

Recent work of the Conference of European Statisticians

Working Party on Electronic Data Processing (Geneva, 16–20 February 1987)

The twentieth session of the Working Party considered a series of national reports on the use of EDP in statistical offices. It discussed the impact of new processing techniques (particularly the use of microcomputers, VIDEOTEX and new programming tools) on management and organization of statistical data processing. Furthermore, the question of the development of standards for statistical data interchange obtained special attention (report of the meeting: CES/WP.9/245).

Thirty-fifth plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (Geneva, 15–19 June 1987)

The Conference considered in substantive discussion the interrelations between statistical services and the emerging networks of data bases, as well as the impact of the development of EDP on statistical methodology and on survey techniques. It reviewed its past and present work on the development and linking of SNA and MPS systems of national accounts and balances. The Conference also discussed the perspectives of its future work, and adopted a revised programme of work for the years 1987/88 to 1991/92 (report of the thirty-fifth plenary session: ECE/CES/30).

Publication of “Environment statistics in Europe and North America”

This experimental compendium presents and discusses environmental data for nearly all countries of the two continents, including all European socialist States. The publication is subdivided into two parts. The first part is devoted to time series data and environmental indicators. It covers land use, soils, water use, fauna and flora, emissions of pollutants, concentration of pollutants, climatological and background data. In addition, short studies deal with protection aspects of Lake Baikal and with four migratory species (polar bears, caribous, Brent geese, humpback whales). Part Two contains a comprehensive statistical description of the Baltic Sea from the point of view of both the ecosystem and the

natural resource it represents. The description of the natural characteristics and the human activities around the Baltic Sea are treated as well as emissions and concentrations of pollutants, eutrophication and stagnation, the status of Baltic seals and sea eagles, aspects of monitoring and protection, and relevant international conventions and regulations. (Can be ordered from United Nations Bookshop, Palais des Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Sales No. E.87.II.E.28.)