



Economic and Social
Council

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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Forty-eighth plenary session
(Paris, 13-15 June 2000)

**PROGRAMMES OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL
WORK IN THE ECE REGION, 2000/2001 and 2001/2002:
AN INTEGRATED PRESENTATION**

(Pre-plenary session version)
(advance draft dated 16 February 2000)

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 4
SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS**

The format of this integrated presentation

1. This is intended to be a fully integrated presentation of international work programmes in the ECE region. That is to say it includes not only the statistical work of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), but also the relevant statistical work carried out in the ECE region by the Commission of the European Communities, OECD, the UN Statistical Division (UNSD), ILO, WHO, IMF, the World Trade Organization (ex GATT), the World Bank, The Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT) and many other agencies. The programmes are presented in six separate documents - one for each domain in the Conference's programme of work - as follows:

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|-----------------------|--|
| Programme Activity 1: | Organization and Operation of statistical services (CES/2000/4/Add.1) |
| Programme Activity 2: | Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues (CES/2000/4/Add.2) |
| Programme Activity 3: | Economic statistics (CES/2000/4/Add.3) |
| Programme Activity 4: | Social and demographic statistics (CES/2000/4/Add.4) |
| Programme Activity 5: | Environment statistics (CES/2000/4/Add.5) |
| Programme Activity 6: | Dissemination and support for secretariat |

activities (CES/2000/4/Add.6)

2. The integrated presentation is prepared annually, according to the following timetable:

- i) December-January: The ECE secretariat obtains information from the other organizations on their programmes of work and prepares a first draft of the integrated presentation for review by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians at its February meeting of each year.
- ii) February-May: The integrated presentation is updated and amended to include the Bureau's recommended decisions to the Conference in each field of statistics. This "pre-plenary session version" is presented in draft form for review by the Conference at its annual meeting in June.
- iii) July-August: The integrated presentation is amended to reflect the decisions taken by the Conference at its May meeting concerning its own work programme. This "post-plenary session version" is issued in its final form for the forthcoming two-year period.

3. Thus, the material presented in the six documents referred to above contains updated text that organizations supplied to the secretariat for inclusion in this updated version of the integrated presentation which was considered by the Conference at its 2000 plenary session. In addition to providing updated information on the planned future work programmes of the different international organizations in different fields of statistics, it lists numerous decisions that the Conference took in these fields of statistics, and identifies various issues that the Bureau brought to the attention of the Conference at the plenary session.

4. Each programme activity is sub-divided into a number of programme elements, and each programme element is described within the following framework:

PROBLEM STATEMENT: Broad aims of national statistical offices for international work in that field over the next several years.

STRATEGIC MEDIUM TERM GOALS: Specific outputs expected by countries in the next two years.

ATTENTION OF THE CONFERENCE IS DRAWN TO THE FOLLOWING: List of issues in each field of statistics that the Bureau of the Conference brought to the attention of the Conference at its plenary session.

RECOMMENDED DECISIONS BY THE CONFERENCE AT THE 2000 PLENARY SESSION: List of decisions on its programme of work taken by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session.

MEETINGS IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS: Sponsoring agency, title, date.

RAPPORTEUR: International organization and/or national statistical office that the Conference has recommended be assigned responsibility for preparing short issue- and strategic-oriented reports for the Bureau and for assessing on behalf of the Conference progress towards the objectives and outputs specified for a programme element.

ACTIVITIES AND MEANS IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS: Description of the major activities of agencies in that field from mid-June 2000 to June 2002. Information is also given in this section on ECE resource implications for the work to be carried out by the ECE secretariat. The resource implications are classified as follows: minimal (less than 3 work months); moderate (3-6 work months); and substantial (over 6 work months). The activities and means are structured in the following way: (i) Ongoing methodological work; (ii) New activities; and (iii) recurrent activities to be discontinued in the next two years).

Priority menus

5. The "priority menu" summarising the major types of activities the Conference plans to work on during the next two years in all projects in the programme activity is given at the end of this addendum.

List of programme elements in the programme of work of the Conference

6. The list of programme elements in the whole programme of work of the Conference is given in Table 1, together with an indication of the document in which information for that programme element can be found.

Other related information

7. As the Integrated Presentation is being presented in six separate documents, this explanatory note on the format of the presentation is being reproduced in each of the documents. A separate short document (CES/2000/4) describes the background to the development of the format used here and provides additional information including an explanation of acronyms used.

8. The Bureau of the Conference agreed at its November 1999 meeting that on an experimental basis a new format will be used for the 2000 edition of the Programme Activity 4, Social and demographic statistics. The new formats aim at making the Integrated Presentation more user's friendly and transparent. Therefore the format of this document is slightly different from other five documents.

Table 1. List of programme elements in the programme of work of the Conference (together with an indication of the document in which information for that programme element can be found)

Programme Activity	Programme Element
<u>Programme Activity 1:</u> Organization and Operation of statistical services	1.1 Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work 1.2 Managerial and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of national statistical offices 1.3 Countries in transition in the ECE region 1.4 Relations with countries outside the ECE region (including countries in the Mediterranean region)
<u>Programme Activity 2:</u> Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues	2.1 Management of information technology infrastructure 2.2 Statistical data collection and processing 2.3 Dissemination and interchange of statistical information 2.4 Statistical classifications 2.5 Statistical research and development 2.6 Geographical and regional data 2.7 Human resource development 2.8 Sustainable development indicators NEW
<u>Programme Activity 3:</u> Economic statistics	3.1 Implementation of the system of national accounts 3.2 Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments 3.3 International trade in goods 3.4 Transport and communication statistics 3.5 Distributive trades 3.6 International trade in services 3.7 Tourism 3.8 Other marketed services, and non-marketed services 3.9 Price statistics, including purchasing power parities 3.10 Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics 3.11 Industrial statistics 3.12 Energy statistics 3.13 Science and technology statistics 3.14 Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics 3.XX Other work in the field of economic statistics

Programme Activity	Programme Element
<p><u>Programme Activity 4:</u> Social and demographic statistics</p> <p>New numbering of programme elements to achieve better correspondence to the Programme Classification of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC)</p>	<p>4.1 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration, fertility and families and households) (<i>formerly 4.11</i>)</p> <p>4.2 a) Population and housing censuses (<i>formerly 4.5</i>)</p> <p>4.2 b) Statistics on population groups of special interest (<i>formerly 4.14</i>)</p> <p>4.3 Human settlements and housing statistics (<i>formerly 4.12</i>)</p> <p>4.4 Labour statistics (<i>formerly 4.10</i>)</p> <p>4.5 Education and training statistics (<i>formerly 4.8</i>)</p> <p>4.6 Culture statistics (<i>formerly 4.9</i>)</p> <p>4.7 a) Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income inequality (<i>formerly 4.13</i>)</p> <p>4.7 b) Social security statistics (<i>new</i>) NEW</p> <p>4.8 Crime and criminal justice statistics (<i>formerly 4.7</i>)</p> <p>4.9 Health statistics (<i>formerly 4.6</i>)</p> <p>4.10 Gender statistics (<i>formerly 4.2</i>)</p> <p>4.11 Other work in the field of social and demographic statistics (<i>formerly 4.xx</i>)</p> <p>4.11 a) Social indicators and frameworks (<i>formerly 4.1</i>)</p> <p>4.11 b) Multi-purpose social surveys (<i>formerly 4.3</i>)</p> <p>4.11 c) Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics (<i>formerly 4.4</i>)</p>
<p><u>Programme Activity 5:</u> Environment statistics</p>	<p>5.1 Sectoral concepts, definitions and classifications <i>Themes: emissions, waste, land use/cover, etc.</i></p> <p>5.2 Environmental accounting</p> <p>5.3 Environmental databases and reporting</p> <p>5.4 Meteorology statistics NEW</p>
<p><u>Programme Activity 6:</u> Dissemination and support for secretariat activities</p>	<p>6.1 Coordination of international data collection</p> <p>6.2 Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat</p>

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 4
SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS**

The Bureau of the Conference recommended at its November 1999 meeting to use, on a trial basis, for the 2000 edition of the Integrated Presentation a classification of programme elements which better corresponds to the

classification used by the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities. The following is the correspondence between the old and new numbering of programme elements:

New Number:	Old Number:	Programme Element:
4.1	4.11	Demographic statistics (including projections, migration, fertility and families and households)
4.2 a)	4.5	Population and housing censuses
4.2 b)	4.14.	Statistics on population groups of special interest
4.3	4.12	Human settlements and housing statistics
4.4	4.10	Labour statistics
4.5	4.8	Education and training statistics ⁰
4.6	4.9	Culture statistics
4.7 a)	4.13	Statistics on household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income inequality
4.7 b)	Part of 4.13 and 4.14	Social security statistics (new P.E.)
4.8	4.7	Crime and criminal justice statistics
4.9	4.6	Health statistics
4.10	4.2	Gender statistics
4.11	4.XX	Other work in the field of social and demographic statistics
4.11 a)	4.1	Social indicators and frameworks
4.11 b)	4.3	Multi-purpose social surveys
4.11 c)	4.4.	Registers and administrative records in social and demographic statistics

