



# UNECE Weekly

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Issue N° 95 – 22-26 November 2004

## *It's just happened ...*

### **Developing Euro-Asian land transport routes**

Governments of the countries in the Euro-Asian region have started to consider possible Euro-Asian land routes for trade and transport between Asia and Europe, as alternatives to the maritime routes which hitherto have been found more reliable and competitive. At a meeting held in Odessa on 3-5 November, Government representatives from 16 countries in the Euro-Asian region agreed on the main road and rail transport routes connecting Europe and Asia to be considered for priority development. The participating countries were Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, China, Georgia, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan. Approaches to developing the selected main Euro-Asian land transport routes will include identifying and analysing the main physical and non-physical obstacles along these routes through a time/cost analysis, and

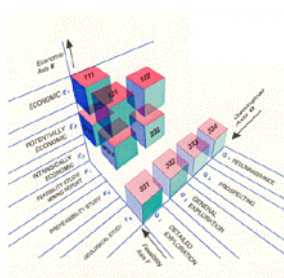


completing a Geographic Information System (GIS) database. Removing border crossing obstacles and hindrances through implementing the relevant international agreements and conventions and formulating national action plans, are also in the focus of the countries involved.

For more information contact Michalis Adamantiadis ([michalis.adamantiadis@unece.org](mailto:michalis.adamantiadis@unece.org)).

### **UNECE Group of Experts to contribute to securing longer-term supply of fossil fuels**

On 10-11 November the successor group to the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on the Harmonisation of Energy Reserves/Resources met in Geneva to launch a new programme of work focussed on providing an improved basis for considering more efficient and benign extraction of energy resources, including support for the development of strategies for their exploration. The general objective of this Group, now to be known as the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Classification of Energy Reserves and Resources, is to contribute to the global efforts in securing a longer-term supply of energy resources by improving current methods of their classification and of the application of the classification using the United Nations Framework Classification for Energy and Mineral Resources (UNFC) of ECOSOC Resolution 2004/233 as the harmonising vehicle.



The UNFC, as developed by UNECE, was adopted by ECOSOC at its annual session in July this year at which time ECOSOC invited countries to consider taking appropriate measures for ensuring worldwide adoption of the UNFC. In view of the current focus of the Group on the solid minerals, petroleum and uranium sectors, there was attendance from a broad range of both UNECE and non-UNECE member States; the latter included the Syrian Arab Republic as well as the OPEC Member States of Algeria, Iran, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. The OPEC Secretariat itself was also represented, as was the International Energy Agency, the International Energy Forum, the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers and a range of other specialised associations/ organisations.

For more information contact Charlotte Griffiths ([charlotte.griffiths@unece.org](mailto:charlotte.griffiths@unece.org)).

## Conference on Crime Statistics

UNECE in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime organized a conference on crime statistics on 35 November. Participants included staff from national statistical offices who work on crime statistics and representatives of government institutions and NGOs who carry out crime-related data collection and surveys. The conference covered national and international demands for crime statistics, international activities in the collection and dissemination of statistics, and victimization surveys. It highlighted the importance

of the comparability of data and the fact that not all incidents of crime are registered in the administrative data sources, which leads to data gaps. There was general consensus on the importance of victimization surveys in the collection and dissemination of crime statistics and the need to further develop these surveys.

For more information contact Angela Me ([angela.me@unece.org](mailto:angela.me@unece.org)) or Linda Hooper ([linda.hooper@unece.org](mailto:linda.hooper@unece.org)).

## Off the press...



### Market surveillance

The UNECE Trade and Investment Guides are designed to assist countries in transition, as well as actors in other countries, in becoming familiar with best practices in the areas of trade and investment and related legal and commercial practices. The 8<sup>th</sup> guide in the series, *Market Surveillance in the UNECE Region*, is based on UNECE activities aimed at pursuing economic and trade cooperation in the region through the elimination of technical obstacles to trade and providing assistance and advice to countries in transition on their market transformation reforms. The organization of market surveillance and related procedures vary significantly from country to country, and international cooperation on the subject is needed. Common legislative and regulatory approaches are indispensable for further enhancing trade and economic cooperation within the UNECE region.

For more information contact Serguei Kouzmine ([serguei.kouzmine@unece.org](mailto:serguei.kouzmine@unece.org)).

## Facts and figures:

### Wages per employee in industry, growth rates<sup>1</sup> Selected UNECE economies (Change over same period of the previous year, per cent)

	2002	2003	2003				2004		
			Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3
<b>New EU members</b>									
Czech Republic	6.7	5.9	4.9	5.9	6.0	6.6	9.0	6.7	..
Hungary	12.5	9.4	9.4	9.3	9.3	9.6	11.8	10.2	..
Latvia	5.8	8.5	9.1	10.2	6.3	8.5	11.3	7.6	..
Lithuania	2.5	3.5	2.7	3.3	3.2	4.7	0.9	2.4	..
Malta <sup>2</sup>	6.3	9.1	11.9	10.0	7.7	7.2	..	..	..
Poland	3.7	3.0	1.7	3.4	2.4	4.5	6.6	4.8	4.4
Slovakia	7.3	7.3	5.2	8.7	6.2	8.9	10.8	8.3	10.3
Slovenia	9.9	7.6	7.7	8.0	7.6	7.0	8.0	..	..
<b>South-East Europe</b>									
Bulgaria	-0.1	5.2	4.4	4.3	5.2	6.6	6.0	6.2	..
Croatia	7.4	5.2	7.4	4.3	5.6	3.6	5.2	5.0	..
Romania	23.6	19.5	21.7	17.9	18.9	19.8	24.0	23.2	22.9
Turkey <sup>3</sup>	34.5	17.4	20.6	16.2	14.9	18.2	16.2	13.2	..
<b>CIS</b>									
Armenia	17.6	26.8	31.6	30.8	28.6	18.2	9.0	..	..
Azerbaijan	..	..	10.7	..	..	27.0	..	43.6	..
Belarus	48.2	30.9	33.8	31.5	28.0	30.9	31.9	35.7	36.5
Kazakhstan	9.3	13.3	9.6	13.3	13.0	16.8	17.8	16.1	18.0
Kyrgyzstan	19.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Russian Federation	27.2	25.5	25.1	25.4	24.6	26.8	24.9	23.1	..

Source: UNECE Statistical Database, compiled from CISSC and national sources.

1. Gross wages in Industry (Mining and quarrying, manufacturing and utilities).
2. Manufacturing only.
3. Earning Per Production Worker in Manufacturing Industry.

## Coming up soon ...

November

22 Seminar on New Methods for Population Censuses

23-25 Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Population Censuses

26 Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on Housing Censuses

22 & 24 Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies

23 Workshop on Quality Benchmarking

**For further information please contact:**  
Information Service,  
UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)  
CH - 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Tel: +41(0)22 917 44 44  
Fax: +41(0)22 917 05 05  
E-mail: [info.ece@unece.org](mailto:info.ece@unece.org)  
Web site: <http://www.unece.org>