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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Executive Committee

#### **Ninety-fifth meeting**

Geneva, 11 December 2017

Item 4(b) of the provisional agenda

#### **Matters relating to the Conference**

#### **of European Statisticians:**

#### **decisions on matters relating**

#### **to the Conference of European Statisticians**

## **Decision approving the Mandates and Terms of Reference of the Teams of Specialists under the Conference of European Statisticians**

### *Background*

1. At its sixty-fourth session (Paris, 27–29 April 2016) and sixty-fifth session (Geneva, 19–21 June 2017), the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) decided to establish the following Teams of Specialists:

- (a) Steering Group on statistics for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- (b) Steering Group on poverty and inequality;
- (c) Steering Group on population and housing censuses;
- (d) Steering Group on consumer price indices;
- (e) Task Force on exchange and sharing of economic data;
- (f) Task Force on education satellite accounts;
- (g) Task Force on measuring old-age population in institutions;
- (h) Task Force on waste statistics.

2. The Conference of European Statisticians further decided to extend the mandate of the High-level Group for the modernization of official statistics (HLG-MOS).

3. The Steering Groups are composed of countries' experts that guide the work of the Secretariat. They are created in areas where there is a need for strategic development of statistical work, following the Rules governing the work of the Conference, its Bureau and Teams of Specialists (ECE/CES/2007/8). Task Forces are created to accomplish concrete tasks within 2–3 years after which they cease to exist. Steering Groups and Task Forces work mainly by email and teleconferences, and will meet only on the occasion of relevant expert meetings. The creation of the groups has no budget implications for the United Nations secretariat.

4. The Executive Committee is invited to approve the mandates and terms of references of the above Teams of Specialists as contained in the annexes to the present document.

***Draft Decision***

5. The Executive Committee hereby approves the mandates and terms of references of the following Teams of Specialists established under the Conference of European Statisticians, as contained in the annexes to the present document:

(a) Steering Group on statistics for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (see Annex I) for the period 2018–2022;

(b) Steering Group on poverty and inequality (see Annex II) for the period 2018–2022;

(c) Steering Group on population and housing censuses (see Annex III) for the period 2018–2022;

(d) Steering Group on consumer price indices (see Annex IV) for the period 2018–2022;

(e) Task Force on exchange and sharing of economic data (see Annex V) for the period 2018–2020;

(f) Task Force on education satellite accounts (see Annex VI) for the period from 2018–2019;

(g) Task Force on measuring old-age population in institutions (see Annex VII) for the period of 2018–2019;

(h) Task Force on waste statistics (see Annex VIII) for the period 2018–2020.

6. The Executive Committee further approves the renewal of the mandate of the High-level Group for the modernization of official statistics (HLG-MOS) (see Annex IX) for the period 2018–2022.

**Annex I**

[English only]

**Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group on statistics for Sustainable Development Goals****A. Background**

1. The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) decided to “launch work on a road map for the development of official statistics for monitoring SDGs.” The Conference further specified that this road map could include:

(a) An outline of the setup of providing statistics on SDGs (who does what and when);

(b) Identification of new areas of statistics where internationally harmonized indicators need to be developed in cooperation with international organizations, academia, civil society, and other stakeholders;

(c) A strategy on how to reinforce communication with other data providers and users of official statistics, including policy makers;

(d) A strategy on how to deal with the required disaggregations of data;

(e) A plan for the necessary capacity building for reporting on SDGs;

(f) Collaboration between various international agencies in the region.

2. Several ongoing global processes related to the implementation of SDGs call for action at regional level, such as:

(a) Regional input to the work of the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) which will have a central role in overseeing the processes at the global level and “will facilitate sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, and provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for follow-up. It will promote system-wide coherence and coordination of sustainable development policies”;

(b) Input to the Interagency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs);

(c) Input to the High Level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for Agenda 2030 (HLG-PCCB) that will establish a global action plan for data for the follow up and review of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development.

**B. Mandate**

3. The work of the Steering Group is conducted within the CES work programme. The Steering Group is created for a period of five years. It will provide regular reports to the Bureau and CES.

4. The work of the Steering Group will reflect the work of the HLG-PCCB and IAEG-SDGs operating under the UN Statistical Commission to provide a link with the developments at the global level. It will take into account the guidance given by the UN Secretary General on the global follow-up and review process.

5. The Steering Group may identify concrete tasks or activities to support its work that could be undertaken by groups of experts (Task Forces). In such cases, after having verified

the interest by a sufficient number of CES member countries and the availability of resources, the Steering Group will submit proposals to the CES Bureau for review and approval.

6. The Steering Group may identify opportunities to brief the UNECE Executive Committee and other relevant regional policy bodies to ensure that the work and products of the CES relating to SDGs fully reflect the policy priorities of the UNECE region. Communication with all relevant stakeholders (including the policy community) will be crucial.

### **C. Objective**

7. The objectives of the Steering Group are:

(a) To follow up on the implementation of the CES road map on statistics for SDGs. The road map provides a strategy on how to implement a system for producing data on SDGs, and guide the CES members in implementing the *Declaration on the role of national statistical offices in measuring and monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals* (ECE/CES/89/Add.1) adopted by the Conference in 2015;

(b) To update and adjust the road map to reflect global developments and progress at regional and national levels.