4.1 (former P.E. 4.11) DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS (INCLUDING PROJECTIONS, MIGRATION, FERTILITY AND FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS)

Problem Statement: To develop a system of demographic country specific accounts, and related population and family and household projections for the ECE-OECD region, and the collection of micro-data files enabling comparative socio-economic analyses of important target populations. Major components include (1) the creation of an information bank concerning uses made of non-governmental/governmental demographic statistics in ECE countries; (2) the promotion of international coordination and agreements to improve the measurement of population migration flows and stocks of asylum seekers and refugees; (3) promotion of international coordination and agreements to improve statistics on families and households; (4) promotion and conduct of a new round of cross-nationally comparable fertility and family/household surveys conducive to documenting and explaining continued changes in fertility and family behaviour as well as reproductive health; (5) the collection of comparable micro data files; and (6) the sharing of new methodology developments for demographic estimates and projections.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches in the fields of fertility, migration, estimates and projections, and families and households to (1) assess current international statistics against the objectives listed above, (2) highlight areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies, and (3) suggest priorities where major advances in line with the objectives would be promising. Preparation of an Executive Summary for the Bureau and the Conference.

Projections: For Eurostat, possible organisation of a group of experts to study and discuss the relationship between population and labour market trends, which could result in Eurostat organising an international workshop to compare and evaluate population and labour force projections for Europe produced by different international organisations).

Demographic statistics: Specifications for the System of Demographic Accounts for the ECE region; Classified uses of demographic statistics in ECE countries;

For the ECE PAU: Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) comprising work on: (1) regional information system (database) for monitoring the implementation of the final documents of the relevant population conferences (ICPD, the European Population Conference (EPC) and the Regional Population Meeting (RPM)) in transition countries; (2) regional and national POPIN web sites; and (3) study on recent population developments in transition countries.

Migration: Publication of revised international recommendations on migration statistics; (2) protocols and agreements to facilitate accurate and timely migration data; Annual international migration flows and standardisation of tabulations for ECE countries.

Fertility: Initial agreements pertaining to various aspects of the new round of fertility and family/household surveys including (i) objectives of the surveys, (ii) major components of the common survey questionnaire, (iii) survey sample design, and (iv) funding modalities at the regional and national level.

For the ECE PAU: (1) remaining national Fertility and Family Surveys (FFS) Standard Country Reports (SCRs) published; (2) remaining FFS Standard Recode Files (SRFs) disseminated; and (3) remaining cross-national comparative studies completed.

Families and households: Initial agreements pertaining to various aspects of the new round of fertility and family/household surveys including (i) objectives of the surveys, (ii) major components of the common survey questionnaire, (iii) survey sample design, and (iv) funding modalities at the regional and national level.

For the ECE PAU: (subject to availability of additional extra-budgetary funds): (1) agreements on research and related data collection priorities with national and regional partners (the evaluation of experiences with the research and data collection in the fields of fertility and the family in the 1990s will be completed by June 2000); (2) development of an agenda for the

research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations; and (3) elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey data and census sample data in support of this research.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)
- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the ECE's Population Activities Unit in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

ECE-Eurostat: Work session on demographic projections (2003/2004)

Eurostat: Working Party on Migration, first half of 2001

Eurostat: Working Group: Demography, first half 2002

OECD: SOPEMI (December 2000)

UNSD: Expert Group on the collection of fertility and mortality data

UNSD: Expert Group on Handbook on Fertility and Mortality

Meetings convened by the ECE Population Activities Unit:

- Intergovernmental meeting with the view to considering, amending and adopting the proposals for the Generations and Gender programme (July, 2000)
- Informal Expert Group meeting to develop a research agenda for the Generations and Gender programme and formulate recommendations on substance and logistics of survey and census data collection/sampling, processing, archiving and dissemination (October, 2000)
- Meetings of Informal Expert Subgroups to develop a draft model survey questionnaire (October-December 2000)

Rapporteurs:

ECE Statistical Division (migration)

ECE Population Activities Unit (fertility)

Eurostat (demographic estimates and projections)

Eurostat (statistics of families and households)

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference:

a) Migration:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Annual exchange of statistics on international migration flows
- Establishment (2000/2001, jointly with Eurostat) of a Task Force consisting of interested NSOs which would look into the possibility of a Case Study approach being used to determine whether and how more rapid progress towards greater international comparability in this field could be achieved by countries with the help of the new set of UN recommendations on international migration statistics.

Secretariat resources: Substantial

b) Projections:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Work session on demographic projections (2003/2004, jointly with Eurostat), to consider the following topics: (i) Latest international, national and sub-national population and household projections; (ii) New approaches and experiences in estimating, analysing and projecting trends and patterns of fertility, mortality, migration and household structures and dynamics; (iii) Accuracy and uncertainty in international, national and sub-national population and household projections; (iv) Documentation and dissemination strategies; (v) Users and uses of projections; and (vi) Evaluation and use of projections software.

(Planning and preparatory work for the meeting to commence in 2002/2003 by the ECE secretariat and Eurostat, in cooperation with interested NSIs and research and university institutes).

Secretariat resources: Minimal.

Activities of the ECE's Population Activities Unit (Economic Analysis Division):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development: Training will be provided to participants from countries interested in monitoring the implementation of the final documents of the ICPD, EPC and RPM. The promotion of the development of national POPIN (Population Information Network) web sites will continue.
- Generations and Gender: Research into their behaviour and quality of life: Elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey and census sample data for the study of the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations. For the survey programme: pilot surveys to test the draft model questionnaire in three countries; preparation of the final model questionnaire; development of survey codebook; conduct of surveys in participating countries. For the census programme: modification of existing strategy for drawing microdata samples from the population and housing censuses; conduct census comparability study; draw microdata census samples.

Data collection:

- Fertility, the family and reproductive health: (i) Data collection, standardisation and dissemination: FFS Standard Recode Files (SRFs) for countries which joined the project in the late 1990s will be created, archived and disseminated. Aggregate-level data (SCR tables) will continue to be distributed through the FFS Homepage. (ii) Research, training and technical assistance: Technical assistance with the completion of FFS data entry and standard tabulations for countries, which recently joined the project, will continue.
- Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development: (i) In collaboration with relevant international organizations and offices, such as the UN Statistical Division, most recent data for transition countries will be added to the database; aggregate-level information now becoming available in the fields of

fertility, family and reproductive health as well as population ageing and the status of older persons will be added. The list of indicators needed for the monitoring of the implementation of the final documents of the population conferences will be expanded. (ii) The study on recent population developments in transition countries will be completed. The PAU Internet Homepage, the regional POPIN web site, will continue to be updated and used as the means for disseminating results of the various activities conducted as part of the PAU work programme.

- Generations and Gender: Research into their behaviour and quality of life: (i) development of an agenda of research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations; (ii) promotion and conduct of a new round of cross-nationally comparable family and household surveys conducive to documenting and explaining changes in the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations; and (iii) promotion and collection of census samples also in support of research into the behaviour and conditions of men and women of different generations.

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Application of new international recommendations on migration statistics with workshop planned for autumn 2000

Priority objective of methodological work:

- Paper summarising workshop results and implementation of recommendations

New activities:

- Development of statistics on migration of the highly skilled (sources and definitions)

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 31- Population (311, 313)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Continuation of work of harmonising demographic data collection tools at European level with the other international organisations involved. Participation in the Task force for the implementation of international recommendations on international migration statistics

New activities:

- NewCronos online documentation; publication of a revised version (shorter and more targeted) of the demographic yearbook; definition of an information system for households and families; Consolidation of the regular migration data collection from the EU, EFTA, CEEC and Mediterranean countries; redefinition and improvement of the dissemination of the data;.
- Finalise the first phase of the Medstat-MIGR programme (specific country projects) and launch the second phase; launch of the second phase of the Commission's Action Plan on a rapid collection system on migration and asylum (more detailed tables, data from applicant countries, additional variables) and design a secure web site for this application.
- Revision of methods and tools used to calculate demographic indicators; evaluation of the completed projections from 1985 onwards and preparation of the next round of Community projections; compilation of regional demographic projections for candidate countries.

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Work on economically active population: (i) preparing technical documents describing the methodologies used in making the estimates and projections; (ii) evaluating the results against comparable national and international estimates and projections; (iii) and integrating this project within a broader project on global and regional employment and unemployment estimates as well as activities on Key Indicators of Labour Market (see section 4.10).

