



# Manuals on Trade Statistics Progress Update

UNCEBTS - SESSION 7 - 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

# Summary and plan in 2023

- 1<sup>st</sup> Global Consultation on selected Guidance Notes (May 2023)
- In-person/hybrid meeting in Jakarta, Indonesia (June 2023)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Consultation on the rest of Guidance Notes (November 2023)
- In-person/hybrid meeting in San José, Costa Rica (December 2023)



# Agenda of the Jakarta meeting (19-22 June 2023):

The meeting agenda included:

- ♦ Review the 1st global consultations on consolidated recommendations regarding the revision of trade manuals
- ♦ Plan for the 2nd global consultations on consolidated recommendations regarding the revision of trade manuals
- ♦ Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics (HIBTS)
- ♦ Volume 2 of the principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics
- ♦ Progress update on the macro-economic manuals and classifications revisions and their potential impacts on trade manuals; other guidance notes and outstanding issues
- ♦ Plan for Q3-Q4 of 2023.

# Topics – 1st Global Consultation (11 topics):

- topic #1 - definition, scope, and delineation of goods and services
- topic #2 - comprehensive review on the impact of BPM 6 updates
- topic #3 - definition and delineation of ICBT
- topic #4 - utilizing invoice value in addition to CIF and FOB
- topic #5 - measurement of digital trade
- topic #6 – GNH.3 linking business and trade statistics
- topic #7 - change of ownership in IMTS vs. BoP
- topic #8 - clarification of cultural products resulting from creative industries
- topic #9 - impact of trade on well-being, labour, and productivity
- topic #10 - Manual outlines (IMTS/MSITS)
- topic #11 - HIBTS outlines

# Brief outcomes of the 1st Global Consultation:

- The meeting discussed the results of global consultations on topics regarding the revision of trade manuals.
- There was a good response rates from all the regions.
- Many responding countries agree with the proposals.
- It was highlighted to thoroughly consider response details regarding specific topics of interest to specific regions and where significant responses express no opinion.
- Examples that require thorough consideration include topics on the **definition and delineation of ICBT, clarification on cultural products resulting from creative industries, and the impact of trade on wellbeing, labour, and productivity.**
- It may not have been clear that the global consultations on the GNs focused on conceptual issues because many respondents requested the inclusion of country practices
- The country practices will be included in the forthcoming Compilers' Guide.

# Plan for the 2nd global consultations on consolidated recommendations regarding the revision of trade manuals (1/3)

The meeting discussed selected GNs and topics to be considered for the 2nd global consultation.

- GNV.3 (Bilateral trade asymmetries): the TT-ITS was updated on the plans to include more country experiences regarding trade asymmetries; Eurostat shared its asymmetry resolution mechanism for trade in services statistics.
- GNV.9 (Factoryless goods producers and merchanting): the TT-ITS discussed the next steps, considering BOPCOM GN C.4 and that links between FGP and IMTS are not direct.
- GNV.12 (Trade flow, Nature of transactions and Customs procedure codes): the TT-ITS discussed Customs procedure codes, Nature of transaction codes, and Statistical procedure codes from an input and an output perspective. The sub-TT will expand GNV.12 to guide operationalizing the GN in various situations (e.g., in Europe intra-trade without customs procedure codes).

## Plan for the 2nd global consultations on consolidated recommendations regarding the revision of trade manuals (2/3)

- GNV.13 (Valuation on specific transactions/products): the TT-ITS discussed the research done on long-term contracts. The sub-TT continues to study the issue, including features of long-term contracts.
- GNH.2 (Global Value Chains): the TT-ITS discussed GVC and trade, including that TiVA requires much more timely, complete, and high-quality input data. Recommendation: encourage countries to produce more accurate data for GVCs (needs of policymakers).
- GNH.6 (Foreign Affiliates Statistics): the TT-ITS discussed that having FATS in MSITS is important (an overall view of the international supply of services). See specific presentation.

