



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
4 December 2019
English
Original: English, French
and Russian

Economic Commission for Europe

Executive Committee

108th meeting

Geneva, 16 December 2019

Item 3(b) of the provisional agenda

Matters relating to the Conference

of European Statisticians:

decisions on matters relating to the Conference

of European Statisticians

Decisions relating to the Conference of European Statisticians

Background

1. The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) held its sixty-sixth session on 18–20 June 2018 in Geneva and its sixty-seventh session on 26–28 June 2019 in Paris. The reports of the two sessions are contained in documents ECE/CES/95 and ECE/CES/97.
2. In June 2018, the Conference considered the terms of reference for the CES Expert Group on National Accounts convened as ad-hoc meetings jointly by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Eurostat and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for several years. The Expert group plays an important role in the implementation of the global United Nations standard (System of National Accounts) for calculation of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by facilitating the exchange of best practice among CES member States. In view of the importance of the issues discussed by the Expert Group and the standing nature of its work, and to ensure the continuity of work, the Conference agreed (document ECE/CES/95, paragraph 75) to a resource neutral change by converting the Expert Group on National Accounts, convened as an ad-hoc meeting, into a standing team of specialists under the Conference in accordance with the UNECE Guidelines for the establishment and functioning of teams of specialists (ECE/EX/2/Rev.1, item 3 (h)).
3. The Conference adopted the terms of reference for the Expert Group on National Accounts (ECE/CES/2018/11) and recommended to present these to the ECE Executive Committee for approval, as contained in annex I to this document.
4. The Conference of European Statisticians has endorsed the mandates of the following teams of specialists:
 - (a) Steering Group on measuring quality of employment (2020–2024);

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- (b) Steering Group on gender statistics (2020–2024);
- (c) Steering Group on migration statistics (2020–2024);
- (d) Steering Group on climate change-related statistics (2020–2024);
- (e) Task Force to test and further develop the framework for measuring the value of official statistics (2020–2021);
- (f) Task Force on measuring the quality of administrative sources for use in censuses (2020–2021);
- (g) Task Force on measuring social exclusion (2020–2021).

5. Steering Groups are composed of countries' experts that guide the work of the Secretariat in areas of strategic, long-term statistical work. Task Forces are created by the Conference and its Bureau to accomplish tasks with concrete deliverables and within a definitive period of time, after which they cease to exist. Steering Groups and Task Forces work mainly by email and teleconferences and meet only on the occasion of relevant expert meetings. The creation of the groups has no budget implications for the United Nations Secretariat.

6. In June 2019, as part of its deliberations, the Conference endorsed the programme of work for 2020 as contained in documents ECE/CES/2019/15 and ECE/CES/2019/15/Add.1.

7. The Executive Committee is invited to approve the above decisions.

Draft Decision

8. The Executive Committee hereby approves the programme of work of the Statistics subprogramme for 2020 as contained in documents ECE/CES/2019/15 and ECE/CES/2019/15/Add.1.

9. The Executive Committee hereby approves converting the Expert Group on National Accounts into a standing team of specialists under the Conference with terms of reference as contained in document ECE/CES/2018/11 and presented in annex I.

10. 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 measuring quality of employment (2020–2024), as contained in annex II;
- (b) Steering Group on gender statistics (2020–2024), as contained in annex III;
- (c) Steering Group on migration statistics (2020–2024), as contained in annex IV;
- (d) Steering Group on climate change-related statistics (2020–2024), as contained in annex V;
- (e) Task Force to test and further develop the framework for measuring the value of official statistics (2020–2021), as contained in annex VI;
- (f) Task Force on measuring the quality of administrative sources for use in censuses (2020–2021), as contained in annex VII;
- (g) Task Force on measuring social exclusion (2020–2021), as contained in annex VIII.

Annex I

[English only]

Terms of reference for the Expert Group on National Accounts**A. Mandate**

1. The Expert Group on National Accounts supports the implementation of the CES work programme related to national accounts and globalization. It will facilitate the implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA) and related international statistical standards through the promotion of best practices, contributions to the development of recommendations and methodological materials, and support to capacity building activities in national accounts. The Group should also support linking the SNA with SDGs, to complement the work on implementation of the *CES Road Map on Statistics for SDGs*.
2. The Expert Group will report to CES on UNECE activities on national accounts and globalization. Its work will be organized in coordination with Eurostat and OECD to avoid overlap and ensure synergies with related work undertaken by other international organizations. It will also consult with the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) and other relevant international groups to ensure international coordination of work related to the 2008 SNA implementation.

