

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Meeting of the 2021/2022 Bureau
Geneva, 23-24 February 2022

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Bureau meeting will take place on 23-24 February 2022 (Wednesday-Thursday) in Palais des Nations, Geneva. For those participants who may not be able to travel, an online connection will be provided.

The meeting will be held in English only. The documents for the meeting will be uploaded on the following website: <https://statswiki.unece.org/display/bureau/CES+Bureau> (username: ces; password: bureau8).

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I. OPENING BY PADRAIG DALTON

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/FEB/1 and 1/Add.1 by UNECE)

II. IN-DEPTH REVIEWS OF SELECTED STATISTICAL AREAS

1. The Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Bureau regularly reviews in depth selected statistical areas. The reviews aim to improve coordination of statistical activities in the UNECE region, identify gaps or duplication of work, and address emerging issues. The reviews often lead to new work in topical areas and tangible outputs such as guidelines or recommendations.

(a) Collaboration with private data providers – *for discussion and recommendations*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/FEB/2 by Poland)

2. The in-depth review of collaboration with private data providers will be based on a paper by Poland. **Additional contributions from the CES Bureau members are welcome in advance of the Bureau meeting.**

(b) Selection of topics for in-depth reviews in 2022-2023 and CES 2023 plenary session – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/FEB/3 by UNECE)

3. The Bureau will be invited to select the topics to be reviewed in-depth in 2022-2023 based on a proposal prepared by the Secretariat and advise on the topics to be proposed for the 2023 CES plenary session.

III. UNECE STATISTICAL WORK AND CES TEAMS OF SPECIALISTS

4. The work of steering groups and task forces set up by the CES Bureau is reviewed under this agenda item. The groups are created for a particular task with concrete terms of reference, output, timeframe and a sunset clause. The work results in methodological and practical guidelines, collections of leading practices and training materials available on the web. The terms of reference of active steering groups and task forces are available at <http://www.unece.org/statistics/networks-of-experts.html>.

(a) Migration statistics (ToR) – *for decision*

(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/4 and Add.1 by the Steering Group)

5. The Steering Group on Migration Statistics provides direction to the CES work on migration statistics, advances methodological development and facilitates implementation of methodological guidance on migration statistics. The terms of reference for the Steering Group were updated in 2018 and planned to be reviewed in 2022. The Steering Group will report on its accomplishments and present updated terms of reference.

6. The Bureau will be invited to review and approve the updated terms of reference for the Steering Group.

(b) Subjective poverty measures (ToR) – for decision
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/5 by Steering Group)

7. In October 2021, the Bureau reviewed in-depth subjective poverty measures based on the paper prepared by Poland (ECE/CES/BUR/2021/OCT/2) and decided to establish a task force to develop a guide on measuring subjective poverty and a set of subjective poverty indicators that could be used for international comparison.

8. The Bureau will be invited to review and approve the terms of reference for the Task Force.

(c) Statistics for SDGs (ToR) – for decision
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/6 by the Steering Group on Statistics for SDGs)

9. The Bureau renewed the mandate of the Steering Group on statistics for SDGs in October 2019 with the aim to prepare the *Second Edition of the Road Map on statistics for SDGs*, and to coordinate and guide the CES work in this area. The terms of reference of the Steering Group were planned to be reviewed in 2022. The Second Edition of the Road Map was finalised and submitted to print in end 2021, so now is a good opportunity to discuss further work of the Steering Group and update its terms of reference.

10. The Bureau will be invited to review and approve the updated Terms of Reference of the Steering Group.

(d) Role of NSOs in achieving national climate objectives (ToR) – for decision via written consultation
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/7 by Steering Group on Climate Change-Related Statistics)

11. In October 2021, the Bureau discussed the follow-up to the 2021 CES plenary session discussion on official statistics for climate action. The Bureau approved the proposal prepared by the Steering Group on Climate Change-Related Statistics to create a Task Force on the role of national statistical offices (NSOs) in achieving national climate objectives.

