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Item 13 of the provisional agenda*

Programme questions and related matters

Draft programme of work of the United Nations Statistics Division for the biennium 2000–2001 and related information

Note by the Secretariat

1. The draft programme of work contained in the present document has not yet been reviewed by the Programme Planning and Budget Division of the Secretariat and is subject to change in the light of the Programme Planning and Budget Division's review of the relevant submission for the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2000–2001, including decisions of the Secretary-General on the proposed budget. The proposed programme budget of the Secretary-General will then be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session for consideration and final approval.
2. The list of major activities and outputs for the statistics subprogramme is provided in the annex to the present document.

* E/CN.3/1999/1.

Annex

List of major activities and outputs of the United Nations statistics subprogramme

Programme 28: Economic and Social Affairs

Subprogramme 28.5: Statistics

1. **Substantive servicing of meetings:**
 - (a) Statistical Commission;
 - (b) Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination;
 - (c) Committee on Contributions;
 - (d) Fifth Committee;
 - (e) Twenty-first session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names;
 - (f) Fifteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific;
 - (g) Seventh United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for the Americas.
2. **Parliamentary documentation:**
 - (a) Reports to the Statistical Commission at its thirty-first session on:
 - (i) Environment statistics;
 - (ii) Demographic and social statistics;
 - (iii) National accounts;
 - (iv) Critical issues in economic statistics;
 - (v) International economic and social classifications;
 - (vi) International trade statistics;
 - (vii) Proposed programme budget and the medium-term plan;
 - (viii) Report of the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination on its twentieth session;
 - (ix) Reports of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities on its thirty-third and thirty-fourth sessions;
 - (b) Reports to the Working Group on International Statistical Programmes and Coordination:
 - (i) Agenda and outlines of documents for the thirty-second session of the Statistical Commission;
 - (ii) Other reports that may be requested by the Statistical Commission or its Working Group;
 - (c) Reports to the Committee on Contributions.

3. **Ad hoc expert group meetings to:**
 - (a) Revised handbook of the system of environmental and economic accounting;
 - (b) Improve concepts and methods for the statistics and indicators of the elderly population;
 - (c) Review Handbook on non-profit institutions;
 - (d) Set priorities for the updating/revision of the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities, Revision 3 (ISIC) and related standard classifications;
 - (e) Review a handbook on production accounts for the financial sector;
 - (f) Draft compilers manual for international merchandise trade statistics.
4. **Recurrent publications:**
 - (a) *Newsletter of Environment Statistics* (print and Internet: four issues);
 - (b) *Industrial Commodity Statistics Yearbook* (print and Internet: two issues);
 - (c) *Energy Statistics Yearbook* (print and Internet: two issues);
 - (d) *Energy Balances and Electricity Profiles* (print and Internet: one issue);
 - (e) *Demographic Yearbook* (print and compact disk read-only memory (CD-ROM): two issues);
 - (f) *Population and Vital Statistics Report* (print and Internet: eight issues);
 - (g) *Yearbook of National Accounts Statistics 1999* (print and Internet: one issue);
 - (h) SNA Newsletter: *SNA News and Notes* (print and Internet: four issues);
 - (i) *Classifications Hotline Newsletter* (print and Internet: six issues);
 - (j) *International Trade Statistics Yearbook*, vols. I and II (print: two issues);
 - (k) Microfiches of commodity trade statistics;
 - (l) CD-ROM of commodity trade statistics (two issues);
 - (m) Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (print and Internet: 24 issues);
 - (n) *Statistical Yearbook* (print and CD-ROM: two issues);
 - (o) *World Statistics Pocketbook* (print and Internet: two issues);
 - (p) United Nations Economic and Social Information System (UNESIS) Common Database on the Internet.
5. **Non-recurrent publications:**
 - (a) Revised handbook on the system of environmental and economic accounting;
 - (b) Manual on tourism and environment accounting;
 - (c) Handbook on the collection of fertility and mortality data;
 - (d) Handbook for training on civil registration and vital statistics systems;
 - (e) Handbook on methods of collection of time-use statistics;
 - (f) Proceedings of the international symposium/workshop on lessons learned from the implementation of the first half of the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme;
 - (g) Handbook on non-profit institutions;

- (h) Technical report on a practical introduction to the compilation of the 1993 System of National Accounts (SNA);
 - (i) Revised Introduction to ISIC, Rev.3, and alphabetical and numerical index of ISIC;
 - (j) Compilers manual for international merchandise trade statistics;
 - (k) Definitions of statistical territory for countries and areas for purpose of international merchandise trade;
 - (l) *The World's Women 2000*.
6. **Technical material:**
- (a) Technical papers on environment statistics and accounting;
 - (b) Training material for the implementation of classifications: ISIC and Central Product Classification (CPC);
 - (c) Data assessment (milestones) of SNA implementation by individual countries and regions;
 - (d) Annotated inventory of conceptual amendments to the 1993 SNA (editorial, clarifications, interpretations and changes);
 - (e) Technical papers on conceptual issues in national satellite accounting and analysis;
 - (f) Technical papers on concepts and methods of classifications;
 - (g) Recurrent analytical tables based on the national accounts database;
 - (h) Correspondence tables between classifications;
 - (i) Revised version of user software "COMTRADE for Windows" to function with the new format of the year 2000 United Nations External Trade Statistics Database (COMTRADE database);
 - (j) Data compilation and estimation for the Committee on Contributions.
7. **Database maintenance and dissemination of statistical information:**
- (a) Databases in UNESIS on:
 - (i) Environment statistics;
 - (ii) Energy statistics;
 - (iii) General industry statistics on mining, electricity and water database;
 - (iv) Commodity production statistics, and index numbers of industrial production;
 - (v) Construction statistics;
 - (vi) National accounts;
 - (vii) Demographic statistics;
 - (viii) International trade statistics;
 - (b) Database on inventory of indicators of international agencies;
 - (c) Committee on Contributions database;
 - (d) Indicators and statistics on disabled people database (DISTAT);

