

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

For decision

Third meeting of the 2005/2006 Bureau
Geneva, 20-21 February 2006

Item 11(d) of the
Provisional Agenda

**PROPOSAL FOR THE CREATION OF A TASK FORCE ON THE MEASUREMENT
OF THE QUALITY OF WORK**

Note prepared by the UNECE secretariat

BACKGROUND

1. The UNECE/ILO/Eurostat Seminar on the Measurement of Quality of Work that took place on 11-13 May 2005 in Geneva agreed on the need to continue the process towards the development of methodologies and identification of good practices on the measurement of various aspects related to labour conditions.
2. The Seminar focused on the linkages between Quality in Work and Decent Work dimensions reflected in the priorities of the European Union Social Policy and the ILO Decent Work Agenda. The manifested linkages, overlaps and consistencies in their dimensions and indicators were emphasized.
3. The Seminar recommended that a small Task Force organized by ILO and with the participation of UNECE, EUROSTAT, OECD and individual experts from the UNECE member countries be established with the objectives: (i) to develop a converging conceptual framework embracing the two paradigms of ILO and EU, taking into account the conceptual work of the European Foundation; and (ii) to select appropriate terminology and a set of statistical indicators measuring the quality aspects of labour and employment. The above activities should take into account work carried out by the ILO, Eurostat, OECD, national statistical offices and other groups and organizations on working time measurement to ensure consistency and linkages with the relevant dimensions of quality of work.

OBJECTIVES OF THE TASK FORCE

4. The main objectives of the task force is:
 - to develop a conceptual framework which takes into account work in the area;
 - define common concepts and develop a core set of indicators to measure quality aspects of labour and employment;
 - to develop the relationships between other international working groups on quality of work issues to add to the on-going work in this area.

COMPOSITION OF THE TASK FORCE

5. The composition of the Task Force will include representatives from Canada, Italy, Hungary, other interested countries, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living

and Working Condition, OECD, ILO and UNECE. ILO will act as the secretariat of the Task Force.

MEETINGS OF THE TASK FORCE

6. The Task Force will mainly work using e-mail connections. No meetings have so far been planned.

OUTPUTS

7. The main outputs of the Task Force will be:
- a proposal for a parsimonious set of statistical indicators measuring the quality aspects of labour and employment;
 - a proposal for a common conceptual framework on quality of work and employment.

TIME FRAME

8. The work defined by the Task Force should be completed by February 2007 and be presented at the next seminar scheduled for May 2007 in Geneva.

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