

Distr.
GENERAL

CES/SEM.41/19 Summary)
18 February 2000

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE ECONOMIC
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EUROSTAT)

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

Joint ECE-Eurostat-ILO Seminar
on Measurement of the Quality of Employment
(Geneva, 3-5 May 2000)

Topic 2

**Planning for the Dynamics of the Labour Market
New Measures for a New Millenium**

Supporting paper submitted by the Central Bureau of Statistics of Israel*

Summary

1. The Israel Central Bureau of Statistics has begun the planning and implementation of a multiple phase program designed to expand the scope of its labour market statistics program in light of international priorities and trends and in light of the needs and status of the Israeli economy and society.
2. The program is focussed on Labour Market Dynamics (LMD), an area of priority of the ILO as activity II of its Key Indicators of the Labour Market program. The ICBS has chosen to adopt a broad definition of LMD to include all movements and transitions from one state to another over time within the labour market. These transitions not only include occupational and geographic mobility and movement from employment to unemployment, but also from work to retirement, from one job to another. It can also describe movement from part-time to full-time employment, movement from employment to underemployment, transitions from a state of seeking work to the "discouraged worker" status, the changes in

* Prepared by Tom Caplan.

lifestyle involved from being a single job-holder to a multiple job-holder, the transition from temporary employment to permanent employment, transitions from working away from home to working at home, and transitions among work schedules and work-time arrangements

3. The paper summarizes international priorities as reflected in the work program of the ILO, focussing on child labour statistics, status in employment, extended absences from work, measurement of underemployment, measurement of income from employment, key indicators of the labour market and labour market dynamics. The paper also notes that labour market dynamics is high on the priority list of countries around the world by virtue of the implementation in many countries of longitudinal panel surveys and other instruments measuring LMD.

4. To begin developing the elements of its new program the Central Bureau of Statistics appointed an Advisory Committee chaired by Professor Noah Meltz of the University of Toronto and composed of leading members of the public and academic sectors in Israel. The Advisory Committee's work included recommending to the Government Statistician for adoption a Vision of the Role of the Central Bureau of Statistics in Labour Statistics. It prepared a Conceptual Framework for the functioning of the labour market. It prepared a comprehensive inventory of labour data prepared by the CBS as well as other government agencies. It documented extensively in detail the data gaps that exist in the Israeli labour statistics collection system. Finally, it made recommendations for the expansion and development of the labour market statistics program for the short, medium and long terms.

5. In light of the above, the Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics has begun to implement a phased program which will expand its information base in labour dynamic data. The areas for examination include (but not exclusively): labour market transitions, occupational and geographical mobility, discouraged workers, multiple jobholders, temporary employment, employment contractors, shiftwork, work time and leisure time, work at home, time related underemployment and inadequate employment and international movement of labour.

6. The rest of the paper is devoted to the description of the three phases of the Program of Expansion of Labour Dynamics Statistics. They are:

Phase 2000: Revisions to the Labour Force Survey

Phase 2001: Addition of Supplementary Questionnaires to the Labour Force Survey

Phase 2002-2005: Development of a Longitudinal Statistical Instrument and

a Longitudinal Database on Labour Dynamic Areas.

7. The paper concludes with the Central Bureau of Statistics indicating its intention to consult other nations with experience in labour market dynamics.