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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Forty-seventh plenary session
(Neuchâtel, 14-16 June 1999)

**PROGRAMMES OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL
WORK IN THE ECE REGION, 1999/2000 and 2000/2001:
AN INTEGRATED PRESENTATION**

(Pre-plenary session version)

**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:

- Programme Activity 1: Organization and Operation of statistical services (CES/1999/10/Add.1)
- Programme Activity 2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues (CES/1999/10/Add.2)
- Programme Activity 3: Economic statistics (CES/1999/10/Add.3)

- Programme Activity 4: Social and demographic statistics
(CES/1999/10/Add.4)
- Programme Activity 5: Environment statistics (CES/1999/10/Add.5)
- Programme Activity 6: Dissemination and support for secretariat
activities (CES/1999/10/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 have supplied to the secretariat for inclusion in this updated version of the integrated presentation which was considered by the Conference at its 1998 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 Bureau recommends the Conference take in these fields of statistics, and identifies various issues that the Bureau thought should be brought to the attention of 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:

OBJECTIVES OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS: Broad aims of national statistical offices for international work in that field over the next several years.

EXPECTED COLLECTIVE OUTPUT IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS: 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

considers should be brought to the attention of the Conference at its plenary session.

DECISIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE CES BUREAU TO THE 1999 PLENARY SESSION:

List of decisions on its programme of work recommended to be taken by the Conference at the 1999 plenary session.

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

RAPPORTEUR: International organization 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 1999 to June 2001. 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).

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 the same format 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/1999/10) describes the background to the development of the format used here and provides additional information including an explanation of acronyms used.

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
<p><u>Programme Activity 1:</u> Organization and Operation of statistical services (See document CES/1999/10/Add.1)</p>	<p>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)</p>
<p><u>Programme Activity 2:</u> Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues (See document CES/1999/10/Add.2)</p>	<p>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</p>
<p><u>Programme Activity 3:</u> Economic statistics (See document CES/1999/10/Add.3)</p>	<p>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 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 Agricultural 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</p>

Programme Activity	Programme Element
<p><u>Programme Activity 4</u>: Social and demographic statistics (See document CES/1999/10/Add.4)</p>	<p>4.1 Social indicators and frameworks 4.2 Gender statistics 4.3 Multi-purpose social surveys 4.4 Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics 4.5 Population and housing censuses 4.6 Health statistics 4.7 Crime and criminal justice statistics 4.8 Education and training statistics 4.9 Culture statistics 4.10 Labour statistics 4.11 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration, fertility and families and households) 4.12 Human settlements and housing statistics 4.13 Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income inequality 4.14 Statistics on population groups of special interest</p>
<p><u>Programme Activity 5</u>: Environment statistics (See document CES/1999/10/Add.5)</p>	<p>5.1 Sectoral concepts, definitions and classifications 5.2 Environmental accounting 5.3 Environmental databases and reporting</p>
<p><u>Programme Activity 6</u>: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities (See document CES/1999/10/Add.6)</p>	<p>6.1 Coordination of international data collection 6.2 Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat</p>

PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 4

SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

4.1 SOCIAL INDICATORS AND FRAMEWORKS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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:

- The possibility that the new political environment in Europe may well result in added pressure being placed on NSOs for them to produce a wider range of social statistics (e.g. data on social exclusion).
- The fact that Eurostat, ILO and UNSD are working on social indicators and therefore that they need to coordinate their work.
- The outcome of the "Summer School on Social Statistics" that took place in Siena in July 1998.
- The second round "Summer School on Social Statistics" that will be held in Siena in July 1999 (see also P.E. 2.7).
- The report that Eurostat presented at the Vienna Summit meeting in which its work programme on harmonising labour market statistics was presented.
- There are many fields in the social and demographic sector where NSOs find it difficult to measure well; help from NGOs and academic statisticians may be helpful in these fields.
- Joint OECD-Eurostat collection of social protection statistics: OECD collects data on social expenditure from non-EU countries. Eurostat collects data from EU member countries according to ESSPROS methodology. Currently, expenditure data are not sufficiently detailed to be included in the OECD Social Expenditure Database (SOCX). A protocol of data exchange is likely to be established between Eurostat and OECD, which may improve the exchange of data between the two organisations.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001: None

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE: None

Activities of OECD: The Working Party on Social Policy, covering all OECD countries, has expressed interest in a set of social indicators to address the concerns of socio-economic policy. In the first instance, reactions will be elicited to possible approaches, which will include, among others, the development of a conceptual framework and the compiling of a number of indicators from the standard social policy domains. The work will include determining the role of such indicators in addressing the social dimension of sustainable development.

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 38 - Other social statistics (382)*): Continued development, further disaggregation and dissemination of social indicators. Selection and dissemination of convergence indicators in the social field. Joint publication with DGV of a Social Report. Maintenance of social indicators database.

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division:

(a) Implementation of the Minimum National Social Data Set (MNSDS) through the following activities: (i) dissemination of information on MNSDS and its use to collect and present more and better data describing progress for individual countries (to United Nations bodies and other international organizations); (ii) Trial dissemination of MNSDS through the WWW site; (iii) report on the implementation and use of MNSDS to evaluate the series complete at the international level, series not collected at the international level, number of countries, timeliness, and the lessons learned. The data set will use only data reported by countries with no projections or synthetic data.

(b) Submission of a report "Harmonization and rationalization of development indicators in the United Nations system " for the review by the Statistical Commission. The report describes the Division's effort towards compiling the Minimum National Social Data Set (MNSDS) in order to assess the availability of data at the international level. It also describes a parallel indicator project that has developed from decisions and recommendations of several United Nations bodies such as the Executive Committee for Economic and Social Affairs, the ACC Subcommittee for Statistical Activities and ECOSOC. UNSD is implementing the project on a trial basis through the following activities: (i) work with FAO, ILO and

UNESCO to establish an inventory of development indicators produced and disseminated by these agencies; (ii) missions to three countries - Viet-Nam, Ghana and Guatemala - to assess the impact on countries of the proliferation of indicator sets, with their inherent reporting requirements at the national level; (iii) collaboration with agencies and international organizations on ongoing initiatives to develop indicators for monitoring conference goals and programmes and (iv) preparation of a report on present state of work at the international and national levels on development indicators for the ECOSOC Informal Meeting on Integrated and Coordinated Follow-up of the Major United Nations conferences and Summits, 10-11 May 1999.

(c) UNSD also disseminates "social indicators" covering a wide range of subject-matter fields and updated quarterly on its home page on the World Wide Web.

The Siena Group:

The purpose of the Siena Group is to promote and coordinate international cooperation in the areas of social statistics by focusing on social indicators, social accounting, concepts and classifications, and an analysis of the linkages and frameworks for integrating social, economic, and demographic data for the purposes of policy formulation and analysis.

The Group will continue with less focus on general meetings and more emphasis on smaller groups of members working together on joint projects of mutual interest. The networking considered to be a particular benefit of previous meetings would be maintained through Internet contact and less frequent general meetings.

It was agreed that a Bureau be formed to manage the affairs of the Group and further its work program and activities. The Bureau would be supported by a Secretariat. As host to the Sydney meeting the Australian Bureau of Statistics undertook to draft a statement of the role and terms of reference for the Bureau and once these have been circulated and agreed upon to form the Bureau. A website for Siena Group would be established as a part of this.

No meeting is to be held for 1999. However, the Second Summer School for Social Statistics would be conducted in Siena in June 1999. It was proposed that a meeting be held in 2000 in Maastricht.

Contact: Paolo Garonna, ISTAT (garonna@istat.it), Marion McEwin, Australian Bureau of Statistics (marion.mcewin@abs.gov.au).

