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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Forty-eighth plenary session  
(Paris, 13-15 June 2000)

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

(Pre-plenary session version)

**PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 5  
ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS**

**The format of this integrated presentation**

1. This is intended to be a fully integrated presentation of international work programmes in the ECE region. That is to say it includes not only the statistical work of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), but also the relevant statistical work carried out in the ECE region by the Commission of the European Communities, OECD, the UN Statistics Division (UNSD), ILO, WHO, IMF, the World Trade Organization (ex GATT), the World Bank, The Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT) and many other agencies. The programmes are presented in six separate documents - one for each domain in the Conference's programme of work - as follows:

- Programme Activity 1: Organization and Operation of statistical services (CES/2000/4/Add.1)
- Programme Activity 2: Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues (CES/2000/4/Add.2)
- Programme Activity 3: Economic statistics (CES/2000/4/Add.3)
- Programme Activity 4: Social and demographic statistics (CES/2000/4/Add.4)
- Programme Activity 5: Environment statistics (CES/2000/4/Add.5)
- Programme Activity 6: Dissemination and support for secretariat activities (CES/2000/4/Add.6)

2. The integrated presentation is prepared annually, according to the following timetable:

- i) December-January: The ECE secretariat obtains information from the other organizations on their programmes of work and prepares a first draft of the integrated presentation for review by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians at its February meeting of each year.

- ii) February-May: The integrated presentation is updated and amended to include the Bureau's recommended decisions to the Conference in each field of statistics. This "pre-plenary session version" is presented in draft form for review by the Conference at its annual meeting in June.
- iii) July-August: The integrated presentation is amended to reflect the decisions taken by the Conference at its May meeting concerning its own work programme. This "post-plenary session version" is issued in its final form for the forthcoming two-year period.

3. Thus, the material presented in the six documents referred to above contains updated text that organizations supplied to the secretariat for inclusion in this updated version of the integrated presentation which was considered by the Conference at its 1999 plenary session. In addition to providing updated information on the planned future work programmes of the different international organizations in different fields of statistics, it lists numerous decisions that the Conference took in these fields of statistics, and identifies various issues that the Bureau brought to the attention of the Conference at the plenary session.

4. Each programme activity is sub-divided into a number of programme elements, and each programme element is described within the following framework:

**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 IS DRAWN TO THE FOLLOWING:** List of issues in each field of statistics that the Bureau of the Conference decided should be brought to the attention of the Conference at the plenary session.

**DECISIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE CES BUREAU TO 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 mid-June 1999 to June 2001. 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).

### **List of programme elements in the programme of work of the Conference**

5. The list of programme elements in the whole programme of work of the Conference is given in Table 1, together with an indication of the document in which information for that programme element can be found.

**Other related information**

6. As the Integrated Presentation is being presented in the same format in six separate documents, this explanatory note on the format of the presentation is being reproduced in each of the documents. A separate short document (CES/2000/4) describes the background to the development of the format used here and provides additional information including an explanation of acronyms used.

**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)**

<b>Programme Activity</b>	<b>Programme Element</b>
<u>Programme Activity 1:</u> <b>Organization and Operation of statistical services</b> <b>(CES/2000/4/Add.1)</b>	<b>1.1</b> Promotion and coordination of multilateral statistical work <b>1.2</b> Managerial and policy issues of direct concern to presidents of national statistical offices <b>1.3</b> Countries in transition in the ECE region <b>1.4</b> Relations with countries outside the ECE region (including countries in the Mediterranean region)
<u>Programme Activity 2:</u> <b>Technical infrastructure and other cross-cutting issues</b> <b>(CES/2000/4/Add.2)</b>	<b>2.1</b> Management of information technology infrastructure <b>2.2</b> Statistical data collection and processing <b>2.3</b> Dissemination and interchange of statistical information <b>2.4</b> Statistical classifications <b>2.5</b> Statistical research and development <b>2.6</b> Geographical and regional data <b>2.7</b> Human resource development <b>2.8</b> Sustainable development indicators <b>NEW</b>
<u>Programme Activity 3:</u> <b>Economic statistics</b> <b>(CES/2000/4/Add.3)</b>	<b>3.1</b> Implementation of the system of national accounts <b>3.2</b> Money and banking, government finance, and balance of payments <b>3.3</b> International trade in goods <b>3.4</b> Transport and communication statistics <b>3.5</b> Distributive trades <b>3.6</b> International trade in services <b>3.7</b> Tourism <b>3.8</b> Other marketed services, and non-marketed services <b>3.9</b> Price statistics, including purchasing power parities <b>3.10</b> Agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics <b>3.11</b> Industrial statistics <b>3.12</b> Energy statistics <b>3.13</b> Science and technology statistics <b>3.14</b> Business registers and administrative records in support of economic statistics <b>3.XX</b> Other work in the field of economic statistics

