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# NEWS ITEMS

## Visit of the Heads of the German Federal and *Land* Statistical Offices to Eurostat

On 26 April 1988, the Heads of the German Federal and *Land* Statistical Offices visited Eurostat as part of their 67th Conference, held in Trier from 25 to 27 April. The aim of this first meeting between regional, national and Community representatives was to discuss the current division of work and cooperation problems. There was also an initial exchange of opinions on demands which would be made on statistics as a result of the realization of the single internal market by 1993, and the consequent possible development of the European statistical system.

In his welcoming address, Mr Yves Franchet, in his capacity as Director-General of Eurostat, gave an account of the statistical information policy adopted by the Commission in April of this year, the associated statistical programme and the priority areas for Community statistics. Mr Franchet stressed the need for close cooperation, based on a broad consensus, between Eurostat and the national statistical offices and referred to the need for increasing integration in connection with the realization of the internal market. Mr Hölder, President of the Federal Statistical Office, and Dr Weis, Director of the Rheinland-Pfalz Statistical Office, replied that they were prepared to cooperate fully in the development of Community statistics and stressed the importance of comprehensive information for all concerned, including the *Land* Statistical Offices, on planning and activities in the individual areas of Community statistics.

This was followed by four contributions by Eurostat representatives. Mr Newson explained the functions and working methods of the Community bodies, the role of Eurostat and the importance of the seminar, to be held in spring 1989, on the internal market and the design of a statistical system for the European Community (ECSS). Mr Charlier spoke about Eurostat's work on regional statistics and dealt with problems encountered in cooperation with national statistical offices and regional services. In his account of the development of a new system of Community agricultural structural surveys, Mr Decand discussed, among other things, the problems of data protection. The main topic of the final contribution, by Mrs Fürst, which dealt with developments and problems in the field of Community social statistics, was the improvement of statistics on long-term unemployment.

The ensuing lively discussions reaffirmed the need for direct contacts between Eurostat and regional services in collaboration with the national offices. As far as the Federal Republic of Germany was concerned, it was decided to follow up this initial exchange of experience and opinions in greater depth.

# Organization and structure of a European Community statistical system (ECSS)

This article was written by Mr George Clarke shortly before his retirement, at the end of March 1988, from the post of Adviser to the Director-General of the Statistical Office of the European Communities, a post which he had held from September 1973. Since his retirement, Mr Clarke has been appointed by the Commission to the honorary rank of Director of the Office and has been awarded an OBE in the United Kingdom.

The contents of the article were circulated as a background note to the conference of the DGINS in May 1988. They are intended mainly to be descriptive in character; any views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of Eurostat.

Mr Clarke wishes to thank colleagues in Eurostat and in the international statistical organizations for their assistance and comments.

## Introduction

At last year's conference in Seville, some ideas on the general evolution of official statistics, of Community statistics in particular, and hence of future Community statistical programmes were briefly discussed (Item 2 of the May 1987 Agenda).

The ratification of the Single Act and the progress made at the European Council in February this year have brought new urgency to the need to look at the Community's statistical information requirements in the context of the achievement of the single market.

The simple fact that more information will be needed at Community level — by the Institutions, national governments, firms and public alike — is reflected in the new draft programme which is before the conference. This four-year programme will be the instrument for the implementation of a Community policy for statistical information. The policy and the programme are to be presented to the Council of Ministers for adoption later this year.

But the policy and its objectives go beyond the next four years. The increased requirements and the ways in which they are met, together with the changes in relationships between administrations implied by the advent of the single market, raise a number of questions about the organization and structure of the European Community statistical system in the longer term.

Eurostat invites the conference to examine these questions and to share some thoughts about possible developments in the next decade.

## The present organization of national and Community statistics

The present system is mostly national and regional. In one case — external trade statistics — there is a partially integrated Community system. In other cases progress has been made, but Eurostat plays a mainly catalytic role in standardizing and making comparable for Community policy purposes statistical information which is primarily collected for national purposes.

Community requirements are probably still quite small in relation to national requirements, except in the smaller countries. Most national statistical programmes make little or no mention of them.

However, national offices struggling to cut costs or to maintain a national service with reduced resources clearly have difficulty in meeting these marginal additional EC demands, many of which are not treated as being different in nature from the demands of international statistical organizations.

## Questions about the future

On one series of key questions — relations between Community priorities and national resources in the years ahead — the Statistical Programme has produced proposals. Let us leave these questions to one side, and simply assume that there will be a big increase in Community statistics for policy purposes and for the information market.

Other questions then need to be posed:

(i) What will become the relative roles of the parts of the ECSS? (Eurostat, national institutes, regional)?

(ii) What lessons can the ECSS derive from the existing federal statistical systems (Federal Republic of Germany, United States of America, Canada)?

(iii) What should be centralized, decentralized, regionalized?

(iv) What could be a specialization of some parts of the ECSS acting for the whole as pilot or leader in development actions?

## Some hypotheses

Before considering each of these questions about organization and structure, some working hypotheses have to be made about other characteristics of the system.

Eurostat's hypotheses are as follows:

(a) For the foreseeable future, official statistics in the Community, as will also be the case for other activities, will be subject to a double chain of command. As at present, national administrations will direct their statistical services to meet national objectives determined by their governments. At the same time, progressively as more and more economic and financial legislation becomes Community legislation, these same governments will, via the Council of Ministers, bind themselves and their statisticians to meet Community requirements.

(b) For policy-making purposes, the Community Institutions will need more statistics more rapidly, but progress towards the integration of the Community does not necessarily imply centralization of Community administration. (A European passport or driving licence does not call for a European passport or driving licence centre.)

Hence many Community statistics may not be needed for administrative purposes in Brussels, Luxembourg or Strasbourg, but they may be required elsewhere.

(c) Comparable and increasingly detailed information will be required increasingly by users of statistics at all levels — Community, national and regional: a requirement implying the use of agreed EC and international standards by all suppliers and no barriers to the flow of statistics.

National and local demands for statistics will grow independently of needs at the level of the Community Institutions. At the same time these demands will also look for more comparability with similar statistics from other EC areas. Statistics will have to cross national frontiers much more than in the past.

(d) The bulk of this information will come via the official statistical systems represented by Eurostat and the INS, and some of the flows outside these systems will need to be monitored and validated by official statisticians.

(e) Most of the information collected will be treated as a public good, i. e. private users will generally be required to pay at most the marginal costs of making the information available in the required form. They will not be charged for the basic cost of collection, except in special circumstances.

Cost-effectiveness may require new methods of costing and budgeting for statistics for public use.

(f) Some basic statistics will come increasingly as a by-product from administrative sources, including registers: implying that the statistician plays a greater role in the processes of administration.

(g) The official statistician will be less concerned with implementing the mechanics of primary collection, and more with development and maintenance of the system. The roles of analysis, interpretation, and of independent and objective arbitration will increase.

## Speculation about future organizational changes

Given these hypotheses, the questions can be examined, albeit in a speculative manner.

The conference will be familiar with the extremely valuable description of some 30 national statistical systems compiled by the Netherlands Central Bureau of Statistics.[1] This note takes this description and the CBS summary as the starting-point for the following analysis and tentative replies to the questions raised.

(i) As regards the relative roles of parts of the ECSS, it is suggested that the coordinating role of Eurostat would be much stronger particularly as regards the development, maintenance, and application of common standards which will be needed at all levels. For this it may be necessary for Eurostat to have a legal position within the Community as is the case for nearly all national services.

It follows that the coordinating role of the DGINS Conference and of the central offices of national services would need to be much stronger. The status of

[1] Unece Conference of European Statisticians: Seminar on the role and functions of statistical services within the overall information system of a country (Paris, 8 to 12 September 1986), Doc. CES/SEM20/R1 — a revised version is to be published by Unece.

the conference might need to be re-examined.

(ii) The centralization of the functions of control of standards may have to be accompanied by a greater decentralization of the functions of collection (including extraction from administrative sources), editing, dissemination and analysis at the regional and national level.

Statistical information about Community concerns will be generated at all levels. However, in addition to determining common standards to be used, Eurostat and the DGINS must also be able to assess their role as professional arbiters as to what constitutes important, objective and reliable information in relation to the policy-making and administrative actions at the level of the Community Institutions.

(iii) The inherent differences between the peoples and societies in the Member States show that there is everything to be gained by parts of the ECSS acting as pilot or leader in development actions.

Common standards do not necessarily mean that uniform methods are appropriate. In addition, local initiatives and experiences (including the input from academics and researchers) can sometimes point the way, in a cost-effective manner, to solutions to problems on a bigger scale; local and national circumstances and needs have to be taken into account if the desired objectives are to be met.

The important question is not whether these local efforts should be encouraged, but how best to harness their experience to serve interests of other Community localities and to serve the Community as a whole.

(iv) Finally any organizational framework for Community statistics must include arrangements for adequate communication between parts of the system and all those concerned with EC statistical information, notably the international organizations.

A primary role for Eurostat would be that of a promoter of useful communication channels (including better use of the existing mechanism), but more than in the past would be expected of national and regional statistical offices in terms of closer contacts on Community questions within the system and with other statisticians and users from all quarters.

In particular, national statistical programmes would be important instruments for two-way communication of ideas and plans between the local level and the level of the Community Institutions.

Finally, savings might be achieved and efficiency gained by increased coordination of the member countries' participation in the international statistical forums (UN, OECD and ECE).

## Conclusions

The foregoing speculations lead to the following organizational and structural prospects for the development of the European Community statistical system (ECSS):

(i) the core of the ECSS would be Eurostat, with a legal status, and the DGINS;

(ii) the coordinating role of the 'central' national statistical offices would be strengthened;

(iii) decentralization of collection and other activities (e. g. dissemination) to regional and other local offices should be encouraged;

(iv) Eurostat should promote an improved circuit of communication within the ECSS and between the ECSS and elsewhere.

Directors-General are asked to give their views on these preliminary reflections.

# The coordinated annual survey on the structure and activity of industry — 16 years on

**W. Knüppel**[1]

Without relevant statistical information the Commission cannot devise and implement successful industrial policies. Originally, data on structure and activity were available only as defined under the national statistical systems. Comparison was therefore impossible, or possible only to a very limited extent.

Directive 64/475/EEC of 30 July 1964 created the basis for harmonized annual national surveys of investment. The much more comprehensive annual surveys of industrial structure and activity are covered by Directive 72/221/EEC.

This review provides a rapid overview of the survey methodology and comments on its strengths and weaknesses.

## Main aspects of the structural survey

Given that the investment and general-structure surveys share virtually the same methodology, the term 'structural survey' will be applied to both throughout this review, even though they have until now been administered separately in the majority of Member States. The structural survey is not administered by Eurostat itself, but rather by the responsible body in each Member State, usually the national statistical office. These then provide Eurostat with the data as a standardized set of statistics.

The survey covers all enterprises in industry and the productive handicrafts which employ 20 or more persons and whose main activity is one of those listed in the three-digit groups of the General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities (NACE).

This covers all industrial activities including the energy, water and construction sectors (NACE 1-5). The 3-digit codes in NACE make it possible to divide industry into 130 groups, forming 29 classes.

The survey's approximately 70 economic variables concern the number of companies, the number of staff, turnover, production value, intermediate goods and services, stocks, staff expenditure, taxes, subsidies and investment in fixed assets. Most of these economic variables are further subdivided. In particular, the data recorded make it possible to calculate gross value added at factor cost and at market prices.

In compiling the statistics on structure and activity, the basic unit — and specifically the smallest legally autonomous unit — is the enterprise. Given its statutory duty to maintain accounts, the enterprise is the most suitable respondent to complete the questionnaire.

In most cases, an enterprise is active in a single branch or in closely related ones. Where its activities are quite disparate, the classification by principal activity distorts the picture for individual sectors.

[1] W.Knüppel is a principal administrator in the 'Public relations, dissemination and statistical digests' division of Eurostat.

