (such as air and water used as environmental sinks). ◆ Implementation of SEEA. ◆ Development of an operational handbook to complement the SEEA handbook. ◆ Promoting the implementation of environmental accounts and the use of the SEEA manual among policy-makers.
5.2	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Monograph on Pollution Abatement and Control Expenditure in OECD countries (OECD, 2003). ◆ Handbook on Fishery Resources Accounting (UNSD with FAO and UNU). ◆ Handbook on Water Resources Accounting (UNSD with Eurostat and the London Group).
5.2	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Close interaction of environmental and economic accounting. ◆ Publication of the revised SEEA handbook and the need to implement SEEA in as many countries as possible.
5.2	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	None
5.2	Rapporteur	Eurostat
5.2	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ OECD Working Group on Environmental Information and Outlooks (one or two meetings per year, next: 24 June 2003; 26-28 November 2003). ◆ UNSD: Regional workshop on environmental accounting for the Latin American and Caribbean jointly with ECLAC (2003). ◆ UNSD: Expert Group Meeting on the draft Handbook on Tourism and Environmental Accounting (2004). ◆ London Group: (date and location of the next meeting to be decided).
5.2	Activities of CES	None.

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 6
DISSEMINATION AND SUPPORT FOR SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES**

PE	Heading	Text
6.1	Title	Dissemination of data and coordination of international data collection
6.1	Goal	That coordination of international data collection and dissemination be done effectively.
6.1	Issues & problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To coordinate policies of the international organizations involved in the collection of national statistical data, which are needed for their socio-economic analysis and publications. ◆ To avoid any inefficient duplication in the data collection activities between international organizations, and to ensure that the burden placed on NSOs in responding to international data requests is kept to a minimum. ◆ To implement jointly prepared questionnaires in international data collection. ◆ Further improvement in on-line data capture aiming to improve timeliness of data collection. ◆ To share data stored in statistical databases that are maintained by international organizations. ◆ To make collected data available to national and international statistical agencies in printed or electronic form.
6.1	Strategic medium-term objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Improved procedures and tools for coordination of data collection ◆ Issuing of statistical publications and products by all the organizations.
6.1	Expected outcomes in the next two years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Joint data collection by ECE and Eurostat of macro-economic data from the EU candidate countries (see also PE 3.1). ◆ The OECD to complete the test phase of the NAWWE initiative, the objective of which is to have countries update the tables of the questionnaire directly on their web-sites (see also PE 3.1). ◆ Implementation of the new national accounts questionnaire based on SNA 93 and ESA 95, and sharing data among UNECE, UNSD, Eurostat and OECD. ◆ Enhancement in coverage of website on the joint BIS, IMF, OECD, World Bank statistics on External Debt. ◆ Finalisation by the Council of Europe and Eurostat of a mechanism for coordinating the collection of demographic data from NSOs. ◆ Full implementation of the OECD-UNSD data sharing agreement concerning international trade in goods covering all OECD member countries (see also PE 3.3). ◆ INTERNET access to the electronic version of the common questionnaire by Eurostat and ECE for the collection of transport statistics (see also PE 3.4). ◆ Development of a Common Questionnaire for Road Accident Statistics. ◆ Implementation of the joint data collection agreement that has been reached between OECD and Eurostat on Structural Business Statistics (see also PE 3.8 and 3.11). ◆ Establishment of a Website on annual energy questionnaires jointly by IEA and OECD (see also PE 3.12). ◆ A coordinated work-plan for data collection in the field of labour statistics for statistics to be collected by Eurostat, ILO and OECD (see also PE 4.4). ◆ Expansion of joint UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat data collection procedures and definitions in the area of education and training statistics to more countries in the ECE region (see also PE 4.5). ◆ Completion of the initial set of draft standards for the exchange of statistical information by the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX).
6.1	Attention of the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Differences in pricing policies used by different national and international statistical agencies in the dissemination of statistical information.