B. Activities

3. The Expert Group will engage in the following main activities:
 - (a) Facilitate the exchange of experience and best practices to improve the quality and international comparability of national accounts and related economic statistics in CES member countries;
 - (b) Provide a forum to review the guidelines and recommendations developed by the teams of specialists, established by CES in the area of national accounts and globalization with a view of presenting them for endorsement to CES, and follow up on their implementation;
 - (c) Identify new emerging areas where methodological research should be undertaken and bring these issues to the attention of the CES Bureau and the ISWGNA to avoid duplication and achieve synergies. The work will be undertaken in close collaboration with Eurostat, OECD, IMF and CIS-Stat.
 - (d) Support the implementation of the 2008 SNA in the EECCA and SEE countries by identifying specific regional priorities and capacity development needs. Provide a forum that supports the exchange of experience and institutional cooperation between the compilers of national accounts, balance of payments and other macroeconomic statistics in the region;
 - (e) Support linking the SNA with SDGs, to complement the work on implementation of the *CES Road Map on Statistics for SDGs*.

C. Membership and officers

4. All United Nations member states that participate in the work of CES will be invited to the meetings of the Group. The statistical departments of international organizations that are active in the area of national accounts will also be invited to attend. In addition, other

United Nations member states, researchers and representatives of academia can participate as observers, in compliance with United Nations rules and practices.

5. The Expert Group elects its officers (Chairperson and/or vice-Chairpersons) in accordance with the guidelines on procedures and practices for ECE bodies.

D. Methods of work

6. The Expert Group will hold regular annual or biennial meetings. The Group should aim to reach consensus in its work to the highest extent possible.

7. At its sessions, the Expert Group will review the achievements and problems met since the preceding meeting, propose to CES and its Bureau future activities and review the work and status of the teams of specialists in the area of national accounts and globalization.

8. The work of the Expert Group on National Accounts will be guided by a Steering Group. The Steering Group will organize the meetings of the Expert Group and will advise the Secretariat on the implementation of the CES work programme on national accounts and globalization. The Steering Group includes members representing different sub-regions of the UNECE and the main international organizations active in the area of national accounts.

9. CES will review the mandate of the Expert Group every five years.

10. The UNECE Statistical Division services the meetings of the Expert Group, providing logistical support and preparing documentation, including reports.

Annex II

[English only]

Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group on measuring quality of employment

I. Background

1. In June 2015, the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) endorsed the *Handbook on Measuring Quality of Employment, A Statistical Framework*. The Conference supported further work on measuring quality of employment, including continuing to organize expert group meetings. On this background, the Bureau established a Steering Group to guide and oversee the work of CES in the area of measuring quality of employment. Updated terms of reference for the Steering Group were approved by the CES Bureau.

II. Mandate

2. The work of the Steering Group is conducted within the CES work programme. The Steering Group reports to the Bureau on the CES activities on measuring quality of employment, as well as on emerging issues in this area and possible ways of addressing them.

3. 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.

4. The work on promotion and implementation of the recommendations of the Handbook is ongoing. The next expert group meeting on measuring quality of employment is planned to take place in 2020.

5. The CES Bureau will review the terms of reference of the Steering Group in 2024.

III. Objective

6. The Steering Group has the following objectives:

(a) Coordinate the CES work in the area of measuring quality of employment and guide the work of the Secretariat in this area;

(b) Promote the *Handbook on Measuring Quality of Employment*, follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations of the Handbook and collect further feedback from countries on the use of the Handbook;

(c) Review the list of indicators and context information based on country feedback and developments in methods and data sources and, where necessary, update the statistical framework to ensure its continued relevance and practical usability;

(d) Follow-up on the research agenda from the Handbook: identify priority areas for further work and research to support countries in measuring quality of employment;

(e) Organise biennial expert group meetings on measuring quality of employment to follow up on the research agenda and the implementation of the statistical framework;

(f) Facilitate the sharing of experiences, methods, statistical techniques and other resources related to measuring quality of employment, e.g. through wikis;

(g) Ensure coordination and cooperation with other international organisations working in this area, in particular Eurostat, ILO and OECD.

