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**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
Statistical Division**

# **Update on Quality of Employment Activities**

Meeting on Measuring Quality of Employment  
31 October, 2011

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# Chronology of activities

## 2000:

- Seminar on measurement of the quality of employment (03 - 05 May 2000)

## 2002:

- Seminar on measurement of the quality of employment (27 - 29 May 2002)

## 2005:

- Work session on measurement of the quality of employment (02 - 04 February 2005)
- ECE/ILO/Eurostat seminar on measurement of the quality of work (11 - 13 May 2005)

## 2007:

- Joint UNECE/ILO/Eurostat Seminar on quality of work (18 - 20 April 2007)

## 2008:

- Task Force meeting on the Quality of Employment (12 - 13 June 2008)



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# Chronology of activities, cont.

## 2009:

- Task Force on Measurement of the Quality of Employment (28 - 29 May 2009)
- Meeting on Measurement of the Quality of Employment (14 - 16 October 2009)

## 2010:

- Publication of Measuring Quality of Employment Country Pilot Reports and, the Validation Study
- Submission of the Report on Potential Indicators for Measurement of Quality of Employment to the Bureau of CES (February 2010)
- Electronic Consultation on the Report with CES Members and International Organizations (8 April – 6 May 2010)
- Endorsement of the Report and the Results of the consultation at the 58<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the European Statisticians (June 2010)



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# Report on the Potential Indicators for Measurement of QoE

## *Key messages:*

- Statisticians provide data and objective information for policymakers to draw conclusions in subjective areas
- A set of indicators that the countries may select from based on their needs
- Holistic view on the direction of change in the overall quality of employment
- Quality of employment from a worker's perspective



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# Report on the Potential Indicators for Measurement of QoE, cont.

## *Principles in developing the QoE indicators:*

- Broad list of indicators to allow selection
- Aspects of QoE should be of sufficient importance to be measured
- Transparent and logical structure
- Feasibility is important but data availability should not determine indicators
- Internationally accepted methodologies/definitions
- NSOs and other statistical bodies should approve of the indicators to be used
- Not a formal international recommendation
- Not a recommendation on producing indicators for international comparison



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## Report on the Potential Indicators for Measurement of QoE, cont.

### *Testing of the indicators*

- More country tests needed for the revision of the indicators:
  - Provide overall picture of QoE
  - Accuracy of set of indicators
  - Most appropriate definition for the indicator
  - Preferred data source



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## Questions guiding the consultation

- Do you find the Report's basic approach to the statistical measurement of QoE relevant and comprehensive in general and in the case of your country?
- How well the proposed seven dimensions outline/reflect the QoE?
- Does the main set of proposed indicators populate adequately the dimensions/sub-dimensions? Do you have any suggestions for adding/removing/reallocating indicators under specific dimensions?
- For implementation: what are potential advantages and disadvantages in using the suggested approach to measure QoE?
- Is there any interest in or plan for providing statistics on QoE in your country?



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# Results of the consultation

- **42** out of 44 respondents (41 countries and 3 international organizations) endorsed the report's approach on MQE.
- **39** respondents indicated that the Report's approach is comprehensive in general and relevant for producing statistics on quality of employment at the national level.
- **34** respondents noted explicitly that the proposed dimensions sufficiently represent QoE.
- **The majority** of respondents agreed that in general and at the current stage the proposed indicators populate the chosen dimensions in a balanced way.
- The respondents gave various potential advantages (comprehensiveness of the indicators) and disadvantages (weakness in international comparisons and data sources) as well as explanations on national interest in measuring QoE.





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# Actions by the CES, June 2010

- **Endorsed the Report on *Potential indicators for measurement of quality of employment* and agreed to consider further work in this area** based on the suggestions presented in the Annex to document ECE/CES/2010/9/Add.1, in particular concerning operational definitions, guidelines and data sources. The Conference emphasized the need for further practical experiences.
- **Emphasized the need for statisticians to be cautious in interpreting indicators** due to the heterogeneity of jobs in society and individual expectations. National Statistical Offices should acknowledge the subjective component of determining quality of employment and their focus should be on measurement issues and tools, leaving the subjective issues to policy makers and governments.



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## Decisions by the Bureau, June 2010

- Supported the organization of this expert meeting and the undertaking of more voluntary tests in countries.
- The Bureau will consider setting up a possible Task Force on measuring the quality of employment based on the outcomes of our meeting and the results of tests in more countries.



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## Our objectives for this meeting

- Review the new and updated country profiles keeping in mind the international organizations' work in the area
- Concretize suggestions for further work, i.e. refining of the list of indicators and their operational definitions/guidelines and data sources
- Decide on the way forward for QoE and whether a new Task Force should be proposed to take on the future work



*WISHING YOU A PRODUCTIVE MEETING!*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.