Explanatory Note

Correlation and Conversion table between HS 2007 and BEC

(UNSD/TSB, October 2008)

Background information and disclaimer

1.   The fourth and latest edition of the Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC) defines the BEC categories in terms of the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 3 (SITC, Rev.3) and the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, Third Edition (2002) (HS 2002).[1] As the Statistical Commission pointed out early on, the BEC is not a standard classification in the same sense as, for example, the HS or the SITC. Also, the allocation of SITC basic headings or HS sub-headings is done on the basis of the main end-use of the commodities, although it is recognized that many commodities that are traded internationally may be put to a variety of uses.

2.   Over the years the BEC emerged as a tool for multiple purposes far beyond its original use for summarization of trade data into meaningful end-use categories. Therefore, in 2007 the United Nations Statistics Division proposed to the Expert Group on International and Social Classifications to review the BEC and provided a mechanically constructed draft correlation (see paragraph 4 for details) between BEC categories and subheadings of the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System, Forth Edition (2007) (HS 2007).

3.   So far, this draft correlation table has not been reviewed. Therefore this correlation table remains an internal working document of UNSD and is hereby only provided for the convenience of interested users for use under their own responsibility. The same applies for the derived conversion table between HS 2007 and BEC.

Correlation table between HS 2007 and BEC

4.   The draft correlation table (provided in file *HS2007-BEC4 CorrelationTable.xls*) between HS 2007 and BEC was constructed as a mechanical transposition of the correlation between HS 2002 and BEC based on the correlation table between HS 2007 and HS 2002, which was derived from WCO documents NG0099B1a and NC0950B1a annex II.

5.   Following that procedure, the HS 2007 - BEC correlation shows split correlations for 37 HS2007 subheadings. In other words, for each of these 37 HS 2007 subheadings there was more than one corresponding BEC code. These splits occur when a single

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[1] Classification by Broad Economic Categories, Defined in terms of the Standard International Trade Classification, Revision 3 and the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (2002), Statistical Papers, Series M No.53, Rev.4, (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.XVII.8).

HS2007 subheading is correlated to two or more HS 2002 subheadings which, in turn, are correlated to two or more different BEC basic categories. Details of the 37 splits are listed in the table of Annex 1.

Conversion table between HS 2007 and BEC

6. For the purpose of data conversion in UN Comtrade a conversion table between HS 2007 and BEC (provided in file *HS2007-BEC4 ConversionTable.xls*)[2] has been constructed the following way: To take a decision which of the multiple BEC categories would be the most appropriate for each HS 2007 subheading, world trade import values for the years 2003 to 2006 were extracted for the HS 2002 subheadings that correspond to the 37 HS 2007 subheadings involved in this issue. The values of which are given in Annex 1.

7. In summary, we can say the following:

a) There are 37 cases where HS 2007 consists of a multiple of HS 2002 headings and a split decision is necessary with respect to BEC.

b) In 20 of those cases, one BEC category has a world imports value of more than 75% of the value of the HS 2007 code (based on the HS 2002 codes for the years 2003 to 2006).

c) In one additional case (8523.21) there is a significant and steady value differences for the years 2003 to 2006 (around and above 70%) in favor of one particular BEC code.

d) In case of 8801.00 [Balloons and dirigibles; gliders, hang gliders and other non-powered aircraft] the decision can be taken from the description of the heading *Transport equipment, not meant for industrial use* that (BEC 522) is more appropriate than *Transport equipment for industrial use* (BEC 521).

e) For the 15 remaining cases (8443.91, 8508.19, 8508.60, 8508.70, 8519.20, 8519.81, 8519.89, 8523.29, 8523.51, 8523.52, 8523.59, 8523.80, 8528.71, 8536.70, and 9006.52) trade values did not provide clear guidance (at times rather indicating a 50:50 split) and the codes were assigned based on the cascading conversion of HS 2007 to HS 2002 to BEC.

8. This conversion table has been implemented on UN Comtrade for the conversion of data provided in HS 2007 to BEC starting November 2008.

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[2] As additional information this file also contains the HS 2007 to HS 2002 to BEC correlation table which was used for constructing the draft correlation table between HS 2007 to BEC (see paragraph 4).