Data collection:

- International Migration Data Base in the ILO Migration Branch, in close cooperation with other international and regional organizations.

United Nations Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision

Data collection:

- Regular collection of data for the United Nations Demographic Yearbook.

Council of Europe:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Projects on "The demographic characteristics of immigrant populations in Europe", "The demographic implications of social exclusion" and "The demographic consequences of economic transition in countries of Central and Eastern Europe". The extent to which these projects will require specific and comparable data will be determined in due course.

United Nations Population Division:

Waiting for reply

International Organization for Migration (IOM):

Waiting for reply

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

4.2 a) (former P.E. 4.5) POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES

Problem Statement: To ensure efficient and effective use of censuses within the statistical systems of the countries of the region, and to promote international comparability of census data. Population and housing census data are required by most countries in the world to provide benchmark data. International recommendations on the statistical topics, definitions, classifications and tabulations can serve to promote internationally comparable results. Exchange of information among countries on best census methods and practices, and on the use of non-traditional methods and on

changing or sensitive topics (e.g. ethnicity, families and the measurement of unpaid work in the household). Once every decade, the preparation of sets of regional international recommendations for new rounds of censuses, tailored to the circumstance and needs of countries in the UN/ECE region (work on the preparation of a new set of ECE-Eurostat joint recommendations for the 2010 round of censuses is not expected to commence until around 2004).

Strategic Medium Term Goals: For ECE, exchanges of experiences among national and international statistical services on critical issues emerging in the 2000 round of censuses; and the provision of advisory services and technical assistance to national statistical offices in the ECE region, and particularly newly independent states, on the utilization of internationally recommended topics, definitions, classifications and tabulations in the 2000 round of censuses and on census methods and procedures, data bases, and outputs for the 2000 round of population and housing censuses. For Eurostat, UNSD, the ILO and CIS/STAT, the preparation and publication of guidelines and methodological materials on censuses.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)
- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the ECE's Population Activities Unit in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

ECE-Eurostat: Preparatory meeting for the work session on population and housing censuses (2001/2002)

ECE-Eurostat: Work session on population and housing censuses (Ohrid, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 2002/2003)

UNSD: First meeting on the outline of the Handbook : 14-16 February 2000

UNSD: Second meeting on the draft of the Handbook: 12-16 March 2001

UNSD: Expert Group on Census Data Processing and Dissemination, 16 - 19 April 2001

UNSD: Expert Group on Time Use Statistics, 13 - 24 November 2000

Rapporteur: ECE

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Preparatory meeting in 2001/2002 (jointly with Eurostat, and in cooperation with a small number of selected countries) to help plan and prepare (organisation, invited papers, venue, practical issues) the 2002/2003 joint UN/ECE-Eurostat work session on population and housing censuses.
- Work session on population and housing censuses (jointly with Eurostat) in 2002/2003 (Ohrid, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia) to consider: (i) Lessons learned from the 2000 round of population and housing censuses (concepts, collection, processing, outputs); (ii) Planning for the next census; and (iii) Process to be used in producing an updated set of "Recommendations for the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses".

Secretariat resources: Substantial

Activities of ECE's Population Activities Unit:

Ongoing methodological work:

- See work carried out by the Population Activities Unit in PE 4.1 and 4.2 b) under the project 'Generations and Gender: Research into their Behaviour and Quality of Life', which is related to gender statistics.

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 31 - Population (312)*):

New activities:

- Establishing and testing the transfer system for the census Community table programme between Eurostat and the Member States; feasibility study of expanding the Census database with results from previous census rounds.

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 2
- Handbooks on population and housing censuses: Management; Census Mapping and Geographic Information Systems; Census and survey editing; and Guidelines on Economic Characteristics

Council of Europe:

New activities:

- Technical assistance programmes designed to support census activities in Albania, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Kosovo.

**Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States
(CIS-STAT):**

In translation

4.2 b) (former P.E. 4.14) STATISTICS ON POPULATION GROUPS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Problem Statement: To develop programs of integrated data and information on specific issues or populations. For example, issues might include poverty or illiteracy. Populations might include the elderly, minorities, children, youth refugees and the homeless. (See also project 4.2, gender statistics).

Strategic Medium Term Goals: Recommendations for a series of internationally comparable reports on population groups of special interest. Comparative analyses concerning attributes of the older population in a more distant future.

For the ECE's Population Activities Unit (PAU): (i) agreements on research and related data collection priorities concerning the behaviour and conditions of certain groups of special interest with national and regional partners; (ii) development of an agenda for the research into the behaviour and conditions of certain groups of special interest; and (iii) elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey and census sample data in support of this research.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the ECE's Population Activities Unit in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Meetings convened by the ECE Population Activities Unit:

- Intergovernmental meeting with the view to considering, amending and adopting the proposals for the Generations and Gender programme (July, 2000)
- Informal Expert Group Meeting to develop a research agenda for the Generations and Gender programme and formulate recommendations on substance and logistics of survey and census data collection/sampling, processing, archiving and dissemination (October, 2000)
- Meetings of Informal Expert Subgroups to develop a draft model survey questionnaire (October-December 2000)

Rapporteur: Not applicable

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of the ECE's Population Activities Unit:

Ongoing methodological work:

- **Research, training and technical assistance:** (i) The series of country reports on the status of older persons to be completed; (ii) Development of an agenda of needed research on the behaviour and conditions of certain groups of special interest; and (iii) Elaboration of appropriate methodology, for this research. For the survey programme: pilot surveys to test the draft model questionnaire in three countries; preparation of the final model questionnaire; development of survey codebook; conduct of surveys in participating countries. For the census programme: modification of existing strategy for drawing microdata samples from the population and housing censuses; conduct census comparability study; draw microdata census samples. The PAU will provide technical assistance.

Data collection:

- **Census-related work:** Work on the release and maintenance of the collection of census samples based on the 1990-round of censuses will continue. This will involve working with the data distributors on the release of the data sets and support to end-users; maintenance of the data sets as they are upgraded from beta to pre-release and final versions; working to increase the visibility and use of the data sets. Conduct census data comparability study for the censuses of the 2000 round. As of January 2002 (or possible earlier) start work on drawing micro-data census samples from the 2000-round of censuses
- **Survey-related work:** Conduct comparable surveys on 'Generations and Gender' in the participating countries from September 2001 on. This will involve the translation of the model questionnaire into local languages, possible adaptation of the model to local conditions, pre-tests of the resultant national questionnaires and the fielding of the surveys. Participating national institutions will perform this work. The PAU will provide requisite technical assistance.

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: None

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Manual "Surveys of child labour and activities of children" will be completed to guide countries wishing to embark on comprehensive child labour surveys to quantify the magnitude, character and determinants of the phenomenon in all its forms.
- Technical assistance (donors countries funding) consisting of training/workshops, advisory services, material assistance, etc., will be provided on a continuous basis in all the countries where child labour surveys will be carried out aiming at: (i) collecting comprehensive quantitative and qualitative statistical information on working children by means of household-based sample surveys and other inquiries as a tool for planning and implementing policies and action

programmes to combat child labour in the countries; (ii) capacity-building of national statistics offices and ministries of labour to create databases, carry out surveys and use the updated information for evaluating and improving the effectiveness of the policies and action programmes being implemented, thereby measuring the progress made in combating the practice of child labour.

Data collection:

- Child labour surveys will be undertaken at the national level in more than 20 countries (in collaboration with UNICEF in the Latin America and the Caribbean). Their integration in household-based surveys, especially labour force sample surveys for collecting the relevant data on child labour on an annual basis.

Council of Europe:

Ongoing methodological work:

- The project "The demographic characteristics of immigrant populations in Europe"

4.3 (former P.E. 4.12) HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND HOUSING STATISTICS

Problem Statement: Development and improvement of statistics relating to housing and building; study of the relationships between human settlement statistics (particularly housing statistics) and related types of statistics (e.g. construction statistics, geographical distribution of the population and land use statistics); elaboration of the links between housing statistics and other fields of statistics such as national accounts and balances; and improvement and further development of housing and building and planning statistics.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches to (1) assess the current situation concerning international statistics in the fields of housing, construction and human settlements, (2) highlight areas of overlap, duplication and cooperation among the international agencies concerned, and (3) suggest priorities where major advances would be promising.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

The ECE Committee on Human Settlements is looking into the possibility to organize a joint meeting with the Conference of European Statisticians on the "*Bulletin on Housing and building statistics for Europe and North America*".

Rapporteur: Eurostat

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of the ECE Committee on Human Settlements:

Ongoing methodological work:

- To review data in the "*Bulletin on Housing and building statistics for Europe and North America*" by bringing together the Bulletin's end users and suppliers and to develop and improve international human settlements statistics.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- The Committee on Human Settlements has sent out a questionnaire and invited delegations to indicate which published data are useful and which other are considered necessary for housing policy purposes and are missing from the Bulletin.

