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CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

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(Paris, 13-15 June 2000)

**PROGRAMMES OF INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL
WORK IN THE ECE REGION, 2000/2001 AND 2001/2002:
AN INTEGRATED PRESENTATION**

(Post-plenary session version)

INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

Purpose of this document and its addenda

1. The main purposes of the plenary sessions of the Conference of European Statisticians are for the Conference to coordinate the statistically related work that various international and supranational organizations carry out in the ECE region, and for the Conference to decide on its future work programme. The CES plenary session has become the forum in which the work programmes of all other international and supranational agencies active in the ECE and OECD areas (including the European Union) are considered and reviewed in the context of the CES programme. Although the Conference has no jurisdiction over the work programmes of other agencies because they have their own decision-making bodies, the Conference has authority based on its comprehensive and very senior membership, and its longstanding history of scrutinising and co-ordinating international statistical work.
2. Increasingly, too, as this document and its addenda show, expert meetings are organised jointly by two or more agencies such as the ECE with Eurostat, OECD and other international organizations.
3. The most important document for the plenary session is always therefore this Integrated Presentation Programme of Work of the 25 or so international agencies active in the ECE and OECD areas. This single comprehensive document is intended to bring together all the information necessary to enable the plenary session to make well-informed decisions about future work in its own programme and to comment and give advice on statistical work planned to be undertaken by other institutions. It is important to note too that the work is considered in the light of objectives defined by national statistical offices rather than by international secretariats. More details are given under the heading "Background information" below.

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4. This version of the Integrated Presentation was prepared after the Conference of European Statisticians's 13-15 June 2000 plenary session. It reflects the various decisions that the Conference took at the plenary session.

Mandate of the Conference

5. The Integrated Presentation and the programme of work of the Conference provides the structure within which the plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians provides guidance and direction in pursuing its objectives as confirmed by the Conference at its 1993 plenary session, as follows:

- to improve national statistics and their international comparability having regard to the recommendations of the Statistical Commission of the United Nations, the Specialized Agencies and other appropriate bodies, as necessary;
- to promote close co-ordination of the statistical activities in Europe of international organizations so as to achieve greater uniformity in concepts and definitions and to reduce to a minimum the burdens on national statistical offices; and
- to respond to any emerging need for international statistical cooperation arising out of transition, integration and other processes of cooperation both within the ECE region and between the ECE region and other regions.

Background information

6. The Integrated Presentation contained in this document and in its six addenda, each dealing with a different work area, provides an overview of the international statistical work that is planned to be carried out in the next two years by all of the major international organizations that is likely to have an impact on ECE, EU and OECD countries. The Integrated Presentation also provides summary information on the planned future statistically-related work programme of the UN/ECE, Eurostat, OECD and approximately two dozen other international organizations working in this region.

7. This version of the Integrated Presentation was prepared after the 13-15 June 2000 plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians. The Conference uses it as an aid in carrying out its primary role of coordinating the international statistical work that is planned to be carried out in the next two years which is of relevance to ECE, EU and OECD countries. The Integrated Presentation is also used as a valuable tool for coordination at the national level, for countries are increasingly using it to assist them in deciding on their participation in different meetings convened by the various international organizations.

8. In many of the programme elements contained in this version of the Integrated Presentation there are references to various issues in individual fields of statistics that the Bureau of the Conference considered warranted being brought to the attention of the Conference at the plenary session. These issues are listed in the Integrated Presentation in each programme element under the heading "Attention of the Conference was drawn to the following". This version of the Integrated Presentation also lists under the heading "Decisions taken by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session" various decisions that the Conference took in each work area during the plenary session.