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In 1999 work will continue on using the minimum set of social indicators recommended by the United Nations Statistical Commission to improve statistical methods of studying living standards in CIS countries. The model set of social indicators prepared by CIS-STAT for the conditions of Commonwealth countries is to be applied in an analytical study and the preparation of a report on living standards in CIS countries during the fourth quarter of 1999. Proposals will be made under the work programme for 1999 (third quarter) to improve methods of statistical monitoring of the forms of social support provided for in social programmes at all

administrative levels (family and children's allowances, social benefits, subsidies and grants for disadvantaged groups, etc.). A working group consisting of representatives of national statistical services is due to meet in the third quarter of 1999 to discuss issues relating to the study of living standards.

4.2 GENDER STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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 1999/2000 work session convened to deal with issues such as these.

Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following: Nothing

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 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 1999 to June 2001:

ECE Work Session on gender statistics (to be organized in cooperation with UNSD), year 2000

UN Population Division: Commission on Population and Development, 2000

Rapporteur: UN Statistics Division (UNSD)

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE

- a) ECE work session on gender statistics (to be held in 1999/2000, and organized 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) 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.
- b) The secretariat to prepare in collaboration with interested NSOs a new Gender publication covering the ECE region as for the assessment planned for year 2000 by the UN in all regions of the world.

Secretariat resources: Substantial

Activities of OECD:

- a) All statistics are as a rule collected and analysed by sex (if applicable).
- b) Dissemination of labour market statistics by gender through the annual Employment Outlook.

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

Time use: The aim of the survey is to fill a number of gaps in the statistical information available in the social domain. In particular the Time Use Survey aims to provide information for: equal opportunity policies: information on the gender division of unpaid work (housework, care of children, sick, disabled persons or elderly, voluntary work); family policies: information on the possibilities of reconciling professional and family life; policies for older people: information on their level of integration into society and their contribution to the life of society (in the form of voluntary work, social activities, etc.); duration of work; detailed information on time and volume of work (daily, weekly, annual working hours, breaks); volume and value of unpaid work (satellite accounts); improvement of social indicators, in particular in the fields of "passenger transport" and "use of leisure time", total working hours, mobility, leisure time.

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division:

- (a) Preparation of version 4 of Women's Indicators and Statistics Database (Wistat).
- (b) Preparation of The World's Women 2000: Trends and Statistics.
- (c) Issue of "Statistics and Indicators on the World's Women" updated yearly on the UNSD home page on the World Wide Web.
- (d) Collaboration with UNDP and ILO on a project on gender issues and the measurement of paid and unpaid work.

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

- a) Training Seminar in the area of Gender Statistics to be held in May 1999 in Mongolia, aimed at both users and producers;
- b) Publication of a Report of the national time-use survey conducted in the Dominican Republic, entitled "Time-Use by Women and Men in the Dominican Republic" in the third quarter of 1999; and
- c) Preparation of a Manual on INSTRAW's Methodology for Collecting, Processing and Analysing data for Establishing Satellite Accounts on the Unpaid Work of Women, Men and Children, in the third and fourth quarter of 1999.

United Nations Population Division:

- a) The 2000 session of the Commission on Population and Development, for which the United Nations Population Division is the secretariat, will have as its special theme, "population, gender and development". The United Nations Population Division will prepare the World Population Monitoring Report on that theme.
- b) Gender analysis and gender factors are included in all studies in the field of demographic statistics (See also programme element 4.11)

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

Recommendations will be prepared for national statistical offices in 1999 (second quarter) regarding adjustments to the results of censuses of the sex and age composition of the population for the intercensal period in CIS countries. The recommendations will be aimed at expanding and updating gender-sensitive data in all fields of statistics.

4.3 MULTI-PURPOSE SOCIAL SURVEYS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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:

- The European Commission has provided funding to extend coverage to the sixth wave of the European Community Panel (ECHP).
- NSOs in some countries are experiencing increased difficulties in getting households to respond to surveys; to combat this, NSOs should develop a strategy for encouraging households to take part in surveys and censuses.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001:

Eurostat: Working Group: European Community Household Panel,
8-9 November 1999

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE: None

Activities of OECD: None

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

Family budgets: Data Base includes micro-data from 10 countries and will include all EU member states plus Iceland and Norway. It will be expanded to include micro-data collected in 1998. Follow-up on methodology and recommendations on Household Budget Surveys in the EU as published in 1997. Study of the link between household budget surveys and national accounts. (quarterly accounts, VAT). Analysis of 1994 Data. Publication of Rapid Reports plus major publications (Household Budget Surveys; Comparative

Tables 1994 - CD-ROM). Dissemination of data (aggregated tables) via electronic means (New Cronos and CD-ROM).

Community household panel: The survey was launched in 1994 for a period of 6 years. The survey to be carried out in 1999 will be the continuation of the earlier waves. The main objective of the survey is to produce harmonised data at EU level (Sweden excepted) on the distribution of income and living conditions of households. In this regard the 4 main goals in 1999 are: treatment of the 1997 data (4th wave); complete the longitudinal database with 1994-1995-1996-1997 data; using this as a basis, then use this to create a user friendly longitudinal database for users with back-up documentation; improve the profile of the project; publish various analyses and Statistics in Focus; provide inputs to Eurostat's various publications; participate in international conferences and meetings; publish the methodology including an evaluation of longitudinal data quality, follow-up and co-ordination of research; Improve data quality; develop programmes for checking of data; conduct regular analyses of data quality using for example comparisons with external sources, requests for feed-back from users etc.

Activities of other organizations:

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

Work will be pursued in 1999 and early 2000 on formulating principles for building a sampling network based on the materials of new censuses in order to conduct various social and socio-demographic surveys.

4.4 REGISTERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS FOR SOCIAL AND DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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:

- The importance of NSOs getting better access to administrative records and registers for statistical purposes (this issue is of growing importance for CITs).

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 plenary session: See CES/1999/10/Add.7.

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001:

ECE-Eurostat: Work Session on registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics (2000/2001)

UNSD: Inter-regional training seminar on civil registration and vital statistics systems (July 1999)

Eurostat: Task Force: Harmonisation of social statistics, 27-28 September 1999

Rapporteur: Eurostat

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE: See CES/1999/10/Add.7

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 38 - Other social statistics (383)*):
Integration of household surveys and registers: The module comprises discussions on the best possible set of core variables advised to be included in surveys, registers and administrative sources. The module contains work on communication harmonisation principles and development work on methods for integration of different data sources. The work in 1998 and 1999 will concentrate on further elaboration of the harmonisation programme, the development and partly the implementation of the facilitating projects (meta-information) and the development of pilot projects. The actual integration of household surveys and registers and administrative sources via a harmonised set of core variables.

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO: 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.

4.5 POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES

Objectives over the next several years: 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).

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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:

- Several CITs have had to postpone their forthcoming population and housing census because of financial difficulties or other reasons; some other ECE countries are also encountering a threatening environment because of political decisions or a growing proportion of the population expressing reluctance to take part in censuses and statistical enquiries.
- The growing importance of NSOs finding innovative ways of reducing the costs of the census, possibly by relying more heavily on administrative records, surveys and other sources for census-like data on some topics.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 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 1999 to June 2001:

UNSD: Expert Group Meeting on GIS (June 1999)

UNSD: Seminar on Population and Housing Census (October 1999)

Rapporteur: ECE

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE:

- a) Preparatory meeting in 2000/2001 (jointly with Eurostat, and in co-operation 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.
- b) Work session on population and housing censuses (2002/2003, jointly with Eurostat) 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:

(See work carried out by the Population Activities Unit in PE 4.11 and 4.14 in the field of population ageing and the status of older persons which is related to censuses).

Activities of OECD:

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 31 - Population (312)*): Community census programme: Preparation and adoption of guidelines for the synchronisation and harmonisation of population and housing censuses 2001. Preparation and adoption of technical specifications (table programme, access to the data...)