New activities:

- The Committee on Human Settlements invited the secretariat and the Bureau to consider possibilities for setting up an ECE housing-policy-related database with information drawn from national housing and land administration authorities.

Data collection:

- The biannual questionnaire on human settlements is used to collect data needed for the "*Bulletin on Housing and building statistics for Europe and North America*". It provides statistical data and information for analysing and monitoring housing policy implementation in the ECE region.

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 38 - Other social statistics (381)*):

New activities:

- Data from the new waves of the Household Budget Survey and Household Panel will be integrated into NewCronos. Work will focus on more in-depth analysis and dissemination of housing statistics in the framework of social exclusion.

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division:

Data collection:

- Statistical Database on Housing and Human Settlements (DATAHOUSE)

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

- United Nations Centre for Human Settlements

4.4 (former P.E. 4.10) LABOUR STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To provide the means to describe labour market conditions and to identify the underlying causal conditions in order to enable governments to have the information with which to intervene to improve conditions and to harmonize economic and social policies and programmes. To develop a Labour Accounting System which could serve as a link to the SNA (see programme element 3.1). To develop statistics capable of measuring skills of workers.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: A coordinated work plan for data collection in the field of labour statistics for statistics to be collected by Eurostat, the ILO and the OECD. Cooperation and coordination among the international organizations concerned in the development and improvement of international statistical instruments and in technical cooperation and training.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- Future action in joint data collection (employment in the service industries: structural business statistics - basic indicators): See PE 3.8.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Eurostat: Working Group: Employment Statistics 18 - 19 September 2000

Eurostat: Working Group: Statistics on Wages and Labour Costs 06 - 07 November 2000

OECD: Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics (Paris, 27-28 April 2000)

OECD: Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics (Paris, April 2001)

ILO: Meeting of Experts on Labour Statistics: Consumer Price Indices and Household Budget Surveys (Geneva, 2001, the exact date will be defined later).

Paris Group: Annual meeting (Örebro, Sweden 14-15 or 21-22 or 25-26 September 2000).

Rapporteur: ILO

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Pending recommendations of the May 2000 ECE-Eurostat-ILO Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment.

Secretariat resources: Minimal

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Compilation of a standardised unemployment rate for Korea.
- Assessment of the quality of annual hours of work. Methods for producing current estimates of labour dynamics. Draft guidelines for statistics of job-related training

Priority objective of methodological work:

- Improve collection and dissemination of methodological information on the compilation of standardised unemployment rates.
- Also, provide more methodological information on wages and earnings statistics to enable a more accurate assessment by users of data quality and comparability in relation to international guidelines and recommendations.
- For annual hours of work, a working paper describing the quality assessment, with recommendations for quality improvement. For labour dynamics and job-related training, papers to be presented to the Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics

New activities:

- Publication of standardised unemployment rates by age and gender (jointly with Eurostat for European countries).
- Review with Eurostat the current treatment of armed forces in the compilation of standardised unemployment rates.
- Review collection and dissemination of employment statistics compiled from various sources (household surveys, enterprise surveys and national accounts).
- Expand the coverage of short-term statistics on hourly earnings to include sectors other than manufacturing.
- Definitions/requirements for data on highly qualified human resources. Defining labour force attachment ("distance" to the labour market of inactive persons).

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 32 - Labour market*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Adaptation of methods for estimating monthly unemployment rates. Evaluation of underemployment. Methodological developments in connection with the establishment of a European labour price index or appropriate alternative measures based on existing national data.

New activities:

- Labour force surveys: Ad hoc modules: application of the module "transition from education to employment", adoption of the module "duration and organisation of work" and of the 2001-2003 programme, preparation of the module "employment of handicapped persons". Submission to the Council and Parliament of the first report on the implementation of the Regulation.
- Unemployment: Adaptation of LFS questions on activity status following Community recommendations and pilot surveys.
- Employment and organisation of work: Improved ESA data on employment and the number of hours worked. Adoption of ad hoc LFS module "duration and organisation of work".
- Structural statistics on earnings and labour costs: Adoption of implementing procedures for the EC regulation on structural statistics on wages.
- Short-term statistics on labour costs: Collection and dissemination of quarterly indices on labour costs and agreed wages. Improved ESA data on

the compensation of employees and the number of hours worked.

- Follow-up of guidelines on employment: Follow-up of work of the Employment and Labour Market Committee. Collection and presentation of performance indicators and political indicators.
- Labour accounts and social accounting matrices: Follow-up of activities of LEG

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- The ILO will continue its activities in the field of informal sector statistics, in particular, the informal sector data collection practices of member States, updating of the relevant data base, and publish the ILO manual on informal sector surveys.
- Work will be continued on the development of international guidelines on comparison and reconciliation of employment and unemployment data from different sources.
- The major methodological work will encompass the following topics: (a) engendering labour statistics; (b) time-related underemployment and inadequate employment situations (a paper will be published explaining guidelines adopted by the 16th ICLS); (c) statistics of labour market dynamics; (d) working time and productivity;
- The following two volumes of Sources and Methods will be revised and updated: (a) Volume 3: Economically active population, employment, unemployment and hours of work (household surveys) and (b) Volume 4: Employment, unemployment, wages and hours of work (administrative records).
- The ILO set of 18 Key Indicators of the Labour Market¹ (KILM) will be further developed and refined.
- The ILO-comparable annual employment and unemployment estimates will continue to be produced for selected countries and gradually merged with a newly developed project on World and regional estimates of employment and unemployment.
- The ILO Yearbook of Labour Statistics and related publications will be more concise and user-friendly, making maximum use of modern technology and available dissemination tools.
- The methodology developed by STAT to probe into the work of children will continue to be used to assist new countries in conducting child labour surveys at the national level (ILO project: Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour (SIMPOC)).
- Technical assistance will continue to be provided at the request of the ILO member States in the field of the ILO competence.

UN Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- UNSD and ILO are collaborating on the preparation of a guide on the collection of data on economic characteristics in censuses. UNSD is collaborating with UNDP and ILO on a project on gender issues and the measurement of paid and unpaid work.

The Paris Group on Labour and Compensation Statistics:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Measurement of gross flows on labour market with two strategies.
- To improve the correction of the measurement bias (spurious flows linked to declaration errors).
- To focus on specific flows measured, if need be, through indirect indicators which would be more robust or better controlled.
- Members of the Paris group exchange experiences on their problems to measure wages distributions and to discuss the notion of « employment related income » adopted at the time of the 16th ICLS of October 1998.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- The Paris Group will try to reach final results on the possibility to use gross flow indicators for statistics on labour dynamics. It will also try to improve the concept of the degree of attachment to labour market.

New activities:

- Measurement of work duration.
- Measurement and follow up of vacancies and Labour accounts will be eventually taken again for the later meeting of the group (2001 or 2002).
- The debates opened on the ILO concept of employment related income would be delayed until the 2001 meeting in order to assess precise experimentations.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

4.5 (former P.E. 4.8) EDUCATION AND TRAINING STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To continue development work on indicators of educational systems, in particular with respect to resolving outstanding definitional and comparability questions, enhancing the comparative understanding of national educational systems and fostering the analytical use of the indicators. To pursue development work in a number of new areas, in particular the school-to-work transition, vocational education, lifelong learning (including continuing education and training), tertiary education (private funding and the separation of research from teaching expenditures) and disparities in educational access, resources and achievement. To implement a strategy for producing regular, reliable and internationally comparable indicators of student achievement in reading, mathematics and science. To successfully implement the revised International Standard Classification of Education, to take account of the variety of educational provision and the complexities of national educational systems and provide as well a multi-dimensional classification of educational programmes that can be used for both enrolment and attainment data. To continue assistance in the implementation of the UNESCO / OECD / Eurostat questionnaire, definitions and methodology to developing and transition countries.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: The expansion of the UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat data collection procedures and definitions to more countries in the ECE region;

the development of indicators on student outcomes, the school-to-work transition, non-institutional tertiary education, and disparities in educational access and attainment; to enhance cooperation and collaboration between the international organizations with regard to the collection and publication of education and training statistics.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Eurostat: Working Group: Continuous Vocational Training Survey (CVTS) 30 - 31 October 2000
Eurostat: Working Group: Education and Training 13 - 14 November 2000
OECD: INES General Assembly (September 2000)
OECD: INES Technical Group, Networks A/B/C
OECD: PISA Board of Participating Countries, Annual / bi-annual meetings
OECD: DeSeCo (Design and Selection of Competencies)
OECD: Equity ad-hoc group

Rapporteur: OECD

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Coverage study of public subsidies to households for education
- Coverage study of enrolment data
- Classification of educational personnel
- Conceptual framework for the measurement of competencies
- Conceptual framework for indicators of educational equity
- Methodology of education statistics and indicators
- Implementation of international survey of upper secondary schools
- Implementation of international student assessment survey (PISA)

Priority objective of methodological work:

- For first two above, assessment reports on comparability and extent of coverage, respectively
- Education personnel: guidelines on classification for purposes of data provision
- Framework for measurement of competencies / indicators of educational equity: publications
- Methodology of education statistics and indicators: publication
- Survey of upper secondary schools - indicators for Education at a Glance
- Student assessment survey: international report on assessment results

New activities:

- Expenditure comparability study
- Harmonisation of training statistics

Activities of Eurostat: (Theme 33 - Education):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Continuation of work on the harmonised implementation of the new ISCED in consultation with countries and production of a manual on 'fields of education' to be proposed to the relevant international bodies (UNESCO ISCED Task Force etc). Development of indicators on educational finance.