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

## **PROGRAMME ACTIVITY 5 ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS**

### **5.1/5.3 SECTORIAL CONCEPTS, DEFINITIONS, CLASSIFICATIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DATABASES**

#### **Objectives over the next several years:**

To develop an integrated system of internationally comparable environmental statistics capable of assisting governments in setting and adjusting regulatory, taxation and resource management policies which directly or indirectly affect the environment. Major components include

- the development and revision of statistical definitions, concepts and classifications;
- the establishment of concepts for developing environmental indicators;
- the collection, compilation, treatment and dissemination of internationally comparable, policy relevant environmental data.

Specific objectives include the review and assessment of current questionnaires and the joint development of any new questionnaire with a view to eliminating redundancy and minimising any unavoidable differences in concepts or topics.

#### **Expected collective output in the next two years:**

Agreed standard methodologies for environmental protection expenditure and facilities; waste and recycling; eco-industries; eco-taxes and other economic instruments. Improvements in the quality of environmental data requests from international/intergovernmental organisations as well as in the quality of data available in international databases.

#### **Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:**

- Support to be given to FAO to speed-up the development of a standard international classification of land use/cover;
- Future action in joint data collection : As of Agro-environment indicators, see PE 3.10. OECD and Eurostat are developing common definitions and classifications of the Eco-industry. Eurostat and OECD well co-ordinated on this but no data collection planned at present;
- Future action in joint data collection (concerns eco-taxes): OECD's first data collection is now nearly completed and a database with detailed descriptions of taxes (a catalogue) is available. Regular updates of the catalogue are foreseen. However, it is foreseen to take tax revenue data from the regular data collections by OECD and Eurostat rather than collect revenue data separately. Therefore no action needed at present.

#### **Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2000 plenary session:**

- to approve the activities to be undertaken by the Conference in this programme element (see "Activities and means" section below).

#### **Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:**

ECE-Eurostat: Joint Work Session on Methodological Issues in Environment Statistics (2001-2002)

Eurostat Working Group: Environment Statistics 19 - 21 Sep 2000

Eurostat Working Group: Energy and Environment, 5 – 6 June 2000

Eurostat Working Group: Environmental expenditure 24 - 25 Oct 2000

Eurostat Working Group: Waste Statistics 04 - 05 Dec 2000

Eurostat Working Group: Water Statistics May 2001

OECD: Working Group on Waste Management Policy (two meetings: spring, winter)

OECD: Working Group on Waste Minimisation (one meeting per year)

OECD: Working Group on the State of the Environment (one or two meetings per year, next:  
24-26 October 2000)

OECD: Working Party on Economic and Environment Policy Integration (two meetings per year)

OECD: Working Party 2 of the Committee on Fiscal Affairs

OECD: Joint Working of the Committee for Agriculture and the Environment Policy Committee, two meetings  
(including discussion on indicators) 10-12 July and 4-6 December 2000

**Rapporteur:** Eurostat

### **Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:**

#### **Activities of ECE:**

- a) ECE/Eurostat Joint Work Session on methodological issues of environment statistics to consider in 2001/2002 the topics listed below: (i) Developing of air, water, land use and waste statistics according to the NACE/ISIC classifications and their uses; (ii) Environmental statistics (basic data, indicators, etc) as a basis for national, regional and local decision-making. What data and methods are suitable and feasible at different geographical levels? (iii) Country experiences in linking environment information to different economic sectors, e.g. transport, energy, agriculture, fisheries, industry and tourism; (iv) Urban environment indicators (e.g. land use change, noise, air pollution, human health, cultural heritage, etc.); (v) Use of estimation methods and indirect measurements to provide environmental information for areas where data are lacking.
- b) Organization, according to need, of specific task forces, to consider other methodological aspects of environment statistics.
- c) Preparation, if resources permit and when required, of 'readings volumes' of methods used in the collection, compilation or dissemination of environment statistics.
- d) Participation in coordination schemes, in particular the Task Force on Environment Statistics.