### **D. Planned activities and outputs**

8. Building on already existing collaborative efforts in the UNECE region, the Steering Group will:

(a) Maintain a road map including concrete actions and priorities for the development of official statistics for SDGs under CES;

(b) Implement activities of the road map, such as:

(i) Outline the mechanism for providing statistics for SDGs (who does what and when);

(ii) Analyse the need and establish criteria for a set of regional indicators for SDGs, based on the global ones;

(iii) Identify new areas where methodological work could be undertaken to provide statistics for SDGs under CES and as an input to the global initiatives. The Steering Group may propose to the CES Bureau to set up Task Forces to carry out specific tasks;

(iv) Develop a strategy on how to reinforce communication with other data providers and users of official statistics, including policy makers;

(v) Develop a strategy on how to deal with the recommended disaggregations of data following the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and ensuring data quality;

(vi) Define the necessary capacity building for CES member countries for providing statistics for SDGs;

(vii) Identify the relevant partners throughout the process and ensure coordination of activities; and

(viii) Promote collaboration between various international agencies, scientists and other data producers on SDGs (e.g. through the UN World Data Forum) to ensure efficient data flows and avoid double reporting.

(c) Coordinate the CES work on statistics for SDGs using a bottom-up approach, and in close collaboration with Eurostat and OECD;

(d) Advise the UNECE Secretariat on statistical capacity building activities in support of SDGs. These activities should be closely coordinated with other regional partners;

(e) Promote the sharing of methods, techniques, research, training materials and other resources related to statistics for SDGs.

(f) Review progress and outcomes of possible CES tasks forces working in the area of statistics for SDGs.

9. The main outputs of the Steering Group will be:

(a) Updated road map for the development of official statistics for SDGs, taking into account the priorities of CES member countries and their needs;

(b) An assessment of the readiness of CES members to provide data on the global and possible regional list of indicators;

(c) An analysis of statistical capacity building needs of CES countries for SDGs;

(d) Identification of new areas where methodological work is needed to produce statistics for SDGs, and the establishment of priorities.

## **E. Methods of work**

10. The Steering Group will primarily work via email, wiki workspace and telephone conferences. Face-to-face meetings may be organised at events attended by a significant number of Steering Group members, such as the plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians and other meetings.

## **F. Membership**

11. The following countries and organizations are members of the Steering Group: Switzerland (co-chair), United States (co-chair), Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, Eurostat and The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Other countries and organizations may also join the Steering Group as the work progresses.

12. UNECE will act as Secretariat to the Steering Group.

**Annex II**

[English only]

**Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group on measuring poverty and inequality****A. Background**

1. The UNECE Statistical Division has been involved in poverty statistics since the in-depth review of this topic by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in November 2012. Four expert seminars, a high level seminar for the Heads of statistical offices, and four capacity-building workshops on poverty measurement were held in 2013 - 2017. A Guide on poverty measurement was prepared and endorsed by the CES in 2017.

2. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development emphasizes the importance of measuring poverty, inequality and vulnerability, in particular its goals 1 ('End poverty in all its forms everywhere') and 10 ('Reduce inequalities within and among countries'). The current issues countries face include the lack of data sources for the calculation and disaggregation of SDG indicators, the need to clarify definitions for a number of indicators and to address the differences between national and international methodologies and definitions as well as to harmonize and standardize data to streamline their collection and processing. The principle of "leaving no one behind" requires capturing the hard-to-reach population, yet another challenge in collecting SDG data.

3. The UNECE expert seminars and workshops on poverty measurement have highlighted the many challenges in meeting policymakers' information needs in this area. Participants have emphasized the importance of setting priorities for the necessary methodological development. The 2017 seminar proposed establishing a Steering Group to advance methodological work on measuring poverty and inequality, prepare expert meetings to discuss progress in this area, and follow up on the implementation of methodological guidance.

**B. Mandate**

4. The Steering Group on measuring poverty and inequality is created for a period of five years. It will regularly report to the CES and its Bureau. The Steering Group may identify priority areas where methodological work could be further undertaken by groups of experts (task forces). In such cases, after having verified the interest by a sufficient number of CES member countries and the availability of resources, the Steering Group will submit proposals to the CES Bureau for review and approval.

**C. Objective**

5. The objective of the Steering Group will be to provide direction to the CES work on poverty and inequality statistics, advance methodological development, capacity building and collaboration between users and producers of poverty and inequality statistics, and provide a mechanism for following up on the implementation of the CES guidance.

## **D. Planned activities and outputs**

6. The following activities and outputs are planned:
  - (a) Take forward methodological work on measuring poverty and inequality, and set priorities in this area taking into account the challenges in producing indicators for monitoring of the 2030 Agenda;
  - (b) Oversee the work on developing disaggregated poverty measures.
  - (c) Follow up on the implementation of the CES Guide on Poverty Measurement and the progress of countries in measuring poverty and inequalities;
  - (d) Organize the UNECE expert meetings on measuring poverty and inequality; elaborate proposals for topics and solicit session organizers and discussants;
  - (e) Advise the UNECE Secretariat on the planning of capacity building activities in the area of poverty and inequality statistics to support the statistical systems in the countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia.
7. The Steering Group will ensure coordination of the CES work on poverty and inequality statistics with Eurostat, OECD, the World Bank and the leading research group of Oxford University on poverty measurement (OPHI), other relevant bodies and with current developments related to the monitoring of poverty under the Sustainable Development Goals.