- (e) Women's indicators and statistics database (WISTAT);
 - (f) International classifications database;
 - (g) Responses to ad hoc requests from member States and other users for information on internationally recommended concepts and methods, as well as national practices, in the aforementioned fields of statistics;
 - (h) Provision of information on computer tapes, diskettes, printouts and customized formats in the aforementioned fields of statistics;
 - (i) Publications database in electronic formats for Internet electronic commerce delivery system;
 - (j) Update of statistical indicators on The World's Women on the Internet;
 - (k) Update of disability indicators on the Internet;
 - (l) United Nations statistics home page on the United Nations World Wide Web site, monthly updates.
8. **Other technical development and support:**
- (a) Technical development and support for UNESIS Common Database and dissemination outputs;
 - (b) Technical development and support for UNESIS databases and outputs on environment, energy and industrial commodity production/index numbers; for international trade statistics; for demographic statistics; and for national accounts;
 - (c) Technical support for conversion of various print outputs to CD-ROM and Internet products and development of Internet publications delivery service (electronic commerce system);
 - (d) Technical support for the UNESIS country/area register;
 - (e) Technical support for United Nations Statistics Division management applications (programme management information system, mailing list system and so forth);
 - (f) Technical support and International Computing Centre (ICC) liaison for mainframe services for COMTRADE and United Nations Statistical Information System (UNSI) printing programmes and year 2000 conversion, and testing and restoring of programmes;
 - (g) Provision of Department of Economic and Social Affairs/United Nations Statistics Division local area network (LAN) system administration services;
 - (h) Provision of Department of Economic and Social Affairs/United Nations Statistics Division UNIX/SYBASE server system administration services.
9. **International cooperation and inter-agency coordination and liaison:**
- (a) Substantive servicing and participation in:
 - (i) Meetings of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Advancement of Environment Statistics;
 - (ii) Group on Product Classifications;
 - (iii) Voorburg Group on Service Statistics;
 - (iv) London Group on Environmental Accounting;
 - (v) Harmonized System Committee of the World Customs Organization;

- (b) Participation in activities of non-governmental organizations:
 - (i) Session of the International Statistical Institute;
 - (ii) International Federation of Surveyors;
 - (iii) International Cartographic Association and the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing;
- (c) Participation in activities of funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system:
 - (i) Inter-secretariat Working Group on National Accounts;
 - (ii) Inter-agency Task Forces on Environmental Statistics, Statistics of International Trade in Services, International Trade Statistics and Finance Statistics;
 - (iii) Steering Committee on the Coordination of Technical Assistance in Statistics to the Countries of the Former Soviet Union;
 - (iv) Conference of European Statisticians;
 - (v) Conference of African Statisticians;
 - (vi) Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Committee on Statistics;
 - (vii) Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia Committee on Statistics;
 - (viii) Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean/Organization of American States (OAS) Committee on Statistics;
 - (ix) Coordinating Committee for African Statistical Development;
 - (x) Joint Consultative Group on Policy/Gender and Development Sub-group;
 - (xi) Inter-agency Census Coordination Committee for Sub-Saharan Africa;
- (d) Substantive servicing of the annual meeting of the ACC Subcommittee on Statistical Activities;
- (e) Participation in the ACC Inter-agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality.

10. **Technical cooperation:**

- (a) Advisory services at the request of Governments:
 - (i) Technical advisory services on demographic, social, industrial, energy and environment and trade statistics;
 - (ii) Ad hoc provision of technical cooperation services on national accounts and computers and informatics;
 - (iii) Provision of advice on scale of assessment methodology to other organizations (African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, Organization of African Unity, World Tourism Organization);

- (b) Organization of training workshops for developing regions:
 - (i) International symposium/workshop on lessons learned from the implementation of the first half of the 2000 World Population and Housing Census Programme;
 - (ii) Workshop on environment statistics and indicators;
 - (iii) Workshop on civil registration and vital statistics;
 - (iv) Workshop on classifications;
 - (v) Workshop on national accounts;
 - (vi) Workshop on introducing the 1997 concepts and definitions for international merchandise trade statistics;
 - (c) Provision of short-term training, fellowships, study tours and on-the-job training;
 - (d) Provision of technical services to member States and regional and interregional projects and training to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to strengthen national capabilities in the collection, processing and dissemination of statistics.
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