

1.1.1. Shortcut Query

1.1.1.1. Outline and Examples

Selecting Shortcut Query displays the following filter interface –already populated in the example below:

Figure 1: Shortcut Query selection interface – here: cars exported from Japan in 2004

Clicking Search displays the following summarized results:

20 results of **cars** are found in HS2002.

Search Results	Selected Year
<input type="checkbox"/> New pneumatic tyres, of rubber, of a kind used on motor cars (incl. station ... (HS2002 - 401110)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Retreaded pneumatic tyres of rubber, of a kind used on motor cars (incl. st ... (HS2002 - 401211)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Inner tubes, of rubber, of a kind used on motor cars (incl. station wagons ... (HS2002 - 401310)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Men's/boys' overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (incl. ski-jackets ... (HS2002 - 610110)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Men's/boys' overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (incl. ski-jackets ... (HS2002 - 610120)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Men's/boys' overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (incl. ski-jackets ... (HS2002 - 610130)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Women's or girls' overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (HS2002 - 6102)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Women's/girls' overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (incl. ski-jack ... (HS2002 - 610210)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Women's/girls' overcoats, car-coats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (incl. ski-jack ... (HS2002 - 610290)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport ... (HS2002 - 8703)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Vehicles (excl. of 87.02) princ. designed for the tpt. of persons, speciall ... (HS2002 - 870310)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles (including mopeds) and cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor (HS2002 - 8711)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ... (HS2002 - 871110)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ... (HS2002 - 871120)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ... (HS2002 - 871130)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ... (HS2002 - 871140)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ... (HS2002 - 871150)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Side cars for motorcycles (HS2002 - 871190)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Wheeled toys designed to be ridden by children (HS2002 - 9501)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Wheeled toys designed to be ridden by children (e.g., tricycles, scooters, ... (HS2002 - 950100)	2004

View Trade Data

Commodity code in the classification

Figure 2: search results for the selected data

Note: the date contained in some commodity classification codes isn't related to the selected statistics year(s). It is the date the classification was defined or revised. UNSD and OECD mostly receive data according to the last HS version. Data is then converted into older HS and SITC versions as well as into BEC.

In the example above, HS2002 is used. HS stands for 'Harmonized System', 2002 means that this classification has been in use since 2002. Another classification is SITC rev. 3 (Standard International Trade Classification revision 3). All the classifications are based on commodity features (kind, production stage, primary material of not, durable or not, etc). The default classification in Comtrade is HS2002. See the Comtrade [Glossary](#) entry later in this document.

If a commodity isn't found in a classification, Shortcut Query searches other classifications for it.

In [fig. 13](#), we notice that commodity codes are in fact links; what we get when clicking them is illustrated below:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ... (HS2002 - 871130)	2004
<input type="checkbox"/>	Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ... (HS2002 - 871140)	2004

Figure 3: direct selection of an item by clicking its code (here, 871130)

The following form is displayed:

The screenshot shows a web interface titled "Commodity List". At the top, it says "Total Commodities defined : 4". Below this are radio buttons for different classification systems: SITC Rev.1, SITC Rev.2, SITC Rev.3, HS1992, HS1996, HS2002 (which is selected), and BEC. The main part of the interface is a table with two columns: "Code" and "Description". The table shows a hierarchy starting from "TOTAL" (ALL COMMODITIES) down to the selected code "871130". Each row includes a "Name" and a "Description" for that level, along with two blue links: "Data Availability" and "Snapshot". A callout box labeled "List of classification codes" points to the "Code" column. Another callout box labeled "Extra links" points to the "Data Availability" and "Snapshot" links.

Figure 4: description of the selected commodity and its ancestors

This tree-structured report describes all the commodity classes from the root (ALL COMMODITIES) to the selected item. Again, the item codes can be selected to get more specific information.

The Snapshot link leads to the already met Comtrade Explorer –Snapshot. Refer to [fig. 5](#) for an example of such a snapshot, and to the [Comtrade Explorer](#) section for a thorough description of the processor.

