



**Economic and Social  
Council**

Distr.  
GENERAL

CES/1999/INF.1  
10 March 1999

ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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

**GENERAL INFORMATION NOTICE FOR PARTICIPANTS**

Date and venue of the plenary session

1. At the invitation of the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO), which the Conference of European Statisticians accepted at its 1998 plenary session, the 1999 plenary session of the Conference will take place in Neuchâtel from 14 to 16 June 1999. The Conference will be held at the Cantonal Parliament House, Château, 2001 Neuchâtel.

Visas for entry in Switzerland

2. Anyone planning to attend the plenary session who requires a visa to enter Switzerland should contact the Swiss embassy or consulate in their country to obtain the visa. When requesting the visa, they should specify on their application that the purpose of their journey is to participate in the 1999 UN/ECE meeting of the Conference of European Statisticians which will take place at the Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO) in Neuchâtel. Participants may also use the official invitation letter sent to them by the SFSO for that purpose.

### Transportation to and from Neuchâtel

#### **By train:**

3. There are direct train connections between Zurich Airport and Neuchâtel and also between Geneva Airport and Neuchâtel. The trip from Zurich lasts about two and one-half hours, and the one from Geneva lasts about one and one-half hours. There is also a TGV line that directly links Paris and Neuchâtel (about a 4 hour trip).

4. There is a train that leaves Zurich airport and Geneva airport for Neuchâtel once every hour. The current schedules are shown in the Annex. It should be noted, however, that these schedules are subject to change. Neuchâtel is also accessible by train from Basel and Bern which have international airports. An on-line timetable of the Swiss Federal Railways is available on the Web: <http://www.cff.ch/pv/index-f.htm> or <http://www.sbb.ch/pv/index-e.htm>.

#### **By road:**

Highway A5 Geneva - Neuchâtel (128km)

Highway A1 Zurich-Berne-Morat, continuation on semi-highway to Neuchâtel (150km)

### Transportation in Neuchâtel

5. From the train station, participants may reach the Château where the Conference will meet either by taxi, on foot (a 15 minute walk) or by taking the bus. Participants who decide to travel by bus should take a Number 6 bus from the train station (Direction Place Pury) to the stop called "Place Pury", then walk uphill from there to the Château, and follow the brown signs indicating the direction to take to reach the "Château/Collégiale". It is recommended that participants not travel by car as there is a very limited number of parking spaces in the vicinity of the Chateau.

6. The SFSO building is situated next to the train station.

7. Most hotels are within walking distance from the Château or from the SFSO building.

### Registration

8. Participants will be issued a Conference badge when they register at the Registration Desk upon their arrival at the Château. To facilitate this process, it is important that countries inform the ECE Secretariat (Fax 4122 917-0040; e-mail: [conference.stat@unece.org](mailto:conference.stat@unece.org)) at least two weeks prior to the meeting who the participants will be. Delegates should arrive at the Chateau about 30-45 minutes before the session is scheduled to start in order to allow time for all the participants to register.

9. Participants will be asked to complete the registration forms at the registration desk, prior to the commencement of the plenary session. These forms will also be used as the basis for preparing the provisional list of participants.

#### Official languages of the session

10. The meeting room will be equipped with simultaneous interpretation equipment, and interpretation will be provided into and from the three official working languages of the UN/ECE (English, French and Russian).

#### Conference Documents

11. In addition to the present document, general information on the Conference will be made available on the SFSO Web site that has been created especially for this meeting: <http://www.admin.ch/bfs/about/international/cse/cse99.htm>

12. Conference documents will also be made available on the ECE secretariat's Web site for the meeting: <http://www.unece.org/stats/documents/1999.06.ces.htm> (English / French / Russian)

#### Secretariat Office

13. During the Conference, the Secretariat of the Conference will be situated in the office "Philippe de Hochberg" in the Château. Participants may contact the ECE Secretariat at any time during regular meeting hours in this office.

