

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Approved

Meeting of the 2018/2019 Bureau  
Washington D.C., 28 February – 1 March 2019

Item 3(a) of the Provisional  
Agenda

**TERMS OF REFERENCE  
FOR THE STEERING GROUP ON GENDER STATISTICS**

**Note by the Steering Group**

*This document presents updated terms of reference for the Steering Group on Gender Statistics for the coming five years (2019-2024). The Bureau review and approved the terms of reference of the Steering Group.*

**I. BACKGROUND**

1. The Steering Group on Gender Statistics was created by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in 2005<sup>1</sup> with the objective to coordinate the CES work on gender statistics and to advise on the organization of meetings and workshops in this field. The CES Bureau has regularly reviewed the Group's work and its terms of reference have been updated to reflect the developments in gender statistics, most recently in 2015.
2. Over the past four years (2015 to 2018), the Steering Group acted as an organizing committee of the UNECE Work Sessions on Gender Statistics that took place in June 2016 and December 2017. In the area of methodological development, the Steering Group has advised in the formulation of terms of reference for two new Task Forces and two in-depth reviews, and several members of the Steering Group are or have been members of these groups. With regard to capacity development, the Steering Group supported the UNECE Secretariat in conducting a number of regional and national workshops.<sup>2</sup>
3. The Group has played a key role in coordinating activities of UNECE and other international organizations to avoid overlaps.
4. With the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development now serving as the principal guiding framework both for development activities and for statistical activities, gender equality and women's empowerment are occupying an increasingly prominent place among global policy concerns. The specific Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (Goal 5), as well as the inclusion of gender concerns throughout the Agenda, is creating growing demand for high-quality gender statistics that are regularly produced and that provide solid evidence on the status of women and men.
5. To ensure the continuity of CES work on gender statistics and its coordination with other international organizations in responding to the monitoring need for the 2030 Agenda for

<sup>1</sup> ECE/CES/BUR.2005/31

<sup>2</sup> Details on the activities carried out by the Steering Group in the period 2015-2018 are presented in document ECE/CES/BUR/2019/FEB/6.

Sustainable Development and other policy demand, continued guidance by the Steering Group on Gender Statistics is needed.

## **II. MANDATE**

6. The Steering Group on Gender Statistics regularly reports to the Bureau on the CES activities in gender statistics. The Steering Group will identify new areas where methodological work could be undertaken. In such cases, after having verified the interest by a sufficient number of CES member countries and the availability of resources, the Steering Group will submit proposals to the CES Bureau for review and approval.

## **III. OBJECTIVE**

7. The objective of the Steering Group is to provide direction to the CES work on gender statistics, to advance methodological work, capacity development, and collaboration between users and producers of gender statistics, and to follow up the implementation of CES guidance.

## **IV. PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS**

8. The Steering Group will:

- (a) Coordinate CES work on gender statistics; launch and steer the development of guidelines and surveys of best practice; oversee the work of CES task forces in the area of gender statistics;
- (b) Follow up the implementation of CES methodological guidance related to gender statistics in UNECE countries;
- (c) Act as an organizing committee for UNECE Work Sessions on Gender Statistics;
- (d) Advise the UNECE Secretariat on the formulation and planning of capacity-development activities to support the integration of a gender perspective into statistical systems in countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia;
- (e) Promote the use of UNECE training materials in gender statistics;
- (f) Advance collaboration between users and producers of gender statistics.

9. The main outputs of the Steering Group will be:

- (a) Proposals on methodological work and other activities to implement the recommendations of the in-depth reviews on gaps in gender statistics and gender identity, and the recommendations of the task forces on communication of gender statistics and intra-household power and decision-making;
- (b) Proposals for an agenda and invited speakers, and organization of thematic discussions for UNECE Work Sessions on Gender Statistics;
- (c) Advice on proposed capacity-development activities.

10. The Steering Group will ensure coordination of the CES work on gender statistics with the Global Gender Statistics Programme, the United Nations Statistical Commission's Inter-agency and Expert Groups on Gender Statistics and Sustainable Development Goals, UN

Women's "Making every woman and girl count" programme, and other international initiatives in gender statistics.

## **V. TIMETABLE**

11. The work on gender statistics in countries participating in CES is ongoing. The Group will submit biannual reports on its activities to the Bureau and CES. The CES Bureau will review the terms of reference for the Steering Group on Gender Statistics in 2024.

## **VI. METHOD OF WORK**

12. The Steering Group will work mainly through e-mail consultations and teleconferences. The Group will also have face-to-face meetings in conjunction with the UNECE Work Sessions on Gender Statistics taking place approximately every 1.5 years, next to be held in May 2019.

## **VII. MEMBERSHIP**

13. The Steering Group currently includes representatives from Australia, Canada, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, UN Women, Eurostat, the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), CIS-Stat, and OECD Development Centre. The Group is currently chaired by Serbia.

14. UNECE acts as Secretariat to the Steering Group. It maintains a wiki site with public information about the Group and a workspace restricted to members.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> <https://statswiki.unece.org/x/1YLdBg>