**Secretariat resources:** Moderate

**Cross-reference:** Work on "Agricultural statistics of the environment" is being undertaken by the Joint FAO/ECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Food and Agricultural Statistics and is reported under programme element 3.10 (see CES/BUR.2000/19/Add.3).

Refer also to the ECE Work Session on GIS Technology in Programme Element 2.6 in CES/BUR.2000/19/Add.2.

#### **Activities of the ECE Environment and Human Settlement's Division (ENHS):**

The International Environment Data Service (IEDS) database continues to be used for the purpose of the Environmental Performance Review, this programme is also the prime user of the environmental database. Plans for extending the database to cover all information available in ENHS are being formulated

#### **Activities of Eurostat:** (*Theme 71 - Environmental statistics and indicators (711-715, 717-719)*):

Work will continue to improve data and concepts for indicators on integration of environmental concern relating to agriculture, energy, transport and industry. In addition to work that is already in progress, more sectors will be added, following the political decisions on sector integration (such as fisheries, tourism, internal market).

The EU 6<sup>th</sup> Action Programme for environment, planned for the end of 2000, will influence the priorities for environmentally related statistics. In particular, statistics on environment and health and on chemicals of environmental concern are expected to request additional efforts.

A system of Community waste statistics is being established and the proposed Regulation on Waste Statistics will – as soon as it has been adopted – set the rules for concepts and classifications for waste statistics. Statistical tools is being developed to facilitate links between emission inventories and ISIC/NACE.

The Council Regulation on structural business statistics concerning the environmental variables is giving concepts and definitions for environmental expenditure.

Statistics and definitions on water use and wastewater treatment will be improved based on existing voluntary data collection and administrative data.

The set of pressure indicators will be further refined. Eurostat will participate in defining a set of “headline” indicators and methodological support will be given to Commission for Sustainable Development in its work on indicators.

There will be a continuous improvement of the regular reporting and dissemination of environment statistics together with Member States, by filling data gaps and improving data quality, as well as rationalising the data transfer. This will take place through the joint Eurostat/OECD questionnaire and also in close co-operation with EEA. The emphasis will be given to waste, water use and waste-water treatment, environmental expenditure and co-ordination of data collection on air emissions. The regional dimension of waste and water use/treatment statistics will be improved, through the regional questionnaire.

Industrial production statistics and energy statistics will be exploited to improve emission statistics and statistics on flows of hazardous material.

Eurostat will support to PHARE countries and to non-EU Mediterranean countries in environment statistics.

#### **Activities of OECD:**

**Waste management:** (i) harmonisation of the OECD control system for recoverable waste with the Basel Convention and development of a global harmonised control system; (ii) development of standards for environmentally sound management of recoverable waste.

**Environmental data:** definitions and classifications for environmental data collected and published by OECD are specified in the OECD questionnaire on the state of the environment (joint OECD/Eurostat questionnaire for European Union, EFTA and EU candidate accession countries). Standard statistical classifications adopted by the CES are used where possible. Data are structured according to the pressure-state-response model. Continued efforts are done to further improve the quality and international comparability of the data collected and used. Focus is given to those data that are needed for the calculation of international environmental indicators. The questionnaire section on “forest” is further-co-ordinated with the ECE and the FAO. The questionnaire section on “waste” is further co-ordinated with the Secretariat of the Basel Convention. OECD intends to extend the OECD System of Information on Resources and the Environment (SIREN) database, and to further harmonise international environmental data. It also contributes to assembling a second generation of environmental data with improved quality and greater policy relevance. Priorities include: i) maintaining the two-year cycle of OECD collection, treatment and publication of environmental data (collection in 2000 and 2002; publication in 2001); ii) further improvement of data harmonisation, concerning Slovakia, Mexico, Korea, and the Russian Federation; iii) further development of economic data of environmental relevance, including data on revenues from environmentally-related taxes; iv) related publications; and v) fostering the improvement of environmental data quality. Work will continue to be closely co-ordinated with other international organisations; e.g. Eurostat, European Environment Agency, UN-ECE, UNSD. Of particular importance is the joint work conducted with relevant European bodies to increase cost-effectiveness and harmonise data OECD-wide, and the co-operation with the UNSD to increase cost-effectiveness world-wide.

