

Second Meeting of the 2011/2012 Bureau
Geneva, Switzerland, 2-3 November 2011

For decision

Item 4(b) of the Provisional
Agenda

**UNODC/UNECE TASK FORCE
ON CRIME CLASSIFICATION: PROGRESS REPORT**

Prepared by the UNECE secretariat

1. The joint United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC)/ UNECE Task Force on Crime Classification was set up by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in 2009 to work on an international crime classification system for statistical use, in order to improve consistency and international comparability of crime statistics.
2. The task force members have mainly interacted by audio conferences and email. In March and December 2010, the European Commission hosted two face-to-face meetings of the Task Force in Brussels.
3. In February 2011, the Task Force prepared a draft report that was circulated for comments among CES member countries in March-April 2011. In June-July 2011, the Task Force reviewed the comments received in the consultation and developed a number of amendments to the report.
4. The resulting revised report of the Task Force on "Principles and framework for an international classification of crimes for statistical purposes" is submitted to the CES Bureau for review (see doc. ECE/CES/BUR/2011/NOV/8/Add. 1). The comments received in the consultation and the responses by the task force are included in annexes I and II to the report.
5. The attention of the CES Bureau is drawn to the following recommendations formulated by the Task Force and included in the report:

"The Task Force recommends that:

- i) The Conference of European Statisticians endorse the principles for, and framework approach to, the international classification of crimes for statistical purposes presented in this Report;
- ii) The Conference of European Statisticians encourage member States to collaborate with the European Commission, Eurostat, UNECE and UNODC in the piloting of progressive implementation of an international classification of selected crimes;

iii) The Conference of European Statisticians request the Task Force on Crime Classification to continue its work by building on the principles and framework presented in this Report, with a view to developing, in consultation with member States of the Conference, a full international classification of crimes for statistical purposes."

6. Draft revised terms of reference for the task force are presented in document ECE/CES/BUR/2011/NOV/8/Add. 2, for consideration by the CES Bureau.

7. **The CES Bureau is invited to:**

(a) decide whether the report of the Task Force on "Principles and framework for an international classification of crimes for statistical purposes" (document ECE/CES/BUR/2011/NOV/8/Add. 1) should be submitted for endorsement by the CES at its June 2012 plenary session,

(b) approve the revised terms of reference for the Task Force presented in document ECE/CES/BUR/2011/NOV/8/Add. 2.

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