

Questionnaire 2006 on National Compilation and Dissemination Practices for International Merchandise Trade Statistics

Contact Information

Country	Republic of Lebanon
Name	Ghassan K. Nasrallah
Title	Acting Chief of Service for Customs Computer Center
Institute	Customs Higher Council
Address	Mar Elias Street, Makassed Center, 11th Floor, Beirut, Lebanon
Telephone	961-1-700430 961-1-700431 961-1-700432
Fax	961-1-700115
E-Mail	ghassan.nasrallah@customs.gov.lb

If the Contact Information is incomplete or incorrect, please change it.

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
	PART 1: Main recommendations of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics, Concepts and Definitions, Rev.2, (IMTS, Rev.2) and the Compilers Manual to IMTS, Rev.2			
1.01	Section 1: Institutional arrangements	Is your national methodology of compilation and dissemination of foreign merchandise trade statistics (hereafter called 'trade statistics') based on IMTS, Rev.2 ?	Yes	
1.02		Is the National Statistical Office the responsible agency for the compilation and dissemination of trade statistics ? <i>If No , please specify in the Comments field which agency is responsible for this.</i>	No	Customs Higher Council, Customs Computer Center
		Do the following agencies provide data to your office for use in the compilation of the trade statistics:		
1.03		Customs administration	Yes	
1.04		Central Bank	NO	
1.05		Commodity board <i>If Yes , please specify in Comments field</i>	Not Applicable	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
1.06		National Energy Agency	NO	
1.07		Other, <i>If Yes , please specify in Comments field</i>	No	
1.08		Does your office have any memorandum of understanding or any similar working agreement with any of the mentioned agencies?	No	
1.09		If you have working agreements with other agencies, does your office regularly meet or consult with these agencies before release of the trade statistics?	Not Applicable	
2.01	Section 2: Sources of data	Are customs declarations the main source of data? <i>If No , please specify your main source of data in the Comments field</i>	Yes	
		Do you use the following as additional sources of data:		
2.02		Foreign shipping manifests	No	
2.03		Currency exchange records or other records of monetary authorities	No	
2.04		Parcel and letter post records	Yes	When exceeding certain value
2.05		Aircraft and ship registers	No	
2.06		Reports of commodity boards	No	
2.07		Administrative records associated with taxation	No	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
2.08		Enterprise surveys	No	
2.09		Other <i>if Yes , please provide examples in Comments</i>	No	
3.01	Section 3: Coverage and Time of recording	As a general rule, do you include in trade statistics goods which enter (imports) or leave (exports) your economic territory (except for goods in transit and temporary admissions/ withdrawals) ?	Yes	
3.02		Do you use change of ownership (between residents and non-residents) as a basis for inclusion of certain goods in trade statistics? <i>If Yes , please provide examples in Comments</i>	No	
3.03		Can your office compile detailed commodity by partner trade statistics on the basis of change of ownership?	No	
3.04		Do you use date of lodgement of the customs declaration as an approximation for the time when goods enter/leave your territory? <i>If No , please indicate which dates are used for this purpose in the Comments field.</i>	Yes	
4.01	Section 4: Customs procedures	Does your country use the Kyoto Convention (<i>the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs procedures</i>) as the basis for the definitions of customs procedures ?	Yes	
		Does the recording by customs procedures allow for the identification of:		
4.02		Importation of goods under clearance for home use	Yes	
4.03		Reimportation of goods in the same state	Yes	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
4.04		Exportation of domestic goods (outright exportation)	Yes	
4.05		Temporary admission of goods subject to re-exportation in the same state	Yes	
4.06		Re-exportation of goods in the same state	Yes	
4.07		Temporary admission of goods for inward processing	Yes	
4.08		Goods leaving the country after inward processing	Yes	
4.09		Temporary exportation of goods for outward processing	Yes	
4.10		Reimportation of goods after temporary exportation for outward processing	Yes	
4.11		Goods admitted into a customs warehouse?	Yes	
4.12		Goods leaving a customs warehouse?	Yes	
4.13		Goods admitted into a commercial free zone (zones where only minimal repackaging and similar processing of goods is allowed) ?	No	With exception of export and re-export declarations to Commercial Free Zone
4.14		Goods leaving a commercial free zone?	No	With exception of import or temporary import or transit declarations from Commercial Free Zone
4.15		Goods admitted into an industrial free zone (zones where specific processing or manufacturing of goods is allowed) ?	No	With exception of export and re-export declarations to Industrial Free Zone