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division: Publication of the "Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses" (ST/ESA/SER/M/67/REV.1) in all six official languages.

The ILO: Publication (with UNSD) of a technical guidance in the implementation of economic characteristics included in the UN Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses (in 1999).

Council of Europe: A small programme designed to finance the participation of statisticians from newly independent States in courses on census taking techniques in view of the 2000 round of censuses.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States

(CIS-STAT): CIS-STAT will be preparing a series of methodological materials for national statistical services on the basis of international standards and recommendations to compare the results of the 1989 census with those of the new censuses in 1999-2001. Recommendations on comparing overall population growth rates in CIS countries will be prepared in the third quarter of 1999.

Two sessions of the population census Coordinating Council established under CIS-STAT are planned in 1999. The Council will discuss the methodological materials prepared by CIS-STAT, preparations by national statistical offices for the next round of population censuses and the preliminary results of the population censuses held in 1999. In 1999 CIS-STAT will begin setting up a database containing census data to be exchanged among States within the CIS framework.

4.6 HEALTH STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years 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:

- The Bureau considers that this is a field of statistics where there is an important need for improved coordination among international organizations active in this field in areas such as data collection, analyses and indicators
- The Conference convened a meeting on health statistics jointly with WHO Europe in October 1998. Discussion at that meeting highlighted the fact that increased cooperation and coordination among international organizations was needed in the following areas: data collection; health status measurement; health indicators; conceptual work. To help the Conference to better assess the nature of the problems and possibly to propose some suggested improvements, the Bureau decided that the programme element on health statistics should be one of three programme

elements selected for in depth review at the 1999 plenary session. Statistics Canada has agreed to prepare a paper for the plenary session (CES/1999/11) to help the Conference conduct this in-depth review.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 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 1999 to June 2001:

ECE-WHO: Joint preparatory meeting on health statistics, Ottawa (Spring 2000)
WHO: Meeting on health information systems (July 1999)
WHO: Meeting of Collaborating Centres on ICD (October 1999)
WHO: Meeting of Collaborating Centres on ICIDH (Spring 2000)
WHO/Euro: Meetings on the development of national health databases and health service indicators in Central and Eastern Europe (end 1999, end 2000)
WHO/Euro: Meetings of participants of the Health Interview Survey Project (EUROHIS) to develop common methods and instruments (mid 1999, mid 2000)
OECD: Meeting of Correspondents to OECD Health Data (April 21-22, 1999)
OECD: Meeting on Ageing Diseases (May 1999)
OECD: Meeting on Disability and Ageing (June 1999)
OECD: Meeting of Experts in Health Accounting, (mid September 1999)
Eurostat: Task Force: European Statistics on Accidents at Work, (15 September 1999)
Eurostat: Task Force: Health Interview Survey, (28-29 October 1999)
Eurostat: Task Force: Health Care/Workshop SHA (with OECD) (3-5 November 1999)
Eurostat: Working Group: Health Statistics, (29-30 November 1999)
Eurostat: Working Group: European Statistics on Occupational Diseases, (13 October 1999)
Eurostat: Working Group: European Statistics on Accidents at Work, (12 November 1999)
Eurostat: Task Force: Causes of Death, (9-10 December 1999)

Rapporteur: OECD

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE:

- a) Joint ECE-WHO preparatory meeting in 1999/2000 involving the participation of a small number of interested countries to discuss and prepare health status measurement topic for the meeting planned to be held in 2000/2001;
- b) In 2001/2002 Joint ECE-WHO meeting on health statistics 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:

Health Statistics: Preparation and publication of the 1999 and 2000 edition of *OECD Health Data*.

Health Accounting: Consolidation and expansion of the Health Accounting blueprint with a view to pilot-testing and adoption. 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, Pan-American Office and the World Bank, in order to harmonise measures such as disability measurement among the industrialised countries and the developing countries efforts. Meeting on disability and ageing will discuss technical issues of measurement of disability in context of policy-making needs. Also, work will be conducted to understand 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. Initial project meeting will take place in spring 1999. Emphasis will be placed on 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*):

Public health: The priority is to continue developing a consistent set of statistics on health, which is necessary for monitoring health and should cover both demand in the field of health (health status and health determinants) and supply (health resources and financing). For establishing this set, a consistent and durable system should be achieved by a stepwise implementation of a global programme embedded in the Community Statistical Programme 1998-2002. In the framework of the Leadership Group (LEG) Health and taking into account the Community action programme on health monitoring (HMP), in 1999 the general emphasis will be on reinforcement of the infrastructure for the basic system on public health statistics, on harmonisation and improving the comparability of existing data, including adaptation and completion where required while maintaining functional links with other statistical projects.

In particular in 1999 the work for statistics on public health will be: on *causes of death* statistics: improving the comparability and quality by means of more harmonised and common procedures for the collection, classification and reporting of data; on *health survey data*: up-dating of data (on 12 commonly selected health items) from national surveys, after the evaluation of the 1998/1999 collection; (some key items are available from ECHP); special attention will be given to finding solutions for better co-ordination (among countries) of national surveys (e.g. covering of items, survey frequency); on *diagnosis* statistics: establishing an inventory of (national) sources; on *health care resources* statistics: completion of meta data on the organisation, delivery and financing of national health care

systems, as a basis for improvements of statistics on cost and financing of health care, health care facilities, personnel and outcomes, pilots on the implementation of the new manual for the System of Health Accounts (SHA - together with OECD).

With the help of the LEG Health and in accordance with the decisions resulting from the HMP, projects will support the measures taken by Member States on data collection, also compatible within the European Statistical System. Co-operation with the relevant international organisations, in particular the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the OECD will be fostered.

Eurostat will restart work on harmonising concepts and terminology in the field of disability statistics; in particular for the purposes of compiling indicators to monitor the integration of disabled persons at work. A parallel project will focus on harmonisation of modules on 'disability' in surveys of some Member States in order to build up gradually a basis for regular voluntary reporting. A first set of 'Key data on public health' (based on available data) will be published in 1999.

Occupational health and safety: The priority action is to start the third phase of the project on European Statistics on Accidents at Work which deals with the causes and circumstances of accidents. The analysis of the results of phase 2, which began in 1998 (1996 data) on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and the socio-economic cost of accidents (days lost) will be developed, as will the analysis of the initial results of the sub-project on commuting accidents, which was also set up in 1998 (1996 data). As regards the project on European occupational disease statistics, the classification on the causal agents (for the phase 'one' data collection in 2000) will be finalised. Finally, the project on quality of working life indicators will be continued. A new action for both projects consists of the introduction of the ad hoc module on health and safety at work in the Labour Force Survey of spring 1999. The results will be analysed at the end of 1999.

Consumer protection: The priority action will be the methodological assistance to be given for strengthening, improving and extending the current European home and leisure accident surveillance system (EHLASS).

Activities of other organizations:

Activities of WHO (Headquarters)

Mortality statistics:

WHO will continue to collect, validate, analyse and disseminate cause of death statistics as it has done for the past 50 years. 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. WHO plans to convene a meeting on health information systems with expert advisors and WHO Collaborating Centres in July 1999. These issues will also be discussed at the annual meetings of the ICD (October, 1999) and ICIDH (Spring, 2000).

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 since the beginning of 1999 (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.

WHO (Regional Office for Europe):

- a) 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).
- b) Publication of regular reports on the health status in Europe and on country by country basis (Country Highlights on Health).
- c) Improvement of the international data comparability by: (i) developing and encouraging countries to apply standard definitions, (ii) developing common measurement instruments and methods for health interview surveys, (iii) assisting countries in implementation of the 10th Revision of International Classification of Diseases, (iv) implementation (in cooperation with the EU) of the European Public Health Information Network for Eastern Europe (EUPHIN-EAST).