(Continued on the next page)

Clicking a Data Availability link displays the commodity statistics availability by country and by year:

Search Results: General Data Availability		
Total Available Commodities : 1 for commodity codes: 871130(HS2002)		
Code	Name	Data Availability
871130	Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ... View Description View Snapshot	2002 - 2004 116 countries with 6159 records reported.
1		
Search Results: Detail Data Availability		
Total Reported Reporters : 117 for commodity codes: 871130(HS2002)		
Code	Reporter	Years
	-All Reporters-	2002 , 2003 , 2004 , ALL
8	Albania	2003 , 2004 , ALL
12	Algeria	2002 , 2004 , ALL
20	Andorra	2002 , 2003 , 2004 , ALL
660	Anguilla	2002 , 2003 , 2004 , ALL
32	Argentina	2002 , 2003 , 2004 , ALL
51	Armenia	2004 , ALL
36	Australia	2002 , 2003 , 2004 , ALL
40	Austria	2002 , 2003 , 2004 , ALL
31	Azerbaijan	2004 , ALL
48	Bahrain	2002 , 2003 , 2004 , ALL

Figure 5: data availability by year for the selected commodity

Clicking one year in the list leads back to another query processor and shows the trade values:

Basic Query Results: help								
Statistics: 5 rows returned in 0.25 seconds. Your access has been restricted to Normal View . Please contact us, if you need further information.								
Quick filter <input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Clear"/> <input type="button" value="Apply"/>								
Selected classification: HS2002 Selected commodities: 871130 (Motorcycles (incl. mopeds) & cycles fitted with an auxiliary motor, with/wi ...) Selected reporters: Albania Selected years: 2003 Selected partners: All Selected trade flows: All								
Sort Order <input type="button" value="--None--"/> <input type="button" value="Refresh"/>								
Modify Selection View Graph Printable Format View Explanatory Notes SDMX Download View Not-Available-Data								
1								
Period	Trade Flow	Reporter	Partner	Code	Trade Value	NetWeight (kg)	Quantity Unit	Trade Quantity
2003	Import	Albania	World	871130	\$14,805	0	5	16
2003	Import	Albania	Italy	871130	\$5,657	0	5	6
2003	Import	Albania	Japan	871130	\$4,960	0	5	4
2003	Import	Albania	Greece	871130	\$3,631	0	5	5
2003	Import	Albania	Switzerland	871130	\$557	0	5	1

Figure 6: data availability - trade details for year 2003

The actions represented by the links above are discussed in this section. Notice the Query processor name: Basic Query. This specific processor is fully described in its own section in this document.

Back to [fig. 13](#), we see that the imprecise commodity definition results in a wide range of retrieved items. We can select some of these items by ticking their checkboxes:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport ... (HS2002 - 8703)	2004
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Vehicles (excl. of 87.02) princ. designed for the tpt. of persons, speciall ... (HS2002 - 870310)	2004

Figure 7: two items selected from the commodity list

Then clicking 'View trade Data' displays detailed information about the selected items through the Basic Query processor:

Basic Query Results: [help](#)

Statistics: 2 rows returned in 0.17 seconds.
 Your access has been restricted to **Normal View**. Please contact us, if you need further information.

Quick filter ▼ ?

Selected classification: HS2002
 Selected commodities: 8703 (Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport ...), 870310 (Vehicles (excl. of 87.02) princ. designed for the tpt. of persons, speciall ...)
 Selected reporters: [Japan](#)
 Selected years: [2004](#)
 Selected partners: [World](#)
 Selected trade flows: Export

Sort Order

[Modify Selection](#) [View Graph](#) [Printable Format](#) [View Explanatory Notes](#) [SDMX Download](#) [View Not-Available-Data](#)

Period	Trade Flow	Reporter	Partner	Code	Trade Value	NetWeight (kg)	Quantity Unit	Trade Quantity
2004	Export	Japan	World	8703	\$74,822,893,212	0	5	5,210,900
2004	Export	Japan	World	870310	\$130,340,025	0	5	23,149

Figure 8: detailed information on two commodities

The order retrieved entries are displayed can be changed through the Sort Order combo. This combo contains all the criterion combinations that can be used as ordered sort list:

Sort Order

- Comm;Rep ;Year;Flow;Ptnr;
- Comm;Rep ;Flow;Year;Ptnr;
- Year;Flow;Rep ;Comm;TradeVal;
- Year;Rep ;Flow;Comm;TradeVal;
- Flow;Year;Rep ;Comm;TradeVal;**
- Flow;Rep ;Year;Comm;TradeVal;
- Rep ;Year;Flow;Comm;TradeVal;
- Rep ;Flow;Year;Comm;TradeVal;
- Comm;Year;Flow;Rep ;TradeVal;
- Comm;Year;Rep ;Flow;TradeVal;
- Comm;Flow;Year;Rep ;TradeVal;

Figure 9: sort order selection

Click Refresh to make the new selection the current selection.