9. The ECE Statistical Division has been preparing the Integrated Presentation for the annual plenary session of the Conference since 1993, and with each new version of the Integrated Presentation efforts have been made to improve it. The major innovations that have been introduced into this year's version of the Integrated Presentation are the following:

- a) **The Bureau conducted an in-depth review of programme activities 3, 5 and 6 (see Table 1) since the 1999 plenary session.** (The Bureau conducts similar types of in-depth reviews of three programme activities each year, so as to ensure that the entire work programme can be reviewed in depth every two years).
- b) In accordance with recent past practise, because of the large size of the Integrated Presentation, rather than reviewing each of the 48 or so programme elements in turn at the plenary session, the Conference now generally reviews a few programme elements in depth. The programme elements that were reviewed in depth are ones that the Bureau had selected. The remaining programme elements were reviewed in a less detailed manner. The following three programme elements were reviewed by the Conference in greater depth at the 2000 plenary session:
- Quality assessments of statistical data (part of PE 3.2): Bulgaria, Switzerland and the IMF contributed papers that served as the basis of the Conference's in-depth review of this programme element (CES/2000/5-6 and CES/2000/6/Add.1).
 - Harmonized CPIs (part of PE 3.9): Poland and Denmark contributed papers that served as the basis of the Conference's in-depth review of this programme element (CES/2000/7 and CES/2000/7/Add.1).
 - Agricultural statistics (part of PE 3.10): Estonia, the Inter-secretariat Working Group on Agriculture Statistics and Canada contributed papers that served as the basis of the Conference's in-depth review of this programme element (CES/2000/8 and CES/2000/8/Adda 1-2).
- c) **Experimental way of presenting material in the Integrated Presentation at the 2000 plenary session of the Conference, and its implications for future editions of the Integrated Presentation:** In the autumn of 1999 the UN Statistics Division asked the ECE Statistical Division and the Bureau of the Conference to prepare the Conference's Integrated Presentation in a different manner. This proposed new manner of presentation involved using new headings, and having the material focus on developments in statistical methodology in each field of statistics rather than on statistically-related work in general. The UN Statistics Division made this request so that the information presented in the Conference's Integrated Presentation would relate more directly to the UN Statistics Division's integrated presentation and to its database on the work of international organizations in the field of statistical methodology. The Bureau of the Conference considered this request at its November 1999 meeting, and concluded that for purposes of the version of the Integrated Presentation that would be produced for the 2000 plenary session, the part of the Presentation relating to Programme Activity 4 should be prepared, in an experimental way, in conformity with what the UN Statistics Division had requested. The proposed new format is that which is presented in CES/2000/26/Add. 4.

The Conference reviewed the proposed new format of the Integrated Presentation that was used to prepare Programme Activity 4. **The Conference agreed that the proposed new format of the Integrated Presentation was generally acceptable as a way of preparing the Integrated Presentation in future years, subject to the following conditions: (i) that the information that would be presented in future years would be more comprehensive than that which was presented in the very concise "bullets" this year in Programme Activity 4; and (ii) that in future editions of the Integrated Presentation, in all applicable Programme Elements, issues that warrant being called to the attention of the Conference would be highlighted for the Conference, to facilitate discussion that the Conference has on the programme elements.** In accordance with this decision, future editions of the Integrated Presentation will be prepared according to the new format that was agreed by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session.

The Conference also considered that in the future, the programme elements that are selected for in-depth review at the plenary session should be discussed on the basis of two papers. One of

the papers should be prepared by a national statistical office, and the other should be prepared by the Organisation that has been designated as the Rapporteur for that programme element. The Conference also agreed that both papers should be issue-oriented for the Conference at large, and should contain concrete proposals for discussion and/or action.

Finally, at the 2000 plenary session, the Conference agreed that the material presented in the Integrated Presentation is a rich source of information for countries. However, it also noted that the text presented in it is very voluminous and difficult to digest. It considered the proposal to attempt to convert the Integrated Presentation into a database to be an interesting one. The Conference noted that the ECE secretariat does not have sufficient resources to look into this possibility on its own, and therefore it welcomed the offer of interested national statistical offices to assist the secretariat in this endeavour.