## **E. Methods of work**

8. The Steering Group will work mainly via e-mail consultations and teleconferences. The Group will also have face-to-face meetings in conjunction with the annual UNECE expert meetings on poverty and inequality statistics.

## **F. Membership**

9. The following countries and organizations will participate in the Steering Group: United States (chair), Austria, Canada, Georgia, Italy, Poland, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Eurostat, OECD, United Nations Development Programme Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS, World Bank, Oxford Population and Human Development Initiative. If necessary, other experts and agencies can also be consulted or asked to contribute, to consolidate the best available expertise.
10. UNECE will act as Secretariat to the Task Force.

**Annex III**

[English only]

**Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group on population and housing censuses****A. Background**

1. UNECE work in this area contributes to the ECOSOC resolution (E/RES/2015/10) “2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme”.
2. Between 2012 and 2015 the UNECE Steering Group on population and housing censuses coordinated the preparation of the Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations for the 2020 Censuses of Population and Housing. Nine Task Forces were working together with the Steering Group on the recommendations.
3. The Steering Group completed its task when CES adopted the new Recommendations for the 2020 round in June 2015. The new Recommendations are available in electronic form on the UNECE website.
4. To support countries in preparation for the 2020 Census round and implementation of the Recommendations, the CES decided to set up a Steering Group on population and housing censuses with new terms of reference. The Bureau also supported the preparation of new guidelines on the use of registers for population and housing censuses, and the organization of regional training workshops in the following areas: internet response; use of geographic information systems (GIS), mobile devices and other technology; data protection methods for disseminating small area data; methods to give access to microdata to researchers; and assessing quality of administrative sources.

**B. Mandate**

5. The Steering Group works under the mandate of the CES. It is created for a period of five years and reports regularly to the CES and its Bureau (at least every 18 months).
6. The Steering Group may identify concrete tasks or activities to support its work that could be undertaken by groups of experts (Task Forces). In such cases, after having verified the interest by a sufficient number of CES member countries and the availability of resources, the Steering Group will submit proposals to the CES Bureau for review and approval.

**C. Objective**

7. The main objective of the Steering Group is to coordinate, provide advice and contribute to the UNECE programme on population and housing censuses, aimed at supporting UNECE member countries in the preparations for the censuses of the 2020 round and the implementation of the CES Recommendations for the 2020 censuses of population and housing. The Steering Group will also coordinate the analysis of the outcome of 2020 censuses.

**D. Planned activities and outputs**

8. The following activities and outputs are planned:



(a) Act as organizing committee for the Joint UNECE-Eurostat expert meetings on censuses, aimed at facilitating the exchange of experiences among countries on census methodology, technology, census content, and other issues related to the implementation of the CES Recommendations for the 2020 census round;

(b) Guide and support the Secretariat in the organization (in cooperation with CIS-Stat and possibly other organizations) of regional workshops for countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA), and South-East Europe, primarily in the following areas: internet response; use of GIS, mobile devices and other technology; data protection methods for disseminating small area data; methods to give access to microdata to researchers; and assessing quality of administrative sources. The workshops should preferably take place back-to-back to the UNECE-Eurostat expert meetings to facilitate the participation of national experts in all events;

(c) Oversee the work on developing Guidelines on Register-Based and Combined Censuses;

(d) Ensure coordination and avoid duplication with the activities of the 2020 World Programme on Population and Housing Censuses, promoted by the United Nations Statistics Division, and those of Eurostat for the 2021 EU Census Programme.

## **E. Methods of work**

9. The Steering Group is expected to work in English only, mainly by e-mail and occasionally by telephone conferences. The UNECE Census Wiki can be used by the Steering Group to share material, develop documents, and organize discussion forums.

10. Informal meetings of the Steering Group can be organized on the occasion of expert meetings attended by a significant number of members of the Steering Group, such as the annual Joint UNECE-Eurostat expert meetings on censuses.

## **F. Membership**

11. The Steering Group includes representatives of the following countries and international organizations: Canada (chair), Armenia, France, Georgia, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT), Eurostat, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD).

12. UNECE will act as Secretariat to the Steering Group.

## **Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group on consumer price indices**

### **A. Background**

1. The Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in October 2016 discussed CES work on consumer price indices (CPIs) and emerging issues in this area. The Bureau noted that CPIs today are used for a variety of purposes and policy applications. The different uses of CPI and the interests of different user groups have to be taken into account when developing CPIs, for example by compiling additional measures to better serve the different purposes that CPI is used for.

2. The UNECE Secretariat is mainly involved in work on price statistics through the organization of the biennial meetings of the expert group on consumer price indices, jointly organized with the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The expert group meetings provide an important forum to exchange experiences and good practices in CPI compilation and to contribute to the development of international recommendations and guidelines on CPI. The Secretariat also provides technical assistance to countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) and South East Europe (SEE) on CPI compilation through workshops and special sessions.

### **B. Mandate**

4. The work of the Steering Group will be conducted within the CES work programme. The Steering Group may identify concrete tasks or activities to support its work that could be undertaken by groups of experts (Task Forces). The Steering Group is created for a period of five years. It will report to the Bureau on CES activities on CPIs, as well as on emerging issues in the area.

