

Recent work of the Conference of European Statisticians

Joint ECE/OECD/Eurostat/FAO Workshop on Agricultural Statistics and Database Management (Minsk, 25–29 April 1994)

The purpose of the workshop was to assist transition countries and notably the former Soviet Union republics in establishing new agricultural statistics and in preparing the year 2000 round of agricultural censuses envisaged by FAO. The workshop discussed the following subjects: (i) transition countries' needs in agricultural statistics; (ii) programmes and priorities of international organizations in agricultural statistics; (iii) farm-based data collection; (iv) agricultural censuses and farm registers; (v) the use of sampling methods in agricultural statistics; (vi) remote data collection systems; (vii) forecasting techniques in agriculture; (viii) production and supply balance sheets; (ix) agricultural price statistics; (x) economic accounts for agriculture; and (xi) agricultural database management (Report: CES/811).

Joint ECE/OECD Meeting on National Accounts (Geneva, 27–29 April 1994)

The following items were on the agenda of the joint meeting : (i) Questionnaire for the 1993 SNA; (ii) environmental accounting; (iii) functional classifications in the 1993 SNA; (iv) implementation of the 1993 SNA; and (v) informal/hidden activities in transition economies (Report: CES/AC.68/16).

Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems and Related Matters (ISIS '94) (Bratislava, Slovak Republic, 17–20 May 1994)

The seminar considered a wide range of activities, including techniques in data collection and capture, means for electronic exchange of statistical information, data processing architecture for statistical processing including right-sizing, users interchange, security, confidentiality, dissemination and marketing (Report: CES/SEM.33/2).

Fifth ECE/WHO Joint Meeting on Health Statistics (Geneva, 24–26 May 1994)

The meeting considered the following items: (i) development of indicators for evaluating the WHO regional strategy for “Health for all by the year 2000”; (ii) obtaining data on “Health for all” indicators through health interview surveys; (iii) implementation of the ICD and of the ICIDH; (iv) integration of social and economic statistics in the health field; and, (v) use of statistical information systems for monitoring health services (Report: CES/AC.36/55 EURO/ICP/HST/157/55).

Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Demographic Projections (Mondorf-les-Bains, Luxembourg, 1–4 June 1994)

The joint work session considered the following issues: (i) sub-national population projections; (ii) projections of households and families; and (iii) labour force and labour demand projections. Participants also discussed possible work that could be undertaken in the future by Eurostat and/or the ECE in the field of projections (Report: CES/812).

Forty-Second Plenary Session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Paris, 13–17 June, 1994)

The Conference of European Statisticians held its 42nd plenary session at the OECD in Paris, France, at the invitation of the OECD. This was the first time in the history of the Conference that its annual plenary session was held outside Geneva. The conference reviewed and approved the “Minimum Programme of Basic Statistics”, which the Bureau of the conference had prepared as a guide for countries in transition. It also conducted a detailed review of the integrated presentation of international statistical work programmes in the UN/ECE and OECD regions, in which information on the statistical work programmes of the UN/ECE, European Union, OECD, UN Statistical Division and other international organizations was presented. The topic of substantive discussion at the plenary session was “Statistical planning and priority setting” (Report: ECE/CES/45 and CES/830 and Addenda 1–6).