Annex 1: Special cases

Split HS 2007 subheadings and World Import shares by HS2002 subheadings

HS07 code	ex	HS02 code	H07-H02 Relationship	Correlation H2/3-BEC	World Imports share 2003-2006					Conversion H07-BEC
					2003	2004	2005	2006	Total	
1207.99		1207.30	1 to n	21	3	2	1	1	2	
1207.99		1207.99	1 to n	21	**82**	**81**	**82**	**80**	**81**	21
1207.99		1207.60	1 to n	111	7	5	4	4	5	
1207.99		1207.10	1 to n	111	8	11	13	15	12	
3104.90		3104.10	1 to n	21	6	8	16	17	12	
3104.90		3104.90	1 to n	22	**94**	**92**	**84**	**83**	**88**	22
4205.00		4204.00	1 to n	42	2	2	4	3	3	
4205.00		4205.00	1 to n	62	**98**	**98**	**96**	**97**	**97**	62
4811.10		4811.10	1 to n	22	**98**	**98**	**98**	**97**	**98**	22
4811.10	ex	4815.00	n to n	61	2	2	2	3	2	
4811.51		4811.51	1 to n	22	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	22
4811.51	ex	4815.00	n to n	61	0	0	0	0	0	
4811.59		4811.59	1 to n	22	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	22
4811.59	ex	4815.00	n to n	61	0	0	0	0	0	
4811.60		4811.60	1 to n	22	**99**	**99**	**99**	**99**	**99**	22
4811.60	ex	4815.00	n to n	61	1	1	1	1	1	
4811.90		4811.90	1 to n	22	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	22
4811.90	ex	4815.00	n to n	61	0	0	0	0	0	
4823.90	ex	4823.19	n to n	22	6	7	7	7	7	
4823.90	ex	4823.12	n to n	22	13	15	17	17	16	
4823.90		4823.90	1 to n	22	**80**	**77**	**76**	**76**	**77**	22
4823.90	ex	4815.00	n to n	61	0	0	0	0	0	
6117.80		6117.20	1 to n	62	6	6	6	5	6	
6117.80		6117.80	1 to n	63	**94**	**94**	**94**	**95**	**94**	63
7418.19	ex	7417.00	n to n	61	15	17	18	21	18	
7418.19		7418.19	1 to n	62	**85**	**83**	**82**	**79**	**82**	62
7419.99		7414.20	1 to n	22	1	1	1	1	1	
7419.99		7414.90	1 to n	22	2	2	2	3	2	
7419.99		7416.00	1 to n	22	3	3	2	2	2	
7419.99	ex	7419.99	n to n	22	**93**	**93**	**93**	**93**	**93**	22
7419.99	ex	7417.00	n to n	61	1	1	1	1	1	
8443.99	ex	8443.60	n to n	41	0	1	1	1	1	
8443.99		9009.92	1 to n	42	0	0	0	0	0	
8443.99		9009.93	1 to n	42	0	0	0	0	0	
8443.99		9009.91	1 to n	42	0	0	0	0	0	

Split HS 2007 subheadings and World Import shares by HS2002 subheadings

HS07 code	ex	HS02 code	H07-H02 Relationship	Correlation H2/3-BEC	World Imports share 2003-2006					Conversion H07-BEC
					2003	2004	2005	2006	Total	
8443.99	ex	8473.50	n to n	42	1	1	1	1	1	
8443.99	ex	8443.90	n to n	42	1	1	1	1	1	
8443.99	ex	8473.40	n to n	42	2	2	2	2	2	
8443.99		9009.99	1 to n	42	4	4	3	3	4	
8443.99	ex	8517.90	n to n	42	12	12	13	13	12	
8443.99	ex	8473.30	n to n	42	80	79	79	79	79	42
8523.40	ex	8524.91	n to n	42	9	7	7	6	7	
8523.40	ex	8524.99	n to n	42	9	8	7	6	7	
8523.40		8524.32	1 to n	62	9	8	7	6	8	
8523.40		8524.31	1 to n	62	14	12	13	13	13	
8523.40	ex	8523.90	n to n	62	22	28	32	36	30	
8523.40		8524.39	1 to n	62	38	37	35	32	35	62
8525.80		8525.30	1 to n	41	8	9	9	12	10	
8525.80		8525.40	1 to n	61	92	91	91	88	90	61
9006.53	ex	9006.20	n to n	41	1	1	2	2	1	
9006.53		9006.53	1 to n	61	99	99	98	98	99	61
9006.59	ex	9006.20	n to n	41	3	4	5	4	4	
9006.59		9006.59	1 to n	61	97	96	95	96	96	61
9209.99		9209.20	1 to n	22	4	3	2	2	3	
9209.99		9209.93	1 to n	22	8	7	6	5	6	
9209.99		9209.99	1 to n	22	80	83	85	86	84	22
9209.99		9209.10	1 to n	61	9	8	7	7	7	
9306.30		9306.30	1 to n	7	85	92	87	92	89	7
9306.30		9306.10	1 to n	42	15	8	13	8	11	
9503.00		9502.99	1 to n	22	0	0	0	0	0	
9503.00		9502.91	1 to n	22	1	1	1	1	1	
9503.00		9503.60	1 to n	62	1	1	2	2	1	
9503.00		9503.50	1 to n	62	2	2	2	2	2	
9503.00		9503.10	1 to n	62	2	2	2	2	2	
9503.00		9501.00	1 to n	62	3	4	4	4	4	
9503.00		9503.30	1 to n	62	5	6	6	6	6	
9503.00		9503.80	1 to n	62	8	9	8	8	8	
9503.00		9503.49	1 to n	62	9	8	9	9	9	
9503.00		9502.10	1 to n	62	10	9	9	9	9	
9503.00		9503.70	1 to n	62	11	11	11	12	11	
9503.00		9503.41	1 to n	62	13	12	12	11	12	
9503.00		9503.90	1 to n	62	32	32	33	33	32	62
9503.00		9503.20	1 to n	63	3	3	3	3	3	
8523.21		8524.60	1 to n	42	28	31	26	31	29	
8523.21		8523.30	1 to n	62	72	69	74	69	71	62

