METHODOLOGIES OF COMPILING
CONSUMER PRICE INDICES 2012

ILO Survey of country practices

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Purpose of the survey

- to provide basic information on the sources and methods used in each country in compiling the CPI published by the ILO,
- to indicate the differences between the national series with regard to their coverage, definitions, methods of measurement, methods of data collection, reference periods, etc.
Structure of the questionnaire

- A. Identification
- B. Coverage
- C. Concepts, definitions, classifications and weights
- D. Sample design
- E. Data collection
- F. Computations
- G. Editing and validation procedures
- H. Dissemination
- I. Other information
Main Findings

- CPI is used for a variety of purposes
- 2/3 of the countries use weights that are representative for the whole country
- Probability sampling methods are used in less than ¼ of the countries
- Scanner data are used in official CPI by 4% of the countries
- Second hand goods (mainly cars) are observed in 45% of the countries
- 2/3 of the countries use geometric mean formula
Main Findings

- 2/3 of the countries calculate and disseminate average prices for some products
- In 2/3 of the countries the weights reference period differ from both index and price reference period
- Half of the countries update the weights only once every 3-5 years
- 2/3 of countries price update the weights in case the weighs reference period is different from the price reference period
- 45% if the countries use carry forward method