

## News from the Statistical Offices

### Belarus

#### *Management Changes*

By decree No. 122 made by the President of the Republic of Belarus on 23 September 1994, the State Committee on Statistics and Analysis of the Republic of Belarus has been reorganized and renamed as the Ministry of Statistics and Analysis of the Republic of Belarus.

#### *New Tasks*

In accordance with the Republic's Programme to modify all of their accounting and statistics systems to international standards, work such as the change of the Material Product System to a System of National Accounts is underway. Also, in cooperation with ACSO Austria, international comparisons as well as financial budgetary and banking statistics have been made.

In order to obtain data identifying the living standards of the population, a joint plan with the World Bank called the Household Statistics Project has also been introduced since 1994. As part of this project, a survey of 5,000 households was carried out at the beginning of January 1995.

Likewise, definitions on labour statistics have been standardized and the organization of statistical monitoring on flows of hard currency funds and foreign investments has been developed.

#### *Publications*

- Economy of the Republic of Belarus (1993),
- National Accounts,
- Finance,
- Population.

Also, a monthly statistical newsletter with basic economic indicators is being published since January 1995.

All publications of the Ministry of Statistics and Analysis of the Republic of Belarus specified in the List of Publications for 1995 may be obtained by interested users both in Belarus and abroad.

### CIS

#### *Change of Name*

As of 30 March 1995, the Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States has been renamed as *The Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States* (Statcommittee of CIS). Mr. Mikhail Korolev remains Chairman of the Committee.

### Greece

#### *Meetings*

A conference is being prepared for the Foundation of the Society of Balkan Sta-

tistics, it will take place in Ancient Olympia in the beginning of October 1995.

### *Surveys*

The following new surveys have been organized or executed by the National Statistical Service of Greece:

- (a) Survey on the income and the living conditions of the households,
- (b) Survey on the continuous vocational training in the manufacturing industry,
- (c) Pilot survey on tourist and travel enterprises,
- (d) Pilot survey on audiovisual enterprises, production, projection and distribution of movies and videotapes, radio and television activities,
- (e) Survey on the internal market to assess the attitudes of the business world towards the measures imposed by the Internal Market. This survey has started during the current year 1995.

### *Registers*

The compilation of a register of establishments and enterprises through the register of VAT was begun during the past year. This register will be available by the end of 1995.

## **Hungary**

### *Management Changes*

As of 1 May 1995, Dr. György Vuckovich retired from his post as President of the Central Statistical Office of Hungary. Mr. T. Katona has been appointed as Acting President.

## **Slovenia**

### *Business Registers*

A new law on business registers, published in the *Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia*, No. 13 on 3 March 1995, has recently been introduced in Slovenia. The law regulates the establishment, maintenance and keeping of the Business Register of Slovenia, gives a definition of register units, determines identification of data on register units, classification of units by activities and the use of register data. According to this law the Business Register of Slovenia is a central cooperative data base on business and enterprises which have their seat within the territory of Slovenia and perform profitable or non-profitable activity. Data on subsidiaries of foreign business which perform activities within the territory of Slovenia are also included.

The regulations in the European Union on statistical classification of activities, statistical units and business registers for statistical purposes were considered when preparing the proposal of the Law on the Business Register of Slovenia.

According to this law the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia shall establish, keep and maintain the Business Register of Slovenia. The Register shall be established within two years after the law came into force (until 18 March 1997).

## **Tajikistan**

### *Management Changes*

Mr. Habib Gaibullayev has been appointed as the new director of the State Statistical Agency.

*Restructuring*

On 9 January 1995, by the decision of the Government, the Statistical Office was separated from the Ministry of Economy and Forecasting. The new name of the organization is *State Statistical Agency of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan*.

**Turkey***New Division*

A new division named Social Structure and Women Statistics has been established within the Department of Statistical and Econometric Evaluations. Further details are given in our section "Country Focus".

**United States***Management Changes*

Donald M. Bay was selected as Administrator of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, on 30 January 1995. Mr. Bay had previously served as

Acting Administrator for NASS since April 1992. He is the fourth person to hold the position since NASS received agency status in 1961.

As Administrator of NASS, Mr. Bay is responsible for the agency's efforts to collect and report statistical data on crop and livestock production, inventories, prices and other agricultural economic indicators, for use by farmers, farm organizations, marketers, private and public sector analysts, and government officials.

*Health Statistics*

See our section "Country Focus" which presents an article on The National Health Centre for Health Statistics together with the Centres for Disease and Control Prevention.

**United Kingdom***Merger*

A merger of the Central Statistical Office and the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys has been proposed. See our section "Country Focus" regarding this proposed merge.