In statistics based on enterprises, a company generating 55% of its gross value added in the textile sector and the remaining 45% in the clothing sector, will be classified entirely as a textile enterprise. The result is distorted for both sectors.

To avoid this distortion, the directive provides for a smaller descriptive unit — the 'kind-of-activity unit (KAU)'.

A KAU comprises all those parts of an enterprise carrying out the same activity. The enterprise remains the reporting unit.

Neither the enterprise nor the KAU are suitable for regional statistics, since the production plants involved may be geographically separated. Accordingly, the enterprise is also required to provide separate figures for the number of persons employed and their gross salaries or wages at each local unit.

The structural survey covers enterprises of all sizes. In order to cope with the resulting structural differences, the Member States also provide a breakdown by size of enterprise for the following data from the questionnaire: number of companies, the number of staff, staff expenditure, turnover and gross value added at factor cost.

The cut-off point of 20 employees varies markedly in its effect from country to country and sector to sector. For example, small enterprises are very important in the productive handicrafts, the food industry and in construction.

In terms of international differences, there are relatively more large enterprises in countries such as Germany, France and the United Kingdom, and a preponderance of small enterprises in southern Europe.

In order to meet the need for information about enterprises with fewer than 20 persons employed, the directive provides for a full survey to be made at least every five years.

**The four series of results in the structural survey**

For the implementation of the survey, as well as for in-house usage, the following terms have become accepted and will be employed in this report.

Series A: Data on enterprises (including investment);

Series B: Data on KAU;

Series C: Results from regions by local unit;

Series D: Data on enterprises broken down by size category.

**Dissemination of results**

Publications

*Structure and activity of industry:*

*Annual survey — Main results*

This is an annual publication covering the 18 most important economic variables in Series A, some derived from these, and for economic variables from Series B.

— *Structure and activity of industry:*

*Data by size of enterprise*

This biennial publication contains results from Series D and, where available, those for enterprises with fewer than 20 persons employed.

— *Industry — Statistical yearbook*

Provides important structural data on industry integrated into overall industrial statistics.

Data banks

Cronos-INDE. This contains all results from Series A.

Data from the structural survey are all in the public domain and information on access can be obtained via the Eurostat information office (extension 4567).

## Positive aspects of the survey

### *Level of harmonization*

Although the Member States are not restricted in the administration of the survey by the directive, they have used the last 16 years to bring their own national survey more in line with the directive's requirements.

For example, national statistical systems have been revised in the light of NACE. Nowadays there is a very high level of harmonization not only in the sectoral classification but also in the economic variables.

### *Detailed description of industrial branches*

With regard to the larger Member States at least, the structural survey has meant that we now have a detailed picture of almost 130 industrial branches. Confidentiality requirements result in a less extensive range in the smaller countries. This level of detail is far in excess of that encountered in the national accounts or social statistics.

Although some users would undoubtedly prefer an even more detailed breakdown, the limiting factor is the need to ensure statistical confidentiality. Moreover, the distortions associated with the 'principal activity' approach would become more serious.

### *Diversity of parameters covered*

The wealth of information provided by the statistics on the structure and activity of industry, and their high level of harmonization, means that they are predestined for a range of cross-section analyses. For example, it has proved possible to make the following comparisons:

(i) industrial sectors within any given country in terms of their relationship to one another and to total industry;

(ii) industrial sectors broken down by country in terms of their relationship to European industry in total;

(iii) various related variables for a single industrial sector.

Some important comparisons of this type are to be found as derived parameters in the booklet:

*Structure and activity of industry:*

*Annual survey — Main results*

as well as in the INDE data bank.

## Weaknesses of the survey, proposed improvements

### *Not up-to-date*

The directive makes no mention of a deadline for the receipt by Eurostat of the information from the Member States.

The present situation (September 1988), indeed, is that the latest data available in most cases refer to 1985. Eurostat receives the data anything between one and five years after the survey concerned. Fortunately, all the larger countries are among the fast suppliers.

Calls to Member States to reduce this delay have had no significant response.

The reason for this is, however, definitely not reluctance. Methodological imperatives — in some cases, the financial year does not end until the following September — failure by enterprises to return questionnaires, extensive checks and follow-up enquiries generally prevent data being any more up-to-date.

In order to alleviate this problem, Eurostat estimates some of the most important parameters (number of staff, turnover, value of production, gross value added, staff expenditure, wages and salaries). These estimates are based not only on data supplied in the past but also on short-term indicators.

The latter are obtained from two sources, Eurostat and the OECD. Given the extremely good methodological match, including identical systems, preference is naturally given to the indicators covered by Directive 72/211/EEC. The most important problem in this context is that the industrial breakdown employed in the case of economic indicators is less detailed than that of the structural survey.

Consequently, estimates using 2-digit classes of the NACE classification are clearly more accurate than those using the 3-digit breakdown.

Eurostat's economic indicators are published in the monthly booklet:

*Industrial Trends — monthly statistics.*

Via a host, they can also be consulted by external users directly in Cronos-ICG.

Work is currently being undertaken to expand the coverage of the industrial sectors from which economic indicators are drawn, this being associated with the creation of a new Cronos domain entitled 'ISTI'.

Extrapolations of the structural data on the basis of the indicators are stored in Cronos-VISA, which now contains information right up to 1987. The hard copy of these extrapolations become part of general sectoral information — the 'tableaux de bord'.

The 'tableaux de bord' appear only at irregular intervals and are at present, like the contents of the VISA data bank, restricted to internal use. In a number of cases, data for certain important variables become available in the Member States at an earlier than normal stage.

In the case of the Federal Republic of Germany and France, this information is sent to Eurostat and incorporated in the VISA data bank.

### *Comparisons over time*

Although the data from the structural survey are in principle in tabular form, they are stored as time series — for historical reasons, Cronos being Eurostat's first publicly accessible data bank.

That being the case, there is a constant temptation to carry out comparisons over time. For a number of reasons, however, care should be taken.

### *The population of enterprises being surveyed is subject to change*

Any alteration in the main activity of an enterprise will affect the data for not one but two industrial branches. The cut-off point of 20 persons employed creates some variation in the population being surveyed, because of companies whose staffing levels fluctuate around this limit.

Change in the description used by national systems to bring them into line with the NACE involve a new classification for a range of enterprises, reflected in sudden changes in the time series for a large number of branches.

(i) Comparisons over time are difficult for all parameters expressed in monetary terms. Chronological examination of such parameters requires a knowledge of suitable deflators.

In the absence of a suitably detailed set of deflators, recourse must be had to rather aggregated deflators such as price trends in industrial GNP.

(ii) Comparisons over time are nevertheless quite possible, provided these concern already derived or standardized parameters such as: trends in investment as a proportion of gross added value, importance of a given sector relative to the total industry of that country, wage level (gross wages and salaries per employee) in one sector relative to that of industry as a whole.

*Inadequate coverage of sectors*

Whereas almost all sectors and parameters are covered in the large Member States, the maintenance of statistical confidentiality forces the smaller countries to prevent identification of part of this information by merging some sectors. One of the consequences is that correct total figures for Europe can be given only for a very small number of sectors.

Nevertheless, the fact that these gaps predominantly concern the smaller countries means that the total figures for Europe can often be estimated quite accurately.

No comparison over time can be made if there has been any variation in the sectors merged.

Ensuring confidentiality becomes an even more acute problem when data are broken down by size of enterprise or region, the additional dimension bringing even the larger Member States into difficulties. In the former case, Eurostat felt compelled to give priority to three of the seven size categories in order to be able to publish the best possible coverage of at least those categories (20-99 persons employed, 100-499 persons employed, more than 500 persons employed).

In cooperation with the responsible body in each Member State, Eurostat attempted to draw up common merger guidelines that would yield the maximum amount of useful information and avoid, as far as possible, any interruptions to the time series.

A regulation worked out in collaboration with the Member States, which will be presented this year to the Council, would enable Eurostat to receive confidential data maintaining confidentiality where necessary.

The effect of this approach would be to allow the calculation of some aggregate figures, e. g. for Europe as a whole in the absence of data for two or more Member States, without imperilling confidentiality.

*Kind-of-activity unit*

At present, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain, Portugal and Greece all find it impossible to supply data broken down by KAU. Because of the small size of Luxembourg, it is dispensed from supplying such information. Other countries, particularly the Federal Republic of Germany, have difficulty in doing so.

For many parameters, particularly those concerning demand and stock levels, the respondant enterprise is unable to provide a breakdown into KAUs.

It is not easy to find a solution to this problem, although comfort can be taken from the fact that data broken down by KAUs differ less than might be expected from data broken down by enterprise depending on the level of aggregation. This is because:

(i) there are relatively few cases of enterprises comprising more than one KAU;

(ii) totally divergent activities are usually carried out by two legally independent companies with joint financial supervision.

**Comparisons with non-EEC countries**

It is difficult to compare data from the EEC's structural survey with those from third countries. Data from third countries generally reflect national or UN methodology. Differences between the structural statistics of the EEC and the UN concern not only the basic statistical unit (enterprise and establishment respectively), but also the definition of the economic variables and the system used (NACE, ISIC).

Up until now, conversion from one system to another could be done only in a very inaccurate way, since mapping between the classifications often came down to an arbitrary decision. However, this problem should be eliminated within the next few years as a result of the revision of both systems currently being carried out by the EEC and the UN.

With regard to countries possessing extensive national systems, such as the USA and Japan, it is advisable to make a direct conversion to and from NACE. The VISA section of Cronos, for in-house use, contains some structural data for the USA and Japan converted to NACE headings, based on a conversion table developed by Eurostat.

Some of these data are also publicly available combined with foreign trade data in the publication *Europe, USA, Japan — Comparison of sectoral data on production, employment and foreign trade' 1980—1983*.

# International trade in services

## Project on a harmonized statistical system

**J.-C. Roman**[1]

### Why a Community project?

This document discusses initial ideas for the development of Community statistics on international trade in services. These are currently being discussed within working groups at Eurostat.

Both the Member States and the Commission are finding statistics on international trade in services increasingly necessary, since services feature in multilateral trade negotiations. The information currently available is generally very scanty and of poor quality. Trade in goods is covered by a classification comprising around 9 000 headings, whereas trade in services, which in value terms is equivalent to about 30% of trade in goods, is broken down under fewer than 10 headings.[2] The basic information varies a great deal from one Member State to another, as regards both classifications used and the valuation of flows. It is therefore essential that a harmonized system be drawn up, with sufficiently detailed data.

With the completion of the internal market in 1992, intra-Community customs statistics in their present form will disappear, but information will still be required on intra-Community trade in goods. In November 1988, the Commission has to submit a proposal for a system to replace customs statistics by a system of data-collection from enterprises. Although the finer points have not yet been worked out and are still to be discussed, Eurostat will propose a permanent data-collection system for goods, independent of other existing surveys. Is it possible to extend this system for goods so as to cover the whole of the services sector?

Currently, in many Member States enterprises are obliged to answer questionnaires covering services as a whole, together with all current and capital transactions between residents and non-residents, in order to meet balance of payments requirements. It would therefore be desirable to extend the 'services' data-collection system to all current and capital transactions.

[1] J.-C. Roman is a principal administrator in the 'Balance of payments and international trade analysis' division of Eurostat.
[2] At Community level, at least.

Using the information thus obtained it should, of course, be possible to obtain correct balance of payments statistics for services. The 'balance of payments' will remain the sole source for international trade in services for most countries in the world where it is important to be able to make comparisons.

### Possible sources of information

Two sources are possible:

(i) data collected from enterprises;

(ii) payment statistics (receipts or expenditure) which the banks may have available, covering payments made with other countries, from or to a resident account.

Some Member States already use both sources in conjunction with each other. It is evident that they complement each other and that neither one alone can claim to meet the requirements of statistics on international trade in services or balance of payments.

It is important to make a comparison of the two sources.