The ILO: 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.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

In 1999 it is planned to draw up recommendations for national statistical bodies to improve the system of public health statistics in the light of the recommendations of the ECE/WHO joint session on health statistics, making use of national practices, and also on the basis of household surveys. A report on morbidity and mortality in Commonwealth countries will be completed in the fourth quarter of 1999.

4.7 CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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).

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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:

- There is a need for coordination as several international organisations are active in this field of statistics. UNICRI is taking the lead by ensuring that such coordination takes place.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001:

UNICRI: Meeting of the advisory panel of experts on the development of guidelines for data collection on the "World Organised Crime Report" - tentatively September 1999. Rome, 3 days.

UNICRI: Meeting of the International Working Group of the International Crime Victim Survey - International Crimes against Businesses Survey for the finalisation of the questionnaire, preparations and launching of the 2000 sweep of the surveys. Tentatively September - October 1999, Hague.

CICP: Meeting of the advisory panel of experts on the collection and analysis of data and information on organized crime (expected September 1999); Vienna, 3 days;

CICP: Meeting of the advisory panel of experts on the collection and analysis of data and information on organized crime (expected September 2000); Vienna, 3 days;

CICP: Meeting on the results of the Sixth United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (November 2000); as part of the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology/Division on International Criminology; US city to be named, 2 days.

Rapporteur: UNICRI

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE: None

Activities of OECD: None

Activities of Eurostat: None

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division: Cooperation with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division, Statistics Canada and UNICRI on the preparation of a handbook on the development and analysis of criminal justice statistics.

UN Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP):

- a) Elaboration of a Dangerousness Index for Organized Crime Groups, as part of a project proposal on "Assessing Transnational Organized Crime Groups: Dangerousness and Trends" (hereafter, Assessment Project) On going activity throughout this the reporting period.
- b) Preparation and publication in 1999 of the guide on the collection of a criminal justice statistics (In cooperation with the United Nations Statistics Division, and Statistics Canada).

Data collection

Data and information from the Sixth United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems will be collected during the reporting period. The Survey is conducted in cooperation with the Statistics Division. The Survey will cover the years 1995-1997 and will address all manner of national level criminal justice: police, courts, prosecution, prisons, and resources.

As a result of the Assessment Project, data and information will be collected, on an ongoing basis, on organized crime groups.

Technical Cooperation

- It is likely that the Centre will assist Governments with the collection, maintenance, and analysis of crime and criminal justice data and information. At present, however, no specific projects have been elaborated for the reporting period.

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

- a) **International Crime Victim Survey and related activities:** international

comparative project in crime prevention and criminal justice focused on citizens' experience of crime, reporting to the police, crime prevention measures and attitudes towards law enforcement and punishment, will reach its fourth round in 2000.

b) International Crimes against Businesses Survey (ICBS): aimed at assessing the extent and pattern of crimes against businesses, will be carried out in the year 2000 jointly with the ICVS in several countries. The ICBS provides a unique perspective of the crime phenomena, for example as regards experiences of retailers-small businesses with corruption/bribery/extortion which are crucial to reveal the extent of corruption among medium-sized businesses and retailers, with particular attention to organised crime involvement.

c) The project Assessing violence, corruption and organised crime in Eastern-Central European countries will be undertaken in Belarus, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Russian Federation, Ukraine and Bosnia and Herzegovina (only for the ICVS component) and will include the carrying out of the ICVS and the ICBS; the preparation of trend reports on organised crime; round tables and the development of crime and criminal justice policy profiles to provide for policy impact evaluation. Negotiations are underway for the extension of the project to Albania, Georgia, Yugoslavia, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia and Moldova (only for the ICVS component).

d) Global Programme against Corruption: joint UNICRI-CICP project, envisages in its research component the collection of data on three levels of corruption: (i) public administration and "street level"; (ii) business; and (iv) top level (political, administrative and financial corruption). On the basis of the research and available secondary data, a set of indicators on corruption trends and anti-corruption measures, the so-called Corruption Monitoring Protocol (CMP) will be developed and used to assist in the regular periodical review of the corruption phenomenon and the presence / absence as well as efficiency of anti-corruption measures adopted and implemented at the national level. While the CMP will be utilised at the national level, being a standardised instrument, it will also provide for comparative analysis. The Programme envisages the creation of an international database on corruption to be established at UNICRI and jointly run with the CICP/ODCCP.

e) Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings: joint project with CICP aiming at (i) assessment of organised crime involvement in smuggling and trafficking flows; (ii) data bank and best practices; (iii) demonstration projects and evaluation thereof; and (iv) international strategy; and world conference. The assessment component will consist in the collection of quantitative and qualitative information on smuggling and trafficking flows including available statistics. Data bank will include the above information as well as selected examples of best practices regarding responses to these phenomena.

f) World Organised Crime Report envisages the establishment and further development of a databank on organised crime trends, to provide information on various aspects of crime and the activities of organised crime groups in view of the publication and dissemination - every second year - of an issue of the World Organised Crime Report to provide qualitative and quantitative

information on trends in organised crime activities and structure of groups operating at the international level, types and distribution of illicit markets, major initiatives taken internationally by both governmental and non-governmental organisations on the prevention and control of organised crime, and developments in national legislation and international instruments against organised crime.

g) UNICRI will continue providing assistance on specific demand to concerned countries with needs assessment, technical assistance and training in the area of development, management and policy analysis of crime and criminal justice statistics.

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

a) Survey on violence against women in 1999 in selected (European) countries in order to analyse in greater detail different aspects of the phenomenon.

b) Participation in the Sixth United Nations Surveys on Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (1994-1997). Heuni will be responsible for the European and North American analysis.

c) Preparations of the workshop (in the framework of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (2000)) on the role of women in the criminal justice system. During 1999 materials and information on the issue will be collected and analyzed, and the first draft of a discussion guide will be completed. Statistics on women as victims, women as offenders and women as practitioners are being gathered from around the world, using both available sources (in particular the UN Surveys and International Crime Victim Survey) and through surveys in selected countries.

d) Participates in an expert working group of the European Union established to study the unifying of European Union member state statistics on organized crime, and the use of various data sources in order to provide a more comprehensive picture of trends in, and the structure of, organized crime.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

CIS-STAT prepares quarterly information on crime in CIS countries. In 1999-2000 CIS countries' experience with recording new types of criminal punishment will be studied with a view to their comparison on the basis of a single methodology in the Commonwealth framework.

4.8 EDUCATION AND TRAINING STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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 1999 plenary session:

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001:

- OECD: INES Technical Group (January 1999, second meeting later in 1999)
- OECD: INES Steering Group (February 1999, second meeting later in year)
- OECD: INES Network C (March 1999, second meeting later in year)
- OECD: INES PISA Board of Participating Countries (March 1999, second meeting later in year)
- OECD: INES National Co-ordinators (July 1999)
- OECD: INES Network B (autumn 1999)
- UNESCO: ISCED Task Force meetings in 1999
- Eurostat: Working Group: Continuous Vocation Training Survey,
16-17 September 1999
- Eurostat: Working Group: Education Statistics in Phare countries,
18-19 November 1999

Rapporteur: OECD

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE: None

Activities of OECD:

- a) Publication of the seventh edition of OECD Education Indicators and dissemination of the source educational statistics in electronic form
- b) Further work on the consolidation of current data collection, refinement of definitions for planned UOE data collection, emphasising the creation of time series; Improving documentation, comparability, and analytical uses in both source and derived statistics.
- b) Data development work in areas of: tertiary education, human capital investment, lifelong learning, school-to-work transition, student outcomes and social disparities in educational access, achievement and attainment; Development work on assessment surveys and piloting of the surveys to produce international indicators of student outcomes.
- d) Planning for surveys aimed at the measurement of life skills (communication, problem-solving, use of information technology, etc.), using assessment methodologies comparable to those implemented for the International Adult Literacy Survey.

