

# Recent work of the Conference of European Statisticians

## **Consultation on the European Comparison Programme (Vienna, 9–13 November 1992)**

As prescribed by the work programme, a consultation between the partners in the joint venture (ECE, OECD, Eurostat and the Austrian CSO) and the other countries and international organizations participating and interested in the European Comparison Programme (ECP) was held in Vienna from 9 to 13 November 1992. The purpose of the consultation was to review the preliminary results of the 1990 regional exercise and to discuss methodological and organizational issues related to the next round of the Group II (Austria, Finland and former centrally-planned economy countries) comparison. It was agreed that the Group II and European comparison results for 1990 be finalized by the spring of 1993, so that the ECE secretariat will be able to produce the report for the ECP 1990 by summer 1993. Also the timetable of the 1993–1995 ECP round was adopted. (Report: CES/755.)

## **Work session on labour statistics (Paris, 17–18 December 1992)**

This meeting was convened jointly by the ECE, the ILO and the OECD, and it focused on issues of concern to Central and Eastern European Countries. The participants discussed progress being made in developing labour force surveys, and in measuring employment, labour turnover, and unemployment and in producing statistics of wages and labour costs. They also discussed issues of international comparability and statistical aspects of the informal sector. (Report of the meeting: CES/758.)

## **23rd session of the working party on electronic data processing (Geneva, 16–19 February 1993)**

The working party considered a wide range of activities, including the impact of new technologies on statistical data processing; client-server techniques and other methods of linking micro-computers and mainframes; EDP applications on business registers; regional ECE/UNDP projects on statistical computing; and development of EDISTAT. The future work was specified and the working party

recommended *inter alia* paying attention to transition problems in statistical information technology and to integration of statistical and geographical information systems. (Report of the session: CES/WP.9/315.)

**Work session on migration statistics (Geneva, 22–24 February 1993)**

This meeting, convened jointly by the Conference of European Statisticians and Eurostat, considered the use of innovative approaches and supplementary data sources to derive estimates of international migration for important categories of migrants not currently included in the national statistics. It also discussed strategies for linking immigrant flow and stock data, and policy-related issues in present and expected future west-east and south-north migration flows.