STATISTICAL COMMISSION and
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CRP.2
English only

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

UNECE Work Session on Statistical Data Editing
(27 – 29 May 2002, Helsinki, Finland)

TOPIC (I): PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF STATISTICAL DATA EDITING

Issues for discussion

Discussants: Leopold Granquist and Svein Nordbotten, Statistics Sweden

Invited papers:
- Analysis of data slices & meta data to improve survey processing (Colleen Martin and Claude Poirier, Statistics Canada)
- The planning of data editing processes (Elmar Wein, Statistisches Bundesamt, Germany)
- Evaluating the effect of edit systems on data quality: two case studies (Katherine Jenny Thompson, United States)

1. For editing to be truly effective, the process must be part of a continuing improvement cycle of the whole survey process. To this end, the editing steps must be properly and systematically planned and managed. The discussion under this section will consider different ways to quantify the effect of data editing and information management for planning, monitoring and fine-tuning the editing processes. The meeting is expected to consider the methods to evaluate the editing and imputation procedures as a prerequisite for the efficient management of data editing. The aim of the discussion is be to identify good practices on how to use information from the editing stage in optimising resources devoted to editing and for improving other stages of the survey process.

2. For identifying good practices (the aim of the discussion) it is important that NSI:s report on their experiences if any on each issue below.

(i) Which data are needed for organization and planning of the execution of the editing. How detailed should the planning system be and should it be centralised?
(ii) Which data are needed to get knowledge of error sources for improving the survey vehicle?
(iii) How should experiences from planning and collecting data on error sources be communicated to the organisation and to indiviudal survey managers
(iv) How accurate should administrative/auxiliary data be to be useful in planning, editing and imputation. How to assure that all possible sources are used?
(v) Which criteria should be used to evaluate alternative methods.

- - - - -