Activities of Eurostat: (*Theme 33 - Education*):

There will be continuing developments on existing projects such as: Restructuring of the yearbook 'Education across the European Union' and the education database in line with the revised UOE questionnaires and ISCED97; Collection, analysis, evaluation and publication of UOE data for the PHARE countries; Preparation of the joint Eurostat-DGXXII- Eurydice publication 'Key data on Education 1999' (general edition); Exploitation of the data by field of training collected for the first time as part of the VET data collection; Development of a methodology for CVTS 2 (Continuous Vocational Training Survey) in collaboration with Member States and taking into account experiences with CVTS 1 as well as new policy requirements; Preparation of the joint Eurostat-DGXXII-Cedefop publication 'Key data on Training - Transition'; Finalisation of the ad hoc module on transition for the LFS 2000; Follow-up of the indicators of the employment summit.

Activities of other organizations:

UNESCO:

- a) Standardization activities: (i) Expansion of the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED 1997) to cover aspects such as education providers and types of education; (ii) preparation of an operational manual on the interpretation and practical application of ISCED 1997.
- b) Publications and the WWW site: See programme element 6.1
- c) Data collection: See programme element 6.1

d) Technical assistance: Multi-purpose sub-regional training workshops for Eastern European countries in transition (dates and venues to be fixed).

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

CIS-STAT will be developing methodological principles for statistics of services on the basis of international standards. In the fourth quarter of 1999 work will be completed on improving methods of statistical inquiry for educational services (including pre-school education) in Commonwealth countries. A report entitled "Status of education in Commonwealth countries" will be prepared in the third quarter of 1999.

4.9 CULTURE STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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: nothing

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 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 1999 to June 2001:

ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO: Joint work session on cultural statistics in (15-17 November 1999).

Eurostat: Working Group: Culture, 18-19 October 1999

Rapporteur: Eurostat, in cooperation with ISTAT

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE:

Joint ECE-Eurostat-UNESCO work session (1999/2000) to consider:
(i) results achieved by the UNESCO working group on public financing (report by working group); (ii) results achieved by the UNESCO working group on participation in cultural activities (report by working group);
(iii) possibilities for refining and improving the FCS (papers by national rapporteur and UNESCO); (iv) developments in cultural indicators (national

reports); and (v) statistical definition and measurement of cultural occupations and industries (national reports).

Secretariat resources: Minimal

Activities of OECD: None

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

For 1999, top priority will be given to the achievement of the objectives of the Leadership Group (LEG) on cultural statistics. The main objectives are: Implementation of key indicators aimed at comparing national situations regarding occupation, expenditure and participation in cultural activities; Production of the LEG final report containing the methodological frame with definitions and classifications to be used by Member States, a renewed inventory of national sources and a set of indicators politically relevant; Evaluation report on experience gained with the LEG to be submitted to SPC.

Having regard to the final results of the project as well as the necessity to take the cultural aspects of EU policies into consideration, LEG partners and participating Member States will make recommendations on how to proceed with the regular production of comparable statistics on culture at European level.

Activities of other organizations:

UNESCO: UNESCO collects data on culture statistics, and these are disseminated through several publications including the Yearbook and the WWW site (See programme element 6.1).

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

The Committee arranges for a regular exchange of information with Commonwealth national statistical bodies on numbers of cultural institutions by type, their popularity among the public, and the number and circulation of newspapers, books and magazines published in the CIS States. A report entitled "Status of culture and the arts in Commonwealth countries" will be prepared in the fourth quarter of 1999.

4.10 LABOUR STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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:

- Eurostat has been asked to prepare a plan of action including a timetable to resolve remaining problems in joint data collection on value added and employment in the service industries (also part of 3.8) by international organizations.
- The outcome of the October 1998 International Conference of Labour Statisticians meeting which adopted the following three resolutions: Resolution concerning the measurement of underemployment and inadequate employment situations; Resolution concerning the measurement of employment-related income; and Resolution concerning statistics of occupational injuries: resulting from occupational accidents. In addition, the ICLS endorsed two sets of guidelines concerning the treatment in employment and unemployment statistics of persons on extended absences from work; and dissemination practices for labour statistics.
- The existing good communication and coordination between the international organizations active in this field needs to be further developed and strengthened to ensure improved and more effective collection and dissemination of data on labour statistics.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 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 1999 to June 2001:

ECE-Eurostat-ILO Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment
(Geneva, May 2000)

OECD: Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics
(Paris, 22-23 April 1999)

Eurostat: Working Group: Employment statistics, 14-15 October 1999

Eurostat: Working Group: Salaries and labour costs, 6-7 December 1999

ILO: Meeting of the Expert Group on Informal Sector Statistics (Delhi Group)

ILO: Meeting of Experts on Labour Statistics: Comparison and Reconciliation of Employment and Unemployment Data from Different Sources
(Geneva, 2001).

Paris Group: annual meetings (once in Paris, once outside France, next meeting: 18-19 November 1999 in Paris).

Rapporteur: ILO

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE:

ECE-Eurostat-ILO Seminar on Measurement of the Quality of Employment in 1999/2000 to consider:

(The following list of topics is still tentative) (i) Job permanency and types of non-permanent employment; (ii) Work schedules and working time arrangements; Time-related underemployment and other forms of inadequate employment; (iii) Level of employment-related income and forms of remuneration; (iv) Coverage by social security and income support schemes; (v) Entitlement to non-wage benefits (e.g., paid sick leave, paid vacation, training); (vi) Trade union/association membership, coverage by collective bargaining mechanism.

Secretariat resources: Minimal

Activities of OECD:

- a) Statistical support for analysis of labour market trends and policies; expanded data collection to include data on underemployment and labour force status by educational attainment; publication of statistics in Annual Labour Force Statistics and the Employment Outlook.
- b) Dissemination of statistics by means of an electronic product.
- c) Meeting of the Working Party on Employment and Unemployment Statistics; agenda items to include: job search methods, job quality, current measures of labour dynamics, effects of non-comparability of earnings data on analyses of earnings inequality, trends in hours of work, training and skill measurement, indicators of the labour market.
- d) Maintaining the database on Labour Force Statistics. This database contains monthly and quarterly data on employment and unemployment indicators and annual data on a range of labour and population indicators. Reviewing and improving the contents of the database to enhance its relevance for analysts. Ameliorating the relevance and presentation of the paper and electronic publications that are derived from the database.
- e) Publish monthly-standardised unemployment rates for the majority of OECD countries, jointly with Eurostat for the European countries. In 1999, extend coverage by including additional countries and by including rates by gender and age.
- f) Review and expand the contents of the annual Labour Force Statistics publication to include variables in emerging areas of labour force analysis.
- g) Collect and disseminate detailed methodological information on the compilation of standardised unemployment rates for OECD Member countries. This includes obtaining such information (in respect of the continuous labour force survey) for EU countries from Eurostat.

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

Labour Force Survey: Work planned for 1999 will cover: the gradual implementation in the Member States of the new regulation, day-to-day data

management (according to new rules on coding), the exploitation of the first supplementary survey (ad hoc module: "health and safety at work"), extension of the collection of data from pre-accession countries.

Unemployment: adoption of a more precise and common interpretation of the ILO unemployment definition; development of principles for the formulation of LFS questions on labour status; compilation of indicators on those in underemployment and otherwise peripherally involved in the labour market with a view to complementing information provided by the unemployed relating to difficulties in finding employment; publication of monthly unemployment rates and quarterly employment indicators; implementation of the conclusions of the special working party of 1998 on measuring unemployment.

