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Contact person: J. Daniels Ext: 7389 E-mail: Judith.Daniels@ecb.int

Paul Dear Mr. Cheung,

Principles governing international statistical activities

Thank you for your letter from 25 October 2005 and the invitation to express the views of the ECB concerning the development of principles to guide professional statistical activities in international organisations.

I am pleased to confirm that the ECB welcomes this initiative. The principles governing international statistical activities represent an effective communication tool and will contribute to maintaining the public confidence and trust in the quality, integrity and independence of statistics provided by international organisations.

In this context, I would like to express the ECB's commitment to apply these general principles in the work of the Directorate General Statistics and to use them in a way which depends on the ECB's institutional circumstances. Please fell free to inform the 2006 session of the Statistical Commission accordingly.

Best regards,

Steven Kleuning