IV. Planned activities and outputs

7. The main outputs of the Steering Group on measuring quality of employment will be:
- (a) To promote and follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations of the Handbook;
 - (b) To keep the statistical framework and the list of indicators up-to-date;
 - (c) To organise biennial expert group meetings on measuring quality of employment to follow up on the research agenda and the implementation of the statistical framework;
 - (d) To identify emerging issues in the area of measuring quality of employment, to identify further priority issues of the research agenda where more work is needed, and to follow-up on already identified priority issues, including: collection of further feedback on the implementation of the Handbook; impact of the 19th ICLS resolution on work activities and employment; teleworking; commuting time; and further promotion of the statistical framework.

V. Methods of work

8. The Steering Group will primarily work via email and audio conferences. The Group will hold face-to-face meetings on the occasion of meetings of the group of experts on measuring quality of employment, or other events where a significant number of the Steering Group members participate.

VI. Membership

9. The Steering Group comprises: Austria, Azerbaijan, Canada, Finland, Germany, Israel, Italy, Poland, Switzerland, United States, Eurofound, Eurostat, ILO, OECD, and Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO). Experts from other countries or organisations may be invited to contribute to the work of the Steering Group.
10. UNECE acts as secretariat of the Steering Group.

Annex III

[English only]

Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group on gender statistics**I. Background**

1. With the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development now serving as the principal guiding framework both for development activities and for statistical activities, gender equality and women's empowerment are occupying an increasingly prominent place among global policy concerns. The specific Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) on gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (Goal 5), as well as the inclusion of gender concerns throughout the Agenda, is creating growing demand for high-quality gender statistics that are regularly produced and that provide solid evidence on the status of women and men.
2. To ensure the continuity of the CES work on gender statistics and its coordination with other international organizations in responding to the monitoring need for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other policy demand, continued guidance by the Steering Group on Gender Statistics is needed.

II. Mandate

3. The Steering Group on gender statistics regularly reports to the Bureau on the CES activities in gender statistics.
4. The Steering Group will identify new areas where methodological work 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.
5. The work on gender statistics in countries participating in CES is ongoing. The Group will submit biannual reports on its activities to the Bureau and CES. The CES Bureau will review the terms of reference for the Steering Group on gender statistics in 2024.

III. Objective

6. The objective of the Steering Group is to provide direction to the CES work on gender statistics, to advance methodological work, capacity development, and collaboration between users and producers of gender statistics, and to follow up the implementation of CES guidance.

IV. Planned activities and outputs

7. The Steering Group will:
 - (a) Coordinate the CES work on gender statistics; launch and steer the development of guidelines and surveys of best practice; oversee the work of CES task forces in the area of gender statistics;
 - (b) Follow up the implementation of CES methodological guidance related to gender statistics in UNECE countries;
 - (c) Act as an organizing committee for the UNECE Work Sessions on Gender Statistics;

(d) Advise the UNECE Secretariat on the formulation and planning of capacity-development activities to support the integration of a gender perspective into statistical systems in countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia;

(e) Promote the use of UNECE training materials in gender statistics;

(f) Advance collaboration between users and producers of gender statistics.

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

(a) Proposals on methodological work and other activities to implement the recommendations of the in-depth reviews on gaps in gender statistics and gender identity, and the recommendations of the task forces on communication of gender statistics and intra-household power and decision-making;

(b) Proposals for an agenda and invited speakers, and organization of thematic discussions for UNECE Work Sessions on Gender Statistics;

(c) Advice on proposed capacity-development activities.

9. The Steering Group will ensure coordination of the CES work on gender statistics with the Global Gender Statistics Programme, the United Nations Statistical Commission's Inter-agency and Expert Groups on Gender Statistics and Sustainable Development Goals, UN Women's "Making every woman and girl count" programme, and other international initiatives in gender statistics.

V. Method of work

10. The Steering Group will work mainly through e-mail consultations and teleconferences. The Group will also have face-to-face meetings in conjunction with the UNECE Work Sessions on Gender Statistics taking place approximately every 1.5 years.

VI. Membership

11. The Steering Group currently includes representatives from Australia, Canada, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, UN Women, Eurostat, the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), CIS-Stat, and the OECD Development Centre. The Group is currently chaired by Serbia.

12. UNECE acts as secretariat to the Steering Group. It maintains a wiki site with public information about the Group and a workspace restricted to members.

