

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Second Meeting of the 2005/2006 Bureau
Washington, D.C. (United States), 24-25 October 2005

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Bureau meeting will take place in the Conference Centre at the US Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, located at 1800 M Street, N.W., in Washington, D.C. The meeting will start at 9:30 on Monday, 24 October. It is anticipated that the meeting will end at around 17:00 on Tuesday, 25 October.

- 1. Opening by Katherine Wallman**
- 2. UNECE statistical programme**
 - a) draft UNECE Statistical Programme for 2006 (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/3 and Add. 1 by UNECE)**

The UNECE Statistical Programme includes all statistical activities that are undertaken by the UNECE. It has been compiled since 2004. The programme for the next year is approved by the Bureau in October. The draft programme for 2006 will be presented together with an explanation about activities that are new or considerably reshaped.

The Bureau is expected to endorse the UNECE Statistical Programme for 2006.

b) implications of the UNECE reform

An analysis of the role, mandate and functions of the UNECE in the light of the changed European institutional landscape has been carried out by a team of external evaluators. The team produced a comprehensive report in June 2005. The Bureau will be informed about the recommendations of the report and its possible implications on the work programme of the UNECE Statistical Division.

**c) UNECE draft biennial programme plan on statistics for 2008/2009
(ECE/CES/BUR/2005/4 by UNECE)**

As part of the UN programme and budget planning process, the Secretariat and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies have to prepare two years in advance a draft programme plan for the forthcoming biennium. The Secretariat has prepared the draft Statistics subprogramme of the UNECE programme plan for the 2008/2009 biennium. It outlines the objectives, expected accomplishments and planned outputs.

The Bureau may wish to comment on and suggest amendments to the plan.

3. Results of the testing of the new classification of international statistical activities (used in the Database of International Statistical Activities/Integrated Presentation)
(ECE/CES/BUR/2005/5 by UNECE)

The new classification of international statistical activities was approved by the Bureau in October 2004. UNECE has been testing the classification on the 2005 issue of the Database of International Statistical Activities/Integrated Presentation. The results of the test will be presented.

4. Presentation of the statistical activities of Eurostat (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/6 by Eurostat)

The 50th CES plenary session in 2002 decided that, periodically, some time should be devoted to discussion of the work of international organizations and their strategies. In previous years, the IMF and World Bank have presented their statistical activities.

At the October 2005 meeting, Eurostat will present its statistical activities.

5. Preparations for the CES Seminars in 2006

a) Outline for the seminar on Population Censuses (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/7 by the Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses)

The CES 2005 plenary session selected Population Censuses to be the topic for the first seminar at the CES plenary session in 2006. The organiser of the seminar is the Steering Group on Population and Housing Censuses. The draft outline of the seminar will be presented.

b) Outline for the seminar on Human Resources and Training
(ECE/CES/BUR/2005/8 by the Czech Republic)

The CES 2005 plenary session selected Human Resources and Training to be the topic for the second seminar at the CES plenary session in 2006. The organiser of the seminar is the Czech Statistical Office. The draft outline of the seminar will be presented.

6. Technical cooperation (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/9 by UNECE/Eurostat/CIS)

The Bureau discussed technical cooperation at its February 2005 meeting. UNECE, Eurostat and the Statistical Committee of the CIS were requested to prepare a concrete proposal on how to improve the coordination of technical assistance in the UNECE region.

The Bureau will discuss the coordination of technical assistance in the UNECE region based on the paper.

7. Managing confidentiality and microdata access - guidelines and core principles
(ECE/CES/BUR/2005/10 by Dennis Trewin)

As a follow-up to the CES seminar in 2003, a Task Force chaired by Dennis Trewin has been developing the Core Principles and Good Practice Guidelines of Managing Confidentiality and Microdata. An updated document of the Guidelines will be presented to the Bureau. The Guidelines are expected to be endorsed by the Conference at its 2006 plenary session.

8. Review of the work of various Steering Groups and Task Forces working under the auspices of the CES

a) Electronic data reporting – Terms of Reference (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/11)

As a follow-up to the CES seminar on Improved Data Reporting in June 2005, it was decided to establish a working group to further explore the issues surrounding electronic data reporting. United

States, Finland, Canada and New Zealand volunteered to develop the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the work.

The draft TOR will be presented to the Bureau for comments and approval.

b) Sustainable development – Terms of Reference (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/12 by Sweden)

The CES 2005 plenary session agreed that further work is needed in the area of measuring sustainable development and that a group of countries should develop the terms of reference for this work.

The draft TOR will be presented to the Bureau for comments and approval.

c) Migration statistics – Terms of Reference (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/13 by Friends of the Chair Group)

The Bureau meeting on 15 June 2005 decided to set up a Friends of the Chair group to develop the TOR for further work on migration statistics. Canada agreed to chair the group. Australia, Canada, Italy, Russia, United States, Eurostat, OECD, IMF and the World Bank are members of the group.

The draft TOR will be presented to the Bureau for comments and approval.

d) Rural development and agriculture household income (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/14 by Economic Research Service, USA)

The Bureau will be informed about the *Handbook on Rural Household, Livelihood and Well-Being: Statistics on Rural development and Agriculture Household Income* that has been developed by the Task Force on Agriculture Statistics and Rural Indicators (IWG.AGRI). The Task Force includes UNECE, Eurostat, FAO, OECD and the World Bank.

9. Selection of topics and Rapporteurs for the in-depth review of the IP in February 2006 (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/15 by UNECE)

The UNECE secretariat conducted a survey during the 2005 CES plenary session to identify which statistical areas should be reviewed in-depth by the Bureau in February 2006.

Based on the results of the survey, the Bureau is expected to select five topics for in-depth review and to nominate the Rapporteurs to prepare Reports on these areas.

10. Information items:

a) Outcome of the meeting of UNECE Directors of Social Statistics

The 15 June Bureau meeting approved the proposal to organise the first meeting of UNECE directors of social statistics back-to-back with the Eurostat meeting of directors of social statistics in September. The meeting will take place on 29-30 September in Luxembourg.

The Bureau will be informed about the outcomes of the meeting including proposals for future work.

b) Millennium Development Goals – UNECE survey on countries' capacities to report on MDG indicators

The October 2004 Bureau meeting asked the UNECE secretariat to carry out a survey on the ability of UNECE member countries to report on the MDG indicators. The UNECE Secretariat will present a progress report.

c) Evaluation of the 53rd CES plenary session - summary of the evaluation questionnaires (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/16 by UNECE)

The secretariat will present the results of the evaluation questionnaires of the 2005 CES plenary session.

11. Follow-up to decisions taken by the Bureau (ECE/CES/BUR/2005/17 by UNECE)

A note on follow-up to decisions taken by the Bureau and the Conference will be presented for information.

12. Dates and venue of the next CES and Bureau meetings

Under this agenda item, the Bureau is expected to confirm the dates and venues of the next meetings.

13. Other business

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