## Plan for the 2nd global consultations on consolidated recommendations regarding the revision of trade manuals (3/3)

- GNV.8 (Price and volume measurement), GNV.11 (SITS Classifications EBOPS), and GNV.14 (Alternative data sources – high-frequency data sources): were posted in the wiki for preview but were not discussed.
- ❖ BPS Indonesia shared their experience with using mobile phone data; and collaborating with mobile data companies.
- ❖ Eurostat presented the Eurostat-WTO model for estimating modes of supply. It was noted that the impacts of digitalization on modes of supply need to be considered. WTO continues to work on improving the datasets.



# Guidance notes (GN) – 2nd Global Consultation:

- V3 –Bilateral trade asymmetry (more country practices)
- V8 – Price and volume measurement (90% complete)
- V9 – Factoryless goods producers and merchanting (complete)
- V10 – Measurement of Modes of Supply (90% complete)
- V11 – SITS Classifications EBOPS (99% complete)
- V12 – Trade flow, nature of transaction and Customs Procedure Codes (95% complete)
- V13 – Valuation on specific transactions/products (in progress)
- V14 – Alternative data sources – high-frequency data sources (silence procedure – Jakarta)
- V15 – Upgrading SDMX-IMTS to technical specifications version 3.0 (updated version)
- H2 – Global Value Chains (existing handbook)
- H4 – Impact of trade on environment and sustainability (75% complete)
- H6 – Foreign Affiliates Statistics (no need for a GN – explanation)
- H7 – Classification: BEC Rev.5, Business Functions (80% complete)
- H8 – Impact on ISIC and CPC revisions (waiting for other inputs)
- + Annotated Outlines of the IMTS/MSITS

# GN Status

Table 1. Categorization of GNs for manual track, compilation guide and whether will be considered for the handbook track.

	Manual track		Compilation guide and Handbook possibility		
	Conceptual	Clarification/ updated text	Compilation guide	Handbook possibility	
Guidance Note					Remarks
v.1 Scope of IMTS and SITS	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Earmarked for reconsideration of clarifications or inclusion of more country practices (per Jakarta discussions)</li> <li>- Take into account CPC revision discussions</li> </ul>
v.2 Impact of the BPM updates	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earmarked for reconsideration of clarifications or inclusion of more country practices (per Jakarta discussions)</li> <li>• Take into account BPM draft chapters</li> </ul>
v.3 Bilateral trade asymmetry		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earmarked for inclusion of more country practices (per Jakarta discussions)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For example, input from ITA, DEN, SLN on IMTS</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
v.4 Informal cross border trade	x	x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earmarked for reconsideration of concepts and definitions (per Jakarta discussions)</li> </ul>

# GN Status

v.5 Recording principle		x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earmarked for reconsideration of clarifications or inclusion of more country practices (per Jakarta discussions)</li> </ul>
v.6 Trade System		x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Finalize couple updates to the recommendations</li> </ul>
v.7 Valuation – utilizing invoice value in addition to CIF, FOB	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Earmarked for reconsideration of clarifications or inclusion of more country practices (per Jakarta discussions)</li> </ul>
v.8 Price and volume measurement		x	x	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Updated version (silence Procedure /no presentation; discussion only in Jakarta)</li> <li>- Voorburg city group consultations; country experiences</li> <li>- About 90% complete</li> </ul>
v.9 Factoryless goods producers and merchanting		x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be shared with the TT-ITS</li> <li>- Align with GNV.12, GNH.2, and GNV.5 (as background documents).</li> <li>- Say about 99% complete</li> </ul>
v.10 Measurement of Modes of Supply		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussed: Eurostat-WTO model for estimating modes of supply.</li> <li>• Eurostat highlighted mentioned their future work including (1) developing trade in services and MoS statistics using a genuinely product-based classification (such as CPC / CPA); and (2) conducting in-depth research on specific conceptual issues, possible options and treatment.</li> <li>• Say about 90% complete</li> </ul>
v.11 SITS Classifications EBOPS		x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pending the finalization of CPC 3.0</li> <li>• Say just under 95% complete (Silence Procedure /no presentation; discussion only in Jakarta)</li> </ul>