- d) **Numbering and wording of titles of the Programme Elements:** The Bureau of the Conference also considered that it would be preferable to have the wording of the titles and numbering of Programme Elements in the Conference's Integrated Presentation more closely aligned with the classification of statistical activities that the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) uses. The Conference agreed to this proposed new re-wording and re-numbering of the programme elements at the 2000 plenary session. Therefore, the new titles and numbering of the programme elements is reflected in the post-plenary session of the Integrated presentation presented in CES/2000/26 and Adda 1-6.

Structure of the Integrated Presentation

10. The Integrated Presentation is divided into six major work areas ("programme activities") which comprise the programme of work of the Conference, and they are in turn sub-divided into a total of 48 programme elements (see Table 1).

11. Programme activity 1 covers issues concerned with the general management of the programme of work of the Conference, issues of statistical policy that are of direct concern to heads of NSOs, and issues such as international coordination, technical assistance in statistics and relations with countries outside the ECE region.

12. Programme activity 2 deals with substantive cross-cutting issues (including the managerial aspects of such issues) of concern to NSOs, which do not relate to a specific subject-matter field of statistics (e.g. issues of information technology with relation to statistical work).

13. The core of the programme lies in the substantive programme activities 3, 4 and 5 which address economic statistics, social and demographic statistics, and environment statistics respectively. Each of these programme activities may address conceptual issues, standards, and questions of design, collection, production, dissemination and analysis of statistical data arising in their domains.

14. Programme activity 6 covers the coordination of international data collection, the work of the secretariats in disseminating statistical data, and other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat.

15. The division of these six programme activities into 48 programme elements aims to be comprehensive while keeping the number of programme elements to a minimum, and consistent with the aims of the Conference. Each programme element is characterised by a statement of broad objectives and scope in a homogeneous area of statistical activity. The complete list of programme elements in the Conference's programme of work is provided in Table 1, together with an indication of the document in the Integrated Presentation in which information for the programme element can be found. The list of abbreviations used in the work programmes is given in Annex I.

16. While the structure and delineation of programme elements are expected to change slowly, the level of activity within programme elements will vary more rapidly between elements and over time. At any one time, some programme elements will be dormant, while others may be very active. For each planning period, the Conference will be required to review proposed goals and activities for particular programme elements and to decide on priorities.

17. The descriptions of each of the programme elements aim to provide a framework for all international statistical work relevant to national statistical offices in ECE, EU and OECD countries. The following standard headings are used within each programme element (in Programme Activities 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6).

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

EXPECTED COLLECTIVE OUTPUT IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS: Specific outputs expected by countries in the next two years.

ATTENTION OF THE CONFERENCE WAS DRAWN TO THE FOLLOWING: List of issues in each field of statistics that the Bureau of the Conference considers should be brought to the attention of the Conference at the plenary session.

DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE AT THE 2000 PLENARY SESSION: List of decisions on its programme of work that the Bureau recommends the Conference to take at the 2000 plenary session.

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

RAPPORTEUR: International organization that the Conference has recommended be assigned responsibility for preparing short issue- and strategic-oriented reports for the Bureau and for assessing on behalf of the Conference progress towards the objectives and outputs specified for a programme element.

ACTIVITIES AND MEANS IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS: Description of the major activities of agencies in that field from June 2000 to June 2002.

Information is also given in this section on **ECE resource implications** for the work to be carried out by the ECE secretariat. The resource implications are classified as follows: minimal (less than 3 work months); moderate (3-6 work months); and substantial (over 6 work months).

Functions of Rapporteurs

18. The Conference concluded at its 1995 plenary session that in programme elements where several international organizations are actively working, it would be useful for the Conference to ask one agency to serve as the "rapporteur" for work in that field. Rapporteurs have now been appointed for most of the programme elements. Rapporteurs report to the Bureau, who in turn take the reports into account in proposing changes to the integrated presentation.