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
4.16		Goods leaving an industrial free zone?	No	With exception of import or temporary import or transit declarations from Industrial Free Zone
4.17		Goods in customs transit?	Yes	
	Section 5: Trade system	Do you include in your trade statistics goods entering or leaving the following territorial elements		
5.01		industrial free zones	No	Check above remarks
5.02		commercial free zones	No	Check above remarks
5.03		customs warehouses	Yes	
5.04		premises designated for inward processing	Yes	
5.05		territorial waters, and continental shelf	Not Applicable	
5.06		offshore territories, possessions, dependencies etc (including outer space installations).	Not Applicable	
5.07		your country's embassies, military bases and other territorial enclaves in other countries	Not Applicable	
		If your country is a member of a customs union, do the trade data cover:		
5.08		both trade with countries outside the union and intratrade with the member states of the union?	Not Applicable	
5.09		only trade with countries outside the union and exclude intratrade with the member states?	Not Applicable	
5.10		Do you disseminate trade statistics only according to the general trade system ?	No	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
5.11		Do you disseminate trade statistics only according to the special trade system ?	No	
5.12		Do you disseminate trade statistics according to both the general and special trade system ?	Yes	
6.01	Section 6: Commodity classifications and Quantity measurement	Do you use the Harmonized System (HS) as the basis for your detailed commodity trade database? <i>If Yes , please give the number of digits at which you maintain your commodity codes in the Comment field.</i>	Yes	8 digits
6.02		Do you use the Harmonized System for dissemination purposes?	Yes	
6.03		Do you publish any data in terms of Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) ?	No	
6.04		Do you publish any data in terms of Common Product Classification (CPC) ?	No	
6.05		Do you publish any data in terms of the Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC) ?	Yes	Sometimes
6.06		Do you publish any data in terms of International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) ?	Yes	Sometimes
6.07		Do you collect quantity data?	Yes	
6.08		Do you record or estimate net weight for quantity measurement of all commodities, where applicable?	Yes	Recording and not estimating
6.09		Do you record or estimate the World Customs Organizations (WCO) recommended units of quantity for each of the headings of the HS?	Yes	Recording and not estimating

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
7.01	Section 7: Valuation and currency conversion	Are you using provisions of the WTO Agreement on Valuation as the basis for calculating the statistical value of goods ?	Yes	
7.02		Is the statistical value of imported goods a CIF-type value?	Yes	
7.03		Are data for international freight and insurance associated with the importation of goods available separately?	Yes	
7.04		Do you compile and publish value of imported goods as a FOB-type value?	No	
7.05		Is the statistical value of exported goods an FOB-type value?	Yes	
7.06		Do you record and maintain information on the currency which was used in specifying the value on the customs declaration?	Yes	
7.07		In conversion of foreign currencies into national currency, do you use a rate published by the official authorities of your country?	Yes	
7.08		If both buying and selling rates are available, do you use for conversion purposes a midpoint between the two?	Not Applicable	
7.09		Do you use the exchange rate which is in effect at the date of exportation or importation? <i>If No , please indicate which exchange rates are used for this purpose in the Comments field .</i>	Yes	
7.10		If an exchange rate is not available for the date of exportation or importation, do you use the average rate for the shortest period applicable?	No	We request the rate from the official authority
8.01	Section 8: Partner country	Do you identify your trade partners on the basis of the definition of the statistical territory as given by your partners themselves?	Yes	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
		Do you compile import statistics by:		
8.02		country of origin?	Yes	
8.03		<i>If Yes , do you broadly follow the origin criteria outlined in the Kyoto Convention?</i>	Yes	
8.04		country of consignment?	No	
8.05		country of purchase?	No	
8.06		other? <i>If Yes , please specify in Comments field</i>	Not Applicable	
		Do you record for imports:		
8.07		country of requested preferential treatment	Yes	
8.08		country of granted preferential treatment	Yes	
		Do you compile export statistics by:		
8.09		country of last known destination?	Yes	
8.10		country of consignment?	No	
8.11		country of sale?	No	
8.12		other? <i>If Yes , please specify in Comments field</i>	Not Applicable	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
9.01	Section 9: Data Quality Control	Do you use a threshold value below which customs declarations are not required to be filed ? <i>If Yes , please specify the level of the threshold in the Comments field</i>	Yes	
9.02		If you use a threshold value, do you make estimates of trade below the threshold and include them in your trade statistics ?	No	
9.03		Does the Customs administration of your country use ASYCUDA (Automated SYstem for CUstoms DAta) for automated entry and checking of customs declarations ?	Yes	
9.04		Is physical inspection of cargo by Customs based on risk assessment?	Yes	
9.05		Does the Customs administration of your country conduct seminars to train traders and their agents in the filing of customs declarations ?	Yes	
9.06		Does your office use Eurotrace to process the customs records ? <i>If No , please specify (in the Comments field) which software you use for treating basic transactions</i>	No	NAR (In-house Software)
9.07		Do you use commodity prices or unit values to assess the credibility of customs records ? <i>If Yes , please specify in the Comments field</i>	Yes	Various Sources such as Internet, publications issued from producing authorities, attestations from experienced personnel, and prices comparaisons from multiple importers within 30 days before or after importation according articles 35 to 42 of Customs law.

