

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Meeting of the 2022/2023 Bureau
Cork, Ireland, 12-13 October 2022

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Bureau meeting will be held in Cork, Ireland starting at 9:30 Irish Standard Time (UTC+1) on Wednesday, 12 October and finishing around 16:30 on Thursday, 13 October. The meeting is kindly hosted by the Central Statistical Office of Ireland and will take place in The Montenotte Hotel (Middle Glanmire Road, Cork, T23 E9DX, Ireland).

The meeting will be held in English only. The documents for the meeting will be uploaded on the following website: <https://statswiki.unece.org/display/bureau/CES+Bureau> (username: ces; password: bureau8).

I. OPENING BY PADRAIG DALTON.....	2
II. IN-DEPTH REVIEWS OF SELECTED STATISTICAL AREAS	2
A. Data ethics – <i>for discussion and recommendations</i>	2
B. Organization of in-depth reviews and the link with the topics of the seminars at the CES plenary sessions – <i>for decision</i>	2
III. UNECE Statistical Programme	2
A. Statistical legislation (ToR) – <i>for decision</i>	2
B. Measuring the value of official statistics (further work) – <i>for decision</i>	3
C. Statistics on children (further work) – <i>for decision</i>	3
D. Sustaining innovation post-Covid (outcome of the sprint and further work) – <i>for decision</i>	3
E. Forms of employment (further work) – <i>for decision</i>	3
F. Statistical capacity development in the region – <i>for discussion and recommendations</i>	3
G. Statistical programme for 2023 – <i>for decision</i>	4
IV. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS – OPEN DISCUSSION - <i>for discussion and recommendations</i>	4
V. FOLLOW-UP TO THE 2022 CES PLENARY SESSION.....	4
A. 30 th anniversary of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.....	4
B. Core Values of official statistics (next steps) – <i>for discussion and recommendations</i> ..	4
C. Collaboration with private data providers (next steps) – <i>for decision</i>	4
D. Further work with the geospatial community (next steps) – <i>for discussion and recommendations</i>	5
E. Future work and future workplace – post-Covid-19 working modalities (next steps) – <i>for discussion and recommendations</i>	5
F. Classification of Statistical Activities (next steps) – <i>for information</i>	5
G. Evaluation of the 70 th plenary session – <i>for information</i>	5

VI. PREPARATION OF THE CES 2023 PLENARY SESSION: PRELIMINARY AGENDA – <i>for discussion and recommendations</i>	6
VII. DATES AND VENUES OF NEXT MEETINGS – <i>for decision</i>	6
VIII. OTHER BUSINESS.....	6

I. OPENING BY PADRAIG DALTON

II. IN-DEPTH REVIEWS OF SELECTED STATISTICAL AREAS

1. The CES Bureau regularly reviews in depth selected statistical areas. The aim of the reviews is to improve coordination of statistical activities in the UNECE region, identify gaps or duplication of work, and address emerging issues. The reviews often lead to new work in topical areas and tangible outputs such as guidelines or recommendations.

A. Data ethics – *for discussion and recommendations*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/2 by Canada and United Kingdom)

2. The in-depth review of data ethics will be based on a paper by Canada and United Kingdom, with contribution by Eurostat. **Additional contributions from the CES Bureau members are welcome in advance of the Bureau meeting.**

B. Organization of in-depth reviews and the link with the topics of the seminars at the CES plenary sessions – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2021/OCT/3 by UNECE)

3. In a discussion in the past about the in-depth reviews and the CES seminar topics, the Bureau noted that the topics for the in-depth reviews and seminars should be complementary. The Bureau also noted that a broader discussion of the organization of the in-depth reviews and CES seminars would be useful. Furthermore, the *Guidelines for the in-depth reviews* approved by the Bureau in 2012 would need to be updated. The Secretariat will prepare updated guidelines as a basis for the discussion.

