The meetings will be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland, starting at 9:30 on 7 December 2022 (morning sessions 9:30–12:30 / afternoon sessions 14:30–17:30).

I. GENERAL INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) will hold the meeting of the Group of Experts on Measuring Poverty and Inequality on 8 and 9 December 2022 in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting is preceded by the Workshop on Harmonization of Poverty Statistics to Measure SDG 1 and 10 on 7 December 2022. The meetings are organized under the Conference of European Statisticians work programme on poverty statistics.

The meetings are open to representatives of all UNECE member States. Representatives of other Member States of the United Nations, specialized agencies of the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) may also participate in a consultative capacity, according to the terms of reference of UNECE (E/ECE/778/Rev.5, paras. 11, 12 and 13). All delegates must be accredited by the competent authority of their country or international organization. Representatives of academia and non-governmental organizations may also register and will be able to participate subject to available capacity.

Participants must register online by completing the corresponding registration forms for the meeting of the Group of Experts (8-9 December) and the Workshop (7 December).

The working languages of the workshop are English and Russian and the working languages of the meeting of the Group of Experts are English, Russian and French. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these languages.
Timetables, papers, presentations and other documents for the meetings will be made available on the meeting web pages of the meeting of the Group of Experts and the Workshop.

Instructions for submission of papers and presentations are provided in the “Call for contributions” that is available on the meeting web pages.

Participants are encouraged to download papers from the websites and, where feasible, use electronic devices to read them in order to minimize paper use. Documents posted on the websites will not be distributed in the meeting rooms.

II. VENUE

The meetings will be held at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

Further details on the rooms in which the meetings will be held, and other important logistical information, will be communicated by e-mail to all registered meeting participants several days before the meeting.

In order to enter Palais des Nations, all participants need to collect an access badge. Please read the following instructions carefully as, due to current renovation work, the procedure for entering the Palais des Nations has changed temporarily.

To obtain an access badge to enter the Palais des Nations, you first should go to the UN Pass and ID Accreditation Services located at the Villa Les Feuillantines (please see the maps below):

Address: Avenue de la Paix 13, 1211 Genève 10
Public transportation: Tram 15 or Buses: 5, 8, 11, 20, 22, F (stop "Nations")
Working hours: from 08:00 to 16:45 on weekdays.

Please bring your photo ID (e.g., passport, or national identity card for EU citizens) to present it at the UN Pass and ID Accreditation Services on the first day of the meeting. Your entry badge will last for the duration of the meeting for which you have registered.

If you have registered for both the Workshop and the meeting of the Group of Experts, you are advised to request the badges for both meetings at once when you visit the UN Pass and ID Accreditation Services on the first day of the Workshop. This will save you time as you will not need to stand in line again on the first day of the meeting of the Group of Experts.

It is advisable to arrive at the Villa Les Feuillantines 1-1.5 hours before the meeting to collect your badge and make your way to the meeting room. It may take time to find the Villa Les Feuillantines and there may be a long queue to obtain your badge, as well as to enter the Palais des Nations, due to other meetings starting on the same day. After entering the Palais des Nations grounds, you may need to allow up to 15 minutes to walk to the meeting room.
Following issuance of your badge(s) and during the whole period of validity of your access badge(s), you may access Palais des Nations through the new Peace Gate “bis”, which is across the street from Villa Les Feuillantines. To enter you must show your badge to the UN Security staff.

For identification and security reasons, participants are requested to wear their badges at all times while inside the Palais des Nations.

Due to security procedures, we advise participants not to bring any large items of luggage to the Palais des Nations as such luggage is not permitted in the building. You may bring into the Palais only the type of luggage that is normally considered as carry-on luggage by airline companies e.g., computer bags, rucksacks and handbags.

You will find a map of the Palais de Nations on the next page.
III. ACCOMMODATION

Participants and/or their offices are requested to make their own travel arrangements and hotel reservations. The secretariat will contact separately those participants whose participation is funded by UNECE regarding their travel arrangements. All funded participants are requested to make their own hotel reservations in Geneva.

It is advisable to book your hotel well in advance as available rooms may be limited due to other meetings and events taking place in Geneva at the same time. A list of hotels and other valuable information about Geneva are available on the following website: https://www.geneve.com/en/.

The following accommodation options are close to the Palais des Nations:

- The closest hotel to Palais des Nations is the 5-star Intercontinental.
- There are several 3- and 4-star hotels near Cornavin train station. These hotels are located about 10 minutes by bus or tram and 25-30 minutes on foot from the Palais des Nations.

