

ACC Sub- Committee on statisti-  
cal Activities  
Twenty Fours Session  
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Agenda

25 May 1990

Major areas of the international cooperation in the  
field of Statistics at the CMEA in 1989/90

( Report of the CMEA Statistical Office ).

### 1. Major directions of the cooperation.

1.2 The cooperation was carried out in accordance with  
the programmes approved by the CMEA Standing Commission on  
statistics. It focused on the following directions:

- the assistance to the countries and the bodies of  
the Council in the implementation of the various  
programmes of cooperation in the field of economy and  
science;

- the unification of the methodology of Computation of  
statistical indicators;

- the harmonization of the indicators and  
classifications approved earlier by the CMEA Commission on  
statistics with those recommended by the UN Statistical  
Commission;

- computerization of data collection and processing at  
the CMEA Secretariat;

- publication of statistical editions ( yearbooks,  
bulletens etc.) and analytical materials.

The text below gives a more detailed discription of  
the work for each direction.

### 2. Implementation of the selected items of programme.

2.1. In 1990 efforts were undertaken to complete the  
international comparison of the net material products and  
similar agregates (industrial and agricultural output,  
capital invesment, total consumption of the population ,  
etc) of the CMEA member countries for 1988 on the basis of  
purchasing power parities.

The primary data on the aggregates in national  
currency and on prices were collected and processed. The  
report with the results of the comparison is under the  
preparation. It will be discussed later this year at the  
meeting of the Commission. It is intended to publish it  
earlier next year and to circulate.

The Commission will also discuss the programme of  
future work in this area. It is entended in this connection  
to study a possibility of coordination of the future work  
in the field with the ICP.

2.2. Several projects were initiated in order to  
harmonize the CMEA statistics with the UN Statistical  
Commission recomendations. First of all, this refers to the  
work on methodology of computation of GDP for CMEA  
countries. The methodology will be the adaptation of the

SNA to CMEA countries' conditions.

The first draft of the methodology in question was discussed at the meeting of the CMEA experts held in Moscow in December 1989. The UNSO representatives took an active part in it.

Presently the second draft of the material is under preparation. The draft of the chapters of the revised SNA, kindly provided by the UNSO, are taken into account. The second draft is intended to be discussed in Moscow at the end of 1990.

It should be noted that at the meeting of the CMEA experts on the methodology of computation of GDP for CMEA countries the idea of integration of SNA and MPS as the way of harmonization of them was endorsed in broad terms. At the same time many experts were of the view that the MPS should be retained as a separate system. They emphasized the need to harmonize the CMEA classification of branches of national economy and ISIC.

2.3. The work was also initiated on the revision of the CMEA methodology of external trade statistics. One of the major purposes of this work is to bring it closer to the methodology used by United Nations. A draft of the revised methodology in question is under preparation. It will be discussed at the meeting of the CMEA experts held in Moscow later this year.

2.4. The Commission approved the methodology of computation of a number of analytical indicators which show the relationship between the net material product and selected types of the resources used, e.g. energy, metal etc. These materials will be employed as a basis for collection of data from the CMEA member countries.

Some efforts were also undertaken to work out methodology of the analysis of the factors responsible for the change in productivity.

2.5. The cooperation in the field of computerization of collection and processing statistical data at the CMEA Secretariat continued. In particular, special attention was given to the matters pertaining to the use of micro-computers at the CMEA Secretariat. The work also continued on the data base at the CMEA Secretariat. The agreement was reached with the ECE Secretariat to attempt on the experimental basis to establish the connection with the ICC host computer in order to exchange data between the CMEA and ECE by means of the international computerized network.

2.6. In the spirit of the policy of openness pursued by the CMEA Secretariat, the Statistical office revised the programmes of statistical publications to be released later this year. ( They were approved by the Commission ). It is intended to expand circulation of open publications. For example, the CMEA statistical yearbook of external trade statistics will be published and circulated without restriction for the first time.

### 3. Direction of the future work.

The draft of the programme of work for 1991 year was prepared by the CMEA Statistical office. It will be discussed later this year at the meeting of the Commission. It includes, among other things, the following topics which could be of interest in the context of more broad international cooperation:

- Integration of the SNA and MFS; methodology of computation of GDF for the CMEA countries;
- Harmonization of the CMEA classification of the branches of national economy with the ISIC.
- Revision of the CMEA methodology of the external trade statistics.
- Methodology of measurement of inflation.
- Methodology of measurement of unemployment.
- International comparison of net material product and similar aggregates.
- Computerization of collection and processing of data.

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