**Environmental expenditure:** definitions and classifications for environmental expenditure data collected and published by OECD are specified in the OECD questionnaire on pollution abatement and control (PAC) expenditure (joint OECD/Eurostat questionnaire for European Union and EFTA countries). Continued efforts are done to further improve the coverage and international comparability of the data collected. In 2000-2001 the questionnaire will be further reviewed jointly with Eurostat.

**Environmental taxes:** further use of the statistical framework on environmentally-related taxes, developed in



close co-operation with EUROSTAT, and update of OECD database on revenues collected from such taxes.

**Environmental indicators:** Work will continue on methodology, publication and use of environmental indicators. Priorities include: (i) the OECD core set of environmental indicators; (ii) further development of sectoral indicators, including indicators of sustainable household consumption patterns (co-ordinated with related work at the UN-CSD), transport-environment indicators, energy-environment indicators, and agri-environmental indicators (see below); (iii) expanding the use of environmental indicators in environmental performance reviews. The OECD biennial publication "Environmental Indicators" will be made available in 2000. Work is also being planned on environmental indicators at territorial level as part of the work on sustainable development indicators. **See also 2.8 for OECD's work on sustainable development indicators.**

Work over 2000/2001 to concentrate on developing a core set of agri-environmental indicators and integrating them into policy monitoring and analysis work. Cooperation with other international organisations, e.g. EUROSTAT, FAO, UNECE, UNCSD, World Bank, EEA, already ongoing.

**Development indicators:** As part of the work on monitoring progress towards the international development goals adopted by the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD, the World Bank, and the United Nations, the OECD is refining its set of development indicators that includes selected environmental indicators.

#### **Activities of other organizations:**

##### **The European Environment Agency (EEA):**

- (i) establishing of Europe-wide networks for monitoring air and water quality, with regular data flows and central databases ("media-oriented monitoring")
- (ii) establishing methodology for an integrated inventory of pollutant emissions covering those to land and water as well as air ("source-oriented monitoring")
- (iii) development of a full range of environmental indicators to be used in periodical reporting on the state of the environment

##### **UN Statistics Division:**

UNSD is currently developing a manual of environment statistics. The manual is to assist national statistical offices in establishing and developing their environment statistics programmes. The first volume of the manual, covering basics of environment statistics and statistics on emissions to and quality of the environmental media, will be issued in 2000.

UNSD will set up an international database of selected environmental data and indicators. UNSD is planning to continue international data compilation from non-OECD countries' national statistical services based on its revised questionnaire and to publish a set of environmental data and indicators.

##### **The World Bank:**

The Bank is contributing to the development of core environmental indicators for monitoring progress toward the international development goals initiated by DAC-OECD.

The development and expansion of an environmental database is on-going. It is annually updated from various sources inside and outside the World Bank. Being available to all World Bank staff, it is mainly utilized for the expanded Environmental section of the World Bank's World Development Indicators. The WDI is an annual compendium of development data on people, environment, economy, states and markets, and global linkages. Its environmental section covers selected indicators of land use and deforestation; agricultural inputs, output and productivity; biodiversity and protected areas; freshwater; water pollution; energy production and use; energy efficiency and emissions; sources of electricity generation; urbanization; urban environment; traffic and congestion; air pollution; government commitment; and "genuine savings". Also, in 2000 a set of selected environmental indicators will be published by the Environment Department and the

Development Data Group of the World Bank. The publication, organized by country, will cover more than 150 countries and each country page will present more than 50 indicators.