A list of links is present under the Sort Order combo (fig. 19); each of them represents an action. These actions are described in the following level 4 paragraphs.

There are no actions to directly download query results or record queries: this is because the connected User is a Guest. Downloading extracted data as a text file (what we call 'direct download') and saving the definition of a query are reserved to registered Users. What registered Users only can do is described in [section 3](#).

1.1.1.2. Modify Selection

Clicking this link loads the Express Selection interface with the current selection in its fields:

Express Selection [Help](#)

Step 1. Select Classification

SITC Rev.1 SITC Rev.2 SITC Rev.3 HS1992 HS1996 HS2002 BEC

Step 2. Enter Commodities, Reporters, Partners, Years and Select Trade Flow

Basic Items | **Advanced Items**

Enter Commodity Codes / Text
Special Codes : *All*, *AG0,AG1*, .. *AG6* (aggregate level) and *LF* (leaf).
Use - to exclude. Wild characters : * (Any string of zero or more characters) and ? (Any single character)

8703,870310

Enter Reporters Codes / Text
Separated by comma. Special code: *All*. Minus sign is not applicable.

392

Enter Partners Codes / Text
Separated by comma. Special code: *All*. Minus sign is not applicable.

0

Enter Years
Separated by comma. Special code: *All*. Minus sign is not applicable.

2004

Select Trade Flow
Exports figures always include Re-exports; Re-exports should be used only to distinguish between Domestic exports and Re-exports.

Import Export re-Export

Figure 10: getting the Express Selection interface from the Shortcut Query

The User can add selection criteria, modify the existing ones or change the display sort order. The [Express Selection](#) form is fully described in this document.

1.1.1.3. View Graph

Clicking View Graph in the list of actions brings up a pie chart that reflects the current selection:

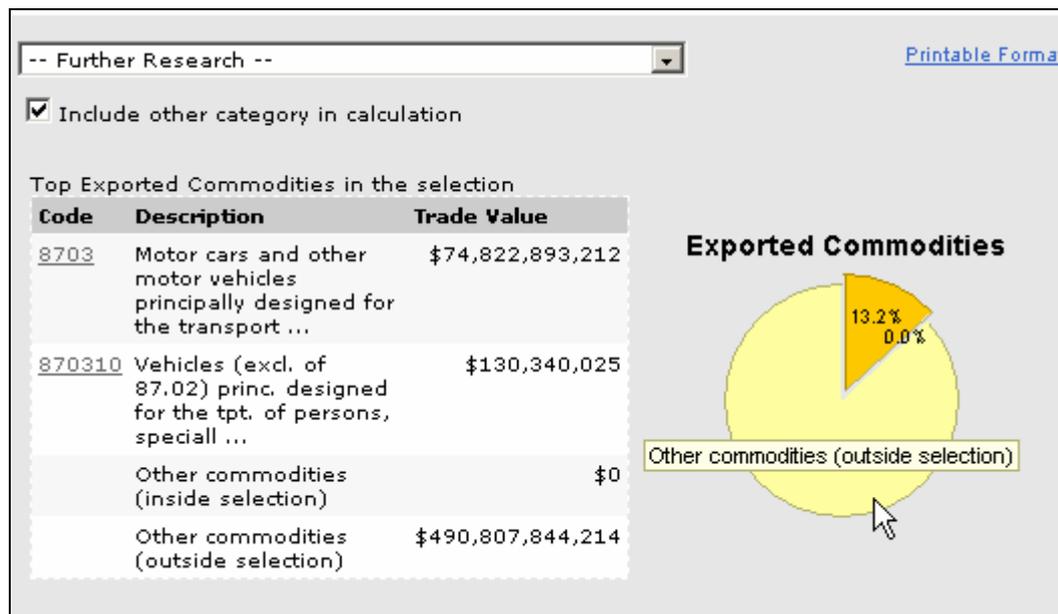


Figure 11: detailed information on two commodities – graphical form

This is the Comtrade Explorer Processor interface we already met in fig. 5; also see Note 1 below this figure. The pie chart shows the two selected items trade values compared to all the other commodities.

Again, a “tooltip” text pops up when moving the mouse cursor over the pie chart.