19. The Bureau conducts an in-depth review of three programme activities each year, so that the entire work programme can be reviewed every two years. It began this two year review cycle during the 1996/97 year, and in 2000/2001 the Bureau will conduct in-depth reviews of programme activities 1, 2 and 4 (see Table 1). These in-depth reviews are conducted on the basis of the following material: (i) the amended

version of the integrated presentation that is prepared immediately after the Conference's plenary session, and which reflects the outcome of the discussion that took place at the plenary session (Addenda 1, 2 and 4 of CES/2000/26 and Addenda 1, 2 and 4); and (ii) short reports that the Rapporteurs prepare for the Bureau in the fields of statistics covered by these work areas.

20. The specific functions which the Bureau asks the Rapporteurs to perform on behalf of the Conference are summarised below:

- to keep abreast of the relevant activities that are being undertaken by other relevant agencies, in order to fulfil the following function;
- to report to the Bureau, in short reports that are intended to be essentially issue- and strategic-oriented in character, on the extent to which progress is being made collectively by the agencies in meeting what is presented in the Integrated Presentation as the Member States' 'Objectives' (Problem outline in PA 4) and 'Expected collective outputs' (Strategic medium-term goals in PA 4) for international statistical work in a given field of statistics. The reports are to be submitted to the Bureau through the Secretary of the Conference, no later than the beginning of September each year for programme activities to be reviewed that year; the Bureau will report to the Conference the following June);
- to identify in their reports any important issues in their field of statistics which they consider warrant being brought to the attention of the Bureau and/or the Conference (e.g. key new issues, gaps, problems or developments);
- to advise the Bureau, through their candid reports, on how the objectives and outputs might best be achieved; and
- in cases where a Programme Element has been selected by the Bureau as one for in-depth review at the forthcoming plenary session (see para. 9, sub-para (c), above), to prepare a paper for the plenary session relating to that programme element, which (together with a national paper) should serve as the basis of the Conference's in-depth review of that programme element; the Rapporteur's paper (like that of the country) should be issue-oriented for the Conference at large, and it should also contain concrete proposals for discussion and/or action.

Planned future development of the Integrated Presentation

21. The process of improving the integrated presentation is an on-going one. It will continue with the in-depth reviews of individual programme activities that the Bureau will conduct each year. It will also continue with the adaptation for the 2001 plenary session of Programme Activities 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6, to reflect the new format of the Integrated Presentation that was agreed by the Conference at the 2000 plenary session concerning the experimental way in which Programme Activity 4 of the Integrated Presentation (Social and Demographic Statistics) was produced for the 2000 plenary session (see items (c) and (d) in para. 9 above).

Other relevant information

22. The list of abbreviations that are used by Eurostat and the OECD in describing their work programmes is given in Annex I.

23. Background information on ECE secretariat resources that will be available to help support the work programme of the Conference in 2000/2001 and 2001/2002 is given in Annex II of this note. The Conference took this information into account when it reviewed its draft work programme at the 2000 plenary session.

Table 1. List of programme elements in the programme of work of the Conference (together with an indication of the document in which information for that programme element can be found)

Programme Activity	Programme Element
<u>Programme Activity 1:</u> Organization and Operation of statistical services (CES/2000/26/Add.1)	1.1 Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work 1.2 Managerial and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of national statistical offices 1.3 Countries in transition in the ECE region 1.4 Relations with countries outside the ECE region (including countries in the Mediterranean region)
<u>Programme Activity 2:</u> Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues (CES/2000/26/Add.2)	2.1 Management of information technology infrastructure 2.2 Statistical data collection and processing 2.3 Dissemination and interchange of statistical information 2.4 Statistical classifications 2.5 Statistical research and development 2.6 Geographical and regional data 2.7 Human resource development 2.8 Sustainable development indicators NEW
<u>Programme Activity 3:</u> Economic statistics (CES/2000/26/Add.3)	3.1 Implementation of the system of national accounts 3.2 Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments 3.3 International trade in goods 3.4 Transport and communication statistics 3.5 Distributive trades 3.6 International trade in services 3.7 Tourism 3.8 Other marketed services, and non-marketed services 3.9 Price statistics, including purchasing power parities 3.10 Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics 3.11 Industrial statistics 3.12 Energy statistics 3.13 Science and technology statistics 3.14 Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics 3.XX Other work in the field of economic statistics

