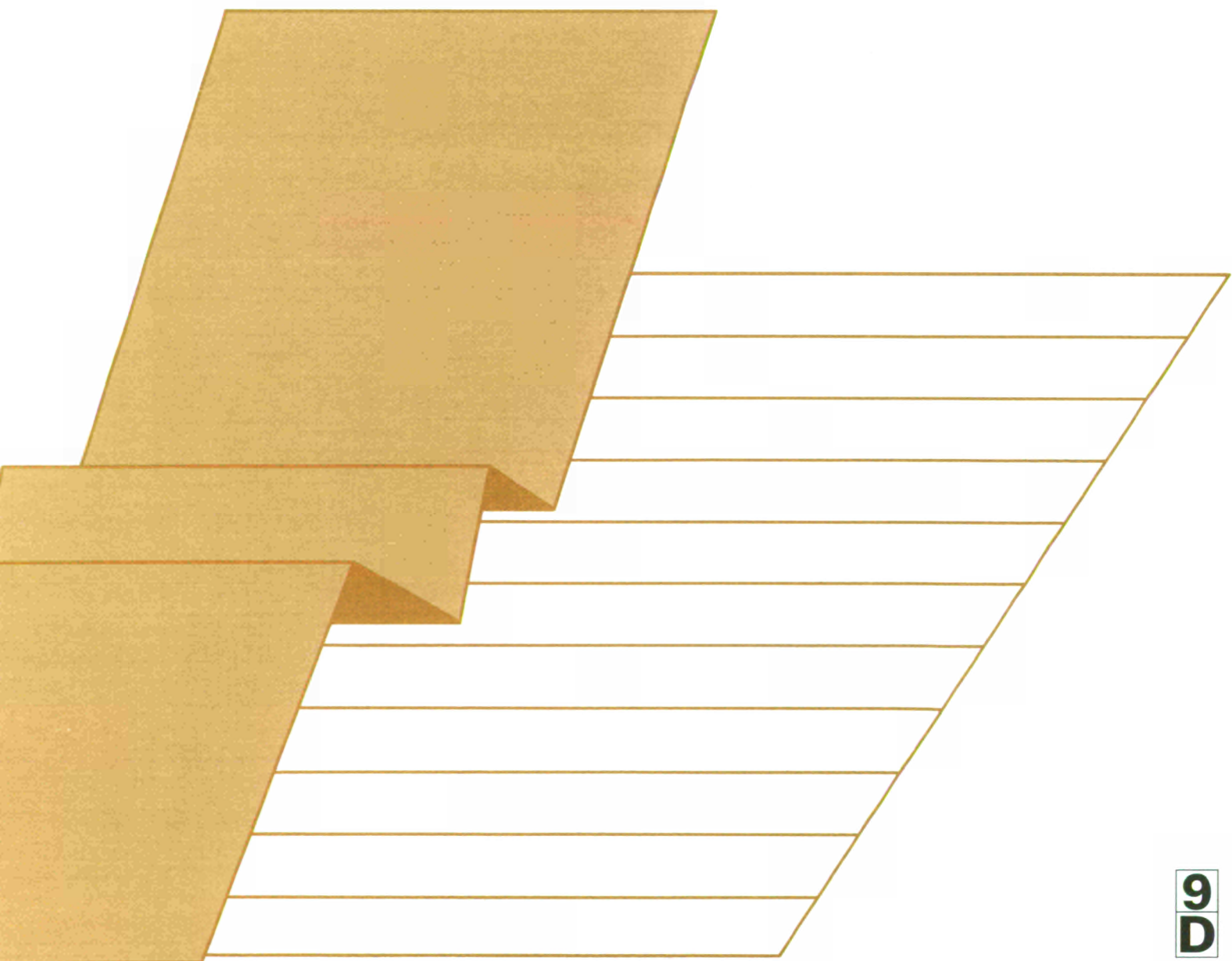


**REPORT OF THE STATISTICAL  
PROGRAMME COMMITTEE  
1991-93**



STATISTISCHES AMT DER EUROPÄISCHEN GEMEINSCHAFTEN  
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Generaldirektor

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To help the user focus his research, Eurostat has created 'themes' i.e. a subject classification. The statistical documents and publications are listed by series, e.g. yearbooks, short-term trends or methodology, in order to facilitate access to the statistical data.

Y. Franchet  
Director-General

Pour établir, évaluer ou apprécier les différentes politiques communautaires, la Commission des Communautés européennes a besoin d'informations.

Eurostat a pour mission, à travers le système statistique européen, de répondre aux besoins de la Commission et de l'ensemble des personnes impliquées dans le développement du marché unique.

Pour mettre à la disposition de tous l'importante quantité de données accessibles et faire en sorte que chacun puisse s'orienter correctement dans cet ensemble, deux grandes catégories de documents ont été créées: les documents statistiques et les publications.

Le document statistique s'adresse aux spécialistes. Il fournit les données les plus complètes: données de référence où la méthodologie est bien connue, standardisée, normalisée et scientifique. Ces données sont présentées à un niveau très détaillé. Le document statistique est destiné aux experts capables de rechercher, par leurs propres moyens, les données requises. Les informations sont alors disponibles sur papier et/ou sur disquette, bande magnétique, CD-ROM. La couverture blanche ornée d'un graphisme stylisé démarque le document statistique des autres publications.

Les publications proprement dites peuvent, elles, être réalisées pour un public bien déterminé, ciblé, par exemple l'enseignement ou les décideurs politiques ou administratifs. Des informations sélectionnées, triées et commentées en fonction de ce public lui sont apportées. Eurostat joue, dès lors, le rôle de conseiller.

Dans le cas d'un public plus large, moins défini, Eurostat procure des éléments nécessaires à une première analyse, les annuaires et les périodiques, dans lesquels figurent les renseignements adéquats pour approfondir l'étude. Ces publications sont présentées sur papier ou dans des banques de données de type vidéotex.

Pour aider l'utilisateur à s'orienter dans ses recherches, Eurostat a créé les thèmes, c'est-à-dire une classification par sujet. Les documents statistiques et les publications sont répertoriés par série — par exemple, annuaire, conjoncture, méthodologie — afin de faciliter l'accès aux informations statistiques.

Y. Franchet  
Directeur général

# REPORT OF THE STATISTICAL PROGRAMME COMMITTEE 1991-93

Theme  
Miscellaneous  
Series  
Studies and analyses

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D

Cataloguing data can be found at the end of this publication

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, 1994

ISBN 92-826-8242-0

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STATISTICAL PROGRAMME COMMITTEE**

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1991 - 1993



According to Article 5 of the Council Decision of 19 June 1989 establishing a Committee on the Statistical Programmes of the European Communities<sup>1</sup> (SPC), the Committee hereby submits its second annual report covering the years 1991, 1992 and 1993. It contains a brief introduction to the various functions of the SPC as well as a review of the statistical work for which it was responsible.

## I ROLE OF THE SPC

### 1. Legal basis of the SPC

The SPC's function varies according to whether the matter submitted for examination falls under Articles 2 and 3 or Article 4 of the Council Decision of 19 June 1989.

Where Articles 2 and 3 apply, the Committee's role is to assist the Commission in the development and implementation of the multi-annual statistical programmes and ensure close co-operation between national and Community departments.

Where Article 4 applies, i.e. whenever the Council confers implementing powers on the Commission in the context of specific statistical actions, the SPC operates in accordance with the procedures laid down by the Council, in line with Council Decision 87/373/EEC<sup>2</sup>.

So far the Council has adopted five legal acts relating to Article 4:

<b>Legal act of the Council</b>	<b>Competences in line with Council Decision 87/373/EEC</b>
Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3037/90 of 9 October 1990 on the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community <sup>3</sup> (NACE)	Management Committee
Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3924/91 of 19 December 1991 on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production <sup>4</sup> (PRODCOM)	Management Committee
Council Regulation (EEC) No. 696/93 of 15 March 1993 on the statistical units for the observation and analysis of the production system in the Community <sup>5</sup>	Management Committee
Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2186/93 of 22 July 1993 on Community co-ordination in drawing up business registers for statistical purposes <sup>6</sup> .	Management Committee
Council Decision of 22 July 1993 on the framework programme for priority actions in the field of statistical information 1993 to 1997 (93/464/EEC) <sup>7</sup>	Regulatory Committee

The SPC has not yet been convened to discuss topics following the legal acts of 1993.