Duration and organisation of work: implementation of a new work programme; evaluation of under-employment; preparation of a supplementary LFS survey (ad hoc 2001 module: "organisation of labour").

Structural statistics on earnings and labour costs: In the area of salaries and labour costs, the results of the 1996 Labour Cost Survey should be published in 1999; the publication of quarterly indices of labour costs (Labour Cost Indices), one of the short-term indicators prioritised by the EMI, should also be started in 1999. Furthermore, discussions will continue on the establishment of a quarterly European Labour Price Index; finalisation of implementing procedures of the EC Regulation on structural statistics on earnings and labour costs; management of intermediary data (1998) on the structure of earnings.

Short-term statistics on labour costs: collection and dissemination of quarterly Labour Cost Indices (LCI); methodological developments concerning the establishment of a European Labour Price Index (LPI).

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division: 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 ILO:

- a) Promotion of the application of guidelines concerning: (i) treatment in employment and unemployment statistics of persons on extended absences from work; and (ii) dissemination practices for labour statistics in national statistical systems, through field tests and pilot surveys which and the preparation of a technical manual.
- b) The informal sector data collection practices of member States, updating of the relevant database, and publish a manual on informal sector surveys.
- c) Update of the *Sources and Methods*: (i) Volume 3: Economically active population, employment, unemployment and hours of work (household surveys); (ii) Volume 5: Total and economically active population, employment and unemployment (population censuses); and (iii) a new volume: *Labour*

Statistics: Special Edition on Transition Countries (to be published in September 1999).

c) Finalising a set of 18 Key Indicators of the Labour Market (labour force, employment, unemployment, part-time employment, hours of work and urban informal sector, long duration of unemployment, and visible underemployment, inactivity, education level of the labour force, wage trends and poverty, manufacturing hourly compensation costs and annual rate of change in labour productivity) and the development of related databases and collection procedures. Data for OECD countries will be taken from the OECD database. This will lead to the publication of an annual report on employment and labour market trends in 1999.

d) Other topics in the work programme: (i) development of international guidelines on comparison and reconciliation of employment and unemployment data from different sources; (ii) engendering labour statistics; (iii) consolidation and amplification of existing international standards on employment and unemployment statistics; (iv) time-related underemployment and inadequate employment situations; (v) statistics of labour market dynamics; (vi) working time and productivity; (vii) measurement of hours of work of the self-employed; and (viii) statistics of occupational employment and wages:

The Paris Group on Labour and Compensation Statistics: Objectives over the next years: (i) improvement of concepts and definitions in labour statistics; (ii) foreseeing the need of new indicators, including reconciliation of data from different sources and labour accounting; (iii) comparison of national methodologies in order to help international comparisons of data; and (iv) favouring the implementation of adapted tools (labour market complexification).

Main topics of the 1999 meeting: (i) Labour: labour market dynamics (continuing topic) with the objective to define the data which may be compared between countries; (ii) Compensation: identify unresolved conceptual issues following ILO meeting (Geneva, October 1998) for discussion by the Group (new topic).

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States: Improving manpower statistics, studying labour migration and analysing the job market (gathering, analysing and disseminating statistical information on the main aspects of the labour force for a wide range of domestic and foreign users).

4.11 DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS (INCLUDING PROJECTIONS, MIGRATION, FERTILITY AND FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS)

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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), (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 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 extra-budgetary funds): (1) agreements on research and related data collection priorities with national and regional partners; (2) evaluation of experiences with the research and data collection in the fields of fertility and the family and of population ageing and older persons in the 1990s; (3) development of an agenda for the research into the behaviour and conditions of different generations; and (4) 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:

- The new set of recommendations of international migration statistics has now been published, and
- The UNSD, ECE/PAU, ECE/STAT, Eurostat, the Council of Europe and ILO anticipate that they will now begin using a joint questionnaire to collect the international migration statistics which they need to collect from ECE countries.
- The Bureau agreed it could be useful for the Conference at its 1999 plenary session to call upon a Task Force consisting of interested NSOs to be set up to 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 international recommendations on statistics of international migration.

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 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 Population Activities Unit's (PAU) planned work programme on a provisional basis, pending further examination and review by the Bureau of the amended version of the work plan that the PAU is to prepare for the Bureau's autumn 1999 meeting.
- To call upon a Task Force consisting of interested NSOs to be set up to 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 international recommendations.
- With respect to the PAU's planned work programme, to encourage

interested NSOs and National Population Institutes (NPIs) to participate in: (1) discussions and decisions on research and related data-collection priorities; (2) evaluation of experiences with the PAU's research and related data collection in the 1990s; (3) development of an agenda for the research into the behaviour and conditions of different generations; and, (4) elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of survey and census sample data.

- With respect to the PAU's planned work programme, to encourage NSOs and NPIs from countries in transition to continue to cooperate with the ECE/PAU with the view to developing and maintaining the regional information system (database) for the monitoring of the implementation of the final documents of the ICPD, EPC and the RPM in these countries.

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001:

ECE-Eurostat: Joint work session on migration statistics, 8-10 May 2000

Eurostat: Working Party on Demographic Projections (second half of 1999)

Eurostat: Working Party on Migration (first half of 2000)

Eurostat: Working Party on Migration, first half of 2000

Eurostat: Working Group: Demography, first half 2001

Meetings convened by the ECE Population Activities Unit:

ECE (PAU)/UNFPA: FFS Flagship Conference on important fertility and family issues, 29-31 May 2000, Brussels, Belgium (subject to relevant decisions and availability of extra-budgetary resources).

ECE (PAU)/UNFPA: Training seminar on the development and maintenance of the regional information systems (databases), August 1999, venue to be determined.

ECE (PAU)/UNFPA: Conference of demographers and statisticians on research and data-collection priorities, first half of 2000, venue to be determined (subject to relevant decisions and availability of extra-budgetary resources).

Council of Europe: European Population Committee (CDPO) (annually, normally in June)

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 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE:

A. Activities of the ECE Statistical Division:

a) Projections:

Work session on projections (Italy, 1999, jointly with Eurostat), to consider: i) issues of common concern to the production of national and subnational projections, household and family projections, and labour force and labour demand projections; ii) problems and issues involved in the production of education projections, housing projections and other specialised types of projections; iii) users and uses of projections; iv) principal results of all recently finished or ongoing international research projects in the field of demographic projections commissioned by the European Commission; and v) draft assumptions of new long-term national population scenarios for Europe (prepared jointly by the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute and Statistics Netherlands and to be used for the September 1999 Fourth European Population Conference).

Secretariat resources: Minimal.

b) Migration:

b.1) Annual exchange of statistics on international migration flows
b.2) Joint ECE-Eurostat work session on Migration Statistics in 1999/2000, to consider: (i) Progress report on regional programmes of international migration statistics, with particular emphasis on Eurostat's EUROMED-MIGRATION project; (ii) Plans of project countries participating in the EUROMED-MIGRATION project to establish a system for collecting and producing immigration and emigration statistics (reports by project countries and/or Eurostat-designated experts in the project); (iii) Studies of the statistics on asylum seekers covering both cohort and period analysis; (iv) Plans for and experiences in implementing the new (published 1998) set of UN Recommendations on International Migration Statistics, including developments in typologies of population with foreign background; (iv) New developments in estimating migration stocks and flows, and particularly by using censuses, sample surveys and population registers; and (v) progress in developing indicators used for measuring the integration of migrants.