4. The CES Bureau will be invited to discuss the organization and selection of topics of the in-depth reviews and the link between the in-depth reviews and the CES seminars.

III. UNECE Statistical Programme

5. Under this agenda item, the draft programme of work for the UNECE Statistical Division in 2023 will be presented to the Bureau for approval. The discussion will focus on new or substantially changed activities of the work programme.

A. Statistical legislation (ToR) – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/4 by the Organizing Committee on modernizing statistical legislation)

6. In February 2022, the Bureau reviewed the report on the outcomes of the first two Expert Meetings on Modernizing Statistical Legislation, and supported the proposal for further work in this area, including setting up a Steering Group. The Bureau will be invited to review and approve the terms of reference for the Steering Group.

B. Measuring the value of official statistics (further work) – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/5 by the Task Force)

7. The 2022 Conference plenary session endorsed the document *Measuring the Value of Official Statistics: testing and developing a measurement framework*, supported the proposals for further work and invited countries to consider supporting the preparation of an online version of the report.

8. The CES Bureau will be invited to review and approve the proposal for follow-up activities.

C. Statistics on children (further work) – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/6 by UNECE and UNICEF)

9. The CES 2022 plenary session endorsed the *Guidance on statistics on children: Spotlight on children exposed to violence, in alternative care, and with a disability*, supported the proposals for further work and asked the CES Bureau to advise on the priorities.

10. The CES Bureau will be invited to review and approve a proposal for follow-up activities.

D. Sustaining innovation post-Covid (outcome of the sprint and further work) – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/7 by UNECE)

11. In June 2021, the CES plenary session discussed sustaining innovation in NSO organization and working arrangements after Covid-19. As a follow-up, a virtual sprint for Chief Statisticians on sustaining innovation from a strategic and managerial perspective was organized by the HLG-MOS in March 2022.

12. The Bureau will be invited to review the outcome of the sprint and decide on what further work is needed.

E. Forms of employment (further work) – for decision
(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/8 by UNECE)

13. The CES 2022 plenary session endorsed the *Handbook on Forms of Employment*. The Conference encouraged countries to implement the Handbook, supported the directions for future work identified in the Handbook, and asked the CES Bureau to consider the proposals for future work on forms of employment.

14. The Bureau will be invited to review and approve a proposal for further work.

F. Statistical capacity development in the region – for discussion and recommendations
(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/9 by UNECE)

15. In 2018, the Conference endorsed the UNECE Statistical capacity development strategy (ECE/CES/2018/10/Rev.1). In line with the Strategy, UNECE aims to enhance the capacity of national statistical systems in all member countries, and particularly those in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia, to implement international standards and guidelines and to meet the challenges of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The capacity development activities for this group of countries are demand driven and informed by the results of the Global Assessments carried out jointly with Eurostat and EFTA, at the request of countries.

16. The Bureau will be invited to review and comment on the progress in the implementation of the statistical capacity development strategy and the plans for the new round of Global Assessments.

G. Statistical programme for 2023 – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/10 by UNECE)

17. Under this agenda item, the Bureau will be invited to review and approve the Statistical Programme for 2023.

IV. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS IN OFFICIAL STATISTICS – OPEN DISCUSSION - *for discussion and recommendations*

18. Under this agenda item, the Bureau will be invited to have an open discussion about issues of strategic importance for official statistics, the work of NSOs and the Conference of European Statisticians. This may cover challenges, opportunities, changes of internal or external origin. The discussion will also inform the proposal for new topics of in-depth reviews and the CES seminars for the next cycle.

V. FOLLOW-UP TO THE 2022 CES PLENARY SESSION

A. 30th anniversary of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/11 by UNECE)

19. The CES 2022 plenary session marked the 30th anniversary of adoption of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. The session was a culmination of an international anniversary campaign which started in January 2022. The Conference encouraged all countries to use the shared resources to continue promoting and communicating the Fundamental Principles and official statistics. Summary of the campaign and list of developed resources will be presented to the Bureau.