<sup>1</sup> OJ No. L181, 28.06.1989 p. 47

<sup>2</sup> OJ No. L197, 18.07.1987 p. 33

<sup>3</sup> OJ No. L293, 24.10.1990 p. 2

<sup>4</sup> OJ No. L374, 31.12.1991 p. 3

<sup>5</sup> OJ No. L76, 30.03.1993 p. 2

<sup>6</sup> OJ No. L196, 05.08.1993 p. 3

<sup>7</sup> OJ No. L219, 28.08.1993 p.1

## **2. Statistical co-operation within the European Economic Area**

Statistical co-operation between the EC and EFTA used to be based on the so-called Luxembourg process. Two forums were created under this umbrella: a meeting between the Directors General of all EFTA Statistical Institutes and the Director General of Eurostat, and the EC/EFTA DGINS Conference, which comprised the same persons plus the Directors General from all the EC Member States and was held for the first time in November 1989.

In order to avoid duplication of discussions on the same issues in several forums, it was decided to abolish the distinction between the EC DGINS and the EC/EFTA DGINS. The two DGINS meetings were combined to form one EC/EFTA DGINS Conference, which first met in 1992.

A legal basis for such a conference can be found in Article 1 of Protocol 30 of the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement<sup>8</sup>. Article 2 of Protocol 30 provides for the EFTA EEA countries to participate in the SPC in so far as the subjects dealt with are covered by the Agreement. However, this fully applies only when the SPC is consulted by the Commission on issues relating to the multi-annual programme as such or to specific parts of that programme (Articles 2 and 3 of Council Decision 89/382/EEC). Article 4 of Council Decision 89/382/EEC, in reference to Council Decision 87/373/EEC, sets up the SPC as a committee that assists the Commission in implementing tasks specified in a Council act. The scope for combining these competences with any legal basis outside EC law is limited as in some cases the committee is acting by the majority laid down in Article 148 (2) of the Treaty establishing the European Community. Thus participation of EFTA EEA countries is restricted where formal voting procedures are applied.

With the EEA Agreement about to enter into force, the EFTA EEA countries joined the SPC as observers in 1993. At the same time the Eurostat/EFTA forum under the Luxembourg process was dropped, as in the past it had often served to discuss issues that, had been submitted on the part of the EC to the SPC. Its last meeting was held on the 24 November 1992.

For reasons of practicability and effectiveness and in line with its decision on the reorganisation of the SPC/DGINS meetings (see below) the SPC decided at its meeting on 24, 25 May 1993 that, as from the entry into force of the EEA Agreement, the SPC meetings based on Article 3 of Council Decision 89/382/EEC would be called SPC/EEA meetings and would cover the EC/EFTA DGINS Conference mentioned in Protocol 30. Items only EC-relevant would be marked on the agenda. In these cases EFTA EEA participants would have observer status.

Meetings based on Article 4 of Council Decision 89/382/EEC would continue to be held under the unchanged name of "Statistical Programme Committee" (SPC) indicating that participants from EFTA EEA countries do not have the right to vote.

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<sup>8</sup> Council of the EC, Commission of the EC: Agreement on the European Economic Area as signed in Porto on 2 May 1992



### **3. Reorganisation of the SPC/DGINS meetings as from 1993**

Since its creation in 1989 the SPC had met twice yearly in conjunction with the three day Conference of the Directors General of the National Statistical Institutes (DGINS Conference). The topics for discussion by the SPC were identified on a separate agenda.

The developments within the Community Statistical System and the closer relations with the EFTA countries led to the consideration of ways to intensify co-operation within the SPC and shift competences from the DGINS meeting to the SPC.

Thus, in November 1992 it was decided that from 1993 onwards the SPC should meet twice a year, with the possibility of another one or two meetings if necessary. The EFTA Directors General attending the meetings would take part solely in discussions on items falling under the EEA Agreement. In 1993 two meetings, in March and September, were held in addition to the traditional May and November meetings.

Three days meetings would continue to be held every May in each member country in turn. While the first day and a half would be the SPC meeting, the subsequent day would take the form of a seminar organised by the host country with the participation of eminent figures from outside the field of statistics.

In May 1993 the DGINS seminar took place in Dublin where the various statistical systems of Member States which had recently been reformed were presented.

## **II REPORT ON THE SPC MEETINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 3 OF ITS LEGAL BASIS**

**1991 - 1993**

### **4<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Statistical Programme Committee Luxembourg, 21 May 1991**

#### **1. Follow-up to the opinions given by the SPC in November 1990**

Eurostat informed the SPC about the progress of the following projects: "Regulation on the labour force survey", "Programme for training European statisticians", "Framework Decision on services" and "PRODCOM Regulation" on which the SPC had given an opinion at the November 1990 meeting.

#### **2. Report of the SPC to the Council (Art. 5 of the Decision 89/382/EEC)**

The SPC discussed the first report of the Statistical Programme Committee which covered its first three meetings from 1989 - 1990, and agreed that it be sent to the Council in accordance with Article 5 of Council Decision 89/382/EEC, under which the Committee had been set up.

#### **3. Role of the SPC**

According to its legal basis (89/382/EEC), the SPC exercises two functions, which would ordinarily involve separate groups of people. While the Directors General would give general judgements on the broad lines of the statistical programme and its elements (Article 3), it would usually be technical specialists from the sector concerned that would decide, according to the "comitology" procedures, on matters relating to functions which the Council had attributed to the SPC in the field of statistics (Article 4).

Eurostat suggested that the Directors General be given a more formal role in the general steering of the statistical programme, while the SPC's competences according to Article 4 should be exercised by 'sectional' SPCs.

The Member States expressed their concerns with regard to the consistency of the SPC opinions, which might not reflect overall priority needs and asked Eurostat to prepare a further document on how the procedure for decision-making would work in practice.

#### **4. Proposal for a Council Regulation on production statistics of crops other than cereal**

Eurostat explained the reasons for proposing a legal act on production statistics of non-cereal crops and announced that the Member States would be asked for an opinion on the draft by written procedure in the next few months.

**5. Draft Council Regulation on the submission of nominal catch statistics by Member States fishing in the Northwest and Northeast Atlantic**

The draft regulation would provide a legal basis for the supply of the STATLANT files to the international fisheries organisations.

The proposal had received the approval of the "Fishery Statistics" Working Group of the Agricultural Statistics Committee.

The SPC accepted the proposal, provided that Eurostat would take into account the comments made with respect to strengthening the competences of the proposed committee to a revision of the annex and to the data transmission procedures.

**6. Eurostat 2000  
Evolution of the European Statistical System and the role of Eurostat**

Based on contributions of the Vice-President of the Commission and the Director General of the French Statistical Institute, the prospects for the Community statistical system and the role of Eurostat were discussed. Special emphasis was laid on the political background, as well as organisational and budgetary aspects.

**7. OECD**

The representative for the general secretariat of the OECD announced organisational changes to the OECD regarding its statistical work, which were aimed at improving both internal co-ordination and co-operation with other bodies.

The SPC welcomed the broad lines of the concept, while a detailed explanation was being circulated to OECD Member governments and would be submitted to the OECD Council.

## **5<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Statistical Programme Committee Luxembourg, 4-5 December 1991**

### **1. The European Statistical Programme 1993 - 1997**

#### **General document and Financing**

Eurostat presented a preliminary draft of the priorities of Community statistics covering the years 1993 - 1997. It was intended to give this document legal backing in the form of a Council Framework Decision, which would be followed by specific legal acts for new projects.

The SPC approved the general lines of the draft programme. It commented on both its structure and content pointing out that particular attention should be given to the production of reliable and harmonised statistics, Eurostat's role in co-ordinating them and an assessment of the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

The Member States would send written comments to Eurostat that would be taken into account when preparing a revised document for the next SPC meeting.

Eurostat proposed a set of principles which should serve as guidelines for calculating the costs associated with the multi-annual programme for the Commission and the Member States. The SPC agreed that the financial aspects should be examined in the context of the financial planning missions to each Member State at the beginning of 1992.