Programme Activity	Programme Element
<p><u>Programme Activity 4:</u> Social and demographic statistics (CES/2000/26/Add.4)</p> <p>New numbering of programme elements to achieve better correspondence to the Programme Classification of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC)</p>	<p>4.1 Demographic statistics (including projections, migration, fertility and families and households) (<i>formerly 4.11</i>)</p> <p>4.2a Population and housing censuses (<i>formerly 4.5</i>)</p> <p>4.2b Statistics on population groups of special interest (<i>formerly 4.14</i>)</p> <p>4.3 Human settlements and housing statistics (<i>formerly 4.12</i>)</p> <p>4.4 Labour statistics (<i>formerly 4.10</i>)</p> <p>4.5 Education and training statistics (<i>formerly 4.8</i>)</p> <p>4.6 Culture statistics (<i>formerly 4.9</i>)</p> <p>4.7a Statistics of household income and expenditures, of the welfare of the population, and of poverty and income inequality (<i>formerly 4.13</i>)</p> <p>4.7b Social security statistics (<i>new</i>) NEW</p> <p>4.8 Crime and criminal justice statistics (<i>formerly 4.7</i>)</p> <p>4.9 Health statistics (<i>formerly 4.6</i>)</p> <p>4.10 Gender statistics (<i>formerly 4.2</i>)</p> <p>4.11 Other work in the field of social and demographic statistics (<i>formerly 4.xx</i>)</p> <p>4.11a Social indicators and frameworks (<i>formerly 4.1</i>)</p> <p>4.11b Multi-purpose social surveys (<i>formerly 4.3</i>)</p> <p>4.11c Registers and administrative records for social and demographic statistics (<i>formerly 4.4</i>)</p>
<p><u>Programme Activity 5:</u> Environment statistics (CES/2000/26/Add.5)</p>	<p>5.1 Sectoral concepts, definitions and classifications <i>Themes: emissions, waste, land use/cover, etc.</i></p> <p>5.2 Environmental accounting</p> <p>5.3 Environmental databases and reporting</p> <p>5.4 Meteorology statistics NEW</p>
<p><u>Programme Activity 6:</u> Dissemination and support for secretariat activities (CES/2000/26/Add.6)</p>	<p>6.1 Coordination of international data collection</p> <p>6.2 Other statistically-related activities of the ECE secretariat</p>

**Annex I. List of more frequently used abbreviations employed
in the work programmes of Eurostat and the OECD**

CAP PAC	Common Agricultural Policy (Eurostat) [Politique agricole commune]
CCEET	Centre for Co-operation with the European Economies in Transition [Centre pour la Coopération avec les Economies en Transition]
CDIS	Management Committee on Statistical Information (Eurostat) [Comité Directeur de l'Information Statistique]
CD-ROM	Compact disks with read-only memory
CEEC PECO	Central and Eastern European Countries [Pays d'Europe centrale et orientale]
CESD	European Training Centre for Economists-Statisticians from Developing Countries (Eurostat) [Centre de formation des Economistes-Statisticiens des pays en voie de développement]
CIT	Countries in transition
CMFB	Committee on Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments Statistics (Eurostat) [Comité des statistiques Monétaires, Financières et de Balance des paiements]
COFOG CFAB	Classification of the Functions of Government (Eurostat) [Classification des fonctions des administrations publiques]
CPA	Classification of Products according to Activity (Eurostat) [Classification des Produits liés aux Activités]
DGINS	Conference of the Directors General of National Statistical Institutes (Eurostat) [Conférence des Directeurs Généraux des Instituts Nationaux de Statistique]
DOSES	Specific programme for the Research and Development of Statistical Expert Systems (Eurostat) [Programme spécifique de recherche-développement des systèmes experts en statistique]
DSIS	Distributed Statistics Information System (Eurostat) [Système d'Information Statistique Réparti]
EAA CEA	Economic Accounts for Agriculture (Eurostat) [Comptes économiques de l'agriculture]
ECCI	European Employment Cost Index (Eurostat)
ECHP	European Coordinated Household Panels (Eurostat)
ECMT	The European Conference of Ministers of Transport