*Banking information is incomplete* as regards international trade in services in that it provides payment and not transaction statistics. For international trade in services and for balance of payments requirements, the data collected must relate to transactions rather than payments. Payments may be partial or may cover several types of different transactions. Furthermore, banking statistics do not include settlements made by bills of exchange or offsetting, for example, The IMF Balance of Payments Manual — despite its name — is concerned not with 'payments' but with 'transactions' (§ 31 of the Manual). Moreover, banking statistics cover only payments via resident banks. Many enterprises (importing or exporting services) make or receive payments to or from non-resident accounts and these transactions are likely to increase considerably in the future, with the creation of a European financial area: these transactions are not covered by the payment statistics.

However, *the banking source remains vital* for the drawing up of balance of payments statistics. In particular, this is the only information covering private transfers (workers' remittances, migrants' transfers, private development assistance) and financial transactions (and the equivalent; e.g. purchases of residences abroad). For some Member States, this information is the only source of statistics on tourism. Furthermore, even for international trade in services, this source has a certain usefulness in that it supplements the information provided by enterprises.

It will probably not be possible to use the 'enterprises' source to collect data on:

(a) services imported by general government or households;

(b) services exported by small-scale enterprises. There is a risk that some types of service may not be covered by a survey, for example (not an exhaustive list):
   - (i) medical services (surgeon going abroad to perform an operation);
   - (ii) advisory services: legal advice given by barristers and notaries, management consultancies; organizational advice;
   - (iii) educational services provided by small firms or individuals;
   - (iv) architectural services;
   - (v) repair services.

Some of these services may be important, particularly for small countries where cross-border links may be very frequent.

*The 'enterprises' source is vital* if the aim is to:

(i) obtain information on a transaction basis;

(ii) draw up correct statistics on trade credits (difference between transaction and payment);

(iii) avoid confusion between certain transactions giving rise to a single payment;

(iv) take into account settlements other than by payment (compensation or bill of exchange, for instance);

(v) take into account settlements from non-resident accounts.

For the abovementioned reasons, *it is proposed that the two sources of information be used together*:

(a) banking statistics, i.e. more specifically statistics on foreign payments (receipts or expenditure) from or to resident accounts;

(b) the data collected from enterprises whose international transactions are above a certain value threshold.

The information provided by the survey would be the prime source, banking statistics being only an addition to help with drawing up statistics, with an identification code for the reporting unit being used to avoid double counting.

## Which information to collect from enterprises?

The information collected from enterprises should include the following information:

(a) enterprise identification code,

(b) economic transaction code,

(c) partner country code,

(d) transaction date,

(e) transaction value,

(f) for all transactions: amount paid.

(a) The identification code should identify the enterprise, so that the central banks can eliminate from the banking source those records relating to the enterprise included in the survey and thus avoid double counting.

(b) The economic transaction code should comprise a coding for services and financial transactions which takes account of work carried out for the revision of the IMF Manual. The information should be more detailed but be entirely compatible with the Manual's new standard components. Eurostat has drawn up a classification which is only provisional but should be used as a basis for the questionnaires for the collection of information.

(c) The partner country code should provide as much geographical detail as possible. In certain Member States which already collect complete services statistics from enterprises, the geographical code is that of the Geonomenclature.

(d) The transaction date should be such that it is possible to obtain monthly statistics where required. Another solution would be to ask the reporting unit for the monthly total only, which is sufficient from the statistical point of view.

(e) The amount of the transaction should be the total amount (already paid and to be paid for that transaction).

(f) Enterprises should indicate expenditure and receipts (payments) for all transactions carried out over a one-month period. Only the figure for total payments is required, with the trade credits needed to draw up the balance of payments being valued as the difference in transaction values.

## Which information to collect from banks?

Banking information should cover all payments (receipts or expenditure) from or to a resident account. When each payment is made, the following data would be requested:

(a) enterprise identification code,

(b) economic transaction code,

(c) partner country code,

(d) payment date,

(e) payment value.

The only difference between the banking and enterprise sources would be the significance of the amount shown: payment or transaction.

The statistical system described above could be supplemented by data on non-resident accounts.

Transactions by an operator from a non-resident account (abroad) would obviously be useful for drawing up the balance of payments in the country of residence. However, such transactions cannot be covered by the banking authorities in that country since they are not entitled to investigate such transactions directly in other countries.

In the long term, there is one solution which might be possible for the Community Member States only, and which would preserve banking confidentiality: the other country could transmit overall data (i.e. after aggregating the reporting units resident in the country concerned). The data transmitted would already have been compared with the list of enterprises who send data directly in order to avoid double counting. However, this would mean that the list of reporting units would have to be communicated and a single Community coding adopted for those units. Such a system does not seem feasible in the short term.

## Intra-Community trade in goods and international trade in services

The questionnaire on trade in services/financial transactions should be separate from the document on intra-Community trade in goods for the following reasons:

(i) It is probably a more practical proposition for the units which have to submit the information to fill in two separate but simple questionnaires rather than a single complex one. If the 'intra' questionnaire on goods were merged with the services questionnaire, the result would probably be an over-complex document.

(ii) The questionnaire on the intra-Community market would not be very different from the extra-Community customs form; but a single questionnaire on goods and services would. It would seem to be important to keep to similar questionnaires on goods rather than increase the enterprises' workload.

(iii) The reporting units for services transactions will not be exactly the same as those for goods.

However, the two questionnaires 'goods' on the one hand and 'services' on the other, should be as harmonized as possible in order to facilitate both the work of the person providing the information and that of the statistical services responsible for processing the data.

## Limits of the proposed system

The system proposed clearly has two limits:

Some enterprises carry out operations abroad for an amount of money which is less than the threshold at which they would be obliged to make a declaration under the proposed system. The transactions which they make from resident bank accounts will be captured by the banking source. However, the operations which they make from a non-resident account will not be captured.

As indicated earlier, part of this information could eventually be obtained from the central banks of the Member States. Theoretically, the system of data collection from enterprises could of course include these operations by obliging residents to declare all the transactions which they make from non-residents' accounts. Nevertheless, it is likely that, with the realization of a European financial market, the growing number of non-resident bank accounts inside the Community will make it difficult to capture all of these flows, for example, those in relation to services provided by doctors, lawyers, architects ...

The transactions which will be collected from the banking source (and which relate to enterprises which were not asked to provide information) also present a problem since they relate to payments and not to transactions. For a certain number of operations, payment and transaction are identical, for example: travel, capital income, workers' remittances, etc. However, for certain services there can be differences due to purchaser/supplier credits.

To resolve these two problems one might carry out a sample survey of all those enterprises which have not been asked to provide information. This would enable:

(i) the taking into account of those operations carried out by enterprises from non-residents' accounts;

(ii) the correction of data on international trade in services in order to go from a 'payment' basis to a 'transaction' basis and thus to evaluate commercial credits.

## Conclusions

The proposed outline is quite clearly based on systems already existing in some Member States which collect data from enterprises and cover bank payments. For them, Eurostat's proposals must, of course, involve certain changes or adaptations to conform with the new system but will not necessitate an upheaval of their existing system. For other Member States, where the available data are scanty, these proposals would mean a considerable effort and expenditure to set up a new statistical system.

But this effort is needed both to increase the quality/quantity of the information on external trade in services and to improve balance of payments statistics as a whole by establishing a direct link between a single statistical collection system and the future balance of payments accounting system.

# Application of the SPEL system in the Commission of the European Communities

**F. Pfähler**[1]

## Introduction

The SPEL model[2] was developed in response to the enormous demand for up-to-date information on the trend of agricultural income in the Community from the European Commission departments responsible for the common agricultural policy (CAP).

Thought was first given to possible means of meeting this requirement in 1975. Two differ-

[1] F. Pfähler is Deputy Head of the division 'Agricultural accounts and structures' of Eurostat.

[2] SPEL model: Sectoral production and income model for agriculture in the Community.

ent aproaches were envisaged: (i) creation of a harmonized framework within the Community for short-term forecasting of the economic accounts for agriculture by the competent national authorities in the various Member States; (ii) construction of a model for short-term forecasting of sectoral income in agriculture.

Both approaches seemed promising but the particular advantage of the first was that it could be put into practice quickly. It was therefore given priority. Work began on the project, known as the 'Sectoral income index' and it was implemented on the experimental basis as early as 1976. Eurostat has since coordinated the national forecasts of the change in agricultural income in the current year, calculated the results for the Community as a whole and prepared a report analysing the results. Since last year, these results have been published in March in the following year in a volume entitled *Agricultural income: sectoral income index analysis,* provisional results being disseminated before Christmas of the current year in the form of a rapid report. The sectoral income index project was successful and had the great practical merit that the results could not subsequently be challenged by the Member States at the Council meetings.

In addition to work on the sectoral income index, Eurostat also pursued the second approach to meeting the Commission's information requirements. As early as 1980, Professor Henrichsmeyer's institute in Bonn, which is known for its expertise in the field of agricultural sector models, was asked to work out a design concept for a model for short-term sectoral forecasting of agricultural income in the Community and to implement this concept in the following years.

It could be asked why it was thought necessary to construct a sectoral model in addition to the work on the sectoral income index. Initially, the main reason was that such a model would make it possible to carry out short-term forecasts and simulations at any time without involving the departments of the Member States. Further reasons have since emerged.

## Development of the SPEL system

The SPEL system available today was developed in the following stages:

**1980-83**

Development of the Base Model (BM)

Creation of the Basic Data System (BDS)

**1984-85**

Development and testing of a Short-term Forecasting and Simulation System (SFSS)

First short-term forecasts of the income of the agricultural sector

Integration of Greece into the model

Application of a provisional version of a Medium-term Forecasting and Simulation System (MFSS) for the 'Green Paper' (Perspectives for the Common Agricutural Policy)

**1986-87**

Short-term forecasts and short-term and medium-term simulations for the CAP

Establishment of a SPEL group of experts in Luxembourg

Beginning of implementation of the SPEL system on the Community's computer in Luxembourg.

Beginning of the integration of Spain and Portugal into the model

Beginning of the development of an improved version of the MFSS

Design of version B of the model.

The initial experience in the application of the SPEL model and the accession to the Community of Greece, Spain and Portugal (countries with different farm production structures) showed that it was necessary to improve the model's structure and adapt it to meet the new demands (version B of the model).

The main differences between the existing version A of the model and version B are as follows:

(i) more attention to the feedstuffs situation within the sector;

(ii) more attention to the increasingly important Mediterranean products;

(iii) improved intermediate consumption structure.

The concept for version B was developed in 1987. Work on putting the concept into practice is beginning in 1988 and will probably be completed by the end of 1989.

The aims of the SPEL system were altered in recent years to take acount of new requirements. The SPEL system is now an instrument for:

(i) ex-post analyses of sectoral developments (production, productivity and income);

(ii) short-term and medium-term forecasts of agricultural income development;

(iii) simulation of the effects of alternative policies;

(iv) verification of the consistency of Eurostat's agricultural statistics.

Maintenance, updating and application of the SPEL system will be carried out in Luxembourg while further development of the system will proceed in parallel on the basis of contracts with academic institutions.

### Application of the SPEL system

Although parts of the SPEL system are not yet fully developed — especially the data base for Greece, feed sector of the model, product specification in the model and existing medium-term version of the model — it has already, as previously mentioned, been used for various purposes.

The ex-post analyses of sectoral developments have been of great value to the Directorate-General for Agriculture in connection with short-term forecasts of value added for particularly important products and product groups (e.g. milk, cereals, etc.). At present there is no comparable instrument for analysing the movement of gross value added at market prices for these products. The Economic Accounts for Agriculture provide comparable data only for agriculture as a whole and the Farm Accountancy Data Network is also incapable of distinguishing between parts of farms and product groups since its data relate to groups of entire farms. Short-term forecasts of the development of sectoral income in agriculture in the current year have been carried out regularly since 1984 using the SPEL model and the results have been made available to the Commission departments responsible for the CAP. There is no 'competition' between the SPEL system and the sectoral income index in this respect. In the foreseeable future, the SPEL forecasts will not replace short-term forecasts on the basis of the sectoral income index. Both approaches will be retained and it is hoped that there will be cross-fertilization. Discrepancies in the results are analysed and discussed with the national authorities. For the last sectoral income index exercise for 1987, the Member States were supplied in January 1988 with the input data and results of the SPEL forecasts for 1987 as an additional source of information.