14. Delegates can receive urgent messages during the meeting at the following numbers: Telephone: + 41 32 889-4040; Fax: + 41 32 889-6062; Email: [CSE-OFS@ne.ch](mailto:CSE-OFS@ne.ch).

#### Telephones and communications

15. For outgoing calls, public telephone booths are available in the main entrance hall of the Château. The equipment provided by hotels can also be used for such communication.

16. Mail can be addressed to the participants at the following address:

Mr. / Mrs. (name of the delegate)  
Delegate of (country / organisation) at the CES  
c/o Chancellerie d'Etat  
Château  
CH - 2001 Neuchâtel

### Coffee

17. During coffee breaks, tea and coffee will be offered by the SFSO during the Conference.

### Restaurants

18. The Château does not have a cafeteria or restaurant on the premises. However, there are several restaurants in the vicinity of the Chateau. Participants will also be provided with a list of restaurants in the old town of Neuchâtel that are within walking distance of the Château.

### Hotel and travel arrangements

19. Participants are requested to make their own travel and hotel arrangements. Travel and hotel costs will have to be met by the participants themselves. Participants will have to pay for their hotel rooms directly before their departure.

20. It is recommended that participants make their hotel reservations as soon as possible as the demand for hotel accommodation in June in Neuchâtel is usually very high.

21. The Congress Service of the Tourism Office in Neuchâtel has a list of hotels of various classes available, and will make reservations for Conference participants at discount prices at the hotels of their choice. In order to benefit from these preferential rates, participants have to use the hotel registration form presented in Annex II and send it to the Congress Service. For further information, the Congress Service can be contacted at the following numbers:

Telephone: + 41 32 889-6890

Fax: + 41 32 889-6296

E-mail: [tourisme.neuchatel@ne.ch](mailto:tourisme.neuchatel@ne.ch)

### Social activities

22. The SFSO has the pleasure to announce that an aperitif will be offered by the Conseil d'Etat of Neuchâtel (local Government) on Monday 14 June immediately after the end of the Conference proceedings. A guided tour of the Château will also be provided at that time.

23. On Tuesday 15 June evening, the SFSO is inviting the participants to the reception it will offer in its new premises in Neuchâtel. During the apéritif that will precede, interested participants may also have a guided tour of the building. On the ground floor, they will discover the exhibition the SFSO will be hosting throughout 1999, which celebrates the new population size of 6 billion persons the world population reached this year.

24. Finally, for interested participants and accompanying persons, a brochure on activities in the city and region of Neuchâtel will also be made available by the SFSO. Further information can be obtained directly from the Tourism Office in Neuchâtel (Telephone : + 41 32 889-6890; Fax : + 41 32 889-6296; e-mail: [tourisme.neuchatelois@ne.ch](mailto:tourisme.neuchatelois@ne.ch)). Participants may also wish to refer to other information that is available on the Web site of the Neuchâtel Tourism Office : <http://www.etatne.ch>

25. Monday evening will be free. For those participants interested, it is also possible to organise at their own cost an evening excursion/dinner in the nearby hills above Neuchâtel, from where one has the most striking view over the three connecting lakes (funicular railways, panoramic tower and restaurant). However, this possibility will depend on the number of participants, and it will be necessary to make special reservation in advance for such an event. The SFSO therefore asks participants to indicate on the inscription sheet (hotel reservation) if they would like to take advantage of this opportunity.

#### Other practical information

##### **Post and bank**

There are several banks and post offices in the centre of Neuchâtel, within easy walking distance of the Château and most hotels. The Central Post Office is situated in front of the train station. The main post office downtown is the "Hôtel des postes", where the Tourism Office is also located.

Opening hours for post offices are Monday-Friday 07.30-18.30 (Saturday 08.00-11.00), and for banks they are Monday-Friday 08.15/9.00-16.30 (17.30 on Thursdays). There is also a money change office in the railway station that operates from 06.00-21.00 seven days a week.