# GN Status

v.12 Trade Flow, nature of transactions and Customs Procedure Codes	x	x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sub-TT to expand GNV.12 to guide operationalizing the GN in various situations (e.g., in Europe intra-trade without customs procedure codes).</li> <li>- Say just under 95% complete</li> </ul>
v.13 Valuation on specific transactions/products	x	x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Including coin of legal tenders, not in circulation (to be identified separately – presented to the WCO sub HS committee in June).</li> <li>- The sub-TT continues to study the issue, including features of long-term contracts.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o global consultations may be needed to determine if the long-term contracts are tradeable.</li> <li>o need for further clarification of the issue/proposals (if any, as they relate to IMTS). It may be required to distinguish various types of contracts (say, non-tradable bilateral contracts with fixed prices).</li> <li>o important to take note of the differentiation of financial v. goods accounts;</li> <li>o change of contract value will need changes to the current account and would be very complex.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
v.14 Alternative data sources – high-frequency data sources		x	x		(Silence Procedure /no presentation; discussion only in Jakarta)
v.15 Upgrading SDMX-IMTS to technical specification version 3.0		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An updated GN was shared with the TT-ITS in August</li> <li>• Proposed timeline: upgrading of SDMX to version 3.0/implementation issues               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Second half of 2023 Updating of DSD</li> <li>o 2024 Identification and development of the needed tools</li> <li>o 2025 defining DSD based on the IMTS 2025 updates</li> <li>o 2025-2026 SDMX 3.0 implementation tests</li> <li>o TBD Development of the DSD and SDMX for the integration of business and trade statistics</li> <li>o TBD the need for the development of the SDMX-SITS (use of DSD-BOP)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# GN Status

v.16 Clarification on cultural products resulting from creative Industries		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sub TT to update the GN according to Jakarta feedback</li> <li>- Earmarked for reconsideration of clarifications or inclusion of more country practices (per Jakarta discussions)</li> </ul>
v.17 Revision of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC)		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Align with HS 2027</li> <li>- Expected to start in 2024</li> </ul>
v.18 Indicators on trade statistics		x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Volume 2 of the Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The indicators must be relevant to users; focusing on trade indicators though, can also include business indicators</li> <li>▪ A list of <b>principal</b> indicators.</li> <li>▪ More contributors or reviewers for this Manual are welcome.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
h.1 Digital trade Including conceptual framework, price and volume measurement	x	x	x	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Second edition of the Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade has been published</li> <li>- Earmarked for reconsideration of the inclusion of more country practices (per Jakarta discussions)</li> </ul>
h.2 Global Value Chains		X	x	E	
h.3 Linking trade and business statistics	x	x	x	x	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sub TT to update the GN according to Jakarta feedback</li> <li>- Earmarked for reconsideration of clarifications or inclusion of more country practices (per Jakarta discussions)</li> </ul>

# GN Status

h.4 <i>Impact of trade on environment and sustainability</i>		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Can this contribute to indicators for the manual on principal indicators?</i></li> <li>- <i>About 75% complete</i></li> </ul>
h.5 Impact of trade on well-being, labour, and productivity		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Earmarked for reconsideration of concepts and definitions (per Jakarta discussions)</b></li> </ul>
h.6 Foreign Affiliates Statistics (FATS)		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MSITS should focus on providing guidance on the compilation of data</li> <li>- Seems no need to have fully-fledged GN but rather a short text concluding the issue/topic</li> </ul>
h.7 Classification: BEC Rev.5, Business Functions		x	x		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An updated GN was posted/discussed in the Jakarta meeting</li> <li>• <b>Further discussions/feedback is required by the sub TT and TT-ITS</b></li> <li>• Say just under 95% complete (Silence Procedure /no presentation; discussion only in Jakarta)</li> </ul>
h.8 Impact of ISIC and CPC revisions		x			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An updated GN was posted/discussed in the Jakarta meeting (silence Procedure /no presentation; discussion only in Jakarta)</li> <li>• May need to take into account finalized CPC rev.3</li> </ul>

# Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics (HIBTS)

The TT-ITS members discussed work-in-progress on HIBTS, acknowledging the great progress made.

