

United Nations
**ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Nations Unies
**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL**

UNRESTRICTED

E/CN.3/C.1/12
2 March 1949

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATISTICAL COMMISSION
COMMITTEE ON STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION
Third session, 20 April 1949
Geneva

PROGRESS REPORT ON CLASSIFICATION OF OCCUPATIONS

Paper prepared by the International Labour Organisation for consideration
under item 3 of the provisional agenda

1. At the third session of the Statistical Commission the International Labour Office presented a brief oral statement of the progress of work on the International Standard Classification of Occupations, and circulated a list of the groups on which agreement had been reached at a Preliminary Meeting of Statistical Experts on Occupations held in Montreal in April 1948.
2. Subsequently the International Labour Office addressed a circular letter to the statistical offices of the different governments enclosing a copy of this draft classification of occupations and inviting observations. In particular, a request was made that comments be given on certain suggestions looking towards the sub-division of two of the major groups, as well as on the feasibility of reclassifying the census materials on occupations available in the particular country. To date replies have been received from thirty-seven countries.
3. A report summarizing these observations and proposing modifications in the draft classification of occupations to take account of the various proposals and suggestions made by the statistical offices of the different governments has been prepared for a second Preliminary Meeting of Statistical Experts called for 9 May 1949 in Geneva. At this meeting it is hoped that substantial agreement will be reached on the outlines of an international standard classification of occupations. After the meeting, a revised report taking into account the discussions and suggestions made at this meeting will be prepared for the Seventh International Conference of Labour Statisticians to be held in Geneva in October 1949.
4. This note will be supplemented by an oral statement by the representative of the International Labour Organisation attending the fourth session of the Statistical Commission.
5. Copies of the document prepared for the 9 May 1949 meeting will be available for examination by members of the Statistical Commission.