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
9.08		Do you use estimates to replace missing values at detailed record level? <i>If Yes , please specify in the Comments field</i>	No	
9.09		Do you use estimates to replace missing quantities at detailed record level?	No	
9.10		<i>If Yes , do you use different estimation methods (for quantities) depending on the kind of commodities traded ? Please specify, if necessary.</i>		
9.11		Since the year 2000, did you conduct bilateral or multilateral reconciliation studies with your trading partners or do you plan to conduct such studies in the near future?	Yes	Using Medcomext Database
10.01	Section 10: Mode of transport	Do you compile trade statistics by mode of transport?	No	
		If you compile trade statistics by mode of transport, do you identify the following modes:		
10.02		air	Yes	
10.03		sea	Yes	
10.04		inland waterway	Not Applicable	
10.05		railway	Not Applicable	
10.06		road	Yes	
10.07		pipeline	Not Applicable	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
10.08		other? <i>If Yes , please specify in Comments field</i>	No	
	Section 11: Reporting and dissemination	Data become available in how many days after the closing of the reference period (exactly or approximately):		
11.01		for monthly data, please type the number of days in the Comments fields		2 months approximately
11.02		for quarterly data, please type the number of days in the Comments fields		2 months approximately
11.03		for annual data, please type the number of days in the Comments fields		2 months approximately
11.04		Do you make documentation on your sources and methods publicly available ?	No	
11.05		Do you publicly announce scheduled release dates?	No	
11.06		Do you make data available on a Web site?	Yes	
11.07		Do you regularly revise data (when additional information is available)?	Yes	
		Do you make your annual data available:		
11.08		according to the Gregorian calendar (January to December) ?	Yes	
11.09		on any other period basis ? <i>if Yes , please specify in the Comments field</i>	Not Applicable	
11.10		Do you make aggregate data (by major trading partners or by commodity groups) publicly available on a monthly basis?	Yes	
11.11		Do you make detailed data by commodity and partner publicly available on a quarterly basis?	Yes	

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
11.12		When confidentiality is applied to certain products, do you always report the full trading partner detail at the next higher level of commodity aggregation that adequately protects confidentiality ? <i>If No , please specify how confidentiality is applied in Comments field.</i>	Not Applicable	Customs Declarations, with exception of political and military declarations, are the only source of goods trade statistics, and there are no confidentiality applied on products.
		Part 2: Details on INCLUSIONS and EXCLUSIONS of particular items in the international merchandise trade statistics		
		Do you INCLUDE in trade statistics the following:		
12.01		non-monetary gold	Yes	
12.02		unissued banknotes and securities, and coins not in circulation	No	
12.03		<i>If Yes , do you value unissued banknotes and securities and coins not in circulation on a basis of the transaction value of the printed matter or stamped metal?</i>		
12.04		goods traded in accordance with barter agreements	Not Applicable	
12.05		goods traded on government account	Yes	
12.06		food and other humanitarian aid	Yes	
12.07		goods for military use	Yes	With exception of those declared via military Declarations