### **2. Decision on the new nomenclature**

#### **"International Standard Classification of Occupations"**

ISCO-88 (COM) is an adaptation for Community purposes of the International Standard Classification of Occupations and was proposed for the reporting to Eurostat by Member States of occupational data, particularly those derived from the Community labour force sample surveys in 1992 and later years, and the 1990/1991 round of population censuses.

The SPC welcomed the proposal. Eurostat confirmed that it would assist Member States in drawing up conversion tables which would relate national occupational headings to ISCO-88 (COM).

### **3. Decision on the Programme "Training of European Statisticians" TES 1992/1993**

In accordance with the agreement of the SPC in November 1989, Eurostat continued its preparatory work on a programme for the training of European statisticians by presenting the second annual programme for 1992 - 1993. It was based on a preliminary evaluation of the first TES programme for 1991 - 1992, which was still being implemented. The programme was aimed at public service statisticians, at both national and regional level, from the EC and EFTA Member States and a limited number of participants from Central and Eastern European countries. It was also open to private sector statisticians.

The SPC approved the programme for 1992 - 1993.

#### **4. Decision on R&D Statistics**

Following the initiative of the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) to improve methodology and data collection in the fields of R&D and innovation statistics and on the basis of the DGINS' approval of a work programme in November 1990, Eurostat prepared a proposal for a Council Decision drawing up a multi-annual programme to develop these statistics.

The SPC agreed to send the proposal to the Council after having clarified the question of its financing. A reference to close co-ordination with the existing extensive work programme of the OECD in this area would be added.

#### **5. Regulation on statistical units**

In order to establish a common statistical language for certain units, Eurostat presented a proposal for a Council Regulation on the statistical units for the observation and analysis of the production system in the European Community. It resulted from two meetings of an ad hoc working party set up in the wake of the DGINS' opinion of November 1990, after consultation with a number of working parties.

The proposed definitions for units were consistent with the relevant international recommendations and might be regarded as complementary to the NACE Rev. 1 Regulation.

The SPC called for further discussion of the text within the ad hoc working party, which should focus on the list of the statistical units and their definitions annexed to the Regulation. Moreover, it was proposed that the competences laid down for the SPC should be of a management nature. A revised text would be submitted to a postal vote by the Member States.

#### **6. Regulation on Business Registers**

Business registers were drawn up in all Member States, although there might be substantial differences as regards coverage, scope or the quality of the information they contained. Harmonised registers would appear to constitute a basic element for an information system on businesses, providing a sample base for statistical surveys, possibilities of extrapolation and means of monitoring the replies from businesses.

The draft Council Regulation on Community co-ordination in drawing up business registers for statistical purposes aimed to create a methodological framework enabling the Member States to develop or improve a harmonised register for statistical purposes.

The text was referred back to the combined meeting of the Working parties on statistical units and business registers after several points for discussion had been identified, including the wording regarding the transmission of information to Eurostat and the access to the administrative and legal registers. A revised text would be submitted to a postal vote by the Member States.

## **7. Regulation on the classification of products by activities**

From January 1991 the Commission and the Member States had been working on a central product classification structured by activity which would supplement the UN classification structured according to the nature of products and had been based on the NACE Rev. 1 Regulation.

The draft Council Regulation on the Statistical classifications of products by activity in the European Community (CPA), proposed to the SPC, had been discussed by the NACE Working Group.

Several points were raised for discussion including the relationship between the CPA and national classification. It was proposed that the SPC should have management competences. The SPC agreed that Eurostat would submit the draft Regulation to the ad hoc working party set up in the wake of the DGINS' opinion of November 1990 for examination. A revised text would be submitted to a postal vote by the Member States.

## **8. Decision concerning the Transport Variable in the Single Administrative Document (SAD)**

The SPC took account of a document on developments in the field of transport statistics in the light of the elimination of the Community's internal frontiers after 1992. It was aimed at strengthening co-ordination between transport statisticians and foreign-trade statisticians as well as with the Committee on customs legislation.

## **9. Other Business**

### **A. PRODCOM**

The SPC supported the Commission's proposal regarding the coverage requirement for the Community survey of industrial production, although some Member States expressed fears about increasing the burden on their administrations.

### **B. The European Advisory Committee on Economic and Social Statistical Information**

The SPC was invited to comment on the nomination of the 24 members of the European Advisory Committee on Economic and Social Statistical Information, which would meet in February 1992 for the first time.

### **C. Future Structure of SPC/DGINS/EFTA meetings**

Eurostat announced that it would circulate proposals to rationalise the Directors General meeting with a view to the signing of the European Economic Area Agreement.

## **6<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Statistical Programme Committee**

### **Athens, 20 May 1992**

#### **1. The 1993 - 1997 Community Statistical Programme**

##### **Draft Council Decision and Content of the Programme**

The draft Community Statistical Programme covering the five years 1993 - 1997 comprised two parts. A draft Council Decision specified the rules of procedure for implementing the statistical programme. In particular the role of the annual statistical programmes was defined with respect to the multi-annual priority sectional programmes. These were set out in a second document, annexed to the legal act.

Eurostat submitted both draft documents to the SPC, which decided that the Member States should propose their corrections to the texts in writing. Several points regarding more general aspects were discussed, including the legal character of the programme, which should not be of a binding nature for the Member States, its financing and cost effectiveness, as well as co-operation between Eurostat and the National Statistical Institutes with respect to the implementation of the Programme. Moreover, the Member States called for the SPC to play a much greater part in the development of the Statistical Programme.

The SPC decided that a revised text should be drawn up by the Commission taking into account the comments of the Member States. Agreement was reached on the title of the document (Framework Programme for Priority Actions in the field of Statistical Information), which would be sent to the Council for decision after the European Parliament had given its opinion.

#### **2. Draft Regulation on the European Statistical System**

In almost all the Member States of the Community the statistical systems were based on a legal act defining and regulating the tasks and structures of the system. These included, for example, organisation and co-ordination between the central and the peripheral bodies as well as with other public bodies which collect and compile statistical data, responsibilities towards the public in respecting basic rights and rights of initiative in carrying out surveys.

In order to fill the gap that exists at Community level regarding a statistical law, Eurostat proposed an outline for a Community statistical law and a time frame for its discussion with the various parties concerned. As a result, the draft Regulation defining the composition, form and operation of the Community statistical system should be sent to the Council in the second half of 1993. A complementary legal act of the Commission should regulate the tasks, autonomy and organisation of Eurostat.

The SPC strongly endorsed the need for legislation on the Community statistical system and decided to set up a task force to address the important questions still pending, including all legal aspects. Special attention should be paid to how the principle of subsidiarity would work in practice.

### **3. Draft Regulation on non-cereal crops**

While statistics on cereal production were covered by the Council Regulation of 26 March 1990, the transmission of data on non-cereal crops was based on informal agreements with the Member States.

Eurostat proposed a draft Regulation on statistics of crops other than cereals, which should harmonise and improve existing data flows. While the corresponding working group had already dealt with the technical details, a final discussion was planned for the forthcoming meeting of the Standing Agricultural Statistics Committee.

The SPC agreed to the draft regulation on non-cereal crops being forwarded to the Council.

### **4. Results of written procedures on legal acts**

- (a) Classification of Products by Activity (CPA)
- (b) Community register of enterprises
- (c) Statistical units

In accordance with the opinions expressed by the SPC at its meeting in December 1991, the revised draft versions of all three legal acts were submitted to a postal vote by the Member States.

Eurostat presented the results of a vote which were supplemented by the missing replies of some Member States.

While the SPC agreed that all legal acts should be sent to the Council, it decided that its comments and proposals would be submitted to the corresponding Council working groups. In order to overcome reservations expressed by the Member States relating to both legal aspects and the contents of the draft Regulation on the Community register of enterprises, Eurostat undertook to pursue bilateral contacts. With respect to the committee provided for in the three draft regulations, the SPC requested that it be a management committee.

### **5. The Training of European Statisticians (TES) programme 1993 - 1994: decision of the SPC**

In November 1989, the SPC agreed to the preparation of a Community programme for the training of European statisticians. After approval by the SPC in December 1991, the second annual programme for 1992 - 1993 was being implemented.

Eurostat presented a comprehensive assessment of the 1991 - 1992 TES programme and proposed the programme for 1993 - 1994. Its design was based on the results of a survey on the training needs and capabilities of the countries conducted in 1992 as well as on registrations received for the previous year's programme.