##### **Emergencies**

Police	Tel. 117
Police Neuchâtel	Tel. 032/722-2222
Car rescue (TCS)	Tel.140
Fire	Tel.118
Ambulances	Tel.144

##### **Taxis**

Taxis are available at the Neuchâtel Railway Station and downtown.

##### **Shopping**

Monday-Friday 08.30-(12.00/14.00)-18.30 (20.00 on Thursdays)  
Saturday 08.00-17.00

##### **Lost and found office**

Faubourg de l'Hôpital 6, Tel. 032/722-2222

**ANNEX I : Train schedules as of January 1999**

(Note: The times indicated below are subject to change between now and June)

<b>ZURICH / AIRPORT – NEUCHÂTEL</b>							
From		To		From		To	
Zürich Airport (2)	5.36 (3)	Neuchâtel	7.53	Neuchâtel	5.38 (1)	Zürich Airport (2)	8.20
Zürich Airport	6.39	Neuchâtel	8.58	Neuchâtel	6.01 (1)	Zürich Airport	8.20
Zürich Airport	7.39	Neuchâtel	9.53	Neuchâtel	7.01	Zürich Airport	9.20
Zürich Airport	8.39	Neuchâtel	10.58	Neuchâtel	8.06	Zürich Airport	10.20
Zürich Airport	9.39	Neuchâtel	11.53	Neuchâtel	9.01	Zürich Airport	11.20
Zürich Airport	10.39	Neuchâtel	12.58	Neuchâtel	10.06	Zürich Airport	12.20
Zürich Airport	11.39	Neuchâtel	13.53	Neuchâtel	11.01	Zürich Airport	13.20
Zürich Airport	12.39	Neuchâtel	14.58	Neuchâtel	12.06	Zürich Airport	14.20
Zürich Airport	13.39	Neuchâtel	15.53	Neuchâtel	13.01	Zürich Airport	15.20
Zürich Airport	14.39	Neuchâtel	16.58	Neuchâtel	14.06	Zürich Airport	16.20
Zürich Airport	15.39	Neuchâtel	17.53	Neuchâtel	15.01	Zürich Airport	17.20
Zürich Airport	16.39	Neuchâtel	18.58	Neuchâtel	16.06	Zürich Airport	18.20
Zürich Airport	17.39	Neuchâtel	19.53	Neuchâtel	17.01	Zürich Airport	19.20
Zürich Airport	18.39	Neuchâtel	20.58	Neuchâtel	18.06	Zürich Airport	20.20
Zürich Airport	19.39 (1)	Neuchâtel	21.58	Neuchâtel	19.01	Zürich Airport	21.20
Zürich Airport	20.39	Neuchâtel	22.58	Neuchâtel	20.06	Zürich Airport	22.20
Zürich Airport	21.39 (1)	Neuchâtel	0.12	Neuchâtel	21.01 (3)	Zürich Airport	23.16

