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**Joint ECE/Eurostat Work Session on
Statistical Data Confidentiality**
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Working Paper No. 8 (Summary)
English only

Topic (ii): software and computing developments

**BETTER SOLUTIONS TO DISCLOSURE CONTROL PROBLEMS:
RESEARCH UNDER THE FIFTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME**

Submitted by Eurostat¹

Invited paper

Summary

1. A key part of the European Commission's Fifth Framework Programme of research funding is the development of 'a user friendly information society'. This paper outlines the aims of the Programme, with particular reference to work on statistical confidentiality.
2. Developments in information technology are creating new opportunities for the production and dissemination of statistics. However, these technological improvements can also lead to new threats to the confidentiality of individuals and enterprises which supply statistical data. There is a need for further work towards developing software tools which can increase the speed and accuracy of disclosure risk assessment and reduction.
3. Previous European Commission initiatives have funded research into many aspects of statistical confidentiality. Most significant amongst these has been the Statistical Disclosure Control project and the associated developments of the ARGUS software. It is hoped that the Fifth Framework Programme will help foster further research on these topics.

¹ Prepared by David Thorogood.