Back to fig. 5, we notice the already described Quick Filter and Further Research combos.

1.1.1.4. Printable Format

This action simply displays the trade information in fig. 19 using the whole screen width, so as to get a full-page report. Also notice the included commodity labels:

Period	Trade Flow	Reporter	Partner	Commodity	Trade Value	NetWeight (kg)	Unit	Trade Quantity
2004	Export	Japan	World	Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport ... [HS2002 code 8703]	\$74,822,893,212	0	Number of items	5,210,900
2004	Export	Japan	World	Vehicles (excl. of 87.02) princ. designed for the tpt. of persons, speciall ... [HS2002 code 870310]	\$130,340,025	0	Number of items	23,149

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Figure 12: Printable Format display – may need enlargement

1.1.1.5. View Explanatory Notes

This link displays trade information on a country for a given year (e.g., local currency / USD conversion factor):

Explanatory Note in Detail

Step 1. Select Selection Filter

Reporter: Year:

Step 2. View Search Results

Reporter	Reported Classification	Reported Currency	Trade Flow	Currency Conversion Factor	Trade System	Valuation	Partner
Japan (2004)	HS2002	JPY	Export	0.009249	General	FOB	Last Known Destination

'Free On Board'

Figure 13: notes on Japan for 2004

'All' can be selected from Reporter (country) and Year combos; in this case, the resulting report looks like this:

Albania (2000)	HS1996	LEK	Export	0.006960	General	FOB	Last Known Destination
Albania (2001)	HS1996	LEK	Export	0.006966	General	FOB	Last Known Destination
Albania (2002)	HS1996	LEK	Export	0.007149	General	FOB	Last Known Destination
Albania (2003)	HS2002	LEK	Export	0.008219	General	FOB	Last Known Destination
Albania (2004)	HS2002	LEK	Export	0.009631	General	FOB	Last Known Destination

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ...

Links to other pages

Figure 14: trade notes for all countries and all years (first page bottom part)

1.1.1.6. SDMX Download

The results of a query can be downloaded to the User's station in SDMX format, provided the User doesn't download more than 1,000 records the same day.

The SDMX format is introduced in the *Data Transfer Mechanism* Manual; it is based on the XML¹ format and adapted to statistical data description and transfer.

To illustrate this download operation, we can start from the following query results:

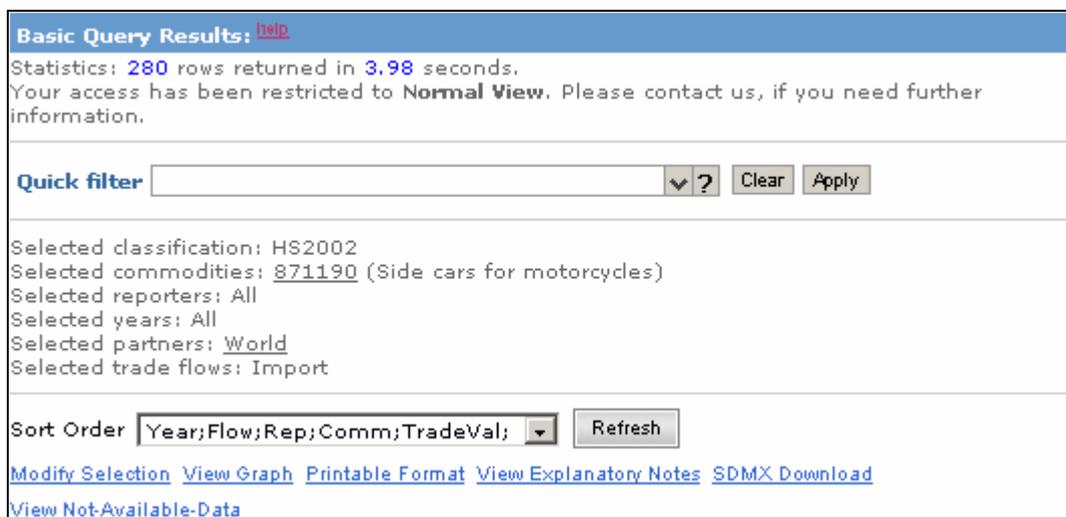


Figure 15: Basic Query results

Clicking 'SDMX Download' brings up the following warning message box:

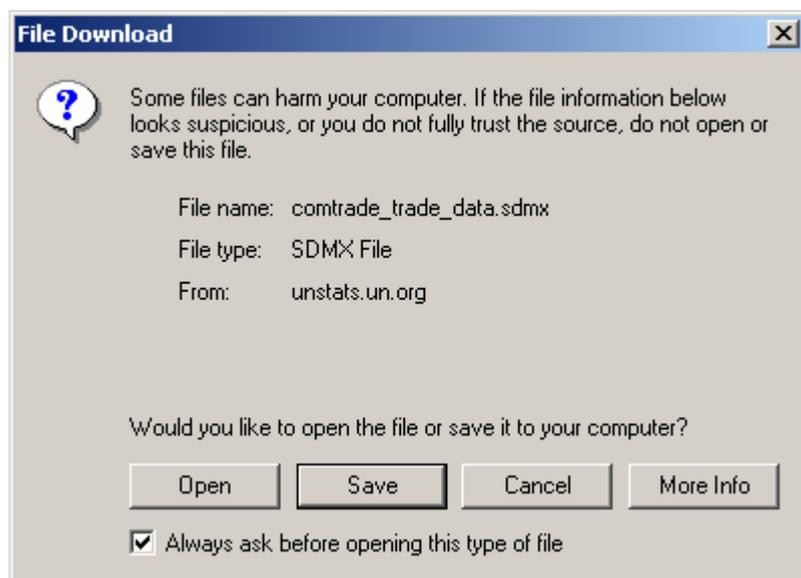


Figure 16: file download warning message

Notice the constant filename. Clicking Save displays the usual 'Save As' interface that allows the User to select the destination file (path and name)

¹ Extensible Markup Language: a standard for designing and creating HTML documents

Finally, the downloaded file is visible through Windows Explorer:

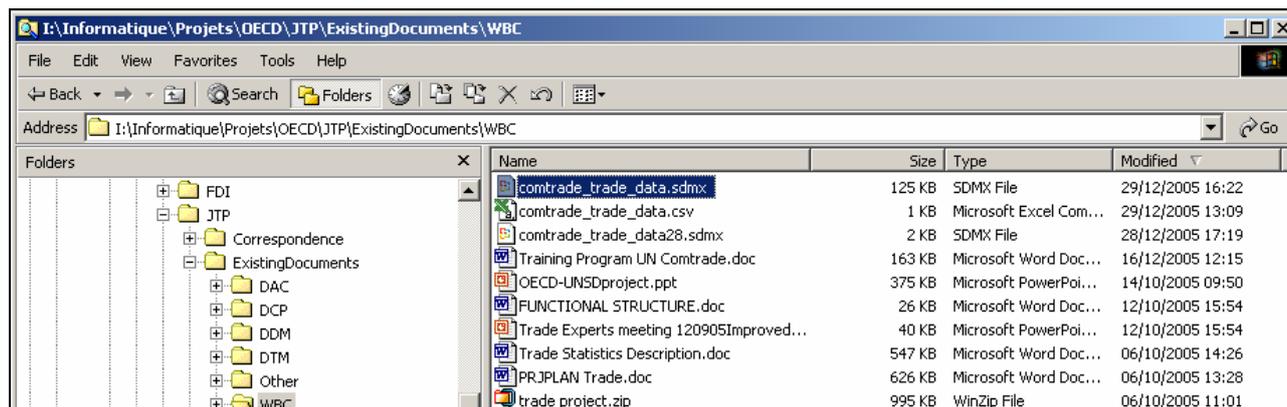


Figure 17: the downloaded SDMX file (highlighted) – the name was left unchanged

As stated before, this file has a XML-like structure; it can be read by Internet Explorer:

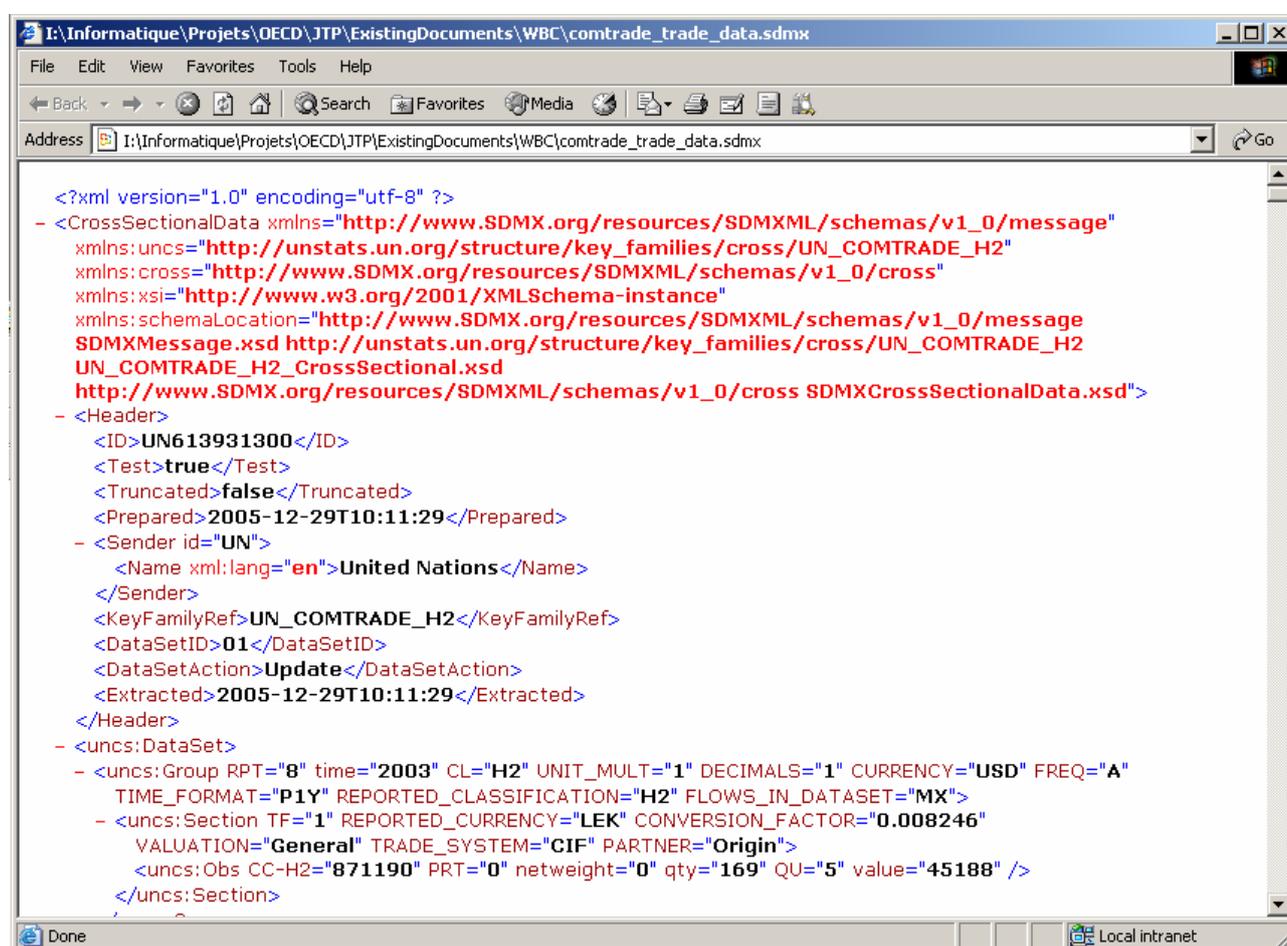


Figure 18: SDMX file contents (partial view)

1.1.1.7. View Not Available Data

This function points out the data items that are not available (i.e., that haven't been provided by the selected country, or that have been rejected by UNSD...), for the selected year, classification and commodity. Most of the time, the data will be available, and the following form will pop up:

Not-Available data

Selected classification: BEC
 Selected commodities: 51 (Transport equipment, passenger motor cars)
 Selected reporters: Indonesia
 Selected years: 2004
 Selected partners: World
 Selected trade flows: Export

Not Available Data

Based on your selection of classification, reporters and years only.

Code	Country Name	Data is not available in the following years:
		None. Data is available in selected year(s) for given classification.

Figure 19: not available data: none for this example

Another selection can show unavailable data for a specific year:

Not-Available data

Selected classification: HS2002
 Selected commodities: 841821, 841829, 841840, 842219, 8450, 845090, TOTAL
 Selected reporters: Albania
 Selected years: 2003, 2004, 2002, 2001, 2000
 Selected partners: World
 Selected trade flows: Export

Not Available Data

Based on your selection of classification, reporters and years only.

Code	Country Name	Data is not available in the following years:
8	Albania	2002

Figure 20: data from Albania unavailable in 2002 for the selected commodities