New activities:

- Collection, validation and analysis of data on pupils, students, teachers, educational institutions and educational finance in the framework of the revised UOE questionnaires and in close co-operation with OECD and UNESCO. Further extension of the UOE data collection to PHARE countries.
- Dissemination of education statistics include the following: a) the joint Eurostat/Education and Culture DG/Eurydice publication 'Key Data on Education', b) the yearbook (paper and electronic version) on 'Education across the EU' and the development of Eurostat Education indicators in the World Wide Web with hyperlinks with other DGs and international organisations.
- Analysis on educational and labour force characteristics will be carried out from the LFS and ECHP; the focus will be on the evaluation of the 'new education questions' in the LFS, a first analysis of the ad hoc module on 'transition from school to work' and longitudinal ECHP analysis of transition.
- Carrying out of CVTS2 constitutes an absolute priority. Intensive preparation of informatics infrastructure for the validation and analysis of national data. Dissemination of main results.
- Development of data collection instruments on foreign language learning depends on financing from the Education and Culture DG. A similar situation exists with the development of 'education and training accounts' and for training provision statistics, for which a suitable harmonised collection does not yet exist.

Other Activities of the European Commission:

- Cedefop may carry out an opinion survey among the main actors of education and training; the main topics will be 'the value/effectiveness, needs and trends' in education and training. Cedefop has launched a feasibility study on this subject.

Activities of other organizations:

UNESCO: The Governing Board of the new UNESCO's Institute for Statistics was established recently, and it will held its first meeting in February 2000. It will review the draft of the Institute's work programme at that meeting. The work programme will be amended after the February 2000 meeting to reflect the decisions taken by the governing Board. A brief description of UNESCO's work programme in different fields of statistics will be distributed at the plenary session of the Conference in June 2000.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

4.6 (former P.E. 4.9) CULTURE STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To develop an international framework for culture statistics with linkages to social and demographic statistics and to economic statistics (especially national accounts), and to establish or improve programs of integrated data on cultural activities.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches to (1) assess current international culture statistics against the objectives listed above, (2) highlight areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies, and (3) suggest priorities where major advances in line with the objectives would be promising.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)
- to postpone the previously planned 2000/2001 ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO joint work session on culture statistics to 2001/2002

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO: Joint work session on culture statistics (2001/2002)

Rapporteur: Eurostat, in cooperation with ISTAT

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Joint ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO work session (2001/2002): (Terms of reference for the meeting will be considered by the Conference at its June 2001 plenary session).

Secretariat resources: Minimal

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 34 - Culture*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Continuation of the work on harmonised definitions and common classifications in the context of the implementation of the LEG conclusions and recommendations, namely the agreed framework for cultural statistics in Europe.

New activities:

- Developments in this area will focus on the conclusions and recommendations of the LEG final report on cultural statistics that has been adopted by the SPC at the end of 1999. According to the SPC decision, a Working Group on Cultural Statistics is being set up within Eurostat with a view to monitor statistical work in this field and to encourage member States to get involved in the production of comparable

data at European level. The Working Group will define its mandate and establish guidelines for future work at its first meeting on 30 and 31 March 2000. The final report of the LEG will be largely disseminated under Eurostat series "Working Papers".

- Development of cultural statistics for the 'First European Community Framework Programme in Support of Culture 2000-2004', would require extensive multi-annual financing from the Education and Culture DG and / or the programme itself.

Activities of other organizations:

UNESCO: The Governing Board of the new UNESCO's Institute for Statistics was established recently, and it will held its first meeting in February 2000. It will review the draft of the Institute's work programme at that meeting. The work programme will be amended after the February 2000 meeting to reflect the decisions taken by the governing Board. A brief description of UNESCO's work programme in different fields of statistics will be distributed at the plenary session of the Conference in June 2000.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

4.7 a) (former P.E. 4.13) STATISTICS OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURES, OF THE WELFARE OF THE POPULATION, AND OF POVERTY AND INCOME STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To facilitate the development of comprehensive, comparable, reliable and timely statistics describing the distribution of the capacity of individuals, families, and households to acquire goods and services; to identify the sources of inequality in incomes; to understand processes of social exclusion; to assess the need for intervention in the distribution of incomes to target interventions deemed necessary and to monitor the effectiveness of such interventions.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: Identification of conceptual and methodological issues impeding the production of internationally comparable measures of household income, and development of an approach to eliminate these impediments (e.g. through expert meetings, seminars, commissioned studies, and promotion of international collaboration in research). Development of summary measures such as measures of low income and on the role of income in shedding light on social exclusion and on labour-market exclusions.

For ILO, development of new international standards on income from employment (paid employment and self-employment).

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Benefit Systems and Work Incentives: Further extension of biennial Publication, which includes a description of all the different benefits made available to those without work, the taxes they pay and tables facilitating international comparisons of work incentives. Methodological chapters contain detailed information about benefit and tax systems, country-by-country, are available (in pdf format) on the OECD Internet site <http://www.oecd.org/els/spd/benefits/index.htm>. Maintenance of models used for calculating net replacement rates and gross replacement rates for out of work persons, across a variety of different circumstances, in OECD countries. Development work will focus on identifying better indicators of incentives for those with low earnings potential.
- Social Expenditure Database: Building on an annual collection (in co-operation with Eurostat for EU countries) and dissemination of expenditure data, programme by programme, also grouped in 13 expenditure categories, ongoing methodological work will focus on treatment of refundable tax credits to ensure consistency with OECD Revenue Statistics and the OECD Active labour market programmes data base. Extensions to the methodology will build on: (i) recent work which adjusts gross social expenditure to take account of interactions with the tax system; (ii) recent work which classifies social benefits provided through the private sector.

Priority objective of methodological work:

- Final report draws on national responses (based on survey and fiscal data) to a standardised OECD questionnaire on incomes, using a common set of definitions and methodology.
- New definitions of low earnings benchmark (currently 2/3 average earnings) to be discussed with countries via an OECD working paper (release in 2000) based on empirical evidence from various household panel data sets.
- Net (after tax) aggregates of social expenditure and private social expenditure indicators to be included in the 2000 edition of the Social Expenditure Database.

Recurring activities which will cease to be undertaken in future:

- Work on income distribution and poverty in selected OECD countries cease in 2000.

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 36 - Distribution of income and living conditions (363)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Work on poverty will focus on the completion of the methodology on monetary poverty as written in the recommendations, including longitudinal analysis and absolute poverty.

New activities:

- The social exclusion scheme will be further developed by including more

experience from research and national statistics. A methodological report on income followed up by concrete proposals for tasks leading to harmonisation of the income concept will be produced. The first EU publication on poverty and social exclusion statistics is planned.

- Work to prepare the replacement of the European Community Household Panel after 2002 will be developed including, redesign of questionnaires and pilot tests.

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Research work on household sector accounting including household satellite accounting;
- Regional workshops on informal sector statistics and supporting the efforts of the Delhi Group on informal sector statistics;
- Methodological work in the wider field of social indicators.

ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Update of Sources and Methods: Labour Statistics, Volume 6 - Household income and expenditure;
- Update of the current international guidelines in this area;
- Participate in Eurostat's work on the revision of the "Guidelines on Statistics of Distribution of Income, Consumption, and Accumulation of Households (IDG)";
- Work on indicators of all types of poverty (with a view both to study the relationship between poverty and employment and, eventually, to publishing data regularly on this issue).

Data collection:

- Compiling and publishing of data on household income and expenditures;

World Bank:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Collaboration with the IMF on the implementation of the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS).