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
12.08		goods transferred from foreign enclaves (embassies, military or other foreign installations)	Yes	With exception of those declared via Political and Military Declarations
12.09		goods acquired by all categories of travellers, including non-resident workers, to a significant scale (i.e., excluding goods for their own use) as defined by national law; for example, so-called Shuttle Trade.	Yes	
12.10		goods on consignment	Yes	
12.11		goods used as carriers of information and software developed for general or commercial use (e.g., packaged sets containing CD-ROM or DVD with stored computer software and/or data); Note: this category excludes materials developed "to order".	Yes	
12.12		<i>If Yes, do you value these goods on a basis of their full transaction value?</i>	No	
12.13		goods for processing (i.e., goods sent abroad or brought into your country for processing, including processing under contract and processing under the inward processing procedure)	Yes	
12.14		<i>If Yes, do you record goods for processing and the goods resulting from such processing on a gross basis before and after processing?</i>	Yes	
12.15		goods which cross borders as a result of transactions between parent corporations and their direct investment enterprises (affiliates/branches)	Yes	
12.16		returned goods	Yes	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
12.17		electricity and gas	Not Applicable	
12.18		water	Not Applicable	
12.19		goods dispatched through postal or courier services	Yes	
12.20		migrants' effects	Yes	
12.21		goods transferred from or to a buffer stock organization	Not Applicable	
12.22		goods under financial lease (i.e., a lease of one year or more)	Yes	
12.23		ships, aircraft and other mobile equipment	Yes	
12.24		goods delivered from the rest of the world to offshore installations located in the economic territory of your country, and goods dispatched to the rest of the world from offshore installations located in the economic territory of your country	Not Applicable	
12.25		fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage landed from foreign vessels in national ports	Not Applicable	
12.26		fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage acquired by national vessels on the high seas from foreign vessels	Not Applicable	
12.27		bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage acquired by national vessels/aircraft from foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country	Not Applicable	
12.28		bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage landed in national ports from foreign vessels/aircraft	Not Applicable	
12.29		bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage supplied to foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country	Not Applicable	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
12.30		empty bottles not meant for refilling	Yes	
12.31		waste and scrap, the value of which is positive	Yes	
12.32		local border trade	Not Applicable	
12.33		gifts, if to significant scale as defined by national law	Yes	
12.34		goods seized by customs and subsequently resold	Yes	
12.35		estimates of unrecorded trade	No	
		Do you EXCLUDE from trade statistics the following:		
13.01		monetary gold (i.e., that gold which is exchanged between national or international monetary authorities or authorized banks)	No	
13.02		issued banknotes and securities and coins in circulation	No	
13.03		goods temporarily admitted or dispatched	No	
13.04		goods in transit	No	
13.05		goods moving between your country and territorial enclaves of your country in other countries (e.g., your embassies, military or other installations)	Not Applicable	
13.06		non-financial assets, ownership of which has been transferred from residents to non-residents, without crossing borders	No	
13.07		goods acquired by all categories of travellers, including non-resident workers, for their own use and carried across the border in amounts or values not exceeding those established by national law	No	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
13.08		newspapers and periodicals sent under direct subscription	No	
13.09		goods purchased by foreign embassies, military or other installations located in your country, for their own use	No	
13.10		fish caught on the high seas by national vessels of your country and landed in its economic territory	Not Applicable	
13.11		goods which are acquired and relinquished within your country, by non-residents, within the same recording period, and which do not cross the frontiers of the country	No	
13.12		goods under operational lease (i.e., a lease of less than one year)	Not Applicable	
13.13		goods which left the economic territory of the exporting country but lost or destroyed before entering the economic territory of your country	Not Applicable	
13.14		empty bottles which are returned to be refilled	No	
13.15		any category of used or second-hand goods ? <i>If Yes , please specify in the Comments field</i>	No	
13.16		waste and scrap having no positive value	No	
13.17		mobile equipment that changes ownership while outside the country of residence of its original owner; <i>if Yes , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.</i>	No	

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
13.18		fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage sold from national vessels in foreign ports or from national vessels on the high seas to foreign vessels; <i>if Yes , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately</i>	Not Applicable	
13.19		bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are acquired by national vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country; <i>if Yes , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.</i>	No	
13.20		bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are supplied by national vessels/aircraft to foreign vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country or landed in foreign ports from national vessels/aircraft; <i>if Yes , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately</i>	Not Applicable	
13.21		goods purchased by international organizations located in the economic territory of your country, from your country, for their own use; <i>if Yes , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.</i>	No	
13.22		goods for repair; <i>if Yes , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.</i>	No	
13.23		<i>If No (so, if you include goods for repair), do you value goods for repair at the value of the repair only?</i>		

NCDP Questionnaire 2006

Code	Section	Question	Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable	Comments
13.24		goods entering or leaving the economic territory of your country illegally; <i>if Yes , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.</i>	No	
13.25		goods exported from your country but lost or destroyed after ownership has been acquired by the importer; <i>if Yes , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.</i>	No	
<p>If you would like to add any remark or would like to pose any issue relevant for consideration in the update of the recommendations of international merchandise trade statistics please use the space below this cell.</p>				
	Your comments:			
<p>THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR COOPERATION !</p>				