The SPC approved the TES programme for 1993 - 1994.



**6. Statistical requirements arising from the revision of the EEC Regulations on the implementation of the structural funds**

In view of the growing importance of the regional dimensions of Community policies, Eurostat outlined the implications for the development of regional statistics. In particular the forthcoming revision of the EEC Regulations on the structural funds meant that the Member States would have to provide regional data, especially on unemployment at NUTS 3 level.

Although the SPC approved Eurostat's request for information, some Member States pointed out that they would have difficulties in supplying the data listed. It was decided to hold, at some future date, an in-depth discussion about the quality of regional data currently available.

**7. INTRASTAT project : the final framework  
- the new COMEDI project -**

Within a period of almost seven years, new rules for the collection of data relating to intra-community trading had been discussed. The basic Regulation, which was adopted in November 1991, had been supplemented by several Regulations on specific subjects.

In order to promote the implementation of the INTRASTAT system in the Member States, Eurostat presented the COMEDI project<sup>9</sup>, which was designed to establish an infrastructure at European level for the collection and processing of statistical data. Moreover, it raised several points for discussion related to the needs of individual Member States.

The SPC decided that a final decision on the remaining implementing provisions be taken at the June 1992 meeting of the Committee on external trade statistics.

**8. Other Business  
National Statistical System of Greece**

The National Statistical Service of Greece outlined the situation concerning official statistics, particularly with regard to several problems of staffing and equipment.

To further the Commission's support for the restructuring of the statistical system, the SPC was asked to do all it could to help Greece achieve the goal of the statistical programme.

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<sup>9</sup> Commerce : Electronic Data Interchange (now: EDICOM)

## **7<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Statistical Programme Committee Luxembourg, 25 November 1992**

### **1. Organisation of the work of the SPC within the Community Statistical System**

Since its creation in 1989, the SPC had met twice a year in conjunction with the three day DGINS Conference. The topics for discussion by the SPC were identified on a separate agenda.

In order to intensify co-operation within the SPC and find a more efficient working method for the statistical programme for the European Economic Area, Eurostat presented the conclusions of the DGINS Steering Group, which met in Brussels on 15 July 1992. These proposed more frequent SPC meetings, which should last only one day. Moreover, the meetings should be arranged in conjunction with other events assessed by the Directors General if possible. The two day DGINS Conference in May should take the form of a seminar organised by the host country, which could also invite participants from outside the field of statistics.

The SPC welcomed the proposals and agreed to increase the number of meetings to a maximum of four per year if necessary, starting from 1993. Eurostat should provide interpretation in all the necessary languages.

### **2. Legal acts in implementation of the Community Statistical Programme**

Following the 77th DGINS Conference, the DGINS Steering Group met on 15 July 1992 to discuss the possible forms of legislation for the implementation of the Community statistical programme on the basis of the Treaty on European Union.

Eurostat summarised the conclusions by proposing the form of a Council Decision for framework statistical programmes and sectional programmes. It would also propose the appropriate legal form (regulation or directive) for those annual work programmes which could not be executed by gentlemen's agreement between the National Statistical Institutions and Eurostat, in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity.

The Member States asked for further clarification of the document concerning, in particular, the non-binding nature of the framework statistical programme. The discussion was to be continued within the appropriate bodies.

### **3. Work Programme of the Community Statistical System for 1993**

Eurostat presented the first annual work programme (1993) drawn up in connection with the 1993 - 1997 framework statistical programme, which was still before the Council. Following the structure of the framework programme the document contained the objectives for 1993 that Eurostat regarded as having priority. An annex listed the resulting new statistical projects and contained proposals for their legal basis.

In view of the very short time available for commenting on the annual statistical programme, the SPC considered it as a working basis. In general the importance of co-ordination with other international organisations was stressed. While the SPC agreed that comments on individual

projects would be submitted within the next few weeks in written form, the Member States called for clarification of several projects.

Eurostat agreed to present a preliminary draft programme for the following year in May, for final approval in November. This way the projects could in the meantime be discussed by the working parties and be included in the budgetary decisions of the Member States.

#### **4. Statistical requirements of International Organisations**

In the field of agriculture, forestry and fishery statistics, Eurostat reported some difficulties on issues related to co-ordination with international organisations.

The SPC felt that the problems were rather specific but pointed out that co-ordination with the international organisations and Eurostat or the Member States should be consolidated at secretarial level as well as, where necessary, on an informal level.

#### **5. Revision of three Directives on livestock statistics**

Having been in force for nearly twenty years, the current Directives on livestock statistics had been amended several times.

Eurostat proposed revised Directives for statistics on cattle, pigs, sheep and goats in order to provide a more uniform legal basis.

The Member States identified several points as debatable, including the general question of the competences of the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics, which in their opinion should have the continued status of a management committee instead of the proposed form of an advisory committee. The SPC proposed to defer the submission of the proposal to the Commission and the Council to allow an adequate consultation of the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics.

#### **6. Change of the base year**

Referring to former DGINS meetings, Eurostat called upon the Member States to make the necessary provisions for using the years "1990" and "1995" as base years for presenting indices and indicators.

Basically the SPC agreed to the proposal. The discussion on technical problems would be continued within the appropriate bodies taking cost aspects into account.

#### **7. Other Business**

##### **A. Developments in the Field of Monetary Statistics**

The SPC was informed by the President of the Committee for Monetary, Financial and Balance of Payments Statistics (CMFB) on its future composition, role and method of work in the light of the changes after 'Maastricht'. The SPC pointed out that it was desirable that the revision of

the Treaties in 1996 gave rise to a recognition of the role of Eurostat and the National Statistical Institutes in a way that would correspond to the statistical role of the Central Banks in the Treaty of Maastricht.

## **B. The Commission's requirements as regards estimates of industrial variables**

In order to cover the Commission's requirements for up-to-date information on industry, Eurostat had been engaged in a project aimed at receiving corresponding estimations from the EEIG<sup>10</sup> - DEBA<sup>11</sup>.

On the basis of the negative attitude of the DGINS towards this project in May 1992, three Member States urged Eurostat to put this item on the SPC's agenda, expressing their views in writing to the Director General.

Eurostat provided a document illustrating the background of the project and confirmed that it did not intend to create a system of short-term trend indicators which would compete with those in place in Member States. However, the Member States repeated their concerns regarding various problems which are highly probable to arise as the results are not provided by the National Statistical Institutes.

The SPC expressed its opinion that high priority should be given to improving the data supply of the Member States, starting with the acceleration of the work within the Working Party "Estimates". If this produced adequate results, Eurostat would stop supporting EEIG - DEBA.

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<sup>10</sup> European Economic Interest Group

<sup>11</sup> Data for European Business Analysis

## **8<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Statistical Programme Committee**

### **Brussels, 25 March 1993**

#### **1. Legislation in the field of business statistics**

On the basis of both the Council Decision on a biannual programme for the development of service statistics (92/326/EEC) and various approaches within the last three years to a revision of industry statistics, a draft Directive combining the sectors' structural statistics was presented to the SPC.

While they supported the general idea of a joint legal act covering manufacturing and service industries, the Member States considered its structure as problematic. Rather than delegating the competences for determining all details of the surveys to the Commission, it was felt that the text should offer more information on the cost and resource implications for the National Statistical Institutes and enterprises. Moreover, the Member States wanted the role of the SPC in supporting the Commission strengthened by choosing at least the procedure of a management committee.

With regard to further actions, it was agreed that Eurostat would present a revised draft legal act in a form of a Regulation taking into account the points discussed.

#### **2. Principles and procedures for Programming Missions**

For approximately four years bilateral Programming Missions had served as an institutionalised forum where problems between Eurostat and a single Member State could be discussed in-depth at Directors' level.

Eurostat presented a note on improving their effectiveness. The SPC was in favour of the proposals which should serve as a guideline for further meetings.

#### **3. Draft Council Regulation amending Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1382/91 on the submission of data on the landings of fishery products**

The draft legal act was designed to extend the statistics on the landings of fishery products to the EFTA countries as from January 1994.

The item was discussed under item 4.

#### **4. Draft Council Regulation on the submission of nominal catch statistics by Member States fishing in the Northwest Atlantic**

The draft regulation provides a legal basis for the supply of the STATLANT files to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation.