Several topics of policy importance were highlighted, including trade and gender.

Several technical issues were highlighted, such as:

- ❖ confidentiality issues (as relates to business and trade statistics)
- ❖ needs of sub-national data
- ❖ data access
- ❖ availability
- ❖ identifiers for linking.

Reinforced the need for a strongly link with Volume 2 of the Manual on Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics.

Several countries and organizations confirmed their willingness to contribute to this work (including Brazil, Cameroon, Indonesia, Jamaica, Malaysia, and WTO).

## Vol 2 of Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics

The TT-ITS members discussed work-in-progress on the 2<sup>nd</sup> volume of the manual on principal indicators for business and trade statistics

Identification of a first set of indicators that could be recommended for countries as a reference list for trade statistics areas;

22 detailed sheets on trade indicators are drafted;

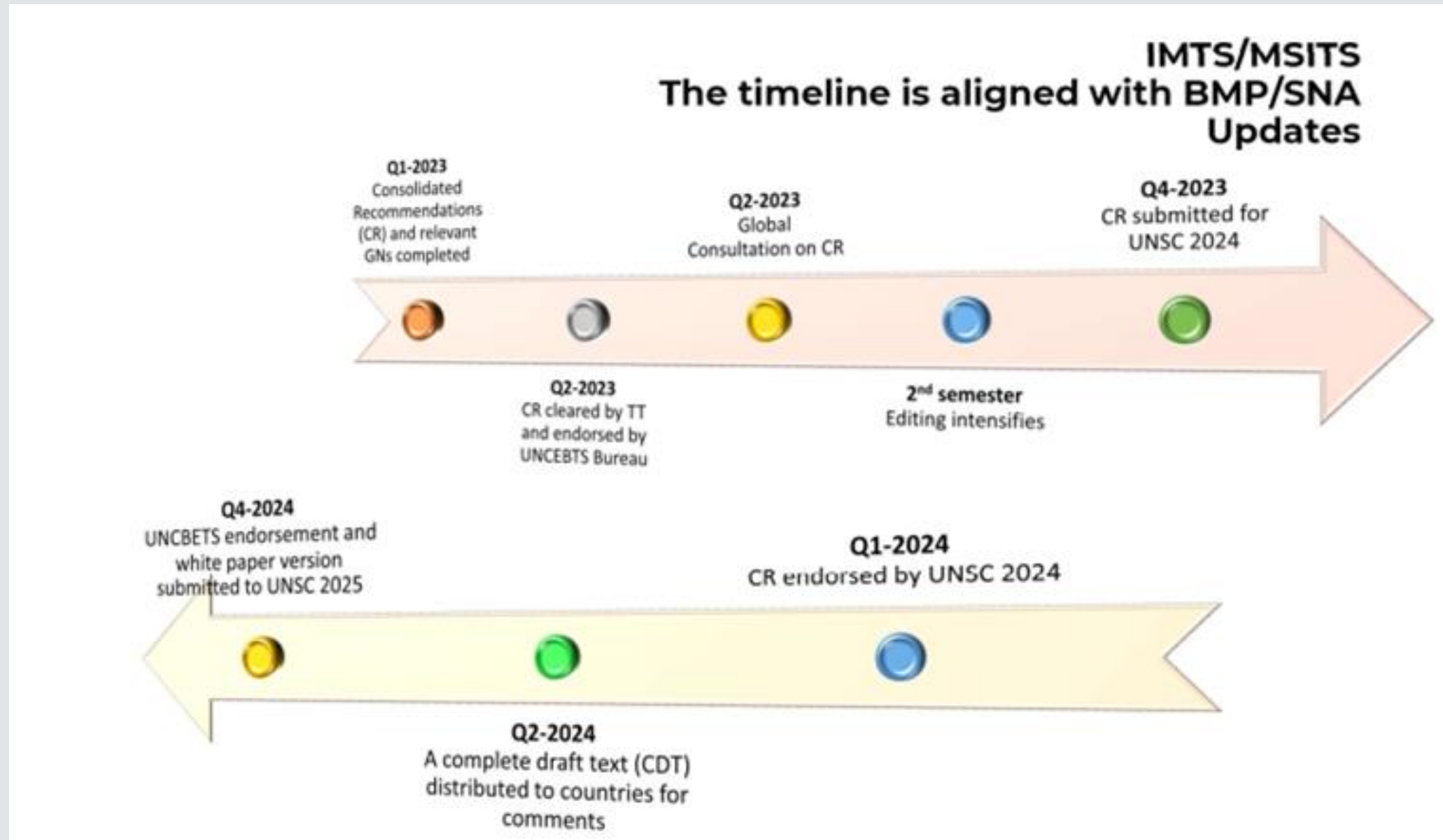
Contributions from other Guidance Notes, and relevant work bodies