CEMT	[Conférence Européenne des Ministres des Transports]
EEA	European Economic Area (Eurostat)
EEE	[Espace économique européen]
EEA	European Environment Agency (Eurostat)
AEE	[Agence européenne de l'environnement]
EECI	European Employment Costs Index (Eurostat) [Indice européen du coût de la main-d'oeuvre]
EHLASS	European Home and Leisure Accident Surveillance System (Eurostat) [Système européen de contrôle des accidents au foyer et lors des activités de loisir]
EMI	European Monetary Institute (Eurostat)
IME	[Institut monétaire européen]
EMU	Economic and Monetary Union (Eurostat)
UEM	[Union économique et monétaire]
ESA	European System of integrated national Accounts (Eurostat)
SEC	[Système européen de comptes nationaux intégrés]
ESSPROS	European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (Eurostat)
SESPROS	[Système européen de statistiques intégrées de la Protection Sociale]
FISIMs	Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured (in the European System of Accounts, ESA 95)
GISCO	Geographic Information System for the Commission
NACE	General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities (Eurostat) [Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans les Communautés Européennes]
NIS	New Independent States (former Republics of the USSR) Nouveaux Etats Indépendants
NSI	National Statistical Institutes (Eurostat)
INS	[Instituts nationaux de statistique]
NUTS	Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (Eurostat) [Nomenclature des unités territoriales statistiques]
OWN/d	OECD World data Network
PHARE	Action plan for coordinated aid for restructuring economies in Poland and Hungary (Eurostat) [Pologne-Hongrie Assistance à la Restructuration des Economies]
PIT	Partners in Transition (Hungary, Poland, Czech and Slovak Republics)

PPP	Purchasing Power Parities
SCCTAS	Steering Committee to Coordinate Technical Assistance in Statistics to countries of the former Soviet Union
SERIEE	Collection of economic information on the environment (Eurostat) [Collecte d'informations économiques sur l'environnement]
SERT	Business statistics and telematics networks (Eurostat) [Statistiques des Entreprises et Réseaux Télématiques]
SIRENE	System of Distributed Information on Energy (Eurostat)
SME PME	Small and Medium sized Enterprises (Eurostat) [Petites et moyennes entreprises]
SOPEMI	Continuous Reporting System on Migration [Système d'observation permanente des migrations]
SPC CPS	Statistical Programme Committee (Eurostat) [Comité du Programme Statistique]
SPEL	Sectoral production and income model for Community Agriculture (Eurostat) [Modèle de la production et des revenus du secteur agricole communautaire]
TACIS	Technical Assistance CIS (Eurostat)
TES	Training of European Statisticians (Eurostat) [Formation des statisticiens européens]
TRAINS	Transport Information System (Eurostat) [Gestion statistique des transports terrestres]
UOE	UNESCO-OECD-Eurostat (joint questionnaire on education statistics)

Annex II

ECE secretariat resources expected to be available for the work programme of the Conference of European Statisticians in 2000/2001 and 2001/2002

1. The programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians for 2000/2001 and 2001/2002 is presented in addenda 1-7 of this note, in conjunction with the planned statistical work programmes of other international and supranational organizations whose work relates to ECE, EU and OECD countries.

2. This annex contains information on the amount of ECE secretariat resources that are expected to be available for the Conference's work programme for the two year period commencing in July 2000, for the Conference to take into account when deciding on its own work programme.