Both proposals had been discussed and approved by the "Fishery Statistics" Working Group of the Agricultural Statistics Committee.

The SPC accepted the two proposals while Eurostat would take several specific comments into account, including the strengthening of the competences of the committee proposed in the draft Council Regulation on catch statistics. As far as the transmission of confidential data to Eurostat was concerned, reference would be made to Council Regulation 1588/90/EEC.

## **5. Council approval of the 1993 - 1997 Statistical Programme**

The multi-annual Statistical Programme included a basic outline of the priority sectional programmes for the forthcoming five years as well as the rules of procedure for implementing the corresponding specific statistical projects. In order to stress its importance it would be passed as a Council Decision for the first time.

Eurostat informed the SPC about the progress of the Council's discussion on this Programme. The discussion is to be continued at the next meeting of the Council Working Party on 22 April 1993. The European Parliament committees have already delivered a basically favourable opinion.

## **6. Other Business**

### **A. Preparation and implementation of the new ESA**

On the basis of the approval of the revised SNA by the United Nations Statistical Commission, Eurostat presented proposals on a timetable for the implementation of the new ESA and stressed the importance of giving the ESA a legal basis. With respect to the problem of the allocation of bank services Eurostat proposed to ask two experts from the National Statistical Institutions to join forces with a Eurostat expert in working on a corresponding project.

The SPC felt that priority should be given to the implementation of the new ESA. The Member States pointed out that the first results could not be forwarded to Eurostat before 1998.

### **B. Protection of personal data**

The members of the SPC were invited to pay special attention to the statistical aspects of the Directive on the protection of personal data, which was currently being discussed at a meeting between members of the Confidentiality Committee and the Council Working Party on Statistical Data Protection.

### **C. Transmission of documents**

Eurostat reported on the CADDIA project, which was designed to speed up the transmission of documents for SPC meetings.

## **9<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Statistical Programme Committee**

### **Dublin, 24 - 25 May 1993**

#### **1. 1994 Annual Work Programme : preliminary draft**

Eurostat presented the second annual work programme drawn up in connection with the 1993 - 1997 statistical programme. It contained forms giving a description of the projects and a proposal for its legal basis which Eurostat considered to be new and which should have priority in 1994. A final version would be presented at the November 1993 SPC meeting.

In light of the current budgetary difficulties which Eurostat and most National Statistical Institutes were experiencing, it was pointed out that Member States could not be expected to implement new projects without making cutbacks to existing work. Some projects were identified that could be delayed.

The SPC decided to set up a task force of Eurostat and some Member States in order to improve annual planning and establish links between broad priorities and sectional and specific actions. It would meet in July 1993 for the first time.

#### **2. Council Directive on measuring excessive deficits (Article 104C and relevant protocol of the Maastricht Treaty)**

According to the Treaty on European Union, before 1 January 1994, the Council, acting on a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission and after consulting the European Parliament, had to lay down detailed rules and definitions for the application of the provisions of the protocol on the excessive deficits procedure annexed to the Treaty.

Eurostat presented a draft of possible secondary legislation concerning the statistical aspects, which included definitions of the government sector and the procedure and timetable for the reporting of data.

The SPC agreed to send the draft to the Council after Eurostat had reconsidered the data transmission deadlines. With respect to the setting up of a Committee, its competences were discussed as well as the need for National Accounts experts to be involved.

#### **3. European statistical law : draft Council Regulation and Decision on the Community Statistical System**

In accordance with the SPC's instruction in May 1992 to continue preparation of a legal act on the organisation of the Community statistical system, Eurostat presented a draft regulation reflecting the work of the Task Force and Working Parties as well as the outcome of Council discussions on the 1993 - 1997 statistical programme. Eurostat had also made progress in preparing the Commission's legal text on the independence of the statistical service, its role and responsibilities. After being discussed in the Working Party, it would be submitted to the Commission for approval when the Council had decided upon the Community statistical system Regulation.

The Member States expressed their need for further clarification of the wording in some instances, including the division of costs. Moreover, the choice of Article 213 as the legal basis, the list of principles and the chapter on statistical confidentiality were considered questionable.

The SPC decided that the Member States should send their written comments by 15 June, so that the amended text could be submitted to the Commission for agreement before the summer. It was agreed that the proposed regulation should serve as a basis for the long term aim to create, with the next amendment to the Treaties of Rome, a constitutional basis for the Community statistical system in the Treaties.

#### **4. Combining the SPC and the EC/EEA Conference**

In line with Protocol 30 of the European Economic Area (EEA) Agreement, EC - EFTA co-operation in the field of statistics encompassed both a joint EC/EFTA DGINS Conference and the participation of six EFTA countries at those SPC meetings which dealt with subjects covered by the Agreement.

In order to rationalise the meetings taking place at Directors General level, Eurostat proposed that any meeting of the SPC in its role as a consultant for the Commission on issues relating to the multi-annual programme (Article 3 of Council Decision 89/382/EEC) be designated as an SPC/EEA Conference. Items not relevant to the EEA would be marked as such on the agenda.

The SPC agreed to follow the proposal from the entry into force of the EEA Agreement onwards. Where items on the agenda were not EEA-relevant, the participants of the EFTA would be solely observers.

#### **5. Draft Council Decision implementing a multi-annual programme for the consolidation of transport statistics**

The establishment of a European Common Market called for a uniform concept for the development of harmonised and detailed statistics on transport in the Member States.

Eurostat introduced a comprehensive framework covering the years 1994 - 1997, which should encompass the assessment of the information needed, preparation of appropriate methods for all modes of transport, collection of the available data, pilot surveys in fields not covered and the promotion of the use of automated transmission and electronic transmission procedures. The drafting of three legal acts covering transport by road, sea and air would make it possible to obtain the statistical data base needed.

The SPC agreed that this draft Decision should be sent to the Council. Several Member States considered it over-ambitious and demanded that the Committee proposed should have management competences. It was decided that reference to the co-operation with international organisations and information on the contents of the data base should be added to the draft by Eurostat.



## **6. Work on the exhaustiveness of GNP**

In order to remedy the non-uniform coverage of the underground economy Eurostat had put forward a work programme aimed at validating and, where necessary, improving the coverage of productive activity in Member States' GNP.

The content of the programme had been approved by the GNP Committee at its meeting in October 1992.

The SPC recognised that, in light of the decision for GNP to gradually replace the VAT - based third resource as the Community's main source of finance, work on the exhaustiveness of GNP had to be given priority. However, most of the Member States foresaw tremendous difficulties in achieving the time frame set by Eurostat.

This item should be further discussed within the GNP Committee.

## **7. 1992 Progress report**

The SPC took note of the fourth annual progress report on the implementation of the 1989 - 1992 Statistical Programme of the European Communities, covering 1992. It was organised by subject and included some statistics on Eurostat's personnel and budgetary situation as well as information on the objectives of the 1993 work programme.

## **8. Eurostat / BLS Seminar on statistical information systems in a market economy for the Republics of the former Soviet Union (FSU)**

Eurostat informed the SPC about a seminar designed for the Presidents of the Statistical Offices of the Republics of the Former Soviet Union, that had been jointly organised by Eurostat and the US Bureau of Labour Statistics within the framework of the Community TACIS<sup>12</sup> Programme. The objective of the seminar was twofold: to give information about the challenges of official statistics and to receive information about the present situation in the newly independent states. Areas for further co-operation and co-ordination of international assistance were also discussed. Following the seminar, participants had the opportunity to visit four National Statistical Institutes.

## **9. Other Business**

### **A. Directive on the protection of personal data**

The SPC was informed about the initiative of several National Statistical Institutes to outline a joint position on the draft Directive on the protection of personal data currently before the Council. Provided that it received a broad measure of support it should be sent to the Council Working Group. The Commission would be informed via a letter from Mr. Christopherson to Mr. Bangemann.

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<sup>12</sup> Technical Assistance for the Community of Independant States

## **B. Deadlines for transmitting data to Eurostat**

Eurostat presented a country-by-country update of data transmitted to Eurostat and asked those countries which were behind with transmissions to speed them up.