Annex IV

[English only]

Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group on migration statistics

I. Background

1. Member States of the United Nations have recently reaffirmed the importance of improving migration data. This was expressed at the highest level in the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants of 2016, the Declaration of the 2013 High-level Dialogue on Migration and Development, and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In the 2030 Agenda, there are 10 targets on migration, including target 10.7 to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration. Furthermore, the United Nations Statistical Commission recommends disaggregating all Sustainable Development Goal indicators by migratory status where relevant, and target 17.18 calls to develop capacity for achieving this.

2. In the regional input for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the UNECE Executive Committee affirmed the following: “the Conference of European Statisticians should continue its work on developing methodologies, recommendations and guidance, providing the platform for exchanging experience in migration statistics and addressing the measurement challenges arising from the 2030 Agenda”¹.

3. To respond to the policy demand for better migration statistics, continuing action is needed at the international level, including methodological work, exchange of experience and capacity development. Guidance by experts from different national and international statistical organizations would ensure correspondence of these activities with the evolving needs and priorities of member countries in this area. The Steering Group on migration statistics is well placed to carry out this function. The present terms of reference of the Steering Group are updated for activities in the coming five years.

II. Mandate

4. The work of the Steering Group is conducted within the work programme of the Conference of European Statisticians. The Steering Group will report regularly to the CES Bureau on its activities as well as on emerging issues in migration statistics and possible ways of addressing them.

5. The Steering Group may identify new areas where methodological work could be undertaken by groups of experts (Task Forces). 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 work of the Steering Group in relation to coordination and identification of new areas is ongoing. The terms of reference for the Steering Group will be reviewed by the CES Bureau in 2024.

III. Objective

7. The objective of the Steering Group is to provide direction to the CES work on migration statistics, advance methodological development and facilitate implementation of methodological guidance on migration statistics.

¹ UNECE input to the stocktaking conference for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Available at <https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/regional-consultations>

IV. Planned activities and outputs

8. The Steering Group carries out the following activities:
 - (a) Supervise and steer the task forces working on migration statistics, and review their reports;
 - (b) Identify areas in migration statistics where methodological work needs to be undertaken and prepare concept papers and terms of reference;
 - (c) Act as an organizing committee for the UNECE-Eurostat Work Sessions on Migration Statistics (the next session is scheduled for October 2020);
 - (d) Provide advice to the UNECE Secretariat on capacity development and other activities that support implementation of CES methodological guidance on migration statistics.

V. Methods of work

9. The Steering Group will primarily work via email and telephone conferences, expected to be held three times a year. The Steering Group may organize informal meetings at events attended by a significant number of members, such as the joint UNECE-Eurostat Work Sessions on migration statistics and the Eurostat Working Group on population statistics.

VI. Membership

10. Currently, the representatives of the following countries and organizations participate in the Steering Group: Australia, Canada, Italy, Germany, Israel, Mexico, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, CIS-Stat, Eurostat and UNECE.
11. UNECE acts as Secretariat to the Steering Group.

Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Steering Group on climate change-related statistics

I. Background

1. Climate change represents one of the greatest challenges facing humanity today. Finding ways to allow continued economic and social development while drastically reducing emissions of greenhouse gases is a vast technical and political challenge. The global initiatives responding to this challenge, such as Paris Agreements, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, generate new data requirements extending from direct data on climate and greenhouse gas emissions to data on the social, economic and environmental impacts of climate change, and efforts taken to mitigate it or adapt to it.
2. These requirements, in line with the scope of climate change-related statistics defined by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES), have increased the demand for data held by national statistical offices also in areas not directly linked to greenhouse gas emission inventories. Thanks to the *CES Recommendations on Climate Change-related Statistics* and work towards their implementation, national statistical offices are now more able to contribute to the new reporting tasks. However, continued effort in coordination, further methodological work and capacity development is needed to meet the upcoming challenges in this area.

II. Mandate

3. The work of the Steering Group is conducted within the framework of CES and its Bureau. The Steering Group will regularly report to the CES Bureau on the CES activities on climate change-related statistics, including on the outcome of expert meetings and task forces working under its guidance.
4. 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.
5. The terms of reference of the Steering Group will be reviewed in 2024.