### **C. Objective**

5. The objective of the Steering Group is to guide the CES work on prices. To this end, the Steering Group should:

(a) Guide the Secretariat in the planning and organization of the biennial expert group meetings on CPI;

(b) Follow the development of recommendations and guidelines and their implementation, including collaborating on developing training materials etc.;

(c) Identify areas where additional work and research are needed to support countries in improving their price statistics, taking recommendations of the CES Bureau into account;

(d) Advise the Secretariat on capacity building activities to support the implementation of international recommendations and guidelines on CPIs in EECCA and SEE countries, taking the regional priorities and needs into account. Activities should be closely coordinated with regional and international partners; and

(e) Ensure consultation and coordination with the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Price Statistics (IWGPS) and other relevant groups on ongoing and planned activities in the area of CPI.

## **D. Planned activities and outputs**

6. The main activities and outputs of the Steering Group on CPIs in 2018-2022 will be the following:

(a) Review emerging issues related to CPIs in CES countries where work of the CES can provide value added;

(b) Guide the secretariat in the organization of the expert group meetings on CPI in 2018 and 2022;

(c) Advise the Secretariat in the preparation of regional workshops on CPI compilation for EECCA and SEE countries, for instance one planned to take place in 2019;

(d) Propose topics for the agenda of the 2020 and 2022 expert group meetings on CPI and guide the secretariat in the organization of the meetings;

(e) Advise the Secretariat on issues related to the updating of the CPI Manual, jointly prepared by Eurostat, OECD, International Monetary Fund (IMF), ILO and UNECE.

## **F. Methods of work**

8. The Steering Group will primarily work via electronic means. The Group will meet face-to-face on the occasion of the biennial meetings of the CPI Group of Experts. Additional meetings may be organized at events attended by a significant number of Steering Group members, such as the meetings of the Ottawa Group on price indices.

## **G. Membership**

9. The composition of the Steering Group should reflect the different sub-regions of UNECE and ensure continuity of work. The following countries and organizations have expressed interest in joining the Group: United Kingdom (chair), France, Georgia, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, South Africa, Switzerland, United States (BLS), Eurostat, CIS-STAT, International Labour Organization (ILO) and OECD. If needed, other countries and agencies can be invited to contribute to the work of the Group.

10. UNECE will act as Secretariat of the Steering Group.

## **Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Task Force on exchange and sharing of economic data**

### **A. Background**

3. To ensure continued meaningful and correct measurement of global production and trade, and to understand their influence on macro-economic and business statistics, many statistical offices are considering the possibilities for more effective exchange of data, especially on the most complex multinational enterprises (MNEs). New data exchange mechanisms may be needed, nationally and internationally, to enhance the coherence and relevance of economic statistics and the efficiency of their production. There is an urgent need to analyse the risks of data exchange and find the most efficient way to enable the necessary sharing of economic data (including information on business structures) in statistical production.

4. The Guide to Measuring Global Production, developed jointly by UNECE, Eurostat and OECD, identifies as a priority the need to develop new methods and sources for collecting and compiling statistics on the largest and most complex MNEs in a consistent and effective way. The Guide also notes the limits of national and international data sharing among producers of official statistics due to legal and confidentiality constraints, which in many cases seem to hamper the possibilities to improve the analysis of MNEs.

5. The 2015 and 2016 meetings of the joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Group of Experts on National Accounts recognized that data exchange is essential when looking for solutions to the challenges related to global production. Countries emphasized the need for data confrontation and exchange between the producers of economic statistics within a country and between countries to enable proper data validation and improve quality, relevance and consistency of data across domains. National circumstances, legal and technological challenges will need to be considered as well as possible risks, for example related to trust of respondents and the general public, and privacy issues.

6. In view of these developments, the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) carried out an in-depth review of the exchange and sharing of economic data in October 2016, based on a paper by Statistics Finland with inputs from a number of countries and organizations.

7. As an outcome of the review, the Bureau emphasized that national and international data exchange is a prerequisite for statisticians to be able to depict economic reality, profile multinational enterprises and provide meaningful data on their activities. The Bureau stressed the urgent need to operationalize the exchange of data between national statistical offices (NSOs), and asked a group of countries and organizations to identify key streams and priorities and develop terms of reference for a task force for further work in this area.

### **B. Mandate**

8. The Task Force reports to the CES and its Bureau. It is created for three years, from 2018 until 2020, after which it will submit a final report.

9. The results of the work will be discussed by the Group of Experts on National Accounts and the Group of Experts on Business Registers, as relevant. The Task Force will also consult the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) and the Advisory Expert Group (AEG) on National Accounts to ensure effective coordination of work.

### C. Objective

10. The objectives of the Task Force are twofold. At the first stage the Task Force will analyse the concrete examples of data exchange implemented by NSOs that help statisticians to depict economic reality, profile MNEs and provide meaningful data on their activities. Through these concrete examples, the Task Force will identify enablers and obstacles of data sharing and review the practical requirements of data exchange.

11. At the second stage, the Task Force will develop guidance, tools and principles to facilitate the exchange of economic data (including granular data and information on business structures) by NSOs. The guidance will also highlight innovative ways to exchange economic data to increase the quality, coherence and granularity of statistics and the ability to better analyse the activities of MNEs.