## **C. INTRASTAT / EDICOM project**

Statistical information on intra-Community trade in goods had been collected directly from the enterprises since 1 January 1993. Eurostat delivered a progress report summarising the situation in the different Member States. The EDICOM project which had been designed to promote the use of modern communication technologies was also discussed, particularly with respect to the quality of the software delivered by Eurostat.

## **D. Miscellaneous**

The SPC took note of two documents concerning the regional reliability of the sampling plans for the 1992 Labour Force Survey and a joint ECE - Eurostat Work Session on Demographic Projections.

# 10<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Statistical Programme Committee

## Brussels, 24 September 1993

### 1. Restructuring EC agricultural statistics

On the basis of an extensive review of Community agricultural statistics Eurostat outlined a formal framework for an integrated and more efficient structure of these statistics, capable of continuing adaptation to meet changing information requirements.

While the Member States welcomed the general idea, they stressed the need for the proposal to be compatible with the Council Decision on the 1993 - 1997 Statistical Programme, the forthcoming "statistical law" and the division of tasks determined for the Standing Committee on Agricultural Statistics and the SPC. In addition, several points for further clarification were identified, including the competences of the Commission, the provisions for ensuring statistical confidentiality and the financing of the programme.

Eurostat agreed to revise the proposal in accordance with the discussion.

### 2. TES Programme 1994/95

In November 1989, the SPC agreed to the preparation of a Community programme for the training of European statisticians. After approval by the SPC in May 1992, the third annual programme for 1993 - 1994 was being implemented.

Eurostat presented a brief report of the 1992/1993 TES programme, which would be thoroughly evaluated by the TES Evaluation Committee, and proposed the programme for 1994 - 1995. It was to be regarded as a consolidation programme in which stress would be laid on the proposed improvements. Moreover, additional programmes would be offered for the countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

The SPC discussed and approved the TES programme for 1994 - 1995 provided that Eurostat would take the comments into account.

### 3. Management of the statistical programme

#### 3.1 The role of the SPC in the management of the statistical programme

Both the increasing role of the SPC with respect to the management of the statistical programme as set out in recent Council Legislation and the enlargement of tasks associated with the entry into force of the European Economic Area Agreement gave rise to considerations on redefining the SPC's internal procedures.

The Member States agreed to a proposal by Eurostat to reserve the relevant horizontal tasks and the sectoral decisions in line with Article 4 of its legal basis to meetings at Director General level.

Eurostat would prepare an amended version of the SPC internal rules.

### **3.2 First conclusions of the Task Force "Annual Statistical Programme"**

In May 1993 the SPC agreed to set up a Task Force to explore the kinds of information which would be useful for the SPC when drawing conclusions on the annual statistical programme and to consider the timetable and procedures for presenting this information to the SPC.

Following its meeting on 7-8 July, the Task Force presented preliminary conclusions with respect to the format of information on projects within the Annual Programme, the methodology for assessing costs and the procedures for the examination of information by the SPC.

The SPC was in favour of the results achieved by the Task Force, which would meet again on 15 October.

### **4. Proposals on the options for harmonization of the CPI**

In view of future European Monetary Arrangements a Working Party had been set up to draft guidelines for a Regulation on the production of harmonized national consumer price indices, which should serve as the basis for a Community wide index. Eight Task Forces had been established to address single aspects of the work programme. The results of the Working Party's first meeting on June 1993 and its draft terms of reference were presented to the SPC.

The SPC expressed its support for the work and agreed to the participation of CEIES members in the preparatory work of the Working Party.

It suggested some changes to the mandate of the Working Party, which would submit a revised version to the SPC for final approval in November.

### **5. External trade statistics after 1992**

Eurostat raised the question of delays on the part of some Member States in transmitting external trade data.

The Member States explained that their problems were caused mainly by difficulties in the application of the goods classification and their inadequate electronic and telematic infrastructure.

The SPC acknowledged that high priority needed to be given to standardizing the collection of data on intra- and extra-Community trade and pointed out that an exchange of experience in this area would be essential.

### **6. Draft Directive on the protection of personal data**

Further to the announcement made at the meeting of the SPC in May 1993, several National Statistical Institutes had prepared a joint position on the draft Directive on the protection of personal data and pointed out that strong support by the representatives of the Member States at Council would be essential for the comments to be regarded.

## **7. Framework Regulation on business statistics**

Following the discussion of the legislation in the field of business statistics proposed to the SPC in March 1993, Eurostat presented a revised draft Regulation on business statistics covering industrial and service activities.

While the general idea of a comprehensive approach was welcomed, Member States expressed their strong reservations regarding, in particular, the field of application, the variables to be used and the periodicity.

A revised text would be prepared by the corresponding working group and submitted to the SPC at its next meeting.

## **8. Proposal for a Directive on statistical returns in respect of carriage of goods and passengers by sea**

In order to fill current gaps in maritime statistics and in accordance with the Community objective of developing a coherent system of information on the different modes of transport, Eurostat presented a draft legal act on the transport of goods and passengers by sea. It provided for the SPC to advise the Commission in implementing the legal act.

While some Member States expressed their reservations regarding in particular the provisions on recording and collection of data, the relevance of the data required and the costs involved, the majority of the Member States were in favour of this project and advocated a Directive as a legal basis.

Eurostat would submit the revised draft Directive to the Council.

## **9. Evaluation of the Community Statistical Programme 1989-1992**

In line with Council Resolution 89/C161/01 of 19 June 1989 Eurostat provided a final report on the implementation of the Statistical Programme 1989-1992 for submission to the Parliament and Council.

The SPC welcomed the report, which presented the results and problems encountered in the implementation of the statistical programmes in connection with Community policies.

## **10. Other Business**

### **A. The "statistical law"**

With reference to the SPC's discussion of a draft legal act on the organization of the Community Statistical System at its meeting in May 1993, Eurostat presented a new version of the "statistical law" which was at the decision-making stage at the Commission and was expected to be submitted to the Council before the end of the month. The Commission Decision on the status of Eurostat should be ready for adoption immediately after the Council's vote on the Regulation.

## **B. State of affairs on GDP**

At its meeting in May 1993, the SPC had referred a work programme on the exhaustiveness of GNP back to the GNP Committee as most Member States had foreseen difficulties in achieving the time-frame.

Eurostat reported on the new proposal submitted to the GNP Committee, which contained a delayed deadline.

## **C. Budgetary situation of Eurostat**

Eurostat informed the SPC about its improved budgetary situation as the Commission had proposed that Eurostat should benefit from a redistribution of the budget in accordance with the 'Notenboom' procedure.

# **11<sup>TH</sup> Meeting of the Statistical Programme Committee**

## **Brussels, 26 November 1993**

### **1. Work programme 1994**

#### **1.1 Final report of the Task Force on Annual Programming**

Following its meeting on 15 October 1993, the Task Force on Statistical Programme Planning, which was set up on behalf of the SPC on its meeting on May 1993, presented its final conclusions with respect to the co-operation of Eurostat with the NSIs on annual programming.

A permanent Working Group would be created to work with Eurostat on programme planning and to explore costs/benefit aspects, that might be prepared by a sub-working group.

Eurostat agreed to enlarge the time frame for the NSIs to respond to the new annual programme by making sure that the relevant document was provided four weeks before the May SPC meeting. To facilitate Member States' planning procedures, estimates for the planning year  $t+2$  would be added to the draft programme for the year  $t+1$ .

#### **1.2 EC work programme 1994**

Eurostat presented the second annual work programme (1994) drawn up in connection with the 1993-1997 framework statistical programme.

As the document was considered too vague to allow a formal approval, the Member States called for the Commission's priorities to be identified more clearly. The improvement of the planning process would allow for progress with respect to the evaluation of the work programme.

### **2. Draft Directive on Tourism**

As a follow-up to the actions undertaken within the framework of the Council Decision of 17 December 1990 on this subject, Eurostat presented a draft Directive on tourism statistics.

There was general support for the need for such a Directive although some delegations felt that it was not quite ready to be sent to Council.

The text would be re-examined, especially in the light of information on costs to be provided by Member States, and the revised version would be submitted for approval by the SPC by written procedure in early 1994.

### **3. Household panel: pilot survey evaluation report**

Eurostat submitted to the SPC the evaluation report of the pilot survey of the European Community Household Panel (ECHP), which had been launched in 1992 following the DGINS decision of May 1990.