12. The Bureau will be invited to review and approve the terms of reference for the Task Force.

(e) Modernization of official statistics – for discussion and recommendations
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/8 and 8/Add.1 by HLG-MOS)

13. In February 2020, the Bureau approved the updated terms of reference for the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics (HLG-MOS) and extended the mandate of the Group until the end of 2022.

14. The Bureau will be invited to review the outcomes of the HLG-MOS work in 2021 and plans for 2022, including the selected priority projects.

(f) Chief statisticians' sprint on sustaining innovation post-Covid (concept note) – for decision
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/9 by HLG-MOS)

15. In October 2021, the Bureau discussed the follow-up to the CES 2021 plenary session

discussion on sustaining innovation in NSO organization and working arrangements after COVID-19. The Bureau requested HLG-MOS, New Zealand and Poland to develop a concept note for a virtual sprint for Chief Statisticians on sustaining innovation from a strategic and managerial perspective. Based on the outcome of the sprint, the Bureau will decide on what further work is needed.

16. The Bureau will be invited to review and approve the concept note prepared by HLG-MOS, New Zealand and Poland.

(g) Statistical legislation – for decision

(ECE/CES/BUR/2022/FEB/10 by the Organizing Committee of the Expert Meeting)

17. In October 2018, the Bureau approved the proposal to initiate a new series of expert meetings on statistical legislation as a follow-up to the endorsement of *Guidance on Modernizing Statistical Legislation*. The Bureau approved the concept note for the meeting in February 2019.

18. The Bureau will be invited to review the outcomes of the first two online Expert Meetings on Modernizing Statistical Legislation held in 2020 and 2021, and review and approve the proposal for further work on this topic.

IV. PREPARATION OF THE CES 2022 PLENARY SESSION

(a) Joint session with OECD-CSSP - collaboration with private data providers (session proposal) – for discussion and recommendations

(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/11 by UNECE and OECD)

19. In October 2021, the CES Bureau discussed the preliminary agenda for the 2022 CES plenary session and supported “Collaboration with private data providers” as the proposed topic of the third informal joint session of CES and OECD CSSP.

20. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the organization of the session based on a proposal by UNECE and OECD.

(b) Session on return to the office – working modalities in statistical offices (session proposal) – for discussion and recommendations

(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/12 by Ireland and UNECE)

21. At its October 2021 meeting, the Bureau held a round-table discussion on the situation in different countries concerning the return to the office after the Covid-19 restrictions. UNECE and Ireland were requested to draft a proposal for a forward-looking session on the working modalities in statistical offices at the CES 2022 plenary session. Organizing a small survey to gather additional input will be considered.

22. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the organization of the session based on the proposal by Ireland and UNECE.

(c) Joint session with UN-GGIM: Europe (session proposal) – for discussion and recommendations

(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/13 by UNECE)

23. The 2022 CES plenary session will include the second joint session of CES and UN GGIM: Europe, in line with the recommendation of the first joint session, held online in 2020. In October

2021, the Bureau supported organizing the second joint session in two parts: on standards and infrastructure, and on data stewardship.

24. The Bureau will be invited to discuss the organization of the joint session based on the proposal by the Secretariat.

(d) 30th anniversary of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics' adoption by UNECE – for discussion and recommendations
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/14 by UNECE)

25. In 2022, it will be 30 years since the adoption of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics by UNECE at the policy level. As approved by the Bureau in October 2021, the anniversary will be marked with (i) a “Countdown” to the plenary session consisting of ten ‘mini campaigns’; (ii) a video about how the Fundamental Principles will shape statistics of the future; (iii) a symbolic agenda item during the formal CES session and (iv) a special side event during the plenary session.

26. The Bureau will be informed about the progress of the anniversary preparations and invited to advise on finalising the preparations.

(e) Draft agenda and timetable for the 2022 CES plenary session – for decision
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/15 by UNECE)

27. The Bureau will be invited to approve the provisional agenda of the CES 2022 plenary session based on a proposal by the Secretariat.

V. CES GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENDORSEMENT IN 2022

28. The CES Bureau will be invited to review the draft guidelines and recommendations planned to be submitted to CES for endorsement in June 2022 and decide if they can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session.