IV. VISAS

Participants travelling to Switzerland must have a valid passport and, if required, a visa¹. Prior to leaving their country of residence, participants are requested to make their own arrangements for obtaining a Schengen visa or any other travel permits that may be required for the entire journey, including countries of transit.

If necessary, the UNECE secretariat can provide an invitation letter to facilitate visa procedures. Such letters can be requested by contacting the secretariat at social.stats@un.org.

V. COVID-19 MEASURES

As the epidemiological situation with COVID-19 in Switzerland is constantly changing, we would encourage you to closely monitor the situation in the country as well as regulations for entering Switzerland and requirements for testing, vaccinations and COVID certificates at the website of the Swiss Federal Office of Public Health.

Please note that it remains mandatory for masks to be worn in all UN Geneva conference rooms at all times. Therefore, we ask all our meeting participants to bring their own masks when traveling to Geneva.

Please do not come to the UN premises if you develop any COVID-like symptoms or test positive for the virus. In case further information on protective measures at the United Nations Office in Geneva becomes available, it will be communicated to all registered participants in due course.

¹ Information on visa requirements according to the traveler’s nationality can be found on the website of the Swiss government: https://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/fdfa/entry-switzerland-residence/visa-requirements-application-form.html.
VI. DINING

Meeting participants may choose to have lunch at the UN cafeteria located on the ground floor of the A building. It is open from 11:30 to 14:30 Monday to Friday. There are many dining options available nearby and in the city centre for evening meals.

VII. PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Geneva has an extensive public transport network with many tram and bus lines. See https://www.tpg.ch/fr to plan your route.

Some hotels in Geneva offer a free Geneva Transport Card, enabling you to use the entire Geneva public transport system free of charge throughout your stay. Please ask at the reception when you check in to your hotel.

Should you need to purchase public transport tickets, you may do so from the ticket machines at bus stops or by SMS (text ‘tpg1’ to 788 for a single ticket for the ‘all Geneva’ zone, zone 10, valid for one hour. For other SMS ticket options, route maps and itineraries use the ‘TPG Preview’ app). No tickets are sold on buses and trams.
VIII. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT GENEVA

Geneva is the second-most populous city in Switzerland and lies at the southern tip of Lac Léman (Lake Geneva). It is surrounded by the French Alps to the South-East and the Jura mountains to the North-West. It is one of the most international cities in Europe with over 40% of its population coming from outside Switzerland. It is home to the United Nations and the Red Cross and is a global hub for diplomacy and banking. It is located in the French-speaking part of Switzerland and has over 200,000 inhabitants.

Weather

The weather in Geneva in December can be relatively cold and rainy. The average minimum night-time temperature in December is 0.3°C (32.54°F). The average maximum daytime temperature lies around 5.2°C (41.36°F). The amount of rain in December is high with an average of 91mm (3.6in). It rains on average a total of 10 days in December. You may check the weather forecast at the local website: http://www.meteoswiss.ch.

Currency

The Swiss currency is the Swiss franc (CHF).

Currency exchange facilities are available in the city centre and at the UBS bank branch at the Palais des Nations, located on the second floor of E building (door 41). It is open from 08:30 to 16:30 from Monday to Friday.

All major credit cards are widely accepted in shops, hotels and restaurants.

Time Zone

Switzerland is located in the Central European time zone (GMT+1 after 31 October 2022).
**Electricity**

The voltage in Switzerland, as in most of Europe, is 230V/50 Hz. Please note that Switzerland uses ‘type J’ 3-pin electrical plugs and sockets. European ‘type C’ 2-pin plugs such as that shown below will fit these sockets, but all other equipment, including European ‘type F’ plugs, will require a socket adaptor.

![Type C: This will fit](image1.png) ![Type F: This will NOT fit](image2.png)

**Water**

We ask you to consider reducing your contribution to plastic waste by bringing your own refillable water bottle. [Geneva tap water](https://www.un.org) consistently rates among the highest-quality tap water in the world.

**Useful telephone numbers**

- General emergency calls: 112
- Police: 117
- Ambulance: 144
- Fire Department: 118

**IX. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE**

Additional details will be communicated to all registered meeting participants by e-mail.

**UNECE Secretariat**

- Ms. Vania Etropolska  
  Social and Demographic Statistics Section  
  UNECE Statistical Division  
  E-mail: vanity.etropolska@un.org

- Ms. Yana Trofimova  
  Social and Demographic Statistics Section  
  UNECE Statistical Division  
  E-mail: social.stats@un.org