In 1986 a further task was to determine, by short-term simulation, how the development of real agricultural income would be affected, all other factors being equal, by falling inflation rates and a sharp drop in feed prices. In 1985 the effects on agricultural income in the Community of a restrictive policy on cereals prices were investigated by medium-term simulation. This work required close consultation with the Commission departments responsible for the CAP in order to establish the underlying assumptions and the scenario for this simulation. The results were taken into account in the preparation of the 'Green Paper' (Perspectives for the Common Agricultural Policy).

In addition to these ex-post analyses, forecasts and simulations carried out with the aid of the SPEL system, mention should also be made of the system's increasing importance for official agricultural statistics. Since quantities, prices and values from Eurostat's internal Cronos data base are used in compiling the SPEL basic data system, it has become possible for the first time to check the consistency of the various sets of agricultural statistics. The quality of official statistics can be substantially improved by eliminating inconsistencies between quantity and value figures for individual products in specific years in individual Member States. This is of benefit not only to the users of agricultural statistics but also to the Member States, since errors can be corrected only with their assistance.

Beneficial interaction between agricultural statistics and the SPEL model is currently developing in another area too. Preparation of feed balance sheets on a new methodological basis permits a substantial improvement of the feed sector in the SPEL model. On the other hand, the SPEL model makes it possible to add a 'uses side' to the feed balance sheets, for which only the 'resources side' is at present available.

There are other areas of application as well, although they cannot be discussed in detail here. I should merely like to mention the compilation of unit value statistics for the main agricultural products, which can easily be derived from the BDS of the SPEL model.

### Access to the SPEL basic data system

It is important to differentiate between access to the SPEL data base (basic data system) and access to the model and its results. The following remarks relate only to access to the data base of the SPEL system. There are no plans for access to the model itself and its results.

The data base of the SPEL system was built up over several years of work, which was not always intellectually stimulating. This was a necessary task, which has been successfully completed. The main source was the agricultural time series stored in Eurostat's Cronos data base. In addition, however, other data, especially relating to production processes, had to be obtained from agricultural advisers and other sources in order to define the agricultural production activities. The result of this work is a collection of consistent data reflecting sectoral production and income generation in agriculture.

Access to this data base is of interest to many government departments and other bodies. While the data available cannot be employed uncritically for any sectoral model calculation, it is usable and useful for many purposes. The Commission's staff therefore proposes to permit access to the data base of the SPEL system by interested parties outside the Commission. The necessary administrative, technical and staffing arrangements are currently being made.

Two points arise with regard to the technical prerequisites:

(i) Suitable methodological documentation is essential if the SPEL data base is to be properly used. Work on this is in hand.

(ii) The data base currently available (version A) will in the foreseeable future be replaced by an improved version (version B). It is still to be decided whether general access to the SPEL data base should be postponed until the changeover to version B has been completed.

The data base of the SPEL system will not remain unaltered for all time now that it has been compiled. There will in the future be changes in the structure and data in order to accommodate changing information requirements for the purposes of the CAP and to take account of further harmonization and improvement of agricultural statistics.

### Information for and cooperation with the Member States

We think it is important to ensure that our interlocutors in the Member States are kept informed of SPEL activities. This is done on three levels. First, the Agricultural Statistics Committee, an advisory body bringing together the Member States and the Community at the level of the Directors responsible for agricultural statistics, and meeting once a year, is regularly informed of the progress of the SPEL system. Secondly, the technical aspects of the system are described and discussed in detail at the level of the Working Party on Agricultural Accounts. Thirdly, one or two bilateral meetings are arranged every year in the Member States, allowing discussion in greater depth.

The SPEL basic data system is not and should not be confidential. A two-way flow of information is essential to further improvement of this data base.

### Prospects

Work on the SPEL system is not yet finished.

(a) The Luxembourg SPEL group of experts is currently being replaced by officials.

(b) Various parts of the model (in particular, the medium-term version) require further improvement.

(c) Integration of Spain and Portugal into the model system has not yet been completed.

(d) Version A of the model, which is currently in use, is to be replaced by the improved version B by the end of 1989.

(e) Arrangements have to be made for access to the data base of the SPEL system for the Commission departments concerned and for outsiders. Adequate documentation must be provided for this purpose.

(f) In the future, new questions arising from the CAP will continually pose new challenges which will have to be met.

Official statistics on agriculture are changing. We have to undertake new and, in my view, interesting tasks without relinquishing those which we traditionally perform.

# Eurostat and the environment

D. Sweet[1]

[1] D. Sweet was an administrator in the Directorate 'Demographic and social statistics — Agricultural statistics' of Eurostat and now he is an administrator in DG V.

Eurostat, in its 35 years of activity has developed or collated statistics on almost all areas of human activity. Until very recently, however, one major concern of society and of the Community had been totally ignored. The environment had been a closed book to Eurostat for many reasons: principally because the combination of a clear requirement from user services in the Commission and Member States, an agreed methodology, and available resources, did not exist. This situation has now changed, however, and Eurostat has recognized the fact by developing a programme of environment statistics and by preparing a collection of statistics related to the environment.

A model which has been found useful for organizing information on the environment is the 'Pressure — State — Response' approach. According to this classification, relevant data can be classified according to whether they tend to measure the pressure of 'outside' (usually human) activities on the environment, provide an assessment of the current situation or state of the environment, or evaluate the response, or change of state, of the environment. This model can, of course, be applied to more than the physical environment and it might be instructive to use it to review the relationship of Eurostat to the environment.

A principal impetus in setting up the resources to do this work was the Corine programme, launched by DG XI in cooperation with Eurostat, which received Council approval in June 1985. This four-year programme included an ambitious plan to set up a geographic information system which would allow users in the Commission and in Member States to access a wide range of information on the environment in various forms but especially in maps. It soon became clear to Eurostat that, if the Corine system were to fulfil its full potential, there would be an urgent need for systematic statistical support. This support is now being provided in two ways. First, the large quantity of data already collected by Eurostat which is relevant to the environment has been made available to the Corine data base: secondly the establishment of Community statistics on selected environmental variables has become an urgent priority.

The second set of requirements put to us by our colleagues in the Commission was for data on the interrelations of the environment and the economy. Data are urgently required on the costs and benefits of measures to protect the environment, on the effects on employment of environment policies, and on the impact on public and private finances of environmental measures. The utility of such statistics is not in doubt: they would be invaluable in assessing the burden, for a given Member State, region or industrial sector, of compliance with environmental measures. However the methodological and practical problems involved in defining the scope and methods of collection of these data mean that useful results cannot be expected immediately.

Thus the external pressures on Eurostat. The state of environment statistics at Eurostat has already been touched on. It was in fact recognized some considerable time ago that this domain was one which merited attention but the methodological and other problems referred to above proved too much of a disincentive to progress at a time when calls were increasing on a diminishing set of resources. More recently, however, the pressures from the Commission have been reinforced by progress at the international level which has made the development of a coherent framework for environment statistics more possible. This progress has been based on two organizations: the OECD and the UN Economic Commission for Europe. The ECE has recently completed a major programme to propose and agree a set of classifications for statistics on the physical environment, while the OECD has published two compendia of environment statistics.

There are many other international organizations involved with some aspect or another of environment statistics, and coordination of their various definitions and requests has required considerable attention from statisticians both in the international organizations and in Member States. From the outset it has been considered essential that Eurostat should assist in the harmonization and coordination of definitions and data-collection activities.

This brings us to Eurostat's response to the pressures and state described above. The criteria which have governed our choice of responses have been: to make the maximum use of data which are already collected by Eurostat; to adhere wholeheartedly to the definitions and classifications elaborated by the ECE; to cooperate intimately with the OECD in the collection and processing of all common areas of data collection; to lay the groundwork for the use of new technologies of data collection and handling, such as remote sensing and geographic information systems; and, most importantly of all, to concentrate on providing statistics which will be most useful to the Commission in formulating environmental policy or evaluating the impact of other Community policies on the environment.

As an initial exercise, therefore, the resources of Eurostat were reviewed and an initial collection of 'statistics related to the environment' was prepared. This is viewed more as a prototype than as a full publication by Eurostat, but copies are available to interested readers while stocks last. The approach adopted was to classify the data available according to their theme, for example economic, agricultural or transport data, and within each theme to present a selection of data in both tabular and graphical form, together with an indication of the source of more detailed or fuller information. In addition, certain data available at regional level were taken from the Regio data base and presented by maps.

At the same time a longer term and more strictly environmental collection of statistics was clearly required. It was therefore decided to make use of the experience gained by the OECD in compiling its compendia. The data collected and published by the OECD was reviewed and evaluated in terms of the degree to which it responded to the declared requirements of DG XI and also in terms of the extent of responses received from Community Member States, and a selection of most relevant data made. The questionnaires concerned were then obtained from the Environment Directorate of the OECD, and modified to reflect the Community requirement for longer time series and greater regional breakdown. Additional sections were included to reflect priority needs, such as data on urbanization and solid waste disposal, and the full set was approved by the Working Party on Environment Statistics.

Given that a large part of the data to be supplied by Member States to Eurostat would also be sent to the OECD, it was necessary that common procedures for treatment and checking of the data be developed as far as possible. This would mean that, while each organization would be responsible for the presentation and use of its own data, checks, corrections, updates and estimates would be dealt with in a uniform, or at least compatible, manner. Arrangements have therefore been made to allow Eurostat to participate in the OECD team which will process the questionnaires for the 1989 Compendium.

A particularly exciting aspect of work on environment statistics is the opportunity to make use of some of the latest developments in the collection and handling of data. The collection of data from satellites is being studied very carefully by Eurostat, and the potential benefits, particularly to agricultural statistics but also to statistics on the environment, are the subject of the collaborative research programme between DG VI, the JRC at Ispra and Eurostat. In this context, Eurostat recently published the proceedings of the seminar on developments in land-use statistics which was held in the autumn of 1986. The advantages of using remotely sensed data are clearly shown by the success of the experimental land cover project, conducted under the auspices of Corine, in which land cover for the whole of Portugal was mapped into 50 different classes at a scale of 1 : 100 000.

As well as new sources of data, the environment programme is forcing Eurostat to consider alternative methods of presenting data. In this context, as in much of the work on environment statistics, there is close collaboration with the service responsible for regional statistics. A very large part of environmental information is required at as detailed a geographical level as possible. This is the rationale of the geographic approach of the Corine programme, and it is reflected in the statistical programme where nearly all the environmental statistics to be collected have been requested at sub-national levels. To display data at this kind of detail, however, requires more than the standard two-dimensional tables. The most natural form of presentation is the map, and it is envisaged that a large part of Corine's output will be in the form of maps. These will also be increasingly used for the strictly statistical part of the programme, and it is already clear that the techniques applied will be applicable to many other sectors of Eurostat's activities.

Finally, a hypothetical example may indicate the range of data required. Suppose that it is considered necessary to analyse the state of the Community's forests, in order to decide whether measures such as emission controls on vehicles or industrial plant are justified. Although the information presented here is not a sufficient basis for such a decision, it may give an idea of the approach that might be followed.

Figure 1 is a chart showing the distribution of wooded areas in the Community, in terms of percentage of total land area.

Figure 2 shows the regional density of motorways within the Community.

Figure 3 shows the proportion of the population in each Member State defined as rural.