(a) New forms of employment and quality of employment – for decision
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/16 by the Task Force)

29. The Bureau established the Task Force on forms of employment in July 2021 to develop a conceptual framework, which will assist countries in producing relevant, coherent and internationally comparable statistics on forms of employment.

30. The Bureau will be invited to review the draft *Guidelines on new forms of employment* and decide if they can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the Guidelines will be submitted to the 2022 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(b) Statistics on children and youth – for decision
(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/17 by the Task Force)

31. The Bureau set up a Task Force on statistics on children, adolescents and youth in February 2020 to provide an overview of existing definitions, standards and methods, and prepare recommendations for statistical offices and future international work. The Bureau reviewed the progress report of the Task Force in October 2021.

32. The Bureau will be invited to review the draft *Guidance on statistics on children and youth* and decide if it can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the Guidance will be submitted to the 2022 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(c) Use of new data sources for measuring migration and cross-border mobility – for decision

(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/18 by the Task Force)

33. The Bureau established the Task Force in February 2020 to provide guidance for national statistical offices on using new data sources for measuring migration and cross-border mobility.

34. The Bureau will be invited to review the draft report *Use of new data sources for measuring migration and cross-border mobility* and decide if it can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the document will be submitted to the 2022 CES plenary session for endorsement.

(d) Core values of official statistics – for decision

(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/19 by the Task Team)

35. As a follow-up to the 2021 CES session on how national statistical systems adhere to the core values of official statistics, a Task Team was created to elaborate a list of core values of official statistics, map them with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (FPOS), and define the behaviours that support the core values and implementation of the Fundamental Principles. The Task Team will present the result of the work on the list of core values and their mapping to FPOS, and its proposals for work on behaviours.

36. The Bureau will invited to:

(a) Review the list and mapping and decide if they can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the CES plenary session will be invited to endorse the list of core values and the mapping, as part of the 30th-anniversary celebrations for the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;

(b) Review and approve the proposals for work behaviours supporting the core values and implementation of the Fundamental Principles.

(e) Updated Classification of Statistical Activities (CSA) – for decision

(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/20 by the Task Force)

37. The CES Bureau is the custodian of the Classification of International Statistical Activities, which was initially established in 2005 and has become a global reference for many organizations. In February 2020, the Bureau launched the procedure to update the Classification by a dedicated Task Team.

38. The Bureau will be invited to review the draft revision of the Classification and decide if it can be sent for an electronic consultation to all CES members before the CES plenary session. Subject to a positive outcome of the consultation, the revised Classification will be submitted to the 2022 CES plenary session for endorsement.

VI. UNECE STATISTICS PROGRAMME OF WORK DOCUMENTS – *for decision via written consultation*

(ECE/CES/ BUR/2022/FEB/21-23 by UNECE)

39. Under this agenda item, the Bureau will be invited to review and approve documents related to the implementation of the UNECE Statistics subprogramme prepared in the context of the United Nations secretariat's planning and reporting process. These include:

- (a) Report on the implementation of the Statistical Programme 2021;
- (b) Draft programme of work document for 2023;
- (c) Outline of key components of the programme of work of Statistics subprogramme for 2024.

40. The Bureau will be also informed about the preparations of the 2023 ECE Commission session. The overarching topic for the session will be "Digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the UNECE region". All ECE Committees, including CES, will be asked to contribute to the session with an overview of relevant ongoing work.

VII. DATES AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETINGS – *for decision*

41. The Bureau is expected to confirm the dates and venues of the next Bureau meetings and the CES plenary sessions.

42. At its October 2021 meeting, the Bureau decided on its next meetings as follows:

- (a) 12-13 October 2022 in Dublin or Cork, Ireland;
- (b) 15-16 February 2023;
- (c) 11-12 October 2023.

43. The 70th CES plenary session is planned to take place on 20-22 a.m. June 2022 in Geneva, back-to-back with the OECD Committee on Statistics and Statistical Policy and UN-GGIM: Europe meetings.

44. The 71st CES plenary session is planned to take place during the week of 26-30 June 2023 in Paris.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

45. Any other topics can be taken up under this agenda item.

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