As regards the indicators, the World Bank is actively contributing to articulation and refinement of environmental indicators for monitoring progress towards the international development goals adopted by the World Bank, United Nations, and the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD.

### **Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States**

#### **CIS-STAT)**

Systematic (annual) collection, comparison, analysis and dissemination of information on the state of the environment and the sustainable use of natural resources. In addition to special reports, statistical and analytical materials on various environmental issues are published periodically in CIS statistical bulletins.

*New measures:* Preparation of an analytical report on environmental protection is planned for the fourth quarter of 2000."

### **WHO European Centre for Environment and Health (Bilthoven):**

Has among its objectives to cooperate with other international organizations in the development of a comprehensive system for collecting air quality data in order to assess the impact of air pollution on the health of populations within the WHO European region. The results of this activity will provide an input to air quality management programmes aiming at the reduction of adverse health effects of air pollution. Comparability of collected data and the derived impact estimates requires harmonization of definitions as well as the establishment of information collecting, processing and transmission procedures. To the extent possible, data generated by existing monitoring systems and available from international databases will be used. Among the expected outputs are

- a basic set of air quality indicators valid for countries of the WHO European region;
- strengthening and harmonization of air quality monitoring and reporting systems resulting in more reliable exposure estimates;
- the establishment of a harmonized Pan European air quality database enabling reliable and comparable population exposure estimates as well as corresponding health impacts.

Among the planned activities in 2000 is an assessment of the health impacts of air pollution in selected urban areas in Europe 1998-1999 and a joint monograph with the EEA on the Health Impacts of Air Pollution in Europe.

## **5.2 ENVIRONMENTAL ACCOUNTING**

### **Objectives over the next several years:**

To review developments in natural resource accounting; to ensure there is an integration path between accounts in physical terms and the corresponding elements on national accounts in money terms; to suggest ways in which a synthesis of different approaches may be constructed to ensure flexibility for special cases within a framework which is consistent overall; to work to avoid a divergence in approach taken by ECE Members and that taken by countries outside the region (specifically developing countries).

A specific objective will be to determine how "green accounting" should be interpreted in relation to marketed natural assets (such as minerals and forests which may be exploited beyond sustainability) and non-marketed natural assets (such as air and water used as environmental sinks).

**Expected collective output in the next two years:**

Some form of monitoring of the voluminous studies on environmental issues to ensure that quick and comprehensive information is available about developments in environmental accounting; new studies undertaken; new approaches developed. Critiques and comparisons of systems designed for general use to highlight similarities and differences.

**Attention of the Conference is drawn to the following:**

- Eurostat and OECD to agree on a mutually agreeable division of labour, this will be discussed at the autumn meeting of the Bureau

**Decisions recommended by the CES Bureau to the 2000 plenary session:** none**Meetings from July 2000 to June 2002:**

Eurostat Working Group: Economic Accounts for the Environment 19 Sep - 21 Sep, 2000

Eurostat Working Group: Economic Accounts for the Environment 24 - 25 Oct 2000

**Rapporteur:** Eurostat

**Activities and means from July 2000 to June 2002:**

**Activities of ECE:** None

**Activities of OECD:**

Work on environmental accounting builds on OECD's experience in integrating environmental and economic thinking. It includes the following activities concerning physical accounts: (i) development of physical natural resource accounts; (ii) pollution abatement and control expenditure: methodology, data collection and treatment (see also 5.1), quality assurance, publications in 1990, 1993, 1996 and 1997; (iii) regular information exchange and progress reports on developments in Member and Partner countries; (iv) environmental accounting as part of the OECD assessments of environmental information systems.

The main activity of the statistics directorate on environmental accounting during 2000 and 2001 will be to act as editor of the revised System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounts (SEEA - 2000) on behalf of the London group. Following a very tight time-schedule, the revised manual is expected to be published in mid-2001. OECD will also contribute to the substance of the manual in particular reporting on the conclusion reached by the special meetings on environmental depletion held in 1998 and 1999.

