

Forthcoming meetings convened by the Conference of European Statisticians

1. Joint ECE/EUROSTAT/OECD work session on statistics of services (Geneva, 13–15 September 1993)

The meeting will deal with questions of measuring non-market services, national practices in measuring household services, including imputed rents, and problems in developing short-term statistics for service enterprises. Participants from transition countries will also be informed about work on the Eurostat methodological manual of statistics of service enterprises and will be invited to participate in pilot surveys in selected service sectors.

2. Work session on specific methodological issues of environmental statistics (Bratislava, 20–23 September 1993)

The eleventh session of this annual meeting will deal with (i) presentation, dissemination and storage of environmental statistics, (ii) the use of international environmental data in national institutions, (iii) the linkage of environmental and other statistics through materials/energy balances or natural resource accounting, and (iv) the collection of environment statistics through environmental monitoring.

3. Work session on geographical information systems (Ottawa, Canada, 28–30 September 1993)

This is the second work session in a series of meetings related to survey processing. Its objective is to study possible applications of GIS in the statistical production process. In this respect, the meeting will discuss (i) experiences in GIS methodology/applications for sampling, data collection and editing, (ii) GIS as a method and tool for the integration and analysis of statistical information, and (iii) GIS as a tool for the presentation and dissemination of statistical information.

4. Work session on statistical data editing (Stockholm, Sweden, 11–15 October 1993)

This work session will study data editing methods and techniques and will develop methodological materials helping to make statistical production processes more efficient. It will discuss, *inter alia*, new technologies in data editing, collection and editing of data from administrative sources, automatic coding and imputation of missing values.

5. Joint ECE/EUROSTAT Work session on business registers (Geneva, 18–20 October 1993)

The meeting will have on the agenda the following substantial issues: exploration of possibilities to develop international guidelines on the handling of changes in business registers; development of guidelines on the harmonious combination of statistical and administrative needs in the design of business registers; the use of panel techniques in obtaining information on short-term changes in the demography of enterprises; and study of problems raised by the creation, maintenance and use of registers in statistical offices. The meeting will also discuss ways of strengthening cooperation regarding the accelerated introduction of business registers in the national statistical offices in transition countries.

6. Joint ECE/ILO meeting on consumer prices (Geneva, 25–28 October 1993)

The meeting will discuss the following topics: treatment of quality changes including hedonic regression methods; fixed-base versus chain index; treatment of non-market goods in CPI including owner-occupied housing; uses of CPI and their impact on design and composition of indices (multiple indices, seasonal adjusted indices, etc.). The meeting will also be informed about the Eurostat work in CPI harmonization and about the work in transition countries on the improvement of CPI methodology.

7. Work session on statistical metadata – METIS – (Geneva, 15–18 November 1993)

This work session aims at elaborating methodological recommendations for the design and implementation of statistical metainformation systems (METIS). It will update the first Inventory on standards for the representation of statistical data and metadata. Furthermore, the meeting will discuss guidelines for METIS modeling and development; elaborate a formal language for metadata description; design a generic model for the standardization of statistical indicators; develop a common terminology for statistical metadata; and will discuss evaluation criteria for METIS.