Data collection:

- Financial support for household surveys through loans, grants or trust funds in many countries of the ECE region.
- Supporting to UNICEF's MONEE project for data collection and dissemination

The Household Income Statistics Group:

Ongoing methodological work:

- The primary objective of the Canberra Group is enhancing national Household Income Statistics by developing standards on conceptual and practical issues which are related to the production of income distribution statistics. Its work is in support of a revision of international guidelines on income distribution statistics. The Group addresses collectively the common conceptual, definitional and practical problems faced by national and international statistical agencies in this subject area and acts as a forum for expert opinions on conceptual

and methodological issues and for obtaining endorsement for guidelines. A combined approach to solving these conceptual and methodological problems does not only result in improved national statistics, but also in improved data for international comparisons on household income distribution.

- Topics considered: Data sources, methodology and quality; measures of income inequality; international comparability; statistical units: concepts, definitions, and use; development of a hierarchy of income concepts and definitions; reconciliation with national accounts and other national aggregates; measurement of self-employment income; revision of present international guidelines.

New activities:

- The fourth (and last) meeting will be held on 15-17 May 2000 in Luxembourg and will be hosted by the Luxembourg Income Study (LIS). At this meeting the draft chapters of the Final Report of the Canberra Group will be presented and discussed.
- Papers and Proceedings of the fourth meeting: August 2000
- Final Report: November 2000

Focal points:

- Mr. Paul van der Laan, Statistics Netherlands, Division for Socio-Economic Statistics, P.O. Box 4000, 2270 JM Voorburg, The Netherlands, Tel.: +31 70 337 5715, Fax: +31 70 337 5983, E-mail: plan@cbs.nl
- Mr. Mike J. Sheridan, Statistics Canada, E-mail: Mike.Sheridan@statcan.ca
- Professor Timothy M. Smeeding, Luxembourg Income Study, E-mail: TMSmeeding@maxwell.syr.edu

- All papers and reports of the Canberra Group meeting can be downloaded from the Canberra Group's web site at the following URL:
<http://lissy.ceps.lu/canberra.htm>.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

- International Association for Research on Income and Wealth (IARIW)

4.7 b) (new P.E.) SOCIAL SECURITY STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To facilitate the development of comprehensive, comparable, reliable and timely statistics related to social security systems. Clarifying and improving the link between social protection statistics and the national accounts.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: For Eurostat: Implementation of the ESSPROS 1996, completion of the model on retirement replacement rates, projects on estimation of participants of different social protection functions and estimation of expenditure.

For the ECE's Population Activities Unit (PAU): In the field of population ageing and the status of older persons, (i) PAU's collection of

census samples; (ii) studies on the implications of population ageing for social security systems and pension schemes, and on the consequences of disordered cohort flows in transition countries;

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- Clarifying and improving the link between social protection statistics and the national accounts.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Eurostat: Working Group: Labour Market Policies 30 Nov - 01 Dec 2000

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 37 - Social protection*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Further implementation of the ESSPROS 1996 methodology will concentrate on the development of the old-age function. The completion of the model on retirement replacement rates is also planned. Preparatory work to launch projects on estimation of participants of different social protection functions and estimation of expenditure on a net basis will be started. Finally the collection, validation and publication of 1998 data by October 2000 will improve the timeliness of the project.

New activities:

- Special attention shall be paid to clarifying and improving the link between social protection statistics and the national accounts.
- For the Labour Market Policies database, launching the data collection after the evaluation of the pilot exercise will provide complementary data for the follow-up of the employment guidelines. A study on the need to enlarge the data collection to include other variables and countries, and the revision of the methodology after the pilot experience, will also be conducted. The co-ordination between ESSPROS unemployment function and this database will be stressed. This database project is being developed in partnership with the Employment and Social Affairs DG, covering the development of the methodology and for the Member States data collection.

4.8 (former P.E. 4.7) CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To develop a reliable, comprehensive and internationally comparable system of crime and justice capable of supporting social policy development and enhanced public awareness and accountability, building on the contributions of several United Nations agencies (through the United Nations Crime Survey) and the Dutch Department of Justice (through the International Crime Victimization Survey).

Strategic Medium Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of approaches to (1) assess current international statistics related to crime and criminal justice against the objectives listed above, (2) highlight areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies, and (3) suggest priorities where major advances in line with the objectives would be promising.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Rapporteur: UNICRI

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 38 - Other social statistics, part*)

New activities:

- Development of this area is dependent on financial support from the Justice and Home Affairs DG and allocation of adequate human resources in Eurostat. It also depends largely on the adoption of a draft decision for a programme on criminal justice statistics.

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Handbook on Criminal Justice Statistics

United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI):

Waiting for reply

European Institute for Crime prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Survey on violence against women in 2000 in selected (European) countries in order to analyse in greater detail different aspects of the phenomenon.
- Participation in the Sixth United Nations survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (1995-1997). HEUNI will be responsible for the European and North American analysis.

Priority objective of the methodological:

- After the analysis of the results for each country, a country status report will be published. Data from different countries will also be analysed with a comparative viewpoint.
- The report of the results of the analysis will be released in the year 2001.

New activities:

- After the workshop on women in the criminal justice system (in the framework of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (2000)), HEUNI will publish a report on the proceedings of the workshop, using also the data and other material that has been gathered during the workshop preparations.
- During the latter part of 2000, HEUNI will initiate a project with regard to the follow-up of a previous project on prison systems in Central and Eastern Europe.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

- UN Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP)

4.9 (former P.E. 4.6) HEALTH STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To develop a comprehensive and coherent system of health statistics capable of supporting policy analysis and decision-making in the field of health, particularly monitoring the inputs, throughputs and outcomes of health care system in both monetary and non-monetary terms.

Strategic Medium Term Goals Major components include the development of conceptual frameworks, definitions and methodologies for measurement and collection of health statistics in particular health accounts and expenditure data and indicators of population health status and performance of the health care system. Also, work will focus on improvement of health resource and utilisation data (e.g. beds and employment) and health care activities (e.g. surgical procedures in inpatient and ambulatory settings and pharmaceutical consumption and sales). Promotion of the standardised instruments in household surveys to measure disability to supplement administrative health data. A priority should be integrating these diverse statistics into a coherent statistical system.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- Problems in joint data collection to be resolved: Information about co-ordinated data collection by WHO, OECD and Eurostat to be investigated. Informal agreements exist, such as for improvement of data collection, harmonised data collection and analysis, the use of common instruments, mutual exchange of data of common interest. At the moment no information is available of how to resolve the problems.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

ECE-WHO: Joint meeting on health statistics (in 2001/2002)
Eurostat: Working Group: European Occupational Diseases Statistics 14 September 2000
Eurostat: Task Force: Health Care 20 September 2000
Eurostat: Working Group: European Statistics on Accidents at Work 16 October 2000
Eurostat: Task Force: Health Interview Survey 22 November 2000
Eurostat: Working Group: Health Statistics 23 - 24 November 2000
Eurostat: Task Force: Causes of Death Statistics 08 December 2000
OECD: Meeting of Correspondents to OECD Health Data (9-10 March 2000 + meeting in Spring 2001, dates to be announced.)
WHO: Annual meeting of the ICD Collaborating Centres (June 2000).

Rapporteur: OECD

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Joint ECE-WHO meeting on health statistics (in 2001/2002) to consider:
 - (i) Use of health information in health policy, management and delivery;
 - (ii) Conceptual and statistical issues in health status measurement;
 - (iii) Integration of key national health and health related statistics into coordinated and easy accessible databases;
 - (iv) International and national harmonisation of definitions and reporting on health statistics.

Secretariat resources: Substantial

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Health Statistics: further work on data on health care resource statistics and utilisation statistics in non-monetary terms as well as coverage of the population by insurance schemes; and access to services.
- Health Accounting: Further co-operation with Eurostat, WHO Geneva, European Region, Pan-American Office and the World Bank, in order to harmonise measures towards a world accounting standard among the industrialised countries and the developing countries' efforts.
- Health Outcomes: In terms of health status indicators, further co-operation with Eurostat, WHO Geneva, European Region, in order to

harmonise measures such as disability measurement.

- Follow-up to the meeting on disability and ageing: preparation of an inventory of disability measurement instruments used in OECD countries will be completed in the summer 2000, building on previous work by Eurostat. This work will contribute to filling data gaps on health status and disability in the 2001 edition of OECD Health Data.
- Work to understand indicators being used to monitor, across countries and analysed via the performance of health care systems via an analysis of the cross-national variations in treatment, costs, and outcomes of selected ageing-related diseases and conditions.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- Consolidation and expansion of the Health Accounting blueprint with a view to pilot-testing and adoption.
- Improving the comparability of existing data collections on health resource and utilisation data, surgical procedures, and pharmaceutical consumption and sales.

