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EDITOR'S NOTE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With the end of the year 2011 concluded was another year (which was the fourth year of being operated under the current Editorial Office) of our journal's successful cooperation with numerous members of the community of statisticians from all over the world – researchers, policy analysts and public statistics leaders and practitioners. This marks the firmness of the journal's mission and the vital role it plays as a platform for sharing ideas concerning statistical methods and their application, and for providing quantitative knowledge for better-informed decision-making by the relevant bodies in the government, business and general public. I would like to take this opportunity to express, also on behalf of the Editorial Office, our gratefulness to all the journal's patrons and supporters – with the Editorial Board chaired by Professor Janusz Witkowski, President of the Central Statistical Office, and the Polish Statistical Associations with its President, Professor Czesław Domański, and Associate Editors.

Also, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to all the journal's collaborators during the past year. While the major actors at the publication stage always are the authors of the articles, it is the silent cohort of their counterparts, peer-reviewers, whose skills and expertise make it possible to maintain the high quality standards of the journal. I would especially warmly like to thank the people who acted as referees of the papers submitted for publication during the past year for their anonymous contribution to the journal's continuous striving toward excellence. Their names are listed below, following the brief presentation of the contents of this issue.

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This issue is composed of two major sections. The first one contains papers presented at the international conference held on October 18-19, 2011, in Kraków as an event organized by the Central Statistical Office of Poland within the Polish Presidency of the EU. According to its title, *Development of the European Statistical System within the Eastern Partnership – Directions and Strategy*, the aim of the meeting was to bring the countries of the region closer to the standards of the European Statistical System, and to discuss various aspects of the possible cooperation and integration. More details are given in the introduction to this section.

The second section, which contains regular articles (submitted papers) starts with *A Class of Regression Type Estimators in Survey Sampling* by **Govind Charan Misra, Subhash Kumar Yadav, Alok Kumar Shukla**, who propose a class of linear regression models for the estimation of population mean and total when information regarding auxiliary variables is available in survey sampling.

They use regression method of estimation by introducing a new auxiliary variable z , which may also be a function of the auxiliary variable x . The proposed model leads to reduction in mean squared error as compared to ordinary regression method of estimation. The improvement has been demonstrated over ordinary regression estimator and also on ratio estimator with the help of an empirical example.

In the next paper, *A General Family of Dual to Ratio-Cum-Product Estimator in Sample Surveys* is discussed by **Rajesh Singh, Mukesh Kumar, Pankaj Chauhan, Nirmala Sawan, Florentin Smarandache** for the finite population mean. Under simple random sampling without replacement (SRSWOR) scheme, expressions of the bias and mean-squared error (MSE) up to the first order of approximation are derived. The authors show that the proposed family is more efficient than usual unbiased estimator, ratio estimator, product estimator, Singh estimator (1967), Srivenkataramana (1980) and Bandyopadhyaya estimator (1980) and Singh et al. (2005) estimator. An empirical study is carried out to illustrate the performance of the constructed estimator over others. In conclusion, the authors suggests that (for future research) the family suggested here can be adapted to double sampling scheme using Kumar and Bahl (2006) estimator.

Paweł Strawiński's paper *An Improvement Of Quality Of Statistical Matching For Survey Data Using Dynamic Caliper* discusses one of the key issue in evaluation studies which arises when matching procedure is used to estimate program net effects. The goal of the method is to establish a counterfactual state by choosing from the control pool a group that is similar to those in the treatment group. The author proposes a modification of the matching with caliper procedure while setting the caliper value as a fraction of estimated propensity score. The simulation results and examples are presented. Using data from Dehejia and Wahba (1999) some advantages of the proposed approach are stressed. The obtained results suggest that proposed approach is more efficient than the one traditionally used

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