

Recent work of the Conference of European Statisticians

1. The fifteenth session of the Working Party on National Accounts and Balance (Geneva, 10–13 September 1990)

The session commented on the draft of the revised System of National Accounts (SNA), and discussed topics which were of special concern to the ECE region. Furthermore, it considered problems which may arise from the implementation of the revised SNA and discussed to what extent countries in transition will need assistance in this respect. (Report: CES/WP.22/106)

2. Seminar on the demographic and economic consequences and implications of changing population age structures (Ottawa, Canada, 24–28 September 1990)

This meeting was organized in Ottawa at the invitation of the Government of Canada, the participants reviewed the causes of past changes in the population age structure of countries in the ECE region. However, most of the discussion focussed on the implications of the changes that are expected to take place in countries population age structures in the next few decades for public revenues and expenditures, the labour force, and family and household structures. The role of fertility and migration as adjustment mechanisms for changing age structures and national approaches to developing informed demographic policies were also considered. (Report of the meeting: CES/Sem.28/5)

3. Consultation on indicators of short-term economic change (Geneva, 8–9 October 1990)

The consultation was organized between research institutions in order to establish a network for the envisaged implementation of a business tendency survey in transition countries. A plan was agreed for the further work on the project. (Report of the consultation: CES/678)

4. Workshop on major fields of transition problems (Budapest, 15–19 October 1990)

The workshop was financed by the Government of Germany and organized by the Hungarian Central Statistical Office. It considered, in five parallel panel meetings, transition work on national accounting, price statistics, business registers, foreign trade statistics, and business cycle indicators. The result of the workshop was a clarification of the plans and strategies of each of the transition countries in each of the fields under study. The report of the meeting also includes lists of priority projects, in which co-operation is sought between statistical offices of transition economies and of market economies. (Report: CES/679)