Secretariat resources: Substantial

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

a) Fertility, the family and reproductive health: (i) Data collection, standardisation and dissemination: FFS Standard Recode Files (SRFs) for countries which recently joined the project will be created, archived and disseminated. Aggregate-level data (SCR tables) will continue to be

distributed through the FFS Homepage. (ii) Report preparation, publication and dissemination: Work on the series of FFS Standard Country Reports (SCRs) will continue. (iii) Research, training and technical assistance: Participants of the FFS training seminar on reproductive health analysis (7-11 September 1998) will finalise their national reports and conduct cross-national comparative research. Technical assistance with FFS data entry and standard tabulations for countries which recently joined the project will continue. (iv) Subject to relevant decisions and availability of requisite extra-budgetary funds: the FFS Flagship Conference will be convened from 29 to 31 May 2000 in Brussels (Belgium). It will bring together scholars, policy makers and potential donors of PAU's future population programme.

b) Follow-up to the International Conference on Population and Development: (i) Data collection and dissemination: 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. (ii) Training and technical assistance: Training will be provided to participants from countries interested in monitoring the implementation of the final documents of the ICPD, EPC and RPM using this system. The promotion of the development of national POPIN (Population Information Network) web sites will continue. (iii) Research, publication and dissemination: 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. (iv) Subject to relevant decisions and availability of requisite extra-budgetary funds: the updating of the database and the regional POPIN web site will continue. The list of indicators needed for the monitoring of the implementation of the final documents of the population conferences will be expanded.

c) Behaviour and conditions of different generations: (i) subject to relevant decisions and availability of requisite extra-budgetary resources, 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 different generations; (ii) subject to relevant decisions and availability of resources, promotion and collection of census samples also in support of research into the behaviour and conditions of different generations; (iii) evaluation of experiences with the research and data collection in the fields of fertility and family and of population ageing and older persons in the 1990s; (iv) development of an agenda of research into the behavior and conditions of different generations; and (v) elaboration of methodologies for the collection and analysis of comparable survey and census sample data for the study of the behaviour and conditions of different generations.

ECE (PAU) regular budget secretariat resources: Substantial (Note that most of the work carried out by the PAU in this Programme Element is funded by extra-budgetary resources.)

Activities of OECD:

- a) Data collection in support of analyses related to the integration of immigrants in the economy (especially the labour market) and the society and economic links between sending and receiving countries.
- b) Annual publication of "Trends in International Migration", which includes a statistical annex; Data collection, through the SOPEMI network and other sources, on migration movements and on the characteristics migrants; Monitoring migration flows in OECD and Central and Eastern European countries
- c) Expansion and consolidation of statistics of migration (stocks and flows): (i) improving the comparability, coverage and documentation; (ii) enhancement of the database to cover various aspects of the foreign or foreign-born populations (labour market activities, educational attainment and school attendance); (iii) support for analysis on the process of integration of migrants within the receiving countries; (iv) compilation of economic indicators on sending and receiving countries; (v) regular publication of data in electronic form.

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

Demographic statistics and projections: Collection, validation, analysis and publication of demographic data for EEA member states and other European countries (36 in total). Contribution to other general publications of Eurostat ("Basic statistics", "Eurostat yearbook") or of other DGs of the Commission ("Demographic report"). Launch annual collection of data on households and families. Harmonisation of existing national demographic forecasts (population, households, labour force). Compilation of an internationally consistent set of demographic nowcasts and of long-term demographic scenarios

Migration statistics: Collection, validation, analysis and publication of migration data for EEA member states and other European countries (foreign population, migration flows, asylum-seekers and refugees, acquisition of citizenship). Launch and follow the MED-MIGR programme to help Mediterranean countries to improve their migration statistics. Compilation of an internationally consistent set of nowcasts on migration. Development and implementation of a new system for the collection and the dissemination of monthly data on asylum and migration to cover the needs of Council working groups.

Activities of other organizations:

The ILO:

- a) 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).

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

United Nations Population Division:

a) The Commission on Population and Development, for which the United Nations Population Division is the secretariat, will meet at its annual sessions during the first quarter of 2000 and 2001. The special theme for the 2000 Commission is "population, gender and development". The Commission has not yet chosen the special theme for 2001

b) The ACC Subcommittee on Demographic Estimates and Projections, for which the United Nations Population Division is the secretariat, will meet at its biennial session in June or July 2000.

c) The United Nations Population Division is also likely to organize approximately 2 expert group meetings on emerging issues in population during the period.

a) Analysis and studies: (i) Information and analysis on population trends and policies; (ii) Population estimates and projections for all countries; geographical areas; urban and rural areas and major cities; (iii) Analytical work in the fields of fertility, mortality, internal migration, international migration, population growth, and on the interrelationship of population and development, including social and economic aspects; (iv) research on population and gender.

b) Publications and information services (See programme element 6.1): (i) Several recurrent publications on population estimates and projections, urbanization, population policy and population and development; (ii) non-recurrent publications on mortality, international migration, contraceptive use, fertility levels and trends, population estimates, population policies and population and development; (iii) maintenance and update of databases; (iv) dissemination of population information through the world-wide web and other means.

c) Advisory services: (i) Advisory missions to Member States and regional support teams and provision of technical support in the field of population.

Council of Europe: Projects on "Trends in mortality and differential mortality", "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.

International Organization for Migration (IOM): See Programme Element 6.1 for publications and studies planned to be published by IOM.

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

(i) Improving the statistical monitoring of intra-CIS population flows on the

basis of the UN recommendations of statistics of international migration;
(ii) Advisory assistance for the conversion of national statistical offices to the tenth international classification of causes of death and disease;
(iii) Analytical notes concerning intra-CIS migration and the demographic situation in CIS countries.

4.12 HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND HOUSING STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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: Nothing

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001:

UN Centre for Human Settlements: Workshop of representative including Town Clerks and Treasurers to determine LA data needs (Nairobi).

Rapporteur: Eurostat

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE: None

Activities of the ECE Committee on Human Settlements: The biannual questionnaire on human settlements is used to collect data needed for the annual "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)*):

Analysis and dissemination of housing statistics. Maintenance of database for housing statistics

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division: Publication and preparation (in cooperation with UN Centre for human Settlements) of the Compendium of Human Settlements Statistics and the second version of the Statistical Database on Housing and Human Settlements (DATAHOUSE) (in 1999).

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements:

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States:

(i) Improving the system of indicators for the housing market;
(ii) finalizing CIS-STAT proposals in the light of international statistical practice to improve indicators relating to the availability of housing and movements in the housing stock (fourth quarter of 1999); (iii) Report on the formation of the housing market and housing conditions of the urban population in Commonwealth countries (October 1999).

4.13 STATISTICS OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURES, OF THE WELFARE OF THE POPULATION, AND OF POVERTY AND INCOME STATISTICS

Objectives over the next several years: 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.

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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: nothing

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 plenary session: None

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001:

Eurostat: Working Group: Poverty, 20-21 September 1999

Rapporteur: Eurostat.

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE: None

Activities of OECD:

a) **Benefit Systems and Work Incentives:** Bi-annual Publication 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 containing 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/socpol/BenefitsCompendium/index.htm>.

b) Maintenance of a database/econometric model used for calculating net replacement rates and gross replacement rates for out of work persons, across a variety of different circumstances, in OECD countries.

- c) Social Expenditure Database: In co-operation with Eurostat for EU-countries, annual collection and dissemination of expenditure data grouped in 13 categories.
- d) Further development and actualisation of dataset on net social expenditure indicators and voluntary private social benefits.
- e) Finalisation of a report on trends on recipients of selected social expenditure programmes.
- f) Finalisation of a report on "income distribution and poverty in selected OECD countries". This report will draw on national responses (based on survey and fiscal data) to a standardised OECD questionnaire on incomes and poverty and distribution indicators, using a common set of definitions and methodology.