The SPC agreed to proceed to the full ECHP in either April or May 1994, which had been planned for at least 3 years. Some Member States stressed the need for a financial contribution by the Community and called for a revision of the management structure in selected areas.

#### **4. Harmonisation of consumer price indices: mandate for Working Party**

The SPC was informed about the progress made by the Working Party on harmonization of consumer price indices.

It approved of the terms of reference for the Working Party, that had been revised on the basis of the comments made by the SPC at its last meeting in September 1993.

#### **5. Population figures to be used for the purposes of financing the European Monetary Institute**

According to Article 16 of the Protocol on the Statute of the European Monetary Institute (EMI) and Article 29(1) of the Protocol on the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank, the key for the financial resources of the EMI should be based on the share of the Member States of the population and the share in the gross domestic product at market prices of the European Community. In case of population data, the Council expert group "Economic and Monetary Union" agreed at its meetings on 8 and 23 September 1993 to use these figures provided in accordance with the ESA definitions and defined the requirements the data would have to meet.

As population data provided by the NSIs had not been based on a legal act the SPC validated them on the basis of a room document containing the updated figures.

#### **6. Forestry Statistics**

While in the past, forestry statistics had played a minor role within the Community Statistical Programme, its importance increased at the end of the eighties with an increase in political attention being paid to rural and regional development, the restructuring of agriculture and environmental aspects of forests. The secondment of an EFTA Member States' forestry expert in 1994 would further enhance the development of Community forestry statistics.

The Portuguese delegation emphasized the importance of this sector and called for a substantial improvement in Community forestry statistics, which should be based on a legal instrument.

Regarding the future work in this area, the need for Eurostat to be present in Community activities of a statistical nature on forestry and the need for co-ordination of work within the international context were stressed.

#### **7. Revision of ESA: progress of work**

Eurostat reported on the progress made regarding the revision of the European System of National Accounts (ESA). Eurostat was working in close co-operation with other international



organisations, particularly OECD, and was receiving valuable help from staff seconded from NSIs.

#### **8. Time-limits and infringements**

Eurostat addressed problems with respect to Member States' delays in the transmission of some agricultural data, Labor Force Survey data and Intrastat and extra-Community trade data, and announced bilateral contacts to discuss the possibility of having the transmission accelerated. Ultimately, however, formal notices of complaint were not to be ruled out.

For one of the subsequent SPC meetings Eurostat would prepare a summary of delays on the part of the Member States in the transmission of data.

#### **9. EEA statistical programme 1994-1997**

The EEA Statistical Programme 1994-1997 was presented, which was based on the 1993-1997 framework programme for the EC would be incorporated in an amendment to Protocol 30 of the Treaty to be passed by the EEA Joint Committee in January 1994.

While the substantial progress in EEA co-operation in the field of statistics was acknowledged, the EFTA countries expressed some concern that their data were not automatically appearing in Eurostat publications.

Eurostat agreed that, in principle, where EFTA countries could produce the data, and in EEA-relevant domains, EFTA data would be included.

### **III REPORT OF THE SPC MEETINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 4 OF ITS LEGAL BASIS**

**1991 - 1993**

#### **1. SPC in connection with the NACE Regulation**

On the basis of Article 7 of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3037/90 of 9 October 1990 on the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community, the SPC had met ten times since 1991 to deal with the following main topics :

##### **Meeting on 18 - 23 February 1991**

1. Introduction to NACE Rev.1 including the statistical units
2. Outstanding problems
3. NACE-PRODUCTS classification
4. Explanatory notes

##### **Meeting on 10 - 14 June 1991**

1. Introduction to NACE Rev.1 including the statistical units
2. CPA
3. Explanatory notes NACE Rev.1
4. Case law (NACE Rev.1)

##### **Meeting on 23 - 27 September 1991**

1. CPA
2. CPA Regulation
3. Introduction to NACE Rev.1
4. Case law (NACE Rev.1)
5. NACE correspondence table
6. Other:
  - "Serveur"
  - Example of use of CPA

##### **Meeting on 11 - 15 November 1991**

1. Interpretation of NACE Rev.1
  - "Case law"
  - Empty classes
  - Holdings
2. CPA
  - Regulation
  - CPA version 0.4
3. Other

### **Meeting on 3 - 7 February 1992**

1. NACE Rev.1
  - Revision and changes of headings
  - Explanatory notes
  - Case law (incl. recycling and textiles)
  - Introduction (incl. statistical units and value added)
2. CPA
  - Version 0.6
  - Regulation
3. Other

### **Meeting on 11 - 15 May 1992**

1. NACE Rev.1
  - Revised version
  - Explanatory notes
  - Case law
  - Introduction
2. CPA
  - Formal adoption of version 1.0
  - Draft outline of introduction to CPA
3. Other

### **Meeting on 30 November - 4 December 1992**

1. Formal vote on adoption of NACE Rev.1 revised
2. Adoption of explanatory notes to NACE Rev.1
3. Case law

### **Meeting on 22 - 26 March 1993**

1. Interpretation of NACE Rev.1: Case law
2. Recycling
3. NACE explanatory notes
4. Internal rules for development of NACE and CPA
5. Conversion key
6. NACE Introduction

### **Meeting on 20 - 24 September 1993**

1. Interpretation of NACE Rev.1: Case law
2. NACE Introduction
3. NACE Explanatory notes
4. Guidelines for SPC (NACE/CPA)
5. Conversion key

## **Meeting on 6 - 10 December 1993**

1. Interpretation of NACE Rev. 1: Case law
2. NACE Publication
3. Guidelines for SPC (NACE/CPA)

Because of the rather technical nature of the items discussed, this report has been confined to covering only the main subjects of the meetings, which can be summarized as follows:

- The SPC assisted the Commission in updating NACE Rev.1. The Commission, in accordance with the opinion of the SPC, adopted Regulation (EEC) No. 761/93 of 24 March 1993<sup>13</sup>) amending Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3037/90 on the statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community.
- The SPC discussed the proposal for a central product classification which basically followed NACE Rev.1 for the European Community.
- Decisions with respect to the application of NACE Rev.1 made up another major part of the work of the SPC in this area. In order to ensure uniform interpretation in all Member States these "case law" decisions were collected to serve as a point of reference.
- Aspects related to the co-ordination with other classifications as well as derived classifications were discussed at the SPC meetings to ensure harmonisation of all the classifications applied.
- The SPC discussed a working document outlining its internal procedures for updating , interpreting and harmonising the central classifications (NACE Rev.1 and the CPA) which would be adopted before the end of 1994.
- A comprehensive document was prepared by the SPC, including an introduction and explanatory notes to NACE Rev.1, the classification itself and a conversion key to the former version NACE 70. A final draft of the document was discussed at the December 1993 meeting of the SPC.
- The SPC discussed a corresponding document for the CPA.

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<sup>13</sup> OJ No. L83, 03.04.1993 p. 1

## **2. SPC in connection with the PRODCOM Regulation**

On the basis of Article 9 of the Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3924/91 of 19 December 1991 on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production, the SPC had met four times since 1991 to deal with the following main topics :

### **Meeting on 1 - 5 June 1992**

1. Adoption of the minutes of the PRODCOM Working Party meeting of October 1991.
2. Introduction to juridical aspects of the PRODCOM Committee.
3. Introduction to the 92.2 PRODCOM list and to the draft for 1993.
4. Methodology
5. Working program
6. Data Transmission Methodology
7. Agenda for the November meeting
8. Miscellaneous

### **Meeting on 16 - 19 November 1992**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the minutes of the PRODCOM meeting of 1 - 5 June 1992.
3. Results of the postal vote on Article 2 paragraphs 4A and 4B.
4. Presentation of the final version of the PRODCOM list 1993.
5. Publication of the PRODCOM list.
6. Implementation of PRODCOM in the Member States.
7. Countries demands on basis of the 1% threshold.
8. Confidentiality.
9. Sub-contracting.
10. PRODCOM and automatization.
11. Working plan for 1993.
12. Miscellaneous.

