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## SPEAKER

PREPARING FOR ECONTENTPLUS IV
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**Richard SWETENHAM**
Europen Commission, DG Information Society and Media

Richard Swetenham is Head of the eContent and Safer Internet Unit in the Content Directorate of the Information Society and Media Directorate-General of the European Commission. He has been dealing with the issue of Internet content since mid-1996, when he drafted the Communication on illegal and harmful content in 1996 followed by the Ministerial Declaration of the Bonn Conference on Global Information Networks (the first international conference at a high level dealing with electronic commerce) in 1997. He has been involved with the Safer Internet programme with since its inception.
He produces QuickLinks, a weekly electronic newsletter on legal and regulatory issues related to the Information Society as well as developments in market and technology, together with a one-stop-shop resource on the status of EU initiatives.
After studying law at Oxford University, he was called to the English Bar in 1974, did a year's pupillage, and then went to Germany on a program for young foreign lawyers funded by the DAAD. He then studied law in Paris and joined the staff of the Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce.
In 1981, he became Legal Secretary to the late Lord Mackenzie Stuart, Judge and then President of the European Court of Justice.
Swtenham joined the European Commission in 1987. He joined DG XIII, now the Information Society Directorate-General, in 1994. From 1994 until the beginning of 2000, he was secretary of the Legal Advisory Board, composed of independent experts in information law.