Activities of Eurostat: (*Themes 36 - Distribution of income and living conditions (363), 37 - Social protection*):

Income, poverty and social exclusion: Development of an information system in the domain on statistics on social exclusion and poverty in the context of the analysis of living conditions using data from the European Household Panel, Household Budget Surveys, Social Protection data; An initial report on social exclusion and poverty should be produced for end 1999. This report will be followed up at regular intervals. Development of methodological tools with a view to developing common definitions especially for income; Liaison with external and internal users for the provision of data for research purposes and participation in projects on the harmonisation of income concepts and nomenclatures; Three Task Force meetings should result in a set of recommendations on income concepts and definitions, measurement of poverty, statistical definitions of social exclusion and reporting on poverty and social exclusion.

Social protection: The following measures will be carried out in 1999: continuation of the implementation of the SESPROS 1996 methodology; exploitation of detailed results (data by regime); dissemination of data: NewCronos domain (plus qualitative information); publication/CD-ROM; continuation of analyses of the impact and efficiency of the various systems (link with SESPROS and ECHP data). Collection and validation of 1997/98 data. As part of the work on "quality of service to users", improve the link of SESPROS statistics with qualitative information on the description of national social security systems. Extension of the system of replacement rates (and updating of the existing system).

The following actions will form part of the programme on active labour market policies: Presentation and discussion of results of pilot data collection, including analysis of the quality of the data. Proposal for improvement and possibly for extension. Integration of Task Force comments; Launch second data collection. Presentation of results of second data collection including analysis of the quality of the data and proposal for improvements. Complementarity and co-ordination with other databases.

Activities of other organizations:

UN Statistics Division: (i) Research work on household sector accounting including household satellite accounting; (ii) Regional workshops on informal sector statistics and supporting the efforts of the Delhi group on informal sector statistics; (iii) Methodological work in the wider field of social indicators.

ILO: (i) Compiling and publishing of data on household income and expenditures; (ii) Update of Sources and Methods: Labour Statistics, Volume 6 - Household income and expenditure; (iii) Update of the current international guidelines in this area; (iv) Participate in Eurostat's work on the revision of the "Guidelines on Statistics of Distribution of Income, Consumption, and Accumulation of Households (IDG)"; and (v) 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).

World Bank: The Bank Provides financial support for household surveys through the World bank loans, grants or trust funds in many countries of the ECE region. In addition, the World Bank is collaborating with the IMF on the implementation of the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS). A GDDS seminar for ECE countries is planned for July 1999.

The Household Income Statistics Group: Contact persons: (1) Mr. McLennan, Australian Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics, P.O. Box. 10, Belconnen A.C.T.2616 Australia, tel.: 61-6-252-7911, fax: 61-6-253-1328; (2) Mr. Harry Kroon, ABS, Australian Bureau of Statistics, e-mail: harry.kroon@abs; (3) Mr. Paul van der Laan, Statistics Netherlands, e-mail plan@cbs.nl

International Association for Research on Income and Wealth (IARIW): See the IARIW Web site: <http://www.ccon.nyu.edu/dept/iariw>

Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States: (i) Collection, processing and analysis of data (quarterly and annual) on household monetary income and consumption expenditure patterns, on the minimum consumer budget (minimum subsistence level) for countries where this indicator is used to assess standards of living, and on the stratification of the population by average per capita income; (ii) Household budget surveys: Recommendations concerning methods of estimating nominal and real incomes from household members' private businesses; (iii) Reports on living conditions and nutrition in Commonwealth countries.

4.14 STATISTICS ON POPULATION GROUPS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Objectives over the next several years: 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).

Expected collective output in the next two years: 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): 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; (iii) a series of country reports on the social and economic conditions of older persons in selected ECE member states; (iv) development of a research agenda; and (v) elaboration of appropriate methodology, for the study of the behaviour and conditions of certain groups of special interest. In the field of research into the behaviour and conditions of different generations: (i) agreements on research and related data collection priorities with national and regional partners; (ii) evaluation of experiences with the research and data collection in the fields of fertility and the family and of population ageing and older persons in the 1990s; (iii) development of an agenda for the research into the behaviour and conditions of different generations; and (iv) 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: nothing

Recommended decisions by the Conference at the 1999 plenary session:

- To approve the Population Activities Unit's (PAU) planned work programme on a provisional basis, pending further examination and review by the Bureau of the amended version of the work plan that the PAU is to prepare for the Bureau's autumn 1999 meeting.

Meetings from July 1999 to June 2001:

Meetings convened by the ECE Population Activities Unit:

ECE (PAU): Seminar on the economic implications of population ageing to precede the 1999 Annual session of the ECE, April 1999, Geneva.

ECE (PAU)/UNFPA/NIA: Scientific conference on the social and economic status of older persons, December 1999, Sion.

Rapporteur: Not applicable

Activities and means from July 1999 to June 2001:

Activities of ECE:

Activities of the ECE's Population Activities Unit: (subject to relevant decisions and availability of requisite funds):

a) Population ageing and the status of older persons: Data collection, standardisation and dissemination: Work on the release and maintenance of the collection of census samples 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.

b) Research, training and technical assistance: (i) Studies on the consequences of disordered cohort flows in transition countries and on non-traditional living arrangements in old age; results to be reported at the Spring Seminar that will precede the 1999 annual session of the Economic Commission for Europe and at the 1999 Conference on the status of older persons; selected results will also be published in the Economic Survey of Europe; (ii) Development of a research agenda; and (iii) elaboration of appropriate methodology, for the study of the behaviour and conditions of certain groups of special interest.

c) Publication and dissemination: A series of country reports on population ageing will be and extended beyond the six countries included in the current work programme.

d) Scientific conferences: A conference on the social and economic status of older persons will be convened in December 1999 in Sion, bringing together scholars and policy makers; a one-day seminar on the economic implications of population ageing will precede the 1999 Annual session of the Economic Commission for Europe, and will focus on, inter alia, the implications of population ageing for social security systems and pension schemes.

ECE (PAU) regular budget secretariat resources: Substantial (Note that most of the work carried out by the PAU in this Programme Element is funded by extra-budgetary resources.)

Activities of OECD: See Programme Element 4.1 for OECD activities related to the elderly, the disabled, families, etc.

Activities of Eurostat: None

Activities of other organizations:**The ILO:**

a) 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.

b) 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.

c) 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.

Council of Europe: The project "The demographic situation of national minorities in Europe".

ANNEX

**Priority menu of the CES for 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 in Programme Activity 4
 (Social and demographic statistics)**

a) July 1999 - June 2000

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS PRIORITY MENU FOR 1999/2000			
Programme element	Substantive action required of the ECE secretariat	Major coordination required	Output for the plenary session 2000
4.2 Gender statistics	- Preparation of the ECE-INSTRAW joint work session	INSTRAW	- Report
4.6 Health statistics	- Preparatory meeting for the 2001/2002 joint meeting	- WHO and WHO/Europe	- Report
4.10 Labour statistics	- Preparation of the joint ECE-ILO(-Eurostat) Seminar on Quality of Employment (May 2000)	- ILO (Eurostat)	- Report
4.11 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration and fertility)	- Preparation of the annual migration matrices - Preparation of the ECE-Eurostat work session on migration statistics	- Eurostat, UNSD - Eurostat, ESCWA	- Matrices - Report

b) July 2000 - June 2001

WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS PRIORITY MENU FOR 2000/2001			
Programme element	Substantive action required of the ECE secretariat	Major coordination required	Output for the plenary session 2000
4.2 Gender statistics	- Preparation of the work session (jointly with INSTRAW and UNSD)	- Eurostat and UNSD	- Report
4.10 Culture Statistics	- Preparation of the work session (jointly with Eurostat and UNESCO)	- UNESCO and Eurostat	- Report
4.11 Demographic statistics (projections, migration and fertility)	- Preparation of the annual migration matrices	- Eurostat, UNSD	- Matrices