12. The work will build on existing national and international experience, including the results of related initiatives of UNSD, Eurostat, OECD, World Trade Organization (WTO) and IMF<sup>1</sup>. The Task Force will ensure coordination with and input to corresponding work undertaken by the Expert Group on International Trade and Economic Globalization Statistics (ITEGS), the G20 Data Gaps Initiative, Eurostat's Integrated Global Accounts (IGA) –projects, the CES Task Force on Common Elements of Statistical Legislation and the Data Integration Project under the UNECE High-level Group for the modernisation of official statistics

### D. Planned activities and outputs

13. The Task Force will undertake its work in two stages. At the first stage (until June 2018) the following activities will be carried out:

(a) Review concrete examples where data exchange implemented by NSOs has ensured correct and meaningful measurement of multinationals and their activities in national accounts, balance of payments and related statistics and would help avoid asymmetries and misinterpretation;

(b) Identify enablers and obstacles of data sharing based on the review and propose practical options for carrying out data exchange;

(c) Propose ways to detect those MNEs and major changes in their activities that are central for the quality of official statistics.

14. The output of this stage will be a report which defines enablers and obstacles to data sharing and suggests practical solutions and tools to be further developed.

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<sup>1</sup> The ITEGS handbook on Accounting for Global Value Chains: a System of Extended National Accounts and Integrated Business Statistics, the European Statistical System network on use of administrative and accounts data for business statistics, the project on Full International and Global Accounts for Research in Input-Output Analysis (FIGARO), the OECD Expert Group for International Collaboration on Microdata Access, the OECD-WTO work on measuring trade in value added (TIVA), Working Party on International Trade in Goods and Trade in Services Statistics (WPTGS) and the International Monetary Fund's work on foreign direct investment asymmetry table.

15. At the second stage (July 2018 – June 2020), the work will take forward solutions and tools identified at the first stage. This is likely to include, inter alia:

(a) Identify innovative ways to exchange of economic data (including granular data and information on business structures) on MNEs and on aggregated level;

(b) Based on concrete examples and sharing of experience, develop guidance, tools and principles for the exchange of data that would enable the NSOs to maintain the quality of national accounts, balance of payments and related economic statistics. Review the application of existing typologies for data sharing. The guidance should take into account confidentiality, respondents' trust and legal constraints, and consider:

16. The main output of this stage will be guidance on national and international exchange of economic data.

17. The Task Force may also organize specialized sessions or workshops on the exchange and sharing of economic data.

## **E. Methods of work**

18. The Task Force will mainly work via email and telephone conferences. However, face-to-face meetings should be scheduled to formulate a more detailed work plan and discuss its tasks. In order to be cost effective the face-to-face meetings could be organized alongside with the meeting of the Group of Experts on National Accounts or other relevant international meetings.

## **F. Membership**

19. The following countries and international organizations will participate in the Task Force: Canada, Denmark, Finland (chair), Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States, European Central Bank, Eurostat, IMF, OECD, UNECE, UNSD and WTO.

20. The Task Force should involve experts on national accounts and balance of payments as well as business statistics, foreign trade and other related economic statistics.

21. UNECE will act as Secretariat to the Task Force.

## Annex VI

[English only]

**Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Task Force on satellite accounts for education and training****A. Background**

1. The idea of viewing human knowledge and abilities as an asset and to estimate its value has recently gained bigger prominence in the context of sustainable development. Measures of human capital are of significant interest to policymakers because they can help to understand better what drives economic growth, to assess the long-term sustainability of a country's development path, and to measure the output and productivity of the education sector.
2. Based on the outcome of a Conference of European Statisticians (CES) seminar and the recommendations in the subsequent stocktaking report, a CES Task Force developed the Guide on Measuring Human Capital in 2016, which provides a first attempt to estimate and record human capital in a way that is aligned with the principles of the national accounts and is comparable among countries.
3. The estimates of human capital can be initiated by developing a satellite account on education and training or by going beyond the present System of National Accounts to fully integrate estimates of human capital in national accounts.
4. Because of both data constraints and methodological issues, the UNECE Guide recommends, as a first step, to develop a satellite account for education and training. In addition to providing estimate of the total expenditure on education and training, the objective of such a satellite account is also to distinguish and provide breakdowns of the various expenditures, including the identification of the financing arrangements for these expenditures. This account extends the production boundary of the SNA only slightly by recognizing the output from the internal expenditures on education and training by employers.
5. In October 2016, the CES Bureau approved the *Guide on Measuring Human Capital* and supported the proposed future work, including the pilot testing of satellite accounts for education and training by a group of countries. Based on the pilot testing, a more detailed compilation guide for such satellite accounts could be prepared. The Bureau also asked the Group of Experts on National Accounts to provide a forum to discuss the implementation of the Guide.
6. Statistics Norway and UNECE coordinated the drafting of the current terms of reference. The document was consulted with the members of the Task Force on Human Capital which developed the Guide, and with the countries and organizations that have expressed interest in participating in this work.

**B. Mandate**

7. The Task Force on Satellite Accounts for Education and Training is established under the CES and its Bureau. The Task Force is created for the period of two years 2018-2019, after which it will submit a final report.
8. The results of the pilot testing of satellite accounts for education and training will be discussed at the joint UNECE/Eurostat/OECD Group of Experts on National Accounts and other relevant groups. The Task Force will also consult with and inform the Inter-

Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) and the Advisory Expert Group (AEG) on National Accounts of its work to ensure international coordination. The Task Force should ensure coordination with corresponding work undertaken by UNESCO and Eurostat.