Figure 1
**Wooded area**

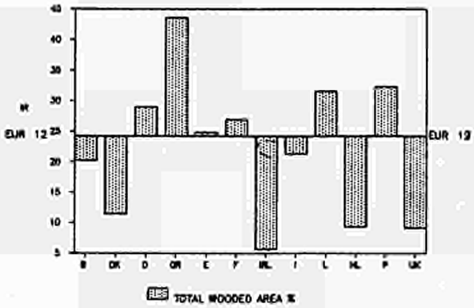



Figure 2
**Length of motorways per 1 000 km²**

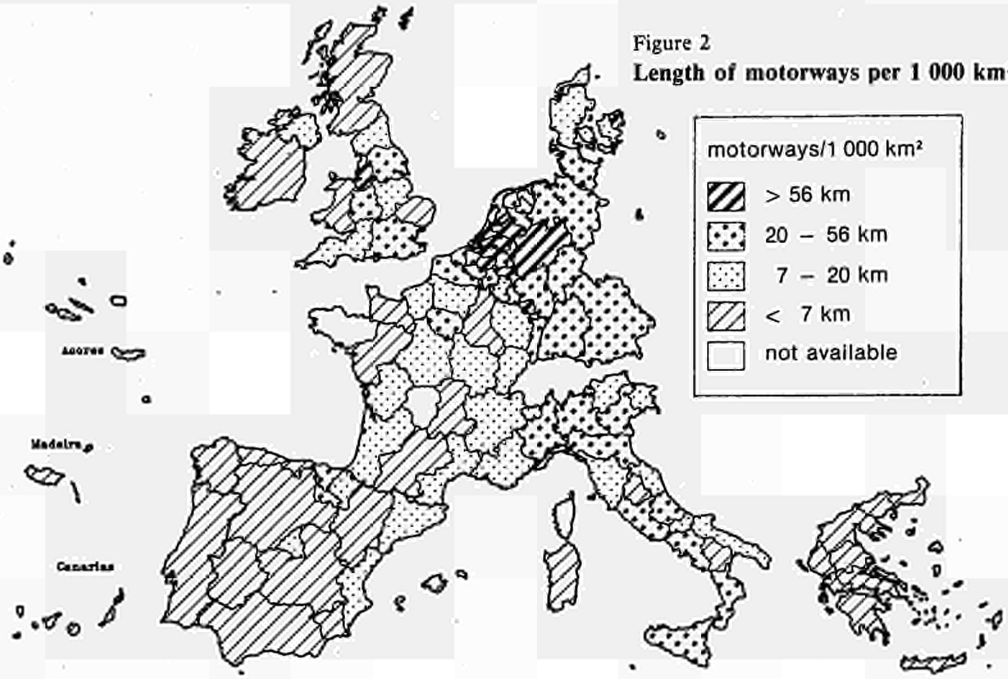
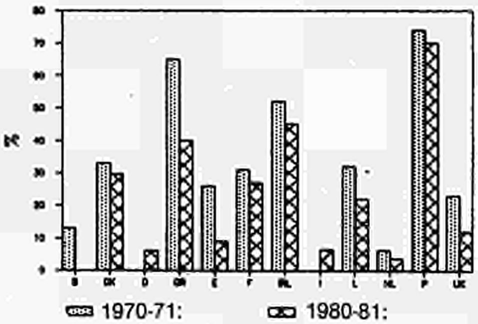


Figure 3

**Rural population**




As more detailed information on the purpose and use of forest areas might well aid such a decision, the data to be collected by means of the Community questionnaire recently agreed on land cover and use (based on the classification developed by the Economic Commission for Europe) will be needed. Moreover, in view of the considerable economic importance of the Community forests, and also the potentially serious impact strict emission controls could have on industry and transport costs, data on the financial and economic consequences of the decisions facing the Council would be highly desirable. The difficulties surrounding such data have alreay been mentioned, but their development is a major priority both of Eurostat and of the Fourth Environmental Programme of the Commission.

This very simplified example illustrates the need of the environmental policy-maker to have access to statistics and information from very diverse sources and of very different types. Such a diversity presents a challenge to the official statistician: a challenge that Eurostat has accepted.

# Parliamentary questions

**Written question No 918/87**
**by Mr François Roelants du Vivier**
**(ARC—B)**
**to the Commission of the European Communities**

(87/C 351/123)

*Subject:* Data banks and access thereto

Can the Commission list the data banks so far created on its initiative and say which of them are directly accessible to Members of the European Parliament?

**Answer given by Mr Christophersen on behalf of the Commission**

The Honourable Member will find information on the data bases set up on the Commission's initiative in the annual report on data processing[1].

The bases directly accessible to Members of the European Parliament are as follows.

— Agrep
(Inventory of agricultural research projects in the European Community).

— ACP
(Monitoring of decision-making process in respect of Commission proposals, drafts, recommendations and communications).

— Celex
(Interinstitutional data base for Community law).

[1] Doc. COM (87) 306 final.

— Comext
(Data base of external trade statistics for the Community and its Member States).

— Cronos
(Data base of macro-economic time series for the Member States and major partners).

— EABS
(Documents published in connection with scientific and technical research).

— Ecdin
(Environmental chemicals data and information networks — chemicals reacting with the environment).

— Endoc
(List of environmental information and documentation centres in the Member States of the Community).

— Enrep
(Environmental research projects in the European Communities).

— Euristote
(List of university theses and projects on the various aspects of European integration).

— Eurodicautom
(Terminology data bank).

— Dianeguide
(Summary of data bases offered by Euronet-Diane).

— FSSRS
(Statistical data base giving the results of a regular survey of the structure of agricultural holdings).

— Pabli
(Progress of Community development operations).

— Regio
(Statistical data base showing the social and economic situation of the various regions of the European Community).

— SCAD
(Central computerized documentation service). List of official Community publications, acts adopted by the institutions other than those which are valid for a limited period only, and articles selected from over 1 200 periodicals in cooperation with Parliament's documentation service.

— TED
(Tenders electronic daily). This contains the invitations to tender published in the 'S' supplement to the *Official Journal.*

The energy sector of Sesame (research and development projects and demonstration projects in the energy sector, on the recycling of industrial and urban waste, and on raw materials, textiles and the environment) will be made accessible to Members of the European Parliament shortly.

**Written question No 1263/87**
**by Mr Otmar Franz (PPE—D)**
**to the Commission of the European Communities**

(88/C 160/06)

*Subject:* Low-interest conversion loans under Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty

According to Article 56 of the ECSC Treaty, conversion loans are granted to facilitate the financing of programmes capable of reabsorbing redundant coal and steel workers into productive employment. For the period 1984–1986 alone, 182 million ECU was allocated for this purpose from the ECSC budget.

1. How many redundant ECSC workers and — as a separate category — how many workers from other sectors of the economy found a job with the aid of low-interest ECSC conversion loans in the period 1984–1986?
2. How are these jobs, found in the years 1984–1986 and broken down into the categories former coal-workers, former steel-workers and non-ECSC workers, distributed among the individual Member States?

**Answer given by Mr Schmidhuber on behalf of the Commission**

From 1984 to 1986 loans granted under Article 56 (2) (a) of the ECSC Treaty provided for the creation of 56 938 jobs, of which 49 005 were considered to be suitable for former ECSC workers (see table below).

In areas particularly affected by restructuring of the ECSC industries designated by the Commission as ECSC employment areas, the interest rebate for these loans is calculated on a flat-rate basis[1].

During 1984–1986, ECSC loan contracts contained an obligation on the borrower to give priority to former ECSC workers applying for the new jobs to be created. Further, the Commission was to be kept regularly informed regarding the number of jobs filled and the number of former ECSC workers employed. In this context no distinction is drawn between former steel-workers and coal-miners.

The Commission collects additional information, especially through surveys carried out during on-the-spot inspection visits, but a systematic statistical analysis is not necessarily available.

New jobs 1984-1986

| | Total | Suitable for former ECSC workers |
|---|---|---|
| Belgium | 266 | 246 |
| Germany | 26 299 | 22 286 |
| Denmark | 500 | 494 |
| France | 3 492 | 3 286 |
| Italy | 4 046 | 3 165 |
| Ireland | 395 | 380 |
| Luxembourg | 971 | 590 |
| United Kingdom | 20 969 | 18 558 |
| | 56 938 | 49 005 |

[1] See Operating principles published in OJ No C 173, 1. 7. 1987.

**Written question No 1432/87 by Mr Madron Seligman (ED—UK) to the Commission of the European Communities**

(88/C 189/10)

*Subject:* Infant mortality in the Member States

What is the relevant rate of infant mortality in the Member States of the Community, and does the Commission have any proposals to improve the situation?

**Answer given by Mr Marin on behalf of the Commission**

The infant mortality rates in the Member States in 1986 were:

**Deaths under one year per 1 000 live births[1]**

| | |
|---|---|
| Belgium | 9,7 |
| Denmark | 8,4 |
| Federal Republic of Germany | 8,6 |
| Greece | 12,2 |
| Spain (1984) | 9,0 |
| France | 8,0 |
| Ireland | 8,7 |
| Italy | 10,1 |
| Luxembourg | 7,9 |
| Netherlands | 6,4 |
| Portugal | 15,8 |
| United Kingdom | 9,5 |

[1] *Source:* Eurostat.

The Commission does not plan to draw up a proposal on this subject.

**Written question No 2465/87 by Mr Thomas Megahy (S—UK) to the Commission of the European Communities**

(88/C 154/34)

*Subject:* Electricity generated by nuclear power

Can the Commission state what proportion of electricity is generated by nuclear power in each of the Member States which has a nuclear power capacity?

**Answer given by Mr Mosar on behalf of the Commission**

In 1986, the proportions of total net electricity production produced from nuclear power in those Member States having nuclear power and in EUR 12 were as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| EUR 12 | 32,3% |
| Belgium | 67,2% |
| Federal Republic of Germany | 29,3% |
| Spain | 29,2% |
| France | 69,8% |
| Italy | 4,6% |
| Netherlands | 6,1% |
| United Kingdom | 18,4%. |

**Written question No 2502/87 by Mr Luc Beyer de Ryke (LDR—B) to the Commission of the European Communities**

(88/C 244/69)

*Subject:* Rate of inflation in Italy

In December 1987 inflation in Italy was running at 5,1% as against 4,3% at the end of 1986, according to the Italian Central Statistical Office.

Inflation therefore seems to be rising and this is certainly the case in a number of European countries (France, from 2,3% in 1986 to 3,1% in 1987, and Belgium where the economic indicator of the Kredietbank, one of Belgium's leading banks, forecasts a return to galloping inflation).

What is the Commission's analysis of European economics and of this trend towards high inflation?

Does the Commission not think that the difference between the inflation rates in various countries is in danger of creating a situation which some analysts have described as a 'two-speed Europe'?

**Answer given by Mr Schmidhuber on behalf of the Commission**

As the following figures clearly show, the average rate of inflation in the Community has fallen considerably in recent years.

**Average inflation rate in the Community**

| 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 10,8 % | 8,5 % | 7,4 % | 6,1 % | 3,6 % | 3,2 % |

EUR 12, consumer price index.
*Source:* Eurostat.

The fall in inflation has been particularly sharp in those countries which had the highest rates. The average deviation from the average inflation rate in the Community narrowed from 3,9 percentage points in 1982 to 1,9 percentage points in 1987.

**Inflation rates in the Member States in 1982 and 1987**

| | B | DK | D | GR | E | F | IRL | I | L | NL | P | UK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1982 | 8,7 | 10,1 | 5,3 | 20,9 | 14,4 | 11,8 | 17,2 | 16,5 | 9,3 | 5,7 | 22,7 | 8,6 |
| 1987 | 1,6 | 4,0 | 0,3 | 16,4 | 5,3 | 3,3 | 3,1 | 4,8 | —0,1 | —0,2 | 9,4 | 4,1 |

*Source:* Eurostat, consumer price index.

While this fall in inflation is the result of the policies implemented in the Member States, it has been greatly helped by the favourable trend of import prices. This external 'help' was concentrated especially on 1986 (drop in oil prices and in the dollar), causing the average inflation rate to dip by more than 2 percentage points between 1985 and 1986. The easing of internally generated inflation has been more regular. This can be seen, for example, from the figures for the GDP deflator or those for unit wage costs.