### **Meeting on 28 - 29 June 1993**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the minutes of the PRODCOM meeting of 16 - 19 November 1992.
3. First quarterly survey : oral presentation of the current situation in the Member States.
4. Confidentiality.
5. PRODCOM database and data transmission.
6. Statistics on biotechnology.
7. PRODCOM and the Multi-Fibre-Arrangement (MFA).
8. PRODCOM list 94.0.
9. Units of volume
10. Subcontracting
11. Miscellaneous

### **Meeting on 15 - 16 November 1993**

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 28 - 29 June 1993
3. Confidentiality.
4. Publication PRODCOM list 1994.0.
5. Biotechnology
6. Dairy products.
7. Methodological notes.
8. State of affairs in Member States.
9. PRODCOM and MFA.
10. Data base and data transmission.
11. PRODCOM and CN.
12. Any other business

Because of the rather technical nature of the items discussed, this report has been confined to covering only very general aspects of the meetings.

Since its first meeting, in accordance with the PRODCOM legal act in 1992, the SPC dealt with the following main subjects:

- In line with Article 3 (2) and (3) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3924/91, the SPC discussed the application of a 90% threshold for national production per NACE Rev.1 class.
- The SPC approved the request of some Member States for an exemption from data collection for certain NACE classes in accordance with Article 3 (4) of the Council Regulation.
- In line with Article 4 of the Council Regulation, the SPC decided to compile quarterly statistics for certain NACE classes.
- Another main aspect of the SPC's work was the updating and correcting of the PRODCOM list. In November 1992 the PRODCOM 1993 list was published, which incorporated the amendments of the SPC to the PRODCOM 1992.2 list.
- In addition, the SPC dealt with questions related to confidentiality, informatics and methodological issues.
- The SPC took account of the progress reports of the Member States with respect to the implementation of PRODCOM, which were delivered on a regular basis.

**ES** **Clasificación de las publicaciones de Eurostat****TEMA**

- 1 Estadísticas generales (azul oscuro)
- 2 Economía y finanzas (violeta)
- 3 Población y condiciones sociales (amarillo)
- 4 Energía e industria (azul claro)
- 5 Agricultura, silvicultura y pesca (verde)
- 6 Comercio exterior y balanza de pagos (rojo)
- 7 Servicios y transportes (naranja)
- 8 Medio ambiente (turquesa)
- 9 Diversos (marrón)

**SERIE**

- A Anuarios
- B Coyuntura
- C Cuentas, encuestas y estadísticas
- D Estudios y análisis
- E Métodos
- F Estadísticas rápidas

**GR** **Ταξινόμηση των δημοσιεύσεων της Eurostat****ΘΕΜΑ**

- 1 Γενικές στατιστικές (βαθύ μπλε)
- 2 Οικονομία και δημοσιονομικά (βιολετί)
- 3 Πληθυσμός και κοινωνικές συνθήκες (κίτρινο)
- 4 Ενέργεια και βιομηχανία (μπλε)
- 5 Γεωργία, δάση και αλιεία (πράσινο)
- 6 Εξωτερικό εμπόριο και ισοζύγιο πληρωμών (κόκκινο)
- 7 Υπηρεσίες και μεταφορές (πορτοκαλί)
- 8 Περιβάλλον (τουρκουάζ)
- 9 Διάφορα (καφέ)

**ΣΕΙΡΑ**

- A Επετηρίδες
- B Συγκυρία
- C Λογαριασμοί, έρευνες και στατιστικές
- D Μελέτες και αναλύσεις
- E Μέθοδοι
- F Ταχείες στατιστικές

**IT** **Classificazione delle pubblicazioni dell'Eurostat****TEMA**

- 1 Statistiche generali (blu)
- 2 Economia e finanze (viola)
- 3 Popolazione e condizioni sociali (giallo)
- 4 Energia e industria (azzurro)
- 5 Agricoltura, foreste e pesca (verde)
- 6 Commercio estero e bilancia dei pagamenti (rosso)
- 7 Servizi e trasporti (arancione)
- 8 Ambiente (turchese)
- 9 Diversi (marrone)

**SERIE**

- A Annuari
- B Tendenze congiunturali
- C Conti, indagini e statistiche
- D Studi e analisi
- E Metodi
- F Note rapide

**DA** **Klassifikation af Eurostats publikationer****EMNE**

- 1 Almene statistikker (mørkeblå)
- 2 Økonomi og finanser (violet)
- 3 Befolkning og sociale forhold (gul)
- 4 Energi og industri (blå)
- 5 Landbrug, skovbrug og fiskeri (grøn)
- 6 Udenrigshandel og betalingsbalancer (rød)
- 7 Tjenesteydelser og transport (orange)
- 8 Miljø (turkis)
- 9 Diverse statistikker (brun)

**SERIE**

- A Årbøger
- B Konjunkturoversigter
- C Regnskaber, tællinger og statistikker
- D Undersøgelser og analyser
- E Metoder
- F Ekspresoversigter

**EN** **Classification of Eurostat publications****THEME**

- 1 General statistics (midnight blue)
- 2 Economy and finance (violet)
- 3 Population and social conditions (yellow)
- 4 Energy and industry (blue)
- 5 Agriculture, forestry and fisheries (green)
- 6 External trade and balance of payments (red)
- 7 Services and transport (orange)
- 8 Environment (turquoise)
- 9 Miscellaneous (brown)

**SERIES**

- A Yearbooks
- B Short-term trends
- C Accounts, surveys and statistics
- D Studies and analyses
- E Methods
- F Rapid reports

**NL** **Classificatie van de publicaties van Eurostat****ONDERWERP**

- 1 Algemene statistiek (donkerblauw)
- 2 Economie en financiën (paars)
- 3 Bevolking en sociale voorwaarden (geel)
- 4 Energie en industrie (blauw)
- 5 Landbouw, bosbouw en visserij (groen)
- 6 Buitenlandse handel en betalingsbalansen (rood)
- 7 Diensten en vervoer (oranje)
- 8 Milieu (turkoois)
- 9 Diverse statistieken (bruin)

**SERIE**

- A Jaarboeken
- B Conjunctuur
- C Rekeningen, enquêtes en statistieken
- D Studies en analyses
- E Methoden
- F Spoedberichten

**DE** **Gliederung der Veröffentlichungen von Eurostat****THEMENKREIS**

- 1 Allgemeine Statistik (Dunkelblau)
- 2 Wirtschaft und Finanzen (Violett)
- 3 Bevölkerung und soziale Bedingungen (Gelb)
- 4 Energie und Industrie (Blau)
- 5 Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Fischerei (Grün)
- 6 Außenhandel und Zahlungsbilanz (Rot)
- 7 Dienstleistungen und Verkehr (Orange)
- 8 Umwelt (Türkis)
- 9 Verschiedenes (Braun)

**REIHE**

- A Jahrbücher
- B Konjunktur
- C Konten, Erhebungen und Statistiken
- D Studien und Analysen
- E Methoden
- F Schnellberichte

**FR** **Classification des publications d'Eurostat****THÈME**

- 1 Statistiques générales (bleu nuit)
- 2 Économie et finances (violet)
- 3 Population et conditions sociales (jaune)
- 4 Énergie et industrie (bleu)
- 5 Agriculture, sylviculture et pêche (vert)
- 6 Commerce extérieur et balance des paiements (rouge)
- 7 Services et transports (orange)
- 8 Environnement (turquoise)
- 9 Divers (brun)

**SÉRIE**

- A Annuaire
- B Conjuncture
- C Comptes, enquêtes et statistiques
- D Études et analyses
- E Méthodes
- F Statistiques rapides

**PT** **Classificação das publicações do Eurostat****TEMA**

- 1 Estatísticas gerais (azul escuro)
- 2 Economia e finanças (violeta)
- 3 População e condições sociais (amarelo)
- 4 Energia e indústria (azul)
- 5 Agricultura, silvicultura e pesca (verde)
- 6 Comércio externo e balança de pagamentos (vermelho)
- 7 Serviços e transportes (laranja)
- 8 Ambiente (turquesa)
- 9 Diversos (castanho)

**SÉRIE**

- A Anuários
- B Conjuntura
- C Contas, inquéritos e estatísticas
- D Estudos e análises
- E Métodos
- F Estatísticas rápidas





European Commission

**Report of the Statistical Programme Committee – 1991-93**

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

1994 – 37 pp. – 21.0 × 29.7 cm

Theme 9: Miscellaneous (brown cover)

Series D: Studies and analyses

ISBN 92-826-8242-0



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