III. Objective

6. The objective of the Steering Group will be to provide direction to the work towards implementing the *CES Recommendations on climate change-related statistics*, advancing the work on climate change-related statistics and promoting coherence between greenhouse gas inventories and official statistics.
7. The key tasks of the Steering Group will be to:
 - (a) Steer the CES activities in climate change-related statistics and coordinate them with key international organizations active in this area; and
 - (b) Act as an organizing committee to the annual UNECE Expert Forum for producers and users of climate change-related statistics, and other related expert events that may be organised.

IV. Planned activities and outputs

8. Building on the work accomplished to date, the Steering Group will work on the following activities and outputs:

(a) Steer the CES activities in climate change-related statistics. Organize and lead the work of the expert meetings and oversee any CES task forces on climate change-related statistics, including development of guidelines, collections of good practice and capacity building;

(b) Provide advice on methodological work in climate change-related statistics, including addressing new areas that have been identified. Possible areas for the future work may include statistics on climate change adaptation, geo-referenced climate indicators and climate change accounts within the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA) framework.

(c) Continue identifying areas of climate change-related statistics that require further methodological work or where practical guidance would need to be developed;

(d) Promote sharing of ideas and good practice as well as advance work in climate change-related statistics and improving coherence of greenhouse gas inventories and official statistics, for instance through the expert meetings;

(e) Collaborate closely with international organizations active in measuring climate change-related statistics, and discuss the roles and responsibilities of the statistical community, greenhouse gas inventory compilers and relevant international organizations;

(f) Follow up on countries' progress in implementing the CES Recommendations and developing climate change-related statistics.

V. Methods of work

9. The Steering Group will primarily work via email and telephone conferences. Informal meetings are organized on the occasion of events attended by a significant number of Steering Group members, such as the expert meetings for producers and users of climate change-related statistics or other relevant events.

10. The Steering Group consults with the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting (UNCEEAA), established by the United Nations Statistical Commission.

VI. Membership

11. Currently, the representatives of the following countries and organizations participate in the Steering Group: Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Luxembourg (Chair), Directorate General for Climate Action of the European Commission, the European Environment Agency, Eurostat, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Energy Agency, the United Nations Statistics Division, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Midsummer Analytics.

12. UNECE acts as secretariat to the Steering Group.

Annex VI

[English only]

Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Task Force to test and further develop the framework for measuring the value of official statistics

I. Background

1. Official statisticians know that their products, underpinned by the Fundamental Principles of official statistics, are uniquely valuable and essential for evidence-based decision-making, for political accountability and for democracy. However, as technology advances in a world awash with data, producers of official statistics have become increasingly aware that the benefits and value of their products require further justification. There is a requirement to ensure that the value of official statistics is universally recognized and understood — if not, the future of official statistics is at risk.

2. Against this backdrop, a Task Force on valuing official statistics (chaired by the United Kingdom) was established by the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in 2015. The Task Force examined what is meant by the ‘value’ of official statistics, inventoried existing approaches to assessing such value, and produced a set of recommendations for national statistical offices (NSOs).

3. The CES endorsed the *Recommendations for Promoting, Measuring and Communicating the Value of Official Statistics* in 2017 and they have now been published in English, French and Russian. The Recommendations promulgated a measurement framework comprising a set of proposed indicators and suggested methods for producing them.

4. When endorsing the Recommendations, CES called for pilot testing of the framework for measuring the value of official statistics, and for follow-up of the outcomes of such pilot testing to further develop the framework.

II. Mandate

5. The work of the Task Force will be conducted within the framework of CES and its Bureau. The Task Force will be established for a period of two years (2020-2021), after which it will submit a final report with recommendations. After its first year of work, the Task Force will prepare an interim report that will be submitted to the CES Bureau.

III. Objective

6. The objectives of the Task Force are to test:

- (a) The feasibility of applying the measurement framework;
- (b) Its utility in producing helpful, understandable measures of the value of official statistics which contribute to the communication goals of statistical agencies;
- (c) The degree to which indicators produced according to the framework can be compared across products, agencies and countries.

7. For each of points (a) to (c) above, the exercise will aim to enhance the level of detail and guidance set out in the measurement framework. The result of this pilot testing will be a refined measurement framework, building on the framework produced by the previous Task Force and offering more detailed practical guidance for countries to apply it.

8. A simultaneous and equally important goal of the exercise is to provide a collaborative forum for exchange of ideas, methodology and lessons learned between participating countries.

IV. Planned activities and outputs

9. The measurement framework is divided into three elements:

(a) Observable or 'objective' indicators: Indicators which reflect actual use of official statistics, and/or which reflect adherence to Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

(b) Subjective' indicators: Indicators derived from general or specific user surveys, covering perception, trust, support, satisfaction etc.