**Average inflation rates in the Community**

| | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| GDP deflator | 8,6 | 6,5 | 6,0 | 5,6 | 3,9 | 3,9 |
| Unit wage costs | 7,6 | 5,0 | 5,0 | 4,2 | 3,8 | 3,4 |

1988: January 1988 economic forecasts.
*Source:* Eurostat and Commission departments.

The recent trend has been one of a slight acceleration in the rate of inflation in the Community: 3,2% between December 1986 and December 1987 compared with 2,9% between December 1985 and December 1986.

However, this acceleration represents a 'return to normality' in countries in which inflation rates have been extremely low or even negative, while in other countries it may actually reflect some relaxation of the stabilization effort. Overall, the forecasts for 1988 compiled by the Commission's departments do not indicate any imminent dangers (the average inflation rate should be 3,3% in 1988 compared with 3,2% in 1987 and the gaps between rates should again narrow), although a vigilant watch should continue to be kept to ensure that the considerable progress made towards re-establishing the key macroeconomic equilibria is not jeopardized.

# PUBLICATIONS

## Published

### NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA — DETAILED TABLES BY BRANCH, 1988

**Theme 2 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics**

Detailed results of the national accounts of the member countries. Data are provided for the operations of goods and services (value-added, earnings of employees, gross fixed capital formation, final consumption of households) as well as the breakdown by branch of employment.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 275 | 700 | EN/FR | 92-825-8485-2 | CA-52-88-712-2A-C |

### PURCHASING POWER PARITIES AND REAL DOMESTIC PRODUCT — RESULTS 1985

**Theme 2 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics**

The study presents the work carried out by Eurostat for 1985 in the field of purchasing power parities and volume comparisons for the 12 Member States and Austria.

Results for gross domestic product and its uses are not only provided for the Community countries and Austria but also for most non-Community OECD countries.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 188 | 250 | DE/IT | 92-825-8076-8 | CA-50-87-025-2F-C |

### EUROPEAN SYSTEM OF INTEGRATED ECONOMIC ACCOUNTS — ESA (Spanish translation of the second edition)

**Theme 2 — Series E: Methods**

The second edition of the *European system of integrated accounts* is an updated version of the original text; it incorporates the amendments, clarifications and additions made since 1970 by the Working Group on National Accounts, as well as a number of editiorial improvements.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 206 | 1 400 | ES | 92-825-8281-7 | CA-50-87-396-ES-C |

### DEMOGRAPHIC STATISTICS 1988

**Theme 3 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics**

While all member countries possess highly developed systems of demographic statistics, the wide diversity of practice with regard to the publication and presentation of results makes it very difficult to obtain comparable and up-to-date information necessary to study trends within the Community. The present publication is designed to make good this deficiency. All the principal series of demographic statistics are covered, namely population by sex and age group, births, deaths, migration, marriages, divorces, fertility, life expectancy and population projections. Both absolute numbers and rates are given in considerable detail for each country and for the total Community.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 280 | 800 | ES/DA/DE/GR/EN FR/IT/NL/PT | 92-825-8223-X | CA-49-87-365-9A-C |

## LABOUR FORCE SURVEY — RESULTS 1986

### Theme 3 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics

The labour force survey was carried out in the spring of 1986 in all Member States of the Community pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3633/85 of 17 December 1985.

In this publication, the Statistical Office of the European Communities presents the main results of the survey.

The data cover, in particular:

(i) the total population of private households, the labour force and unemployed persons, by sex and age group;

(ii) employed persons by sex, professional status and branch of activity;

(iii) weekly working hours;

(iv) the main groups of persons seeking employment, by sex, reasons for seeking employment, duration of search and methods used.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 250 | 420 | ES/DA/DE/GR/EN/ FR/IT/NL/PT | 92-825-8408-9 | CA-82-88-695-9A-C |

## GENERAL INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (NACE)

### (Portuguese translation of the French edition of 1970)

### Theme 4 — Series E: Methods

The General Industrial Classification of Economic Activities within the European Communities (NACE) is an instrument necessary for the collection and presentation of statistical data which are compiled and harmonized within the scope of the Community.

Different statistics of the Community are covered by regulations or directives referring to NACE.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 100 | 150 | PT | 92-825-8348-1 | CA-52-88-130-PT-C |

## AGRICULTURAL PRICES 1978-1987

### Theme 5 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics

This publication provides annual series for the selling prices of the main agricultural (crop and animal) products and the purchase prices of the means of agricultural production. The prices are expressed in national currencies and in ECU. The publication also contains a brief description of the various price series. A supplement to this publication contains the rates of VAT in agriculture levied in each country.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 302 | 810 | DE/EN/FR/IT | 92-825-8468-2 | CA-52-88-849-4A-C |

## CATALOGUE OF CHARACTERISTICS OF AGRICULTURAL PRICE SERIES STORED IN CRONOS

### Theme 5 — Series E: Methods

Series of three volumes

The publication *Catalogue of characteristics of agricultural price series stored in Cronos* provides information on the aims, methods and problems involved in compiling statistics on absolute agricultural prices (Part A), deals with the selection criteria for the price series in general and in terms of specific products (Part B) and summarizes variations for specific countries in the characteristics determining prices and changes made since initial publication (Part C).

### Volume I — Price series of crop products

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 302 | 300 | EN/FR | 92-825-7984-0 | CA-78-86-001-2A-C |

### Volume II — Price series of animal products

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 215 | 275 | EN/FR | 92-825-7985-9 | CA-78-86-002-2A-C |

### Volume III — Price series of the means of agricultural production

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 169 | 200 | EN/FR | 92-825-7986-4 | CA-78-86-003-2A-C |

## ANALYTICAL TABLES OF EXTERNAL TRADE — NIMEXE — EXPORTS 1987

(13 volumes)

### Theme 6 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics

External trade statistics of the European Community and of the Member States according to the Nimexe nomenclature.

Breakdown into 'products by country' for all 6-figure Nimexe headings, in 12 volumes each for imports and exports (A—L), arranged by commodity group, and into 'country by products' by Nimexe chapter (2-figure code) in a 13th volume in each case (Z).

| | | | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|
| Volume A: | Chapters 1—24 | Agricultural products | CA-12-88-001-9A-C |
| Volume B: | Chapters 25—27 | Ores and concentrates | CA-12-88-002-9A-C |
| Volume C: | Chapters 28—38 | Chemicals | CA-12-88-003-9A-C |
| Volume D: | Chapters 39—43 | Plastics, leather | CA-12-88-004-9A-C |
| Volume E: | Chapters 44—49 | Wood, paper, cork | CA-12-88-005-9A-C |
| Volume F: | Chapters 50—67 | Textiles, footwear | CA-12-88-006-9A-C |
| Volume G: | Chapters 68—72 | Stone, plaster, ceramics, glass | CA-12-88-007-9A-C |
| Volume H: | Chapter 73 | Pig iron, iron and steel | CA-12-88-008-9A-C |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Volume I: | Chapters 74—83 | Other base metals | CA-12-88-009-9A-C |
| Volume J: | Chapters 84—85 | Machinery and equipment | CA-12-88-010-9A-C |
| Volume K: | Chapters 86—89 | Transport equipment | CA-12-88-011-9A-C |
| Volume L: | Chapters 90—99 | Precision and optical instruments | CA-12-88-012-9A-C |
| Volume Z: | | Countries — Products | CA-12-88-013-9A-C |
| Volumes A—L + Z: | | | |

| Format | Pages | Price ECU | Languages |
|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 5 650 | 32 per volume (imp. or exp.)<br>48 2 volume (1 imp. + 1 exp.)<br>320 series (imp. or exp.)<br>480 series (imp. + exp.) | ES/DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/NL/PT |

## ANALYTICAL TABLES OF EXTERNAL TRADE — NIMEXE — IMPORTS 1987

(13 volumes)

### Theme 6 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics

External trade statistics of the European Community and of the Member States according to the Nimexe nomenclature.

Breakdown into 'products by country' for all 6-figure Nimexe headings, in 12 volumes each for imports and exports (A—L), arranged by commodity group, and into 'country by products' by Nimexe chapter (2-figure code) in a 13th volume in each case (Z).

| | | | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|
| Volume A: | Chapters 1—24 | Agricultural products | CA-11-88-001-9A-C |
| Volume B: | Chapters 25—27 | Ores and concentrates | CA-11-88-002-9A-C |
| Volume C: | Chapters 28—38 | Chemicals | CA-11-88-003-9A-C |
| Volume D: | Chapters 39—43 | Plastics, leather | CA-11-88-004-9A-C |
| Volume E: | Chapters 44—49 | Wood, paper, cork | CA-11-88-005-9A-C |
| Volume F: | Chapters 50—67 | Textiles, footwear | CA-11-88-006-9A-C |
| Volume G: | Chapters 68—72 | Stone, plaster, ceramics, glass | CA-11-88-007-9A-C |
| Volume H: | Chapters 73 | Pig iron, iron and steel | CA-11-88-008-9A-C |
| Volume I: | Chapters 74—83 | Other base metals | CA-11-88-009-9A-C |
| Volume J: | Chapters 84—85 | Machinery and equipment | CA-11-88-010-9A-C |
| Volume K: | Chapters 86—89 | Transport equipment | CA-11-88-011-9A-C |
| Volume L: | Chapters 90—99 | Precision and optical instruments | CA-11-88-012-9A-C |
| Volume Z: | | Countries — Products | CA-11-88-013-9A-C |
| Volumes A—L + Z: | | | |

| Format | Pages | Price ECU | Languages |
|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 3 650 | 32 per volume (imp. or exp.)<br>48 2 volumes (1 imp. + 1 exp.)<br>320 series (imp. or exp.)<br>480 series (imp. + exp.) | ES/DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/NL/PT |

## STATISTICAL YEARBOOK — TRANSPORT, COMMUNICATIONS, TOURISM — 1970-1985

### Theme 7 — Series A: Yearbooks

This is the 20th edition of the *Statistical yearbook, Transport, Communications, Tourism* published by the Statistical Office of the European Communities. It contains the most important figures on transport statistics in the European Economic Community and its Member States in time series for the period 1970-85. The yearbook contains in detail the most important data on infrastructure, mobile equipment, the distances covered by the various modes of transport (rail, road, inland waterway, merchant shipping, aviation and pipe-lines) and selected data for traffic accidents, post and telecommunications and tourism.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 317 | 1 400 | ES/DA/DE/GR/EN/ FR/IT/NL/PT | 92-825-8275-2 | CA-49-87-882-9A-C |

## EUROSTAT NEWS — SPECIAL EDITION 1988

## THE COMMUNITY LABOUR FORCE SURVEY IN THE 1990s

### Proceedings of a seminar held in Luxembourg, October 1987

### Theme 9 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics

'The Community labour force survey in the 1990s' was the title of an international seminar held in Luxembourg in October, 1987. The invited papers covered two main themes:

(i) new uses of the Community labour force survey; and

(ii) analytical and methodological issues related to the new uses.

This report contains full details of the seminar proceedings and a summary of the main conclusions.

| Format | Pages | Price ECU | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C5 | 412 | 11.50 | EN | 92-825-8409-7 | CA-AB-88-005-EN-C |
| | | | FR | 92-825-8410-0 | CA-AB-88-005-FR-C |

## EUROSTAT CATALOGUE 1988 — PUBLICATIONS AND ELECTRONIC SERVICES

The *Eurostat Catalogue 1988 (Publications and electronic services)* has been made with the user in mind, making it easy to find subjects of interest, be they statistical data or studies and analyses. It covers all publications issued between 1 July 1986 and 30 June 1988. It gives a short résumé of each publication, details for ordering and price.

The *Eurostat Catalogue 1988* also contains all information on other dissemination media of data: 'on-line' data bases, diskettes, magnetic tapes, etc.

It can be obtained from Eurostat and from the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities.

| Format | Pages | Price | Languages | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| B5 | 70 | free of charge | DE | CA-50-87-647-DE-C |
| | | | EN | CA-50-87-647-EN-C |
| | | | FR | CA-50-87-647-FR-C |

# To be published

## REGIONS — STATISTICAL YEARBOOK 1988

### Theme 1 — Series A: Yearbooks

In this publication, the Statistical Office of the European Communities gives the latest statistics relating to economic and social factors in the regions of the European Community.

