



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION
FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

UN/DESA Development Account Project
“Building Statistical Capacity in the Low Income Countries of South East Asia”

**Workshop on the Methodology and Data Compilation of
International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS),
Phnom Penh, 2 -5 February, 2010**

Provisional Agenda
(as of 1 December 2009)

Morning session will be as much as possible from 9:00 to 12:00 and afternoon sessions from 13:30 to 16:30 (*Each 3 hour session includes a break of 15 minutes*)

Tuesday, 2 February

Registration for participants: 8:00-9:00

Morning session 9:00 -12:00

1. Opening of the meeting (NIS of Cambodia)
2. Opening statement by Paul Cheung, Director, UNSD
3. Adoption of Agenda, Purpose of workshop and Administrative matters (UNSD)
4. UNSD activities in the field of International Trade Statistics (UNSD presentation)
5. ESCAP activities in the field of International Trade Statistics (ESCAP presentation)
6. Revision of the international recommendations for IMTS (IMTS2010); updated and new recommendations, implementation plan (UNSD presentation followed by General Discussion)
7. Results from the survey on National Compilation and Dissemination Practices in 2006 (UNSD presentation followed by General Discussion)

Afternoon session 13:30-16:30

8. Country presentations on current practices in the collection, compilation and dissemination of international merchandise trade statistics

- Cambodia presentation
- Lao PDR presentation
- Timor Leste presentation
- General discussion

9. Country presentations on current practices in the collection, compilation and dissemination of international merchandise trade statistics – cont.

- Myanmar presentation
- Vietnam presentation
- General discussion

Wednesday, 3 February

Morning session 9:00 -12:00

10. Data compilation strategies: Customs and non customs data sources; institutional arrangements

- UNSD introduction
- Country presentations / discussion
- General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

11. Data compilation and data quality assurance at customs and NSO: data processing, use of technology, customs procedure codes, classification, valuation, partner country and quantity

- UNSD introduction
- Country presentations / discussion
- General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

Wednesday, 3 February

Afternoon session 13:30-16:30

12. Data quality at the NSO: data quality strategy and data quality reporting

- UNSD introduction
- Country presentations / discussion of a country specific action plan
- General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

13. Scope and time of recording (General guideline of IMTS; Goods for processing; Trade between affiliated enterprises, Inclusions and exclusions)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations / discussion

General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

Thursday, 4 February

Morning session 9:00 -12:00

14. Trade system (Clarification of territorial elements; General vs. Special trade system; Free zones, Other concerns)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations / discussion

General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

15. Commodity classification and quantity measurement (Review of recommendations; Other concerns)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations / discussion

General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

16. Mode of transport (What to record; How to classify)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations / discussion

General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

Afternoon session 13:30-16:30

17. Valuation (Valuation reviewed, i.e. value components, estimation methods, valuation and time of recording in case of non-customs sources; Valuation in certain special cases, i.e. electricity, gas and water, used goods etc.; Compilation of Imports FOB in addition to Imports CIF)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations / discussion

General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

18. Partner country (Country of origin and country of consignment for imports; Country of last know destination and country of consignment (destination) for exports; Issues concerning the determination of the country of origin and re-exports (rules of origin); Other concerns)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations / discussion

General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

Friday, 5 February

Morning session 9:00 -12:00

19. An overview of the UN Comtrade database and IMTS Analytical Outputs
UNSD presentation
20. Metadata and data dissemination (Review of existing and updated recommendations; confidentiality; Data revision; Use of new technologies)
UNSD introduction
Country presentations / discussion
General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans
21. Supplementary topics (External trade indices; Relationship and differences to national accounts and balance of payments statistics - bridge table between IMTS2010 and BPM6; Linking business and trade statistics)
UNSD introduction
Country presentations / discussion
General discussion and conclusions for country specific action plans

Afternoon session 13:30-16:30

22. Round Table Discussion: Identification of the important issues for the participating countries
23. Preliminary findings and conclusions (UNSD, ESCAP)
24. Evaluation of the Workshop and other business