### **C. Objectives**

9. The objective of the Task Force will be to develop a framework and coordinate the pilot testing of satellite accounts on education and training in countries with different economic circumstances and data availability. Based on the pilot testing, the Task Force aims to develop a compilation guide that will help countries construct internationally comparable satellite accounts on education and training which will lead to improved cost-based measurement of human capital.

### **D. Planned activities and outputs**

10. The Task Force will undertake the following activities:

(a) Develop a framework for constructing satellite accounts on education and training, including the breakdowns of the various expenditures on training and education;

(b) Recommend a classification to be used for costs and products, and link to the classifications used in the national accounts;

(c) Identify the key variables, and the main and supplementary tables in the satellite accounts;

(d) Carry out pilot testing of the satellite accounts to test the methodology, data availability and quality;

(e) Identify best practices, recommend improvements to methods and data sources for developing cost-based measures of human capital; and

(f) Develop a compilation guide for satellite accounts for education and training.

11. The output will be a report on the results of the pilot testing and a compilation guide for constructing satellite accounts on education and training.

### **E. Methods of work**

12. The Task Force will primarily work via email and telephone conferences. Face-to-face meetings may be organized back-to-back with the meetings of the Group of Experts on National Accounts or other relevant international meetings.

### **F. Membership**

13. The following countries and international organizations will participate in the Task Force: Belarus, Canada, France, Israel, Italy, Norway (chair), Russian Federation, United Kingdom, Eurostat, UNECE, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and UNSD. Representatives from the Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital and the academia have also expressed interest to participate.



14. The Task Force could include experts on satellite accounts and the System of National Accounts as well as other subject matter experts.
15. UNECE will act as Secretariat to the Task Force.

**Annex VII**

[English only]

**Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Task Force on measuring old-age population in institutions****A. Background**

1. The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Recommendations on Ageing-related Statistics, which the CES Bureau approved in October 2016, proposed the measurement of institutional populations as an area for future work. Furthermore, in the consultation on the Recommendations with CES members, several countries called for examining methodological issues around institutional populations, given the importance, scope and relevance of the topic and associated challenges with respect to the production of statistics relating to older people.
2. Statistics on social and demographic topics are typically produced from surveys of private households. For many statistics, this is suitable, especially when balanced against the additional costs that the coverage of institutional populations would entail.
3. In ageing populations, however, the absolute number of people living in institutions – such as care homes for older people – can be significant and is growing. The proportions of older people living in institutions also vary considerably between countries, due to different approaches to the care of older people and to different regulations, benefit systems and types of care.
4. Definitions of what constitutes an institution differ between countries. In cases where institutional populations are surveyed, methods for their identification and data collection vary. The UNECE Recommendations on Ageing-related Statistics identify the following issues for future work on measuring institutional populations:
  - (a) The term ‘institutional populations’ should be more clearly defined, in a way which aligns with the CES census recommendations;
  - (b) Countries should consider ways to include institutional populations in survey frames or develop separate data collection tools for them;
  - (c) Further work should start with compiling an overview of national practices.
5. In October 2016, the CES Bureau supported the proposals for further work on ageing-related statistics and emphasized the importance of taking into account populations of older persons living in institutions.

**B. Mandate**

6. The work of the Task Force will be conducted within the framework of the CES and its Bureau. The Task Force is created for the period of two years, 2018-2019. The Task Force will present final recommendations to CES for approval in 2019.

**C. Objective**

7. The main objectives of the Task Force are to:

(a) Develop standard definitions and classifications of ‘institution’ and ‘institutional populations’ as they pertain to older people;

(b) Provide guidelines for statistical offices on whether, when and how to include such populations in the production of statistics on ageing-related topics.

8. The guidelines should aid countries in producing unbiased and comparable statistics on ageing-related topics. The work of the Task Force should build on the work already conducted by the UNECE Task Force on Ageing-related Statistics and the European Health Interview Survey Task Force which in 2011 produced a set of recommendations specific to health surveys in the European Union Member States.

## **D. Planned activities and outputs**

9. The Task Force will carry out the following activities:

(a) Review of the definitions of ‘institution’ that are currently employed by countries across data sources including surveys, censuses and administrative sources, especially with respect to institutions relevant to older people. This will include an analysis of the extent to which, and reasons why, these definitions differ from the CES Census Recommendations;

(b) Review of the methods used by national statistical offices in measuring characteristics of institutional populations of older persons, including approaches to identification and sampling, access, and use of proxy respondents;

(c) Description of good practices in measuring institutional populations of older persons by integrating them into samples and by treating them separately;

(d) Experimental studies to assess the bias resulting from omission of institutional populations in estimates of socio-economic and health characteristics of older people;

(e) Formulation of recommendations in the above areas.

10. The Task Force will produce the following outputs:

(a) Definitions and classifications of ‘institution’ and ‘institutional populations’ as they pertain to older people, including a set of criteria for ‘borderline’ cases that fall in-between private households and full residential care homes;

(b) Compilations of case studies or good practices;

(c) Recommendations for the treatment of institutional populations of older persons in social surveys and other data sources for the production of ageing-related statistics.

## **E. Methods of work**

11. The Task Force will work via email, wiki workspace, and telephone or web conferences. Face-to-face meetings may be convened on the basis of need, specific tasks to be accomplished and available resources.

## **F. Membership**

12. The following countries and international organizations will participate in the Task Force: United Kingdom (chair), Armenia, Austria (Federal Ministry of Labour, Social

Affairs & Consumer Protection), Canada, Colombia, Eurostat, GESIS (Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences), Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Norway (University of Oslo), Philippines, Russian Federation and Turkey.