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 35 - Health, safety and consumer protection*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Public Health: Annual data collection, analysis and dissemination for causes of death (COD) statistics, improving practices on certification and codification of COD data.
- Regarding Health and health related survey data (HIS) actions will continue on:
 - updating, analysis and dissemination of data obtained on health items from national surveys and from surveys at Community level, incl. data of the ECHP and development of a methodology for obtaining health data from 'communal establishments';
 - for diagnosis statistics: completion of the inventory of reliable national sources on morbidity data and on disability statistics: finalisation of the module on disability to be included in the LFS 2002.
- Work on Health Care Statistics (CARE) will continue on the updating, completion and dissemination of meta-data.
- Health and Safety at Work: The main activities in the area of European Statistics on Accidents at Work (ESAW) concern the preparation of Phase 3 on the causes and circumstances of the accidents and of Phase 1 of the European Occupational Diseases Statistics (EODS), including data on exposure, degree of disability, recognition criteria and the use of ICD 10 for the medical diagnosis. Results will be published, including main results from the LFS ad hoc module on Health and Safety at work and publications on specific topics (e.g. high risk sectors, SMEs).

New activities:

- Public Health :Regarding Health and health-related survey data (HIS), a pilot will be launched for data compilation (from national, Community and other sources) on a list of indicators on integration of disabled persons into social life, and methods will be elaborated to improve the collection of survey data on health topics not yet well covered at Community level; a trial data collection on a selection of diseases will be launched.
- Health Care statistics (CARE):
 - the implementation of a "rule-based translation system" derived from meta data;

- the evaluation of a pilot phase on the collection of financial data and health care data according to the new manual of SHA (system of health accounts) ;
- the establishment of guidelines for a revised data collection on health personnel, health care facilities (hospitals/hospital beds) and health care services.
- Health and Safety at Work: For the reference year 2001, Member States will implement the ESAW Phase 3 (on causes and circumstances of the accidents at work) and the European Occupational Diseases Statistics (EODS) Phase 1. In case of sufficient support from DG Employment and Social affairs, Eurostat will also collect data on socio-economic costs of work accidents.

Other Activities of the European Commission:

- Statistics on home and leisure accidents may be collected directly by the Health and Consumer Protection DG under the programme on Community action on injury prevention. Some Health monitoring projects are not steered by Eurostat, it could be that health data on these are also collected directly by the Health and Consumer Protection DG.
- On Health and Safety at Work: the third European Survey on Working Conditions will be carried out in 2000 (results published in 2000-2001) by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions.⁴

Activities of other organizations:

Activities of WHO (Headquarters)

Ongoing methodological work:

- Mortality statistics: WHO will continue to collect, validate, analyse and disseminate cause of death statistics. Over the next couple of years much more effort will be placed on improving the comparative analytical utility of mortality statistics through stricter validation procedures, development of algorithms to redistribute ill-defined causes, and collection and storage of cause of death statistics according to the detailed ICD codes. WHO plans to invest greater effort to improve the coverage and timeliness of causes of death statistics by: i) obtaining and updating vital registration information for member states with complete vital registration, with a delay of no more than two calendar years; ii) establishing and implementing mechanisms to obtain, validate and update vital registration statistics for countries with partial vital registration data, i.e., data limited to only cities, sample registration areas; iii) establishing and implementing mechanisms to obtain, validate and update data for countries with very poor vital registration systems, using data from small scale/sample registration and surveillance systems.
- WHO also intends to develop estimates and projections of mortality rates by age and sex for all countries of the world.
- Health status measurement: The long-term objective of this work is to encourage the development and use of standard indicators of health, disability and disease for health policy and programme evaluation. The following products are currently planned: i) set terminology, standards & protocols to facilitate comparability and analysis of health status data: (ii) In 1999/2000, state of the art critical review of existing

health status data sets covering generic health state, to document the quality, coverage and use towards policy making; (iii) In 2001, publish book identifying best practices for the development and use of health status measurements; (iv) in 2000/2001 the development and testing of a new (or updated) instrument(s) for standardized health status measurement building upon existing activities at WHO - requiring empirical work in at least 2 countries in each of WHO's regions to establish this instrument's validity and reliability cross-nationally, and across socio-economic groups and specific priority diseases states; (v) development of a software tool to facilitate data entry, analysis, presentation and comparison of data collected.

- Health State Valuation: In the area of health state valuation, the WHO work plan includes both standard-setting and data collection activities. In close coordination with parallel activities on health status measurement, WHO will develop a comprehensive conceptual framework for describing and valuing health. A series of expert workshops will be convened to attain consensus on conceptual and methodological issues relevant to health state valuation, and standardized instructions for cross-national data collection will be developed. Pilot testing of draft instruments will be undertaken in a variety of different settings, leading up to the implementation of population-based sample surveys on valuations of a range of health states. The outputs from these activities will include methodological guidelines for health state valuation, survey instruments and technical manuals, and empirical databases on health state valuations and their potential determinants.
- WHO Family of International Classifications: In the area of classifications, renewed focus and attention will be given to the use and worldwide implementation of WHO's Family of International Classifications. International Classification of Diseases (ICD) and International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps (ICIDH) will be integrated to provide information and guidance on different aspects of health of individuals and populations: ICD as an etiological framework for mortality and morbidity, ICIDH on functioning and disability.
- The current needs and practices of the network of users will be reviewed. Progressively the number of WHO Collaborating Centres on the Family of International Classifications will be extended and their work transformed into a worldwide active network with proper informatics support providing tools for reporting, quality assurance and training over the Internet. The concept of the "family" of Classifications and their joint use as the basis of a modern health information system will be reviewed.
- National Health Accounts: Following the development of draft National Health Accounts guidelines by OECD, WHO has worked on its adaptability for middle-income and low-income countries and contributes (with the World Bank and some donor countries) to the implementation of national health expenditure measurement in a large number of countries. Results of the first stage will be published in the World Health Report 2000 with the intend of both to enhance the methodology (in cooperation with other concerned international agencies) through a User's guide and to promote the recurrent production of National Health Accounts in most countries of the world.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- Methodological guidelines for health state valuation, survey instruments and technical manuals, and empirical databases on health state valuations and their potential determinants.
- Worldwide implementation of WHO's Family of International Classifications.
- User's guide to promote the recurrent production of National Health Accounts in most countries of the world.

New activities:

- The edited proceedings of the Conference on Summary Measures of Population Health (Morocco, December 1999) will be published by WHO during the course of 2000.

WHO (Regional Office for Europe):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Further development and adaptation to changing requirement of the system of international health statistics ("Health for All" (HFA) indicators, maintained by WHO/EURO), to support the monitoring of WHO Health21 policy implementation, analysis and outcomes at international and national levels. Development of methods and tools to provide better access to the international HFA data base and linking it to corresponding national data bases.
- Harmonisation of HFA indicators with the health statistics collected by other international organizations and agencies, e.g. joint taxonomy, equivalent definitions.
- Development of common instruments for use in population surveys and using this work to retrospectively readjust readily available national survey data for international comparisons.

Priority objective of methodological work:

- Modified list of operational HFA indicators, definitions, instruments for annual data collection and corresponding changes in HFA database.
- Joint taxonomy and International Compendium of Health Indicators (jointly with relevant other organizations as appropriate).
- Development and publication of common questionnaires for health interview surveys.

New activities:

- Data collection, analysis and monitoring report on Health21 policies in European Region (2000-2001)
- Regular publication of key data from HFA database
- Extend EUPHIN-EAST network with more countries "live" in the network and start its use for reporting of data to WHO.

Data collection:

- Maintenance of the regional database "Health for All" (HFA) containing statistical indicators for monitoring the HFA strategy in Europe (health status of the population, health services, lifestyles, environment and health policies) (See also Programme Element 6.1).
- Publication of regular reports on the health status in Europe and on country by country basis (Country Highlights on Health).
- Improvement of the international data comparability by: developing and encouraging countries to apply standard definitions; developing common measurement instruments and methods for health interview surveys;

assisting countries in implementation of the 10th Revision of International Classification of Diseases.

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Development of new methodologies for collection of information on occupational injuries through household surveys, establishment surveys, administrative sources such as occupational health clinic records, etc. In the first instance, these methodologies will be developed and tested by the Bureau of Statistics in conjunction with the ILO Occupational Safety and Health Branch through the design and test of appropriate modules that can be attached to a regular programme of surveys, with a view to collecting information on safety and health aspects of the working population. The modules and advice on their implementation will be incorporated into a technical manual on the measurement of occupational.