**Activities of Eurostat:** (*Theme 41 - Quarterly and environmental accounts (412)*):

Eurostat's contributions to the ongoing revision of the System of integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA) will continue. Practical conclusions for the environmental accounts work of Eurostat and its Member States partners will be drawn up during the year 2000 based on the extensive experience that is now available. The supply of data (financed to a large extent by the Environment DG) will be consolidated. Environmental accounting results (natural resources, emissions, environmental expenditure, eco-taxes, etc.) and methodologies will be distributed more widely.

In 1996-1999 environmental accounting and data collection activities in virtually all Member States were possible only due to substantial financial resources made available by the Environment DG and the Regional Policy DG. Continuation of work in most Member States depends to a considerable extent on the continuation of financing by other Commission DGs.

Integrated data collection (via the voluntary joint questionnaire with OECD) and

**Activities of other organizations:**

**The European Environment Agency (EEA):**

Projects on water, land, forests; Projects on environmental taxes and on costs of specific environmental protection technologies ("avoidance cost curves").

**UN Statistics Division (UNSD):**

UNSD will publish the "Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting – An Operational Manual" jointly with UNEP by mid-2000. UNSD is participating in the London Group on Environmental Accounting and collaborating with the Group on the revision of the SEEA. The revised SEEA will be published jointly by the UN, Eurostat, OECD and the World Bank in 2001. UNSD is collaborating with FAO on the development of a manual of integrated environmental and economic accounting for fisheries. UNSD is planning to develop a manual of integrated environmental and economic accounting for tourism in 2001.

**The World Bank:**

World Bank: The World Bank works closely with the UN Statistics Division in this area and continues to support initiatives in the field of environmental accounting primarily through the London Group. As a follow-up to the last meeting of the Group in Canberra, the Bank is contributing to the preparation of the revised SEEA dealing with the issues of valuation, as well as potential operational policy relevance and use of the proposed manual in informing a wider range of management decisions. Work in this area is bolstered by the development of accompanying indicators of environmental change which are for the most part incorporated into the relevant chapters of the World Bank's World Development Indicators (WDI).

The 2000 WDI presents the "genuine savings" for more than 120 countries.

These are based on extensive work to account for depletion of natural resources, accumulation of pollutants, and investment in human capital to arrive at this practical and operational sustainability indicator. The first estimates of genuine savings were published in *Expanding the Measure of Wealth*. The work on genuine savings and its further refinement is on-going. The World Bank is utilizing the genuine saving estimates in its Country Assistance Strategy papers for policy dialogues with several of its member countries. The Bank also provides technical assistance to some member countries in their elaboration of environmental accounts and genuine saving estimates.

**Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS-STAT)**

Plans for 2000-2002 include improvement of the system of indicators and collection and collation of data on the state of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources. It is also intended to provide advisory services to national statistical services regarding arrangements for statistical observation of environmental protection."

**The "London Group" on Environmental Statistics:**

The group is working on the updating of the UN handbook of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA), which is envisaged to become an internationally agreed handbook on best practices rather than an international standard. The group will submit it to the Statistical Commission in 2001 and upon approval the handbook will be published jointly by the UN, OECD, Eurostat and the World Bank in mid 2001. A draft version of the complete SEEA-2000 will be placed on the group's website in July 2000 for public comment. OECD is acting as editor for SEEA-2000.

**5.3 ENVIRONMENTAL DATABASES AND REPORTING  
(has been combined with Programme element 5.1)**

#### 5.4 METEOROLOGY STATISTICS

**Note for the Conference:** This is a new programme element which has been provisionally added to Programme Activity 5 of the Integrated Presentation in order to bring the classification of statistical work areas used in the Integrated Presentation more fully in alignment with the ACC classification of statistical activities. During the 2000 plenary session, national statistical offices who work in the field of meteorological statistics are asked to bring this to the attention of the Conference. If a sufficient number of NSOs announce that they conduct work in the field of meteorological statistics, it is proposed that this new Programme Element be included in the Integrated Presentation. Should that occur, the ECE secretariat, with the assistance of the UN Statistics Division and/or the World Meteorological Organization, will endeavour to obtain appropriate draft text that could be included in the post-plenary session version of the Integrated Presentation under the "Objectives" and Expected collective outputs" headings of this programme element.

**Activities of ECE:** None.

**Activities of Eurostat:** None.

**Activities of OECD:** None.