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| **UNITED NATIONS STATISTICAL COMMISSION and** | **EUROPEAN COMMISSION** |
| **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE (ECE)** | **STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE** |
| **CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS** | **EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (EUROSTAT)** |

**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC
COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)
STATISTICS DIRECTORATE**

**Joint ECE/Eurostat/OECD Meeting on the Management of Statistical Information Systems (MSIS)**
(Geneva, 17-19 May 2004)

Topic (ii): Development of IT strategies in statistical offices

## BUILDING OECD'S NEW STATISTICAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

### Invited Paper

Submitted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)[1]

### Summary

1.      The vision of a modernized OECD Statistical Information System (SIS) has been set out in the Organisation's Statistics Strategy.  The aims are to:

- Improve the efficiency of the Organisation's statistical processes;
- Enable reuse of data within the Organisation for multiple analysis and policy purposes;
- Improve the quality of the Organisation's statistical data and metadata, notably its timeliness, visibility, coherence and availability.

through innovative use of information technologies.

2.      This paper describes the architecture, design principles, components and technologies underlying the new SIS, in which XML and Web Services play a central role.

3.      The SIS consists of three independent but inter-operating layers:

- A **production layer** for collection, validation and management of data (StatWorks) and metadata (MetaStore);
- A **storage layer** for providing data and metadata to internal users (OECD.Stat);
- A **dissemination layer** for producing statistical publications and electronic (both online and offline) statistical products (PubStat);

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- A **workflow system** for automating statistical and publication processes wherever possible, and tracking the steps involved.

4.      It thus encompasses all aspects of the Organisation's statistical processes: data and metadata collection, validation, processing, storage, discovery and retrieval, and dissemination.  Importantly, it preserves the decentralised nature of OECD directorates' statistical activities, while making their data and metadata part of a coherent corporate system.

5.      The development of OECD's Statistical Information System, based as it is on modern IT methods and standards, has the potential to produce important changes in the way in which national data providers, other international organisations and the public at large interact with the OECD.  Users of OECD statistical outputs will be able to enjoy an important improvement of coherence between products, as they will be directly interlinked and present themselves with a common look and feel. The contents will be presented with richer and more consistent metadata.

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