13. UNECE will act as Secretariat to the Task Force.

**Annex VIII**

[English only]

**Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Task Force on waste statistics****A. Background**

1. Waste statistics are of high policy interest in the context of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), green economy, resource efficiency, circular economy, sustainable consumption and production, climate change and many other policy initiatives. These initiatives increase the attention to the management, reuse and recycling of waste, use of waste for generating energy and hazardous waste. Emerging issues also include the need for information on food waste, textile waste, electronic waste and end-of-life vehicles.
2. While there is an increasing demand for waste statistics, there are important conceptual and methodological problems. The lack of internationally harmonized concepts, definitions and methodologies leads to incomparability of data. There is no international classification of waste for statistics outside the European Union (EU).
3. Furthermore, important aspects of waste management, such as illegal waste collection and trade, illegal dumping, informal waste picking and waste management by private sector are not included in official waste statistics and are difficult to capture in statistics. Recycling figures may be largely underestimated when the informal waste collection (i.e. managed outside the traditional waste management system) is not considered. Emerging issues, such as the recovery value of waste, food waste and electronic waste are not or are only partially covered.
4. The CES Bureau discussed the conceptual and methodological problems in waste statistics at its 2016 October meeting based on a paper prepared by UNECE and Statistics Netherlands in consultation with Armenia, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Ukraine, Eurostat, OECD and UNSD. The CES Bureau noted that compilation of waste statistics involves many conceptual and methodological challenges and progress is slow. Many problems with waste statistics are due to the fact that there is no common framework on waste statistics to provide a basis for harmonising the concepts and definitions, developing standard classifications and providing methodological guidance.
5. The Bureau decided to set up a Task Force on waste statistics and requested the Secretariat together with Canada, Mexico, Eurostat, OECD, UNSD and other interested parties to prepare terms of reference for the Task Force.
6. The CES Bureau also recommended bringing the issues related to waste statistics to the attention of the policy audience, such as the OECD Environmental Policy Committee and the UNECE Committee on Environmental Policy.

**B. Mandate**

7. The work of the Task Force on waste statistics is conducted within the framework of CES and its Bureau. The Task Force is created for a period of three years, 2018-2020, after which it will submit a final report, including a draft conceptual framework on waste statistics and concrete recommendations for follow-up activities to the CES plenary session.

## C. Objectives

8. The objective of the Task Force is to develop a conceptual framework on waste statistics and draft a glossary of the most important terms and definitions in waste statistics. The framework should:

(a) Be consistent with the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA), and the major international policy frameworks, namely SDGs, Basel Convention and the EU Waste Strategy;

(b) Build upon existing concepts used by Eurostat, UNSD and OECD in current data collection on waste statistics, and take into account existing national frameworks on waste and waste statistics;

(c) Define the scope of waste statistics, covering also illegal trade, illegal dumping and informal waste management;

(d) Support a coherent integration of emerging issues (e.g. food waste and electronic waste) and other waste streams or waste characteristics (e.g. recovery value) in the future;

(e) Identify which parts of the framework are already covered by official statistics and which parts could potentially be covered in the future;

(f) Be applicable to produce geo-referenced waste statistics.

9. The Task Force will also identify areas of waste statistics where further conceptual and methodological work could be undertaken to support the implementation of the framework. This may include activities such as harmonization and improvement of existing waste classifications, development of methodologies to fill important information gaps (e.g. informal or illegal waste collection and trade, food waste etc.), drafting of implementation guidelines, etc.

10. In pursuing these objectives, the Task Force should cooperate with the UN agencies and other international organizations working in this area, including Eurostat, OECD, UNSD and the Secretariat of the Basel Convention. The work of the Task Force will build upon existing guidance documents, terms, definitions and classifications of these organizations.

## D. Planned activities and outputs

11. The Task Force will undertake the following activities:

(a) Identify in a systematic way the most important policy needs on waste statistics (including SDGs, Green Growth, etc.), map them with existing statistics and carry out a gap-analysis (how “fit for purpose” waste statistics are and what needs to be developed);

(b) Define the scope of official waste statistics and clarify important system boundaries;

(c) Develop a conceptual framework for waste statistics, and describe its links to other relevant frameworks and statistical domains (such as FDES, SEEA, SDG indicators, Green Growth, circular economy, Driving-force-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) framework, agriculture and water statistics, etc.);

(d) Map the waste statistics framework with existing official statistics and identify parts which should become part of official statistics in the future;

(e) Draft a glossary of key terms and definitions, based on those being used in current data collection on waste statistics;

(f) Identify concrete follow-up activities focused on specific areas of waste statistics to support the implementation of the framework.

12. The main output of the Task Force's work will be a Conceptual Framework on Waste Statistics.

## **E. Methods of work**

13. The Task Force will work primarily via e-mail, wiki workspace and telephone conferences. Physical meetings of the Task Force could be organized back-to-back to other meetings that would be attended by a significant number of Task Force members.

## **F. Membership**

14. The Task Force will include experts on waste statistics from national statistical offices, other involved national agencies and international organizations. The following countries and international organizations will participate in the Task Force: Netherlands (chair), Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Israel, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Moldova, Russian Federation, Basel Convention, Eurostat, European Environment Agency, International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), OECD, UN-Environment, UN-Habitat and UNSD.