The issue contains information on:

(i) population, employment and unemployment;
(ii) economic aggregates;
(iii) the main series on the different sectors of the economy: agriculture, industry, energy and the services sector;
(iv) the Community's financial participation in investments.

The main regional indicators are also presented in a series of coloured maps.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 220 | 1 100 | DA/GR/EN/FR/NL | 92-825-8854-8 | CA-53-88-156-5E-C |
| | | | ES/DE/IT/PT | 92-825-8855-6 | CA-53-88-156-4E-C |

## ACP — BASIC STATISTICS — 1988

### Theme 1 — Series A: Yearbooks

Selection of the most important statistics of the ACP countries, signatories with the Community of the Lomé Convention, and comparison with other developing countries. This selection covers the following areas: population, national accounts, production of industry, mining and agriculture, foreign trade, prices, finance, external aid and standard of living.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A6 | ± 254 | 420 | EN/FR | 92-825-8867-X | CA-52-88-889-2A-C |

## EARNINGS IN AGRICULTURE 1986

### Theme 3 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics

This publication contains the methodology and detailed results of the Community survey of earnings of permanent manual workers in agriculture in 1986.

These results cover labour forces, earnings and monthly duration of paid work, broken down by sex, age, training, type of work, relative size of holding and the provision or not of payment in kind. In the case of certain countries, these data are also broken down by major region.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 118 | 400 | DE/EN/FR/IT | 92-825-8926-9 | CA-50-87-130-4A-C |

## STATISTICS OF EMPLOYMENT — METHODS AND DEFINITIONS

### Theme 3 — Series E: Methods

This publication describes the methods and definitions used in the compilation of time series on working population and employment and harmonized statistics on employees in employment which are published annually by Eurostat in *Employment and unemployment,* Theme 3, Series C.

| Format | Pages | Price ECU | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 32 | 3.50 | ES | 92-825-8952-8 | CA-53-88-009-ES-C |
| | | | DE | 92-825-8953-6 | CA-53-88-009-DE-C |
| | | | EN | 92-825-8954-4 | CA-53-88-009-EN-C |
| | | | FR | 92-825-8955-2 | CA-53-88-009-FR-C |
| | | | IT | 92-825-8956-0 | CA-53-88-009-IT-C |

## LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT AND ITS WIDER LABOUR MARKET EFFECTS IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE EC

### Theme 3 — Series D: Studies and analyses

This report contains a detailed analysis of long-term unemployment and its impact on the labour market. It is based mainly on the results of the EC labour force survey.

The demographic and regional aspects of long-term unemployment are considered in this report, alongside the marginal areas of the labour market and the effect of long-term unemployment on different households.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 180 | 400 | EN | 92-825-8980-3 | CA-53-88-277-EN-C |
| | | | FR | 92-825-8981-1 | CA-53-88-277-EN-C |

## LABOUR FORCE SURVEY — METHODS AND DEFINITIONS

### Theme 3 — Series E: Methods

This edition of *Labour force survey — Methods and definitions updates* the 1985 version and includes information on sampling techniques for Spain and Portugal.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 88 | 600 | ES | 92-825-8323-6 | CA-49-87-874-ES-C |
| | | | DE | 92-825-8324-4 | CA-49-97-874-DE-C |
| | | | EN | 92-825-8325-2 | CA-49-87-874-EN-C |
| | | | FR | 92-825-8326-0 | CA-49-87-874-FR-C |
| | | | IT | 92-825-8327-9 | CA-49-87-874-IT-C |

## ELECTRICITY PRICES 1980-1988

### Theme 4 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics

This publication is an updating, with prices valid in January 1988, of the annual enquiries on electricity prices in the Member States of the Community. Prices are recorded in approximately 30 locations for five domestic and seven industrial standard consumers. In addition to the prices for 1988, the years 1980 (base year for comparisons) and 1985-87 are included to show the recent trends in electricity prices. Three price levels in national currencies distinguish the taxes affecting electricity prices whilst the tables in ECU and deflated PPS allow comparisons between countries.

| Format | Pages | Price ECU | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 77 | 12.50 | EN/FR | 92-825-8934-X | CA-53-88-318-2A-C |

### IRON AND STEEL — STATISTICAL YEARBOOK 1988

**Theme 4 — Series A: Yearbooks**

Yearly statistics on the structure and the economic situation of the Community's iron and steel industry: employment, size of enterprises, plants, crude steel, iron and scrap balances, production of iron ore, pig-iron, crude steel, finished steel and end products, consumption of raw materials, works deliveries and receipts, external trade of scrap and ECSC products, indirect foreign trade, steel consumption investments of the iron and steel industry, prices and levy.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 200 | 1 000 | ES/DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/ NL/PT | 92-825-8993-5 | CA-53-88-447 |

### EXTERNAL TRADE — STATISTICAL YEARBOOK 1988

**Theme 6 — Series A: Yearbooks**

The present yearbook contains the main series from 1958 to 1987 of the external trade statistics of the European Community. It provides general information on the position of the EC in world trade and in the trade of third countries and of the trends in trade broken down by country and by commodity.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISBN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 95 | 480 | ES/DA/DE/GR/EN/FR/IT/ NL/PT | 92-825-8993-5 | CA-52-88-865-9A-C |

# Periodicals[1]

**► Monthly bulletins**

### EUROSTATISTICS — DATA FOR SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

**Theme 1 — Series B: Short-term trends**

*Eurostatistics* is the monthly report on short-term economic development.

Four kinds of information are published in *Eurostatistics*.

(i) an article 'In brief' which looks at the latest trends in the data available;

(ii) a visual presentation of the most important economic series for the Community, the 12 Member States, the USA and Japan;

(iii) tables of 'Short-term data' harmonized by Eurostat on the basis of common criteria for the 12 Member States and comparisons with the USA and Japan;

[1] In 1988 a glossary with translations into all Community languages will be added to one of the first issues of the year. The languages mentioned in the following pages are the languages in which the periodicals are regularly published.

(iv) 'Country tables' with a selection of the most important economic indicators allowing a rapid overview of the economic and social situation in each country.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 110 | 2 300 annual subscription | DE/EN/FR | 0252-8266 | CA-BJ-88-000-3A-C |

## CONSUMER PRICE INDICES — MONTHLY

### Theme 2 — Series B: Short-term trends

This bulletin can be obtained by subscription which includes:

(i) 12 monthly issues giving the general index;

(ii) 4 quarterly issues (supplement) showing the evolution of the consumer price indices for the 8 main groups of consumption as well as for the 20 sub-groups on the base 1980 = 100.

The quarterly supplements will appear in March, June, September and December and will contain monthly and annual figures for 1983 to 1988 for the 12 EC countries and the United States.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 12 | 2 000 | EN | 1010-2779 | CA-BW-88-000-EN-C |
| | | annual subscription | FR | 1010-2787 | CA-BW-88-000-FR-C |

## ECU-EMS INFORMATION — MONTHLY

### Theme 2 — Series B: Short-term trends

This publication supplies a series of ECU indicators which refer to the official and private use of the ECU.
The monthly evolution of the ECU exchange rate and the bilateral divergencies of the currencies participating in the exchange rate mechanism of the EMS are shown. The latter is presented as a graphic.

Price indices adapted to the ECU and EC currencies are calculated also. Concerning the capital markets, two tables are devoted to the interests and issues of securities denominated in ECU.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 10 | 1 500 | DE | 1011-0860 | CA-CA-88-000-DE-C |
| | | annual subscription | EN | 1011-0844 | CA-CA-88-000-EN-C |
| | | | FR | 1011-0836 | CA-CA-88-000-FR-C |
| | | | IT | 1011-0852 | CA-CA-88-000-IT-C |

## UNEMPLOYMENT — MONTHLY

### Theme 3 — Series B: Short-term trends

The monthly bulletin gives information about the situation on the labour market in the enlarged Community.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 10 | 1 000 | DE | 0252-9890 | CA-BH-88-000-DE-C |
| | | annual subscription | EN | 0252-9920 | CA-BH-88-000-EN-C |
| | | | FR | 0252-9912 | CA-BH-88-000-FR-C |
| | | | IT | 0252-9904 | CA-BH-88-000-IT-C |

## ENERGY — MONTHLY STATISTICS

### Theme 4 — Series B: Short-term trends

Rapid update of the principal statistical series characterizing the short-term trend in the energy economy (coal, oil, gas, electrical energy) including graphs. Some new series have been introduced. They cover all energy sources, statistics in value and factors influencing the energy market.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 65 | 2 300 annual subscription | DE/EN/FR | 0258-3569 | CA-BX-88-000-3A-C |

## INDUSTRIAL TRENDS — MONTHLY STATISTICS

### Theme 4 — Series B: Short-term trends

This publication provides information, updated monthly, on industrial activity in the European Community. The first chapter gives indices for industrial production, turnover, new orders, number of employees, wages and salaries. The data are given for each industrial branch and for industry as a whole, and include indices for the value of imports and exports for these branches.

Chapter 2 contains indicators on the situation in the building and civil engineering sector. A further chapter gives producer price indices for manufacturing industry.

Statistics which are not published regularly may be given in an annex or in the form of an additional chapter in some issues. There are also supplements dealing with methodology and for retrospective series. The main results are illustrated by numerous graphs.

The data are taken directly from the ICG domain of the Cronos data bank between the 20th and 25th of each month and the bulletin appears at the beginning of the following month.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 75 | 2 000 annual subscription | DE/EN/FR | 0258-1922 | CA-AP-88-000-3A-C |

## IRON AND STEEL — MONTHLY

### Theme 4 — Series B: Short-term trends

Short-term economic statistics (monthly) on production of pig-iron, crude steel, steel mill products, consumption and receipts of scrap and number of short-time workers.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | 21 | 1 600 annual subscription | DE/EN/FR | 0378-7559 | CA-BA-88-000-3A-C |

### EXTERNAL TRADE — MONTHLY STATISTICS[1]

**Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends**

General summary of foreign trade of the European Community by country and by product. Trends in EC trade by country and by product. Trade of the main non-EC countries. Indices.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 150 | 4 800 annual subscription | EN/FR | 0378-3723 | CA-AR-88-000-2A-C |

### TRENDS IN DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES — RETAIL SALES — REGISTRATION OF CARS

**Theme 7 — Series B: Short-term trends**

This bulletin continues the publication of volume indices for all retail sales in nine Community countries, the United States and Japan. Every three months monthly indices are also published for the volume of retail sales in three groups of products — food, clothing and household equipment. Finally every month the publication contains indices for the number of registrations of new private cars and commercial vehicles in all 12 Member States.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 15 | 800 | EN/FR | 1010-1748 | CA-BV-88-000-2A-C |
| | | annual subscription | ES/DE | 1010-1756 | CA-BV-88-000-2P-C |

## ► Quarterly bulletins

### QUARTERLY NATIONAL ACCOUNTS ESA

**Theme 2 — Series B: Short-term trends**

Principal national accounts aggregates on a quarterly basis. Volume and price trends. Comparison between the Community as a whole, those Member States which compile quarterly accounts, the United States and Japan. Commentary and graphs.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
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| A4 | 10 | 600 | DE | 1010-1780 | CA-BY-88-000-DE-C |
| | | annual subscription | EN | 1010-1764 | CA-BY-88-000-EN-C |
| | | | FR | 1010-1772 | CA-BY-88-000-FR-C |

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## MONEY AND FINANCE

### Theme 2 — Series B: Short-term trends

This publication consists of two parts: one containing a number of structural financial indicators, covering the period 1977 to 1987 and a second part in which annual, quarterly and monthly time-series data will be provided. The structural indicators will refer to the evolution of certain financial aggregates in relation to the GDP, the consolidated balance sheets of credit institutions, the money supply, the public finance, the exchange rates and the foreign reserves.

