



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

CES/2004/WP.7
9 June 2004

ENGLISH ONLY

STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Fifty-second plenary session
(Paris, 8-10 June 2004)

**PLAN FOR THE CES SEMINAR ON THE MEASUREMENT OF SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

Paper submitted by Statistics Sweden

1. At the meeting of the CES Bureau on the 12-13 February 2004, it was suggested that one of the seminars in June 2005 be on the measurement of sustainable development. Statistics Sweden volunteered to be the organiser of this seminar. Statistics Sweden suggests that the following countries/organizations be included in the Steering Group for the seminar: Sweden, Canada, Estonia, Australia, OECD and UNECE.

TOPICS AND ISSUES TO BE REVIEWED

- The role of official statistics. How can we contribute to the work of Sustainable Development Indicators?
- What analytical tools do we need? Are aggregated measurements needed, and can official statistics cover the indicators needed?
- Case studies to highlight how official statistics are used to measure sustainable development in Canada, Sweden and Australia and by OECD and Eurostat.
- Future work within statistics to cover the needs for measurement of sustainable development.

SWEDEN'S EXPERIENCES

2. Statistics Sweden, together with the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, compiled the first set of Sustainable Development Indicators in 2001. The Swedish approach seems to be unique and covers four themes focusing on the transition toward sustainability: efficiency, contribution and equality, adaptability, and values and resources for coming

generations. Statistics Sweden is also an active member of the ESS Task Force on Methodological Issues for Sustainable Development Indicators (SDIs), which is working with the first set of SDIs for Europe. Together with Eurostat, Sweden organised a successful workshop in Stockholm on EU SDIs on 9-12 February this year¹.

¹ More information is available at the website: <http://www.h.scb.se/sdiworkshop/>.