15. UNECE will act as Secretariat to the Task Force.

## **Mandate and Terms of Reference for the High-level Group for the modernisation of official statistics**

### **A. Background**

1. In recent years, many national and international statistical organizations have initiated developments to restructure the statistical production process. The “data deluge” and technological advances are providing opportunities to use new types of sources, enhance existing outputs, and develop new ones. These developments have significant implications for the structure and efficiency of statistical organizations, and a major impact on strategic decisions related to budget, human resources and corporate strategy.

2. Several existing international groups are involved in expert-level discussions on specific aspects of the modernisation of official statistics, such as methodology, information technology, software tools, and enterprise architecture, but until recently there has been no overall coordination of these activities. To achieve strategic oversight and especially better coordination of developments in different groups and countries, a forum on the highest level (Director General) was needed. The Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) established what is now the High-Level Group for the modernisation of official statistics (HLG-MOS).

3. The terms of reference for HLG-MOS were approved by EXCOM in 2011. Since then, under the guidance of HLG-MOS, a number of models and tools were developed, endorsed by the CES plenary session in 2017, namely the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM), the Generic Statistical Information Model (GSIM), the Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA), and the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organisations (GAMSO). These standards support the modernization of statistical production in the UNECE region and beyond. Therefore, the High-Level Group regularly informs the United Nations Statistical Commission on its work.

### **B. Mandate**

4. The HLG-MOS reports annually to the Conference of European Statisticians (CES). It therefore derives its legitimacy and mandate from this body. It should prepare strategically-focused annual progress reports, to inform and solicit comments from the CES and its Bureau. The terms of reference are valid for a period of five years after which they will be reviewed by the CES Bureau.

### **C. Objectives**

5. The mission of the HLG-MOS is to oversee development of frameworks, and sharing of information, tools and methods, which support the modernisation of statistical organizations. The aim is to improve the efficiency of statistical production processes, and the ability to produce outputs that better meet user needs. HLG-MOS will discuss and collaborate with other bodies involved in related work, both within and beyond the official statistics community. Within the official statistics community, it will take a leadership and coordination role.



6. The objectives of the HLG-MOS are:
- (a) To promote common standards, models, tools and methods to support the modernisation of official statistics;
  - (b) To drive new developments in the production, organization and products of official statistics, ensuring effective coordination and information sharing within official statistics, and with relevant external bodies;
  - (c) To advise the CES Bureau on the direction of strategic developments in the modernisation of official statistics, and ensure that there is a maximum of convergence and coordination within the statistical “industry”.
7. The HLG-MOS will oversee and steer the work of relevant CES expert groups, and will coordinate, and give leadership where needed, to other relevant international expert groups and United Nations Regional Commissions. It will stimulate the development of global standards and overseeing activities undertaken in collaboration.
8. The HLG-MOS will guide the following sub-groups that will work under its supervision:
- *Blue-skies Thinking Network*: an innovation hub for modernization to support innovation and assess new opportunities for official statistics;
  - *Supporting Standards Modernization*: will support the implementation and use of the various standards and models, developed to facilitate modernization of statistical production;
  - *Capabilities and Communication Modernization*: will consider the human resource elements of modernization;
  - *Sharing Tools Modernization*: will support and encourage the practical implementation of the Common Statistical Production Architecture.

#### **D. Planned activities and outputs**

9. The HLG-MOS decides in each November on priority activities for the next year. The main activities and outputs of the HLG-MOS for the period up to the end of 2019 are:
- (a) To frame a collective strategy on developments related to the modernisation of statistical production and services, and formulate and disseminate new ideas and proposals in this field.
  - (b) To organize annual workshops with representatives of relevant expert groups and projects, to help the HLG-MOS to identify key priorities and tasks to implement the vision and strategy.
  - (c) To determine a yearly list of key priorities and their timeframes and allocate them to relevant expert groups. The resources will be drawn from consenting members of CES.
  - (d) To make the results of its work public via a wiki site and other communication tools.
  - (e) To maintain and support the implementation of the necessary standards and models to support the modernisation of official statistics.
  - (f) To promote relevant standards, methods and tools actively.

## **E. Methods of work**

10. The HLG-MOS will meet physically at least once per year, for 1-2 days, usually back-to-back with other events. In-between these meetings, it will work mainly via electronic communication and telephone or video conferencing.

## **F. Membership**

11. The HLG-MOS members are at the level of heads of national statistical organizations and chief statisticians of international organizations. An appropriate geographical balance in the membership of the HLG-MOS will be ensured.

12. The members of the HLG-MOS undertake to devote the necessary time to adequately discharge their duties.

13. The members of the HLG-MOS will select from amongst themselves a Chairperson for a maximum period of four years. The HLG-MOS is composed of ten Heads of national statistical offices. Eurostat, OECD and UNECE are also members.

14. The following countries and organizations will participate in the HLG-MOS: Ireland (chair), Australia, Canada, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, United Kingdom, Eurostat and OECD.

15. Members of the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians may participate in HLG-MOS meetings as observers.

16. The HLG-MOS may invite additional persons to participate in some or all of its activities, depending on priorities and interests, where their contributions would be of benefit to the work of the group. These persons shall be representatives of other national or international organizations which demonstrate their commitment to contribute actively to the work of the HLG-MOS, and support the implementation of the strategy.

17. UNECE will act as Secretariat to the HLG-MOS.

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