(c) Monetary valuations of the impact of statistics. Indicators which place a monetary value on the impacts of statistics, and/or which weigh the value of outputs against the cost of inputs.

10. Countries participating in the Task Force will be required to test at least one of these three elements. Some participants may be only able to test one element, whereas others will be in a position to test two or all three. Although not all participants will be able to pilot all parts of the measurement framework, the work of the Task Force as a whole will ensure that all sections of the framework are tested.

11. Some countries have already begun their own independent exercises which may not be limited only to those indicators and methodologies proposed in the current measurement framework. Where appropriate these will also be taken into account and considered for inclusion in the final proposals.

12. The activities of the group will therefore be as follows:

(a) Test the measurement framework (taking note of the observation in paragraph 10);

(b) Document the methodologies used;

(c) Document the resulting indicators produced by each participating country, including any dissemination platforms and communication techniques;

(d) Document participating countries' self-evaluation of challenges faced, resources required, and lessons learned;

(e) Develop proposals for a refined measurement framework including detailed practical recommendations for NSOs.

13. For this exercise, descriptions of the challenges experienced, resources required, methodologies used, and evaluation of results are as important as the results themselves (the actual measures of value). If and when obstacles are faced, the pilot participants will attempt to identify what might be required to overcome these obstacles.

14. Particular attention will be paid to the monetary valuation element, as this is the area posing the greatest potential challenges and in which countries are most in need of guidance. Efforts will be made to develop guidance not only for monetary valuations of outputs, but also of inputs (costs of production), since information about cost/benefit trade-offs is essential for communicating the value of official statistics.

V. Methods of work

15. The Task force will work primarily by making use of a wiki workspace and via email exchange and teleconferences where appropriate. UNECE and the United Kingdom will provide support and guidance to participating countries.

VI. Membership

16. The United Kingdom will chair the Task Force. Currently there are 26 countries or offices willing to participate in the testing of the framework. These are Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Cape Verde, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Georgia, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Mauritius, Lithuania, Mexico, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States of America (Bureau of Labor Statistics) and United States of America (Bureau of Economic Analysis).

17. In its work the Task Force will avoid duplication of efforts with other organizations and at the same time ensure mutual learning between different organizations attempting similar tasks. Other countries and international organizations are welcome to participate in the work.

18. UNECE will act as the secretariat of the Task Force.

Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Task Force on measuring the quality of administrative sources for use in censuses

I. Background

1. Preparations for the 2020 round of population and housing censuses are well-advanced at the international level and, in most countries, at the national level. Information available on the plans by UNECE countries for the 2020 round of censuses show clearly that a high proportion of countries in the region are planning (or evaluating) the adoption of alternative approaches based on the increased use of registers and administrative data. For many countries, the ultimate objective is to move to a fully register-based census.
2. The 2017 UNECE-Eurostat Expert Meeting on Censuses identified the measurement of the quality of administrative sources for use in censuses as a topic of primary importance for many countries in the region and requested additional guidance. The Expert Meeting proposed the establishment of a UNECE Task Force on measuring the quality of administrative sources for use in censuses.

II. Mandate

3. The Task Force reports to the UNECE Steering Group on population and housing censuses, which in turn reports to the Conference of European Statisticians and its Bureau. The Task Force will be established for a period of two years (2020-2021), after which it will submit its final report.

III. Objective

4. The objective of the Task Force is to develop guidance on the measurement of the quality of administrative sources for use in censuses.
5. The Task Force would build on the work of Eurostat's ESS.VIP ADMIN project on the use of administrative sources in the production of official statistics. It should consider the relevance of the results for all UNECE countries.

IV. Planned activities and outputs

6. The work of the Task Force should start by taking stock and collecting all available material on the measurement of the quality of administrative sources for use in censuses.
7. In carrying out its activities, the Task Force should consider the following:
 - (a) Potential of administrative sources to provide the data required for the census;
 - (b) Quality requirements: how good is good enough; how to decide whether administrative data sources and/or administrative data are fit for use.
8. The output is a set of good practices or guidelines, to be finalized by 2021.

V. Methods of work

9. The Task Force is expected to work in English only, mainly by e-mail and telephone conferences. Face-to-face informal meetings of the Task Force could be organized in connection with UNECE-Eurostat Expert Meetings on Censuses and other events attended by a significant number of Task Force members.