20. The Bureau will be invited to advise on promoting and communicating the Fundamental Principles and official statistics in the future.

B. Core Values of official statistics (next steps) – *for discussion and recommendations*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/12 by the Task Team on core values of official statistics)

21. The CES 2022 plenary session endorsed the proposed list of core values and their descriptions, and the mappings of core values to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and other standards). The Conference supported the continuation of the work of the Task Team, with a focus on the elaboration of behaviours that demonstrate the implementation of the core values and the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics in practice.

22. The Bureau is invited to comment on the Task Team's plan and provide advice for the concluding stage of the work.

C. Collaboration with private data providers (next steps) – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/13 by Canada, Spain and UNECE)

23. At its 2022 plenary session, the Conference adopted the 'Position statement on the access to data held by the private sector for purposes of official statistics' and encouraged all national

statistical offices and international organizations to use the document in their communications and negotiations about access to data held by the private sector.

24. The Conference asked the CES Bureau to discuss the follow-up to this session and decide on further steps at its October 2022 meeting. The Bureau is invited to discuss a proposal for further work in this area and decide on the next steps.

D. Further work with the geospatial community (next steps) – *for discussion and recommendations*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/14 by UNECE)

25. During the joint CES and UN-GGIM: Europe 2022 plenary session, the two secretariats were requested to continue the current collaboration in areas of mutual strategic importance for the statistical and geospatial communities, including the preparation of an extension to the current collaboration agreement and organizing another joint plenary session in 2024.

26. The CES Bureau will be invited to review the planned next steps and advise on further work with the geospatial community.

E. Future work and future workplace – post-Covid-19 working modalities (next steps) – *for discussion and recommendations*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/15 by Task Team)

27. The 2022 joint CES/UN-GGIM: Europe plenary session discussed the major changes in working arrangements accelerated by the Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges these pose to NSOs. The plenary session welcomed the work by the HLG-MOS Future of Work Team on future work and future workplace, including toolkits, job design, and reaching youth, and supported the continuation of the work taking into account the outcome of the discussions.

28. The Bureau will be informed about the next steps under the Future of Work Task Team and invited to provide comments and advise on the future work in this area.

F. Classification of Statistical Activities (next steps) – *for information*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/16 by Task Team)

29. The CES 2022 plenary session considered a draft updated version of the Classification of Statistical Activities (CSA 2.0), prepared by a Task Team led by Mexico. The Conference took note of the feedback received through electronic consultation and requested the Task Team to continue working towards an internationally agreed global classification that will be presented for adoption to the United Nations Statistical Commission.

30. The Bureau will be informed about the planned next steps.

G. Evaluation of the 70th plenary session – *for information*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/17 by UNECE)

31. The Bureau will be informed about the evaluation of the 2022 CES plenary session based on the results of the evaluation questionnaire.

VI. PREPARATION OF THE CES 2023 PLENARY SESSION: PRELIMINARY AGENDA – *for discussion and recommendations*
(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/OCT/18 by UNECE)

32. The CES 2023 plenary session is planned to take place during the week of 26-30 June 2023 in Paris, back-to-back with the OECD CSSP meeting (the dates and venue still to be confirmed).

33. The Bureau is invited to discuss the preliminary agenda of the CES plenary session in 2023 based on a proposal by the Secretariat.

VII. DATES AND VENUES OF NEXT MEETINGS – *for decision*

34. The Bureau is expected to confirm the dates and venues of the next CES Bureau meetings and CES plenary sessions.

35. At its February 2022 meeting, the Bureau decided on its next meetings as follows:

- 15-16 February 2023 in Geneva
- 11-12 October 2023
- 14-15 February 2024

36. The 71st CES plenary session is planned to take place during the week of 26-30 June 2023 in Paris.

37. The 72nd CES plenary session is proposed to take place during the week of 24-28 June in Geneva.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

38. Any other topics can be taken up under this agenda item.

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