

**UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION and  
UN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN  
STATISTICIANS**

**STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EUROSTAT)**

**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC  
CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
(OECD)**

Fifth Meeting of the Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Working Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development  
(Lisbon, 5-6 March 2008)

### **INFORMATION NOTICE No. 1**

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), in cooperation with OECD and Eurostat, is organizing the Fifth Meeting of the Joint Working Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development (WGSSD) to be held in Lisbon on 5-6 March 2008. It will be hosted by National Statistical Institute of Portugal.

#### **I. PURPOSE AND AGENDA OF THE MEETING**

1. This meeting is a follow-up to the Fourth Meeting of the Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat WGSSD that was held in November 2007 in Bucharest. For your information, all documents of the Fourth Meeting, including the final report, are available at:  
<http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2007.11.sust-dev.htm>.
2. In Bucharest the participants at the meeting agreed that for some chapters work is still very much in progress. Therefore, an updated version of the report, reflecting the discussion and comments made in Bucharest, was decided to be reviewed at another meeting to be held in March 2008.
3. The main objective of the Fifth Meeting of the Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat WGSSD will be to discuss progress towards the preparation of the final report on Statistics for Sustainable Development. According to the work plan, the final draft should be presented for endorsement to the plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians in June 2008. The meeting will be dedicated to reviewing in detail the chapters of the revised report. In particular, the agenda will include the topics below. The provisional agenda and timetable is attached.
  - i) Chapter 1: Introduction;
  - ii) Chapter 2: Overview of existing approaches to measuring sustainable development;
  - iii) Chapter 3: An analytical approach to sustainable development: the capital framework;
  - iv) Chapter 4: Indicators based on the capital approach;
  - v) Chapter 5: Comparison of the capital approach and other approaches;
  - vi) Chapter 6: Conclusions; recommendations to countries, and challenges for implementation;

## **II. DOCUMENTATION, METHODS OF WORK AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGES**

3. The working language of the meeting is English and translation and interpretation facilities will not be available. The documents will be submitted in English only.
4. The draft report will be made available at the end of February 2008 in order to reflect the comments of the CES Bureau will that take place 12-13 February 2008 in Geneva.
5. All the documentation for the meeting will be made available on the UNECE Statistical Division's website at: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/2008.03.sust-dev.htm>.
6. Delegates will be advised when the documents are available and are encouraged to download them from the website and bring their own copies to the meeting.

## **III. REGISTRATION**

7. Representatives of all Member States of the United Nations, and of interested international organizations, are welcome to participate in the meeting.
8. All participants attending the meeting are requested to have a valid passport and, if required, a visa. A letter to facilitate obtaining a visa can be requested from the National Statistical Institute Portugal.
9. Representatives from your Office who wish to participate in the meeting should register by **31 January 2008** at the latest, using the registration form attached to this letter. Registration forms should be sent by fax or e-mail to Ms. Josephine Rauss (e-mail: [josephine.rauss@unece.org](mailto:josephine.rauss@unece.org); fax: +4122 917 0040).

## **IV. FURTHER INFORMATION**

10. Detailed information on accommodation, logistics and general information about the venue will be presented in Information Notice No.2. The notice will follow shortly and will be uploaded on the website of the meeting.

## **V. CONTACT INFORMATION**

11. Ms. Lidia Bratanova of UNECE Statistical Division is in charge of the organization of the meeting. Should you have any queries concerning the meeting, please contact the UNECE secretariat for further information:

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