10. The UNECE Census Wiki platform can be used by the Task Force to share work material, develop documents and organize discussion forums.

VI. Membership

11. The following countries and organizations expressed interest in participating in the work of the Task Force: Austria, Canada, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States, Eurostat, and UNECE.

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

Mandate and Terms of Reference for the Task Force on measuring social exclusion

I. Background

1. In February 2018, the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) conducted an in-depth review on measuring social exclusion. Statistics Canada and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico (INEGI) prepared a paper summarizing the international activities in this area, which provided the basis for the review (document ECE/CES/BUR/2018/FEB/2). The Bureau asked the UNECE Secretariat together with the Steering Group on Measuring Poverty and Inequality, to prepare a proposal for follow up work to address the priority areas raised in the in-depth review for the next CES Bureau meeting.
2. Social exclusion is a broad concept for which no exact or widely accepted definition exists. As the methodology changes based on the definition used, this makes it challenging to quantify the number of people who face social exclusion, or the degree to which people are at risk of social exclusion. While many countries measure different aspects of social exclusion, very few surveys or statistical methods are specifically designed for this. Most numeric measurements of social exclusion rely heavily on methods that measure material and social deprivation, and then interpret an individual's level of social exclusion.
3. The concept of social exclusion is linked to that of poverty and material deprivation, and disentangling them is conceptually challenging. Moreover, social exclusion is generally discussed within the social cohesion and social inclusion framework, which although often used as synonyms, contain important differences. Distinction between these concepts, like social exclusion, social cohesion, material deprivation or multidimensional poverty is relatively nuanced and makes social exclusion complex to communicate.
4. Social exclusion strongly depends on the economic, cultural and policy context in the country. Although full harmonisation of measures should not be the aim, designing and implementing policies for social exclusion requires far more detailed information. It is important to understand the prevalence, persistence and depth of social exclusion, the multiple dimensions in which people could be excluded, and the policies that exist to combat social exclusion in the societies.
5. The traditional measures of exclusion or inclusion are changing with generations. Digitalisation, for example, is bringing a range of new issues and forms of social exclusion. In this context, a life-course perspective is important for measuring and understanding social exclusion.
6. Following the pledge of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind and to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first, work is needed on collecting and systematising country experiences on measuring different aspects of social exclusion, and linking them to SDG indicators. A collection of such case studies would allow to better support policymaking in this area. The present terms of reference were developed for carrying out such work. The work would build on existing UNECE networks and expertise in the related area of measuring poverty and inequality.

II. Mandate

7. The Task Force on Measuring Social Exclusion reports to the Conference through its Bureau. The Task Force will be established for a period of two years (2020-2021), after which it will submit its final report.

8. The Task Force's work will be taken forward under the guidance of the CES Steering Group on measuring poverty and inequality.

III. Objective

9. The objective of the Task Force is to consolidate current and emerging good practices in measuring social exclusion and in assessing their potential for delivering comparable results.

IV. Planned activities and outputs

10. The Task Force will collect national practices on the following:

(a) Concepts and frameworks for measuring social exclusion on the national level, including factors that lead to social exclusion, and groups of people facing social exclusion;

(b) Indicators used for measuring social exclusion;

(c) Measuring emerging aspects and forms of social exclusion resulting from recent developments in the society, e.g. digitalisation;

(d) Communicating measures of social exclusion.

11. The Task Force will compile a collection of good practices and analyse them. The analysis will aim at the following outputs:

(a) Taxonomy of the use of different concepts related to social exclusion, including social cohesion, social inclusion, poverty and material deprivation;

(b) Identification of good practices in the production, analysis and dissemination of social exclusion measures;

(c) Demonstration of linkages to SDG indicators.

V. Methods of work

12. The Task Force is expected to work mainly via email and telephone conferences and using a common workspace at the UNECE wiki platform. It will meet once a year back-to-back with the meetings of the UNECE Expert Group on measuring poverty and inequality.

VI. Membership

13. The following countries and organizations indicated interest in participating in the Task Force: Canada, Mexico, United Kingdom, and Eurostat. Membership is open to additional countries or organizations. UNECE will provide the secretariat.

14. The Task Force will seek to involve in the group academia, and the custodian agencies responsible for the SDG indicators related to social exclusion to consider SDG monitoring needs.