As regards the time-series, they contain data for the short-term economic analysis and cover the following subjects: money supply, capital markets, public finance, interest rates, exchange rates and official reserves. Moreover, a chapter of the bulletin will provide statistics related to the European Monetary System.

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## BALANCE OF PAYMENTS — QUARTERLY DATA

### Theme 2 — Series B: Short-term trends

This publication provides the latest available quarterly and annual data on the global balance of payments (flows) of each European Community country, as well as for the Community as a whole (EUR 10 and EUR 12) and of the United States and Japan. The publication includes comparative tables with the main balance items of a certain number of industrialized countries. Issue No 3 of each year contains also as annex the historical global data on the 12 last years.

The data are expressed in millions of European currency units (Mio ECU); they are presented according to the Eurostat's balance-of-payments schema and cover the three latest annual and the nine latest quarterly available periods.

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## INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION — QUARTERLY STATISTICS

### Theme 4 — Series B: Short-term trends

Statistics of industrial production by product. Annual and quarterly data on production of industrial products in the Member States of the EC.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
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## IRON AND STEEL — QUARTERLY STATISTICS

### Theme 4 — Series B: Short-term trends

Annual, quarterly and monthly statistics on employment, consumption of raw materials, production of iron ore, pig-iron, crude steel, finished steel products and end products, on works deliveries and receipts, stocks, on external and internal ECSC steel and scrap trade and on apparent steel consumption.

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## ANIMAL PRODUCTION — QUARTERLY STATISTICS

### Theme 5 — Series B: Short-term trends

Statistics on:

1. meat: slaughterings, external trade and gross indigenous production in head of livestock and tonnes;
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3. milk and milk products: milk collected, milk products obtained, survey results, supply balance sheets, forecasts, etc.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
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## CROP PRODUCTION — QUARTERLY STATISTICS

### Theme 5 — Series B: Short-term trends

The most recent data on:

1. land use, arable crops (areas, yields and production) and fruit and vegetable production;
2. weather conditions;
3. supply balance sheets, plant products and fruit.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
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## AGRICULTURAL PRICES

(Microfiche)

### Theme 5 — Series B: Short-term trends

The microfiche for agricultural prices contain the monthly 'selling prices of crop products', 'selling prices of animal products' and 'purchase prices of the means of agricultural production' for the Member States of the Community (without Spain and Portugal). All data are also stored in the Cronos data bank (PRAG domain).

The monthly prices in the microfiche cover the past two years. Where no monthly series exist, the tables show the annual prices for 1978 to 1987 inclusive. The prices are expressed in national currencies and in ECU.

The selling prices of crop and animal products comprise prices for the major products at the agricultural producer level, and also the prices of a number of processed products of the dairy industry. The purchase prices of the means of agricultural production relate to the prices paid by farmers for feedingstuffs, fertilizers and fuels.

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## AGRICULTURAL PRICES — SELECTED SERIES FROM THE CRONOS DATA BANK — QUARTERLY

### Theme 5 — Series B: Short-term trends

This publication provides, for each of the last two years, monthly and annual series for the selling prices of the main agricultural (crop and animal) products and the purchase prices of the means of agricultural production. The information relates to 11 Community Member States (excluding Portugal). The prices are expressed in national currencies and in ECU.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A4 | ± 110 | | DE/EN/FR/IT | | CA-CO-88-000-4A-C |

## CN — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS — PRODUCTS-COUNTRIES — SCE 1111/1112[1]

Microfiche

### Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends

Special-trade imports and/or exports on the basis of the Combined nomenclature (CN) of goods for the external trade statistics of the European Communities and for statistics on trade between Member States, with the following characteristics:

(i) values and quantities (sub-position CN-8);

(ii) supplementary units (US, sub-position CN-8);

(iii) all statistical systems together;

(iv) no threshold;

(v) quarterly coverage (cumulative data, January-March, January-June, January-September, January-December).

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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[1] The subscribers of the external trade statistics are informed that important changes will take place in 1988 in the goods nomenclature and the documents for data collection. Therefore the data transmission from the Member States and their publication by Eurostat will be later than usual.

## CN — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS — PRODUCTS-COUNTRIES — PROCESSING TRAFFIC— SCE 1191/1192[1]

Microfiche

**Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends**

Special-trade imports and/or exports on the basis of the Combined nomenclature (CN) of goods for the external trade statistics of the European Community and statistics on trade between the Member States, with the following characteristics:

(i) values and quantities (sub-position CN-8);

(ii) supplementary units (US, sub-position CN-8);

(iii) breakdown according to statistical system;

(iv) no threshold;

(v) quarterly coverage (cumulative data, January-March, January-June, January-September, January-December).

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
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## CN — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS — PRODUCTS-COUNTRIES — SCE 1120[1]

Microfiche

**Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends**

Special-trade imports and/or exports on the basis of the Harmonized system (HS) for the external trade statistics of the European Communities and for statistics on trade between Member States, with the following characteristics:

(i) values and quantities (sub-position HS 6);

(ii) all statistical systems together;

(iii) no threshold;

(iv) quarterly coverage (cumulative data, January-March, January-June, January-September, January-December).

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## CN — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS — COUNTRIES-PRODUCTS — SCE 2112[1]

Microfiche

**Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends**

Special-trade imports and/or exports on the basis of the Combined nomenclature (CN) of goods for the external trade statistics of the European Community and for statistics on trade between the Member States, with the following characteristics:

(i) values and quantities (CN-8/6/4/2);

(ii) all statistical systems together;

(iii) no threshold;

(iv) quarterly coverage (cumulative data, January-March, January-June, January-September, January-December).

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
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## CN — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS — PRODUCTS-COUNTRIES — PROCESSING TRAFFIC — SCE 2119[1]

Microfiche

**Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends**

Special-trade imports and/or exports on the basis of the Combined nomenclature (CN) of goods for the external trade statistics of the European Community and for statistics on trade between Member States, with the following characteristics:

(i) values and quantities (processing traffic, CN-8/6/4/2);

(ii) breakdown according to statistical system;

(iii) no threshold;

(iv) quarterly coverage (cumulative data, January-March, January-June, January-September, January-December).

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## SITC—EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS — PRODUCTS-COUNTRIES — SCE 1311/1312[1]

Microfiche

**Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends**

Special-trade imports and/or exports of the Member States of the European Community on the basis of the United Nations Standard International Trade Classification (SITC, Rev. 3). These statistics are based on Nimexe data and have the following characteristics:

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(i) values and quantities (SITC, Rev. 3-5);
(ii) supplementary units (SITC, Rev. 3-5 US);
(iii) all statistical systems together;
(iv) no threshold;
(v) quarterly coverage (cumulative data, January-March, January-June, January-September, January-December).

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## SITC — EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS — COUNTRIES-PRODUCTS SCE 2311[1]

Microfiche

### Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends

Special-trade imports and/or exports of the Member States of the European Community on the basis of the United Standard International Trade Classification (SITC, Rev. 2). These statistics are based on Nimexe data and have the following characteristics:
(i) values and quantities (SITC 5/4/3/2/1);
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(iii) no threshold;
(iv) quarterly coverage (cumulative data, January-March, January-June, January-September, January-December).

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## IMPORTS UNDER THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES (GSP) BY PRODUCT AND BY COUNTRY BENEFITING THEREFROM

Microfiche

### Theme 6 — Series B: Short-term trends

The European Economic Community grants generalized tariff preferences, under agreements concluded within the framework of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad), for imports of certain products originating in developing countries.

In this publication Eurostat provides data on total imports and imports at preferential rates into each Member State, by value, broken down by group of products and developing country.

| Format | Pages | Price BFR | Languages | ISSN No | Catalogue No |
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► **Half-yearly bulletins**

## EARNINGS — INDUSTRY AND SERVICES

### Theme 3 — Series B: Short-term trends

This publication which is updated every six months contains harmonized data on manual workers' hourly earnings in industry, and non-manual workers' monthly earnings in industry, commerce, banking and insurance. These data are broken down by industrial groups according to NACE, by sex and, for certain countries, by region. In addition, this publication shows, for manual and non-manual workers combined and broken down by industrial group, some data on total hourly costs in industry (results of the three-yearly Community surveys and updated estimates for intermediate years).

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| A4 | ± 250 | 2 300 annual subscription | ES/DE/EN/FR/IT | 0259-0492 | CA-AC-88-000-5D-C |

## EC AGRICULTURAL PRICE INDICES MONTHLY AND ANNUAL RESULTS — HALF-YEARLY STATISTICS

### Theme 5 — Series B: Short-term trends

This publication shows the trend of the monthly EC indices of producer prices of agricultural products and of purchase prices of the means of agricultural production during the last 13 months for the European Community (without Spain and Portugal) and the individual Member States. In order to eliminate the effect of different rates of inflation in the Community, the nominal agricultural price indices are deflated using the consumer price index. The publication contains both nominal and deflated price indices. Each price index is the result of a base-weighted (Laspeyres) calculation using value weights determined for the base year 1980 for a fixed basket of agricultural products (output index) and a selection of goods and services (input index). 1980 also serves as the reference year. No 1-1988 of this publication shows in addition the trend of the annual price indices from 1976 to 1987 (Spain included). A brief commentary on the most recent developments, various summaries containing rates of change and a number of diagrams can be found before the index tables. A weighting scheme by country and product is also included.

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# Eurostat News — Special Edition 1988

# The Community labour force survey in the 1990s

**Proceedings of a seminar held in Luxembourg, October 1987**

**Theme 9 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics**

'The Community labour force survey in the 1990s' was the title of an international seminar held in Luxembourg in October, 1987. The invited papers covered two main themes:

(i) new uses of the Community labour force survey; and

(ii) analytical and methodological issues related to the new uses.

This report contains full details of the seminar proceedings and a summary of the main conclusions.

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# Regions — Statistical Yearbook 1988

**Theme 1 — Series A: Yearbooks**

In this publication, the Statistical Office of the European Communities gives the latest statistics relating to economic and social factors in the regions of the European Community.

The issue contains information on:

(i) population, employment and unemployment;

(ii) economic aggregates;

(iii) the main series on the different sectors of the economy: agriculture, industry, energy and the services sector;

(iv) the Community's financial participation in investments.

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# Purchasing power parities and real domestic product — Results 1985

**Theme 2 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics**

The study presents the work carried out by Eurostat for 1985 in the field of purchasing power parities and volume comparisons for the 12 Member States and Austria.

Results for gross domestic product and its uses are not only provided for the Community countries and Austria but also for most non-Community OECD countries.

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# Demographic Statistics 1988

**Theme 3 — Series C: Accounts, surveys and statistics**

While all member countries possess highly developed systems of demographic statistics, the wide diversity of practice with regard to the publication and presentation of results makes it very difficult to obtain comparable and up-to-date information necessary to study trends within the Community. The present publication is designed to make good this deficiency. All the principal series of demographic statistics are covered, namely, population by sex and age group, births, deaths, migration, marriages, divorces, fertility, life expectancy and population projections. Both absolute numbers and rates are given in considerable detail for each country and for the total Community.

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The information provided on each publication is as follows: 'theme' to which the work belongs, title of volume, international classification number (ISBN or ISSN), languages in which available, format, number of pages, price and brief summary of content. For practical reasons, the price is given in only one currency, the BFR (Belgian franc) which is the legal tender in the country of publication (Luxembourg). The price thus indicated applies when orders are placed directly with the **Office for Official Publications of the European Communities** (2, rue Mercier L-2985 Luxembourg — postal cheque account (CCP) 19190-81; bank current account BIL 8-109/6003/300) and serves as a rough guide to the prices in the various national currencies in the event of purchase from the sales offices which are listed on the third page of the cover. The languages in which the publications are available are shown by the following abbreviations: M = multilingual, i.e. in all the official languages of the European Communities, ES = Spanish, DA = Danish, DE = German, GR = Greek, EN = English, FR = French, IT = Italian, NL = Dutch, PT = Portuguese.

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# Data for short-term economic analysis

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