3. In considering its draft programme of work for the coming two-year period, the Conference is also invited to take the following information about secretariat resources into account. It responds to the provisions of the Economic Commission for Europe's decisions "E (48)" on the provision of adequate resources for the servicing of the priority and other sectors of the Economic Commission for Europe and "I (48)" on reporting from the Subsidiary Bodies to the Commission:

- The draft budget for the 2000-2001 biennium makes provision for the UN/ECE Statistical Division to be comprised of 37 regular budget posts¹. Twenty-one of the posts are expected to be available to serve the work programme of the Conference in 2000/2001, and the remaining 16 posts are intended for work that the Statistical Division performs for other Divisions of the ECE. This refers to the work the Statistical Division does for the Economic Analysis Division (13 posts), and to the ECE Graphical Design Unit which provides graphics design work for all parts of the ECE (3 posts). This resource base is supplemented by 5% of the UNOG (United Nations Office at Geneva) costs apportioned to ECE for conference services, personnel services and other services, a share of which is absorbed by the Conference of European Statisticians.
- The salary and related costs associated with these regular budget posts are expected to comprise more than 98% of the budgetary allocation, and the remaining part is composed of small amounts available for official travel, consultants, equipment and external printing of publications.
- The work of the Statistical Division is also expected to be supported during the 2000-2001 biennium by some extra-budgetary funds. The extra-budgetary funding involved pertains to the UNDP-financed project on social reporting and human development, which is aimed at assisting countries in transition in producing a wide range of basic social statistics for inclusion in national and international yearbooks of social statistics. The Statistical Division also expects to have an additional extra-budgetary post which it will use to engage a Project Manager to manage the technical assistance activities that the Division will organise in this project.

¹ Thirty-six of the 37 regular budget posts are in the "core" budget of the ECE (Section 18 of the UN budget), and one of these 36 posts is a new post that the Statistical Division is to receive in the 2000-2001 biennium as a result of the 1997 Reform of the ECE. The thirty-seventh post is the Statistical Division's Regional Adviser post, which is financed from Section 21 ("Regular programme of technical cooperation") of the UN budget.

- Of the 21 regular budget secretariat posts that are expected to be available to service the work programme of the Conference of European Statisticians, they are planned to be allocated to the following work areas during the coming year:
 - 19% will be devoted to programme activity 1 (Organization and operation of statistical services);
 - 22% will be devoted to programme activity 2 (Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues);
 - 26% will be devoted to programme activity 3 (Economic statistics);
 - 12% will be devoted to programme activity 4 (Social and demographic statistics);
 - 5% will be devoted to programme activity 5 (Environment statistics); and
 - 16% will be devoted to programme activity 6 (Dissemination and support for secretariat activities).

- Of the 37 posts available to the Division in the 2000-2001 biennium, two were vacant at the end of March 2000. One is the Regional Adviser post which is used to support work that the Conference conducts for countries in transition in the ECE region. The Division plans to fill this post in the coming months. The other post is a professional post which is used to support the work of the Conference in the field of economic statistics, and that post is also planned to be filled in the coming months. Finally, mention should also be made here to the post that is identified in the budget of the Statistical Division for the 2000-2001 biennium as an additional post which is to be transferred to the Division as a result of the 1997 Reform of the ECE. That post is included in the total number of 37 posts which is referred to above. That post is a professional post that is intended to be used to support the work of the Conference in two areas, namely, social and demographic statistics (Programme Activity 4) and in the production of the Statistical Division's flagship statistical publication "Trends" (Programme Activity 6). That post has not yet been transferred to the Division.

- The number of half-day meeting sessions with interpretation used to support the work of the Conference of European Statisticians in the past one-year period (i.e. from 1 April 1999 through 31 March 2000), in accordance with Commission Decision O(45), was 22 (this amounts to 4% of the total number of half-day meeting sessions with interpretation that ECE had during this period).
