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STATISTICAL COMMISSION and ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE **STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (Eurostat)**

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Joint ECE/Eurostat Seminar on Business Registers
(Luxembourg, 25-26 June 2003)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE MEETING

to be held at the Jean Monnet Building, Meeting Room M5, Luxembourg,
starting on Wednesday 25 June 2003 at 14:15 p.m.

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of officers
3. Points for information by Eurostat. Open discussion on Eurostat methodology
4. Development and harmonisation of the common glossary for business registers
 - standardization of definitions and terminology used in business registers
5. Quality issues and coverage of business registers
 - maintenance of registers
 - births/cessations of units
 - change of activity
 - completeness of coverage
 - small area statistics
 - thresholds for registration
6. Implications of globalisation on treatment of units in statistical business registers

- relationship between registers and other Statistical Offices working on globalization
 - coverage of foreign affiliate companies, etc.
7. Links between administrative and statistical business registers
 - use of administrative sources and exchange of information between statistical business registers and administrative sources
 - access to administrative sources including the legal environment
 8. Collection of information and further development of identity cards on business registers
 9. Uses and dissemination of information on business registers in member countries
 - access to registers
 - dissemination of information and their use in member countries
 10. Future work
 11. Other business
 12. Adoption of the report

Provisional timetable and notes on the items of the agenda

The Seminar on Business Registers is convened jointly by UNECE and Eurostat pursuant to the decision of the Conference of European Statisticians taken at its fiftieth plenary session, in June 2002 (see report of the session ECE/CES/62 and CES/2002/3 /Add.3).

Under items 4-9 only invited papers are listed. Supporting papers submitted by countries and organizations will be introduced and commented on by the discussants.

WEDNESDAY, 25 JUNE

- 14:15-14:35** Items 1 & 2: **OPENING OF MEETING
ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
- 14:35-15:05** Item 3: **POINTS FOR INFORMATION BY EUROSTAT. OPEN
DISCUSSION ON EUROSTAT METHODOLOGY**

A short oral summary of the preceding Eurostat Working Group (24-25 June) will be presented for those countries which did not attend the working group.

**Item 4: DEVELOPMENT AND HARMONISATION OF THE
COMMON GLOSSARY FOR BUSINESS REGISTERS:
STANDARDIZATION OF DEFINITIONS AND
TERMINOLOGY USED IN BUSINESS REGISTERS**

15:05–15:25 Presentation by Eurostat concerning the glossary

15:25-15:50 General discussion

15:50-16:00 Coffee break

**Item 5: QUALITY ISSUES AND CONVERGENCE OF BUSINESS
REGISTERS**

16:00-16:10 Introduction by the discussant: Mr. Harrie van der Ven, Netherlands

16:10-16:30 Invited paper 1: Quality and Quality Indicators in the Swedish Business Register
Author: Mr. Henrik Romanov, Sweden

16:30-16:50 Invited paper 2: Quality issues in business registers
Author: Ms. Mai Hyldahl Wessing, Denmark

16:50-17:30 Discussions and comments on invited papers and on supporting papers and
conclusion to item 5

THURSDAY, 26 JUNE

**Item 6: IMPLICATIONS OF GLOBALISATION ON THE
TREATMENT OF UNITS IN STATISTICAL BUSINESS
REGISTERS**

09:00-09:10 Introduction by the discussant: Mr. Giuseppe Garofalo, Italy

09:10-09:30 Invited paper 3: Globalization in Business Registers
Author: Mr. Thomas Mesenbourg, United States

09:30-10:20 Discussions and comments on the invited paper and on supporting papers and
conclusion to item 6

10:20-10:30 Coffee break

**Item 7: LINKS BETWEEN ADMINISTRATIVE STATISTICAL
BUSINESS REGISTERS**

- 10:30-10:40** Introduction by the discussant: Ms. Tuula Viitaharju, Finland
- 10:40-11:00** Invited paper 4: The use of administrative data sources for the updating of the Statistical Register
Author: Ms. Katarzyna Szczepocka, Poland
- 11:00-11:50** Discussions and comments on the invited paper and on supporting papers and conclusion to item 7
- 11:50-12:30** Item 10: **FUTURE WORK**
- Participants will be asked for proposals on future joint UNECE/Eurostat work in business registers. The secretariat will submit proposals on the basis of country suggestions and of the discussions as the meeting proceeds for the approval of the Conference of European Statisticians.
- 12:30-14:15** Lunch
- Item 8: **COLLECTION OF INFORMATION AND FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF IDENTITY CARDS ON BUSINESS REGISTERS**
- 14:15-14:35** Presentation on results of Annual Questionnaire on Business Registers
- 14:35-15:05** General discussion
- Item 9: **USES AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON BUSINESS REGISTERS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES**
- 15:05-15:15** Introduction by the discussant: Mr. Hughes Picard, France
- 15:15-15:35** Invited paper 5: The Bureau of Labour Statistics Program on Business Dynamics,
Author: Mr. Richard Clayton, United States
- 15:35-15:55** Invited paper 6: Dissemination of information on business registers in the UK
Author: Mr. John Perry and Mr. Steve Vale, United Kingdom
- 15:55-16:05** Coffee Break
- 16:05-17:00** Discussions and comments on invited papers and on supporting papers and conclusion to item 9
- 17:00-17:10** Item 11: **OTHER BUSINESS**
- 17:10-17:30** Item 12: **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**