# Summary of the Jakarta meeting outcomes and action points

- Sub-TTs will revise the GNs considering the global consultations and Meeting discussion results. Revised GNs can be a mix of conceptual and compilation issues (i.e., the general format can be concepts, global consultations, or examples). Examples could be for Compilers' Guide, if necessary. Co-leads will decide on the nature of revisions required.
- Annotated outlines for IMTS and MSITS will be drafted and discussed by the TT-ITS and included in the global consultations in the fall.
- FATS will stay in MSITS but not be part of IMTS. There is no need for a guidance note.
- Timelines for the manuals, Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics (HIBTS) and Volume 2 of the Manual on the Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics are unchanged.

# Timeline for IMTS and MSITS in 2023 and 2024



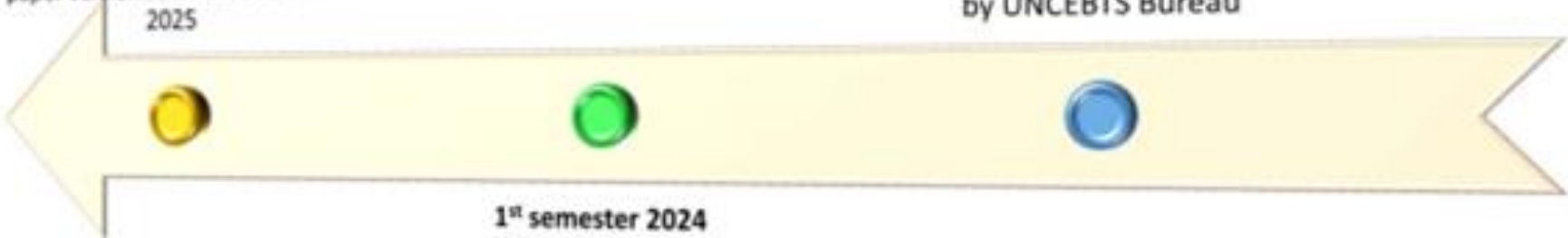
# Timeline for HIBTS and Volume 2 of the Manual on the Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics in 2023 and 2024

2023 Drafting, editing and preparation for global consultation






**Q4-2024**  
UNCBETS endorsement and white paper version submitted to UNSC 2025

**Q1-2024**  
Text cleared by TT and endorsed by UNCEBTS Bureau



**1<sup>st</sup> semester 2024**  
Global Consultation

# IMTS/MSITS 2023-24 Timeline:

Action Item	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24
Annotated Outline	Draft for feedback	Finalization									
Guidance Notes	Drafting	Final for consultations									
Global Consultation		2nd Global Consultation		Review checkpoint							
IMTS/MSITS	Contributors & Reviewers	Drafting	Review checkpoint	Drafting	Review checkpoint	Drafting	Review checkpoint	Drafting	Review checkpoint	Drafting	Global consultation
Report to UNSC 2024				Summary of updates							
In-person/hybrid											

Thank you!

UNCEBTS – Session 7 - 19 September 2023

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