United Nations Statistics Division:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Handbook on Disability Statistics

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

4.10 (former P.E. 4.2) GENDER STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To promote the collection, maintenance, improvement and harmonization of data disaggregated by sex, including the improvement of concepts and methodologies (i) to assess and monitor women's and men's contribution to the economy and society, (ii) to identify sex differences in living conditions and status over the life course, and (iii) to encourage the integration of the gender perspective in all statistical areas.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: The organization of an exchange of documentation describing country experiences in developing policy-relevant approaches for monitoring and assessing women and men's contribution to both the national and household or family economies. For ECE and UNSD, report of the 2000/2002 work session convened to deal with issues such as these.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)
- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the ECE's Population Activities Unit in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Rapporteur: UN Statistics Division (UNSD)

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference

Ongoing methodological work:

- ECE work session on gender statistics (2001/2002, and organised in cooperation with UNSD) to consider: (i) identification of national priority gender issues and the statistics needed for the implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes, with special focus on gender sensitive indicators and broader gender equality indices; (ii) gender differences in formal and informal education, use and access to new technologies. Consequences for labour market access, career and earnings; (iii) gender dimension of ageing populations in terms of differences in health, care needs and responsibilities, economic participation and income; (iv) the role of women and men in decision-making processes: changes in their participation in political life, business and other influential positions in the public sphere.

New activities:

- Preparation by the secretariat, in collaboration with interested NSOs, of a new statistical publication on women and men in the ECE region (2000/2002) as an input to the assessment planned for year 2000 by the UN in all regions of the world.

Secretariat resources: Substantial

Activities of ECE's Population Activities Unit:

Ongoing methodological work:

- See work carried out by the Population Activities Unit in PE 4.1 and 4.2 b) under the project 'Generations and Gender: Research into their Behaviour and Quality of Life', which is related to gender statistics.

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work: None

New activities: None

Activities of Eurostat: (Theme 36 - Distribution of income and living conditions (362)):

Ongoing methodological work:

- The EU methodology for a satellite account on household production in agreement with national accounts concepts will be developed by a Task force; it will incorporate time use data.

New activities:

- Time use surveys are expected to be conducted by about only half of the Member States. In order to extend the project to all EU countries, financial support from the Employment and Social Affairs DG is needed. This survey will produce data suitable for the following-up of policies on equal opportunities, youth and children, and working hours.

Activities of other organizations:

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW):

Ongoing methodological work:

- Economic well-being;
- Progress in the statistical measurement of violence and crime;
- Progress by national governments in implementing recommendations 206-207 of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;
- Studies on ageing and improved statistics for policy needs;
- The need for sex-disaggregated statistics and indicators;
- Status of sex-disaggregated data in the statistical system of Mongolia;
- Development of gender statistics and indicators on employment;
- Data requirements and gaps in social policy-making; and
- Tools for compiling and analyzing statistical data on women and men and producing national reports.

Priority objective of the methodological work:

- A publication emphasising the need for gender statistics in the areas of major concern in the National Programme of Action on the Advancement of Women in Mongolia, namely: education; rural women; women and their status/rights in the family; women and poverty; violence against women; and women in the decision-making levels.

United Nations Population Division:

Waiting for reply

Interstate Statistical Committee of the commonwealth of the Independent States (CIS-STAT):

In translation

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

- United Nations Statistics Division

4.11 (former P.E. 4.XX) OTHER WORK IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

No activities reported at present.

4.11 a) (former P.E. 4.1) SOCIAL INDICATORS AND FRAMEWORKS

Problem Statement: To establish a renewed effort to develop a coherent framework of internationally comparable social indicators in selected fields such as health, education, crime and social safety nets, building selectively on the ideas developed in the 1960s and 1970s, and taking cognizance of the reasons for the failure of efforts at that time. Work on frameworks should also build on the sectoral work and on links between different sectoral levels. Initially, work should focus at the conceptual level given the problematic history in this area. Questions of standardization of concepts and definitions can follow the general conceptual work, and the detailed work

of the specific sectors.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: A work plan for a coordinated and cooperative development of a coherent social indicators framework, identifying existing areas of overlap or duplication among international agencies, and taking account of developments in other sectoral work plans.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

- Problems in joint data collection to be resolved: See PE 3.8 concerning insurance services.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Continued development work on social indicators, using existing data, with a focus on social policy effectiveness and;

Priority objective of methodological work:

- A paper to be presented to the Working Party on Social Policy

New activities:

- A comparison of the SOCX (OECD) and ESSPROS (Eurostat) methodologies for classifying data on social expenditures, in collaboration with Eurostat.

Activities of Eurostat: (Theme 38 - Other social statistics (382)):

New activities:

- Work will focus on 3 paper publications and dissemination of information via the Internet. A set of key social indicators adapted to reflect the most important policy needs will be developed. The third edition of the pocketbook on Living Conditions in Europe will also be produced. Finally, a second report on the social situation of the Union is foreseen in collaboration with the Employment and Social Affairs DG.

Activities of other organizations:

The Siena Group:

Waiting for reply

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

Other organisations active in this field not necessarily engaged in methodological work:

- United Nations Statistics Division

4.11 b) (former P.E. 4.3) MULTI-PURPOSE SOCIAL SURVEYS

Problem Statement: To provide household-survey based social and economic data which complement economic statistics and indicators available from other sources, which can be used together to provide a comprehensive range of reliable, timely and comparable social statistics and indicators for policy formulation and implementation purposes and for monitoring policy outcomes in areas such as poverty, social exclusion, convergence, cohesion and social reporting.

Strategic Medium Term Goals: For Eurostat: (i) A full range of comparable, multidimensional social statistics and social indicators, with a subset of information on dynamics of social processes and transitions. (One particularly important specific output would be harmonised income distributions and related measures); (ii) Associated social reports; (iii) As a spin-off, developments in survey methodologies, including questionnaire design and implementation, sampling design, non-response aspects, imputations, longitudinal data bases and so on, all in a multi-national context; and (iv) Definitions and measurement rules of harmonised variables on persons and households and the meta data system on these variables (harmonised variables on persons and households in the domains of households, location, income, employment, education, housing, social grouping).

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

Eurostat: Working Group: Household Budget Survey 21 - 22 September 2000

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference: None

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 36 - Distribution of income and living conditions (361, 364)*):

Ongoing methodological work:

- For the Household Budget Surveys the results from the 1998 survey for most Member States, covering data collection, recodification, validation and dissemination of data, are expected to be available by the end of the year. The 1998 survey will also be used as the reference for updating the EU methodology. The first quality report on the survey is planned for the year 2000 and should serve to provide recommendations for improving the quality of expenditure data to be used for: the

estimation of ESA private consumption; the calculation of weights for the HCPI.

New activities:

- For the ECHP five waves (1994-1998) will be finalised in the production format by the end of 2000, improving the timeliness of the project. To give accessibility to the project, work will concentrate on the updating of the users' database (1994-1997 waves should be ready by May 2000) and on producing the first ECHP general publication on longitudinal results. A final 3 years prolongation (2000-2002) of the present panel is likely to start with a revision of the questionnaire to better meet new users' needs, and with sample supplementation to correct past waves attrition. However, for the feasibility of the project, co-financing by the Employment and Social Affairs DG is needed.

Activities of other organizations:

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In translation

4.11 c) (former P.E. 4.4) REGISTERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS FOR SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

Problem Statement: To encourage the use of registers and administrative records for national and international statistics with a view to reducing the costs of data collection, reducing the burden on respondents, or improving the quality of data. To establish a framework to integrate data from administrative sources, surveys and other sources. To conduct methodological research on the characteristics of administrative sources such as timeliness, coverage, completeness and reliability

Strategic Medium Term Goals: The organization of a programme of exchange of documentation on the experiences of member countries in the field of exploiting registers and administrative sources. In addition, other activities in the international programmes of work on social statistics should contain, as an element in the plan, the exchange of information on exploiting administrative sources.

For Eurostat, (i) an inventory of registers and administrative sources currently being used in EU and selected other ECE countries in the field of social and demographic statistics; and (ii) publication of national papers on strategies for the use of administrative registers in the development of social statistics.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session:

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see the "Activities and Means" section below)

Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:

ECE-Eurostat: Joint work session/seminar on registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics (in 2001/2002)

Eurostat: Working Group: Directors of Social Statistics 13 - 14 June 2000

Rapporteur: Eurostat

Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:

Activities of the Conference:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Work session/seminar on registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics, (jointly with Eurostat, Luxembourg, 2001/2002), to consider: (i) Quality considerations in the use of administrative data and registers for statistical purposes; (ii) New developments in methodology for linking of registers and administrative records (including methods of editing); (iii) Use of business register in social statistics; (iv) Innovative usage and planned future use of information technology in social and demographic statistics; and (v) Progress reports by Eurostat on harmonisation and integration, and specific research programmes under the "Fifth Framework".

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 38 - Other social statistics (383)*):

Ongoing methodological work: None.

New activities: None.

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO:

Ongoing methodological work:

- Guidelines on the effective direct use of administrative records (such as: registers of job placement offices, unemployment insurance schemes, social security schemes and labour inspection records, the recording and notification of occupational accidents and diseases) as basis for relatively inexpensive indicators on the state and development of the labour market, e.g. employment, unemployment, wages, income from employment, occupational injuries, and labour conflicts.

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