(1) Change in Biel/Bienne

(2) = Zurich Flughafen, not Zurich Hauptbahnhof

(3) Change in Zurich Hauptbahnhof

<b>GENEVA / AIRPORT - NEUCHÂTEL</b>							
From		To		From		To	
Geneva Airport	6.31 (2)	Neuchâtel	8.05	Neuchâtel	5.54 (1)	Geneva Airport	7.29
Geneva Airport	7.31 (2)	Neuchâtel	9.05	Neuchâtel	6.54	Geneva Airport	8.23
Geneva Airport	8.37	Neuchâtel	10.05	Neuchâtel	7.54	Geneva Airport	9.23
Geneva Airport	9.37	Neuchâtel	11.05	Neuchâtel	8.54	Geneva Airport	10.23
Geneva Airport	10.37	Neuchâtel	12.05	Neuchâtel	9.54	Geneva Airport	11.23
Geneva Airport	11.37	Neuchâtel	13.05	Neuchâtel	10.54 (2)	Geneva Airport	12.31
Geneva Airport	12.37	Neuchâtel	14.05	Neuchâtel	11.54	Geneva Airport	13.23
Geneva Airport	13.37	Neuchâtel	15.05	Neuchâtel	12.54	Geneva Airport	14.23
Geneva Airport	14.37	Neuchâtel	16.05	Neuchâtel	13.54	Geneva Airport	15.23
Geneva Airport	15.37	Neuchâtel	17.05	Neuchâtel	14.54	Geneva Airport	16.23
Geneva Airport	16.37	Neuchâtel	18.05	Neuchâtel	15.54	Geneva Airport	17.23
Geneva Airport	17.37	Neuchâtel	19.05	Neuchâtel	16.54	Geneva Airport	18.23
Geneva Airport	18.37	Neuchâtel	20.05	Neuchâtel	17.54	Geneva Airport	19.23
Geneva Airport	19.37	Neuchâtel	21.05	Neuchâtel	18.54	Geneva Airport	20.23
Geneva Airport	20.17 (3)	Neuchâtel	21.59	Neuchâtel	19.54	Geneva Airport	21.23
Geneva Airport	21.09 (3)	Neuchâtel	22.59	Neuchâtel	21.00 (3)	Geneva Airport	22.43
Geneva Airport	22.09 (3)	Neuchâtel	23.59	Neuchâtel	22.00 (3)	Geneva Airport	23.43

(1) Change in Renens (VD), arr.6.41 / dep.6.44

(2) Change in Geneva

(3) Via Lausanne, change in Lausanne

<b>PARIS - NEUCHÂTEL</b>							
From		To		From		To	
Paris (Lyon)	7.18 (1)	Neuchâtel	11.24	Neuchâtel	7.33 (1)	Paris (Lyon)	11.27
Paris (Lyon)	16.52	Neuchâtel	20.49	Neuchâtel	9.05	Paris (Lyon)	13.09
Paris (Lyon)	17.52 (1)	Neuchâtel	22.04	Neuchâtel	17.40 (1)	Paris (Lyon)	21.50

(1) Change in Frasne

**ANNEX II****HOTEL BOOKING****TOURISME NEUCHÂTELOIS-LITTORAL****Case postale 1374****2001 Neuchâtel****Please fax / mail before April 30, 1999 to :****Fax : ++41 (0)32 / 889 62 96****e-mail : tourisme.neuchâtelois@ne.ch****Please reserve :****Single room****Double room****Category :** ..... (See room price-list below)**Date of arrival :** .....**Date of departure :** .....☐ **Travel by plane + train**    ☐ **Travel by plane + car****Full name :** .....**Postal address :** .....**Telephone :** ..... **Fax :** .....**e-mail :** .....**The tourism Office will need your credit card number to confirm your booking :****Type of credit card :** ..... **No.** .....**Expiry date :** .....Please indicate here if you are interested in participating in the Monday evening excursion/dinner (see para. 25 of the information notice)    ☐ **Yes**    ☐ **No**    ☐ **Possibly**    **Number of persons:** .....

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**Cancellation procedure :** If you cancel your reservation  
between 10 and 6 days before the event, 50 % of room price will be charged  
between 5 and 2 days before the event, 80 % will be charged  
less than 2 days before the event, 100 % will be charged.

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**Place and date :****Signature :**

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**Room rates, including breakfast, service and taxes****1 9 9 9**

	<b>Category</b>	<b>Single room</b>	<b>Double room</b>
<b>in Neuchâtel</b>	A*****	230.--	270.--
	B*****	160.--	230.--
	C***	90.-- / 125.--	145.-- / 181.--
	D**	86.-- / 118.--	140.-- / 165.--
	F Cité universitaire with shower	55.--	
<b>Surroundings of Neuchâtel</b>	G ****	150.--	210.--
	H ***	105.--	160.--
	I **	80.-- / 95.--	120.-- / 160.--
	K with shower	70.-- / 80.--	110.--
(15 Min. by car)			

**We will send you a confirmation of your booking latest 2 weeks before the event.**  
**In principe, no mail will be sent before that date.**