PE	Heading	Text
	is drawn to the following	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The increasing role of Internet in data collection. These innovations represent an opportunity to reduce the burden on NSOs. Further development of electronic data interchange standards (e.g. the XML-based standard for Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX)) is expected to considerably enhance the use of Internet based data collection. However, in order to take full advantage of this opportunity, a high level of coordination among international organizations on data collection is required.
6.1	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see “Activities of the ECE Statistical Division” below).
6.1	Rapporteur	None
6.1	Activities of the ECE Statistical Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Enhance the public value of the Division’s statistical holdings collected to support the Economic Survey of Europe and other economic analysis carried out by the ECE (see 6.2), by publicising and disseminating them (especially via WEB access to the ECE Statistical Database). ◆ Collecting data for and publishing in printed and electronic form “Trends in Europe and North America – the Statistical Yearbook of the ECE”. ◆ Collecting annual data from non-OECD/IEA member countries in the field of energy statistics. ◆ Preparation of four quarterly issues of the UNECE Statistical Journal. ◆ Preparation of the annual statistical-oriented publication “World Robotics”. ◆ Preparation, in collaboration with Eurostat, OECD, UNSD and other international organizations, an annual report on joint data collection for submission to the plenary session of the Conference. ◆ Information on UNECE statistical publications is available on the ECE Statistical Division’s Website: http://www.unece.org/stats
6.1	Activities of the ECE Committee on Human Settlements	The biennial "Bulletin on Housing and Building Statistics for Europe and North America" provides statistical data and information for analysing and monitoring housing policy implementation in the ECE region (English only).
6.1	Activities of the ECE Transport Division (Inland Transport Committee)	<p><u>Publications:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics ◆ Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (annual) ◆ Main Transport Indicators for the UNECE Region (annual) ◆ Glossary of Transport Statistics (Third edition) 2003 ◆ Census of Motor Traffic on Main International Traffic Arteries 2005 (quinquennial) ◆ Census of Rail Traffic 2005 (expected to be done for the first time in 2005 (quinquennial)) <p><u>Data collection:</u></p> <p>Common questionnaires for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics (with ECMT and EUROSTAT); ◆ Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe and North America (annual with ECMT).

PE 6.2

PE	Heading	Text
6.2	Title	Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat
6.2	Goal	To provide effective statistical services to its customers with a high degree of professionalism
6.2	Issues & problems	For ECE: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ To collect statistical data and to provide other statistical support needed for the ECE's economic analysis (some macro-economic data from the EU candidate countries is collected jointly with Eurostat, see also PA 3: Economic statistics). ◆ To develop and maintain a statistical database for this purpose with emphasis on countries under the transition process. ◆ To provide statistical services to other ECE divisions. ◆ To further develop electronic data interchange between national statistical offices and the ECE secretariat based on international standards developed within the Western European EDIFACT Board.
6.2	Strategic medium-term objectives	◆ For ECE, database on macroeconomic data from market economy countries and transition economies; operational network for EDI collection of macroeconomic data from market economy and transition economies; periodic progress reports to the CES plenary sessions.
6.2	Expected outcomes in the next two years	◆ Increasing availability on the WEB of a core set of macro-economic indicators for all economies in the ECE region.
6.2	Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following	Nothing.
6.2	Decisions recommended by the Bureau to the Conference	◆ That the Conference approves the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities of ECE Statistical Division" below).
6.2	Rapporteur	ECE
6.2	Activities of the ECE Statistical Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Ensure that economic analysis conducted by the ECE, including the two issues per year of the "Economic Survey of Europe", is founded on relevant, timely and harmonized statistics, and on a professional statistical advisory capacity and statistical services, while minimising duplication with other international organisations involved in similar activities. ◆ Ensure that the statistical assets of the division are properly documented and managed, and can be easily retrieved when required. ◆ Provide advisory services to other divisions of ECE concerning the management of their data assets. ◆ Develop "off the shelf" analytical products for use by economic analysts both inside and outside ECE. ◆ Enhance the public value of the Division's statistical holdings by publicising and disseminating them (see item 6.1 Activities of the ECE Statistical division).