

Thirtieth session

30 March 1996

New York, 7-9 May 1996

Items 3(a) and 3(b) of the provisional agenda

NEW DATA COLLECTION, PROCESSING AND DISSEMINATION**NEW DEVELOPMENT, REVISION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF 'STANDARDS'***Report prepared by Eurostat*

A proportion, but far from all, of Eurostat's data collection activities takes place under the terms of statistical legalisation (in the form of Regulations, Directives, etc) which is passed by the Council of Ministers or, under certain circumstances, the European Commission. Such legislation can involve the specification of standards or the data required from the Member States, or both. For this reason this contribution of Eurostat to both items 3(a) (new data collection, processing and dissemination) and 3(b) (new development, revision and implementation of 'standards') of the agenda of this meeting has been combined.

030 General statistics

A major action for Eurostat in 1996 is the start of data collection in the transition countries across the whole spectrum, but with a particular emphasis on macro-economic and regional data in the case of the Eastern and Central European countries that are candidates for membership of the European Union. The collection of data from Cyprus and Malta will also be stepped up in view of the applications of these countries for membership.

Classifications: Implementation of NACE Rev1 and CPA. Publication of the nomenclatures in all official languages. European coordination of the revision of the COFOG and the COICOP. Participation in revision of the nomenclatures of economic activities of the USA and Canada. Revision of CPC. Implementation of an aggregation for economic analysis. Drawing up of a classification of type of construction.

031 Demographic and regional statistics**2 Population**

Population and migration: Preparation of a Regulation for the organisation of the 2000 round of censuses. Revision of the UN recommendations on international migration statistics and guidelines for asylum statistics. Preparation of Eurostat/ECE recommendations for the 2000 round of censuses. Publication of a quarterly bulletin on asylum statistics

4 Labour

Working population, employment, unemployment: Development of short-term indicators of employment. Continuation of the harmonisation work on unemployment rates.

Short-term earnings indicators: Definition of the methodology relating to the EECI - European Employment Cost Index.

Labour cost survey: Preparatory work for the survey and implementation of the Regulation.

5 Education

Education and vocational training: Creation of a database. Preparation of a statistical instrument allowing measurement of the transition from school to work.

7 Health

Health, safety and social protection: Establishment of a list of health indicators for the monitoring of public health and of health care systems in the European Union. Preparation of a legal basis.

Social welfare: Revision of the definitions regarding health care personnel and infrastructure. Revision of the EHLASS methodology (European Home and Leisure Accidents Surveillance System).

8 Distribution of income and consumption

Households panels: Launch of third wave of Household Panel survey in 12 Member States (and extension to Austria and Finland), and preparation of the fourth wave envisaged in 1997. Creation of a longitudinal database and publication of the preliminary longitudinal analyses from the first two waves (data collected 1994 and 1995).

Household budget survey: Finalisation and publication of the revised methodology.

9 Social security

Social protection: Finalisation of the revised methodology ESSPROS and data collection according to the new system.

11 Other social, demographic and related statistics

Time Use Survey: Pilot surveys. Preparation for the full surveys.

Social situation of specific populations: Elaboration of a publication on the young people, aimed to a broad public.

Urban statistics: Feasibility study for the adoption of a statistical information system on urban areas.

031 Economic statistics

1 National accounts

National accounts: Review of the GNP inventories of the new Member States and update of the inventories of all Member States. Improvement of the situation for certain Member States with regard to government accounts and detailed accounts by sector and by branch. Methodological work on FISIM. Continuation of work on exhaustiveness (submerged economy). The development of a system of quick estimation of quarterly GDP and the elaboration of a methodological manual for quarterly accounts

Environmental Accounts: Development of satellite accounts for natural resources and use of resources. Integration of indicators (particularly emissions) into a national accounts matrix (NAMEA).

Regional statistics and accounts: Publication of a methodological handbook on regional statistics of R&D. Update of the NUTS (regional nomenclature) and publication of a revised edition.

2 Agriculture

Agricultural production: Revision of the statistics of orchard fruit. Revision of the Council and Commission Regulations concerning dairy statistics.

Agricultural prices and incomes: Study on the consequences of the revision of the ESA on the economic accounts of agriculture. Development of a new methodological manual.

3 Forestry and fishery

Forestry statistics: Development of the statistical component of the "European Forestry Information and Communication System".

Fisheries statistics: Implementation of the Regulation adopted in 1995 concerning catches in regions other than the north Atlantic. Implementation of the Regulation adopted in 1995 regarding fish-farming statistics.

4 Industry

Industry - production and dissemination and Services - methodology: Adoption of a Commission Regulation on methodology and definitions. Implementation of the Regulation's specifications regarding structural statistics of businesses. Adoption of the Regulation on short-term indicators for enterprises

Business statistics: Improvement of the statistical information system on enterprises aimed at lightening the burden of response.

Industry - production and dissemination: First year of annual surveys of enterprises with 1995 as a reference year. Preparation of the first publication on PRODCOM data, co-published with the central statistical offices.

5 Energy

Energy statistics: Extension of PRODCOM to cover energy products, launch of a survey on energy consumption in households for the 15 Member States as well as for 11 Central and Eastern European countries. Surveys on Combined Heat and Power plants and Renewable Energy Sources should be completed this year. Collection of statistics on gas and electricity transmission networks (Trans-European Networks).

6 Services

Services - sectoral aspects: Adoption of a legal basis for the collection of information on insurance following the creation of a single insurance market. Methodological revision of the financial services manual

Services: products: Publication of a "Services" Panorama of industry.

8 Trade

Tariff and trade statistics: Adoption of a unique reference to replace numerous databases in order to offer a user-friendly environment for the processing and retrieval of data on external trade.

9 Transport

Transport: Adoption of a Regulation, replacing and extending existing Council legislation on the statistics of carriage of goods by road, to include data on road cabotage, road transport

capacity and international-interregional road transport. Implementation of the system of legal bases covering the statistics of air and maritime transport.

11 Communication and tourism

Distributive trades and tourism: Implementation of a Directive and of a methodological recommendation on the collection and dissemination of existing data.

13 Fiscal statistics

Statistics for European monetary integration: Continuation of methodological work on harmonized calculation of indicators of general government debt and deficit.

14 Balance of payments statistics

Balance of payments methodology: Development of a Community system for the collection of detailed data on international trade in services in order to meet the needs arising from the GATS.

15 Prices, including ICP

Consumer price indices: Implementation of the Council Regulation adopted in 1995 on the harmonization of consumer prices indices. Work will mainly involve the development of the precise methodology needed for the production of the indices necessary for Phase II of EMU. This implies the drafting and adoption of a series of Regulations establishing the rules and guide-lines to be followed by Member States. "Interim Indices" were calculated for the EU Member States from January 1996, the "Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices" will be launched at the beginning of 1997.

16 Science and technology

Statistics on Research and Development and Innovation: the collection and analysis of data on Human resources in S&T; the analysis of regional patent data; the analysis and dissemination of results from the Community Innovation Survey.

032 Other statistics

1 Environment

Waste statistics: Community legislative framework. Establishment of the relevant nomenclature.

Statistics of environment expenditure: Practical implementation of the SERIEE system and eventually working out of a legislative framework.

Water statistics: Coordination of the data collection by the Commission (harmonized reports) on the basis of the relevant water Directives by means of a common Eurostat/OECD questionnaire.