Split HS 2007 subheadings and World Import shares by HS2002 subheadings

HS07 code	ex	HS02 code	H07-H02 Relationship	Correlation H2/3-BEC	World Imports share 2003-2006					Conversion H07-BEC
					2003	2004	2005	2006	Total	
8801.00		8801.90	1 to n	521	57	49	67	58	58	
8801.00		8801.10	1 to n	522	43	51	33	42	42	522
8443.91	ex	8443.60	n to n	41	24	27	28	27	27	
8443.91	ex	8443.90	n to n	42	76	73	72	73	73	42
8508.19	ex	8479.89	n to n	41	85	88	87	88	87	
8508.19	ex	8509.10	n to n	61	15	12	13	12	13	61
8508.60	ex	8479.89	n to n	41	92	95	95	95	94	
8508.60		8509.80	n to n	61	8	5	5	5	6	61
8508.70	ex	8509.90	n to n	22	12	9	9	9	10	22
8508.70	ex	8479.90	n to n	42	88	91	91	91	90	
8519.20		8519.10	1 to n	41	0	0	0	0	0	
8519.20	ex	8519.99	n to n	61	100	100	100	100	100	61
8519.81	ex	8519.40	n to n	41	0	0	0	0	0	
8519.81		8520.10	1 to n	41	1	0	0	0	0	
8519.81		8520.39	1 to n	41	0	0	0	0	0	
8519.81		8520.32	1 to n	41	2	2	1	2	2	
8519.81		8520.33	1 to n	41	5	3	2	1	3	
8519.81	ex	8520.90	n to n	41	23	42	59	63	51	
8519.81		8519.92	1 to n	61	1	1	2	1	1	
8519.81		8519.93	1 to n	61	3	2	1	1	1	
8519.81	ex	8519.99	n to n	61	64	49	34	31	42	61
8519.89	ex	8519.40	n to n	41	0	0	0	0	0	
8519.89	ex	8520.90	n to n	41	26	46	63	66	55	
8519.89		8519.21	1 to n	61	0	0	0	0	0	
8519.89		8519.29	1 to n	61	0	0	0	0	0	
8519.89	ex	8519.99	n to n	61	73	54	37	33	45	61
8523.29		8524.52	1 to n	42	0	0	0	0	0	
8523.29		8524.40	1 to n	42	2	2	2	2	2	
8523.29		8524.53	1 to n	42	4	3	3	2	3	
8523.29	ex	8524.91	n to n	42	19	19	19	19	19	
8523.29	ex	8524.99	n to n	42	19	21	19	18	19	
8523.29		8524.51	1 to n	62	1	1	1	0	1	
8523.29		8523.11	1 to n	62	5	4	3	3	4	
8523.29		8523.12	1 to n	62	4	4	4	4	4	
8523.29		8523.20	1 to n	62	16	18	26	30	22	62
8523.29		8523.13	1 to n	62	29	27	23	22	25	
8523.51	ex	8524.91	n to n	42	22	17	15	12	16	

Split HS 2007 subheadings and World Import shares by HS2002 subheadings

HS07 code	ex	HS02 code	H07-H02 Relationship	Correlation H2/3-BEC	World Imports share 2003-2006					Conversion H07-BEC
					2003	2004	2005	2006	Total	
8523.51	ex	8524.99	n to n	42	22	18	14	12	16	
8523.51	ex	8523.90	n to n	62	56	65	71	76	68	62
8523.52	ex	8543.89	n to n	41	32	38	38	37	36	
8523.52	ex	8543.90	n to n	42	8	8	9	10	9	
8523.52		8542.10	1 to n	42	11	11	10	9	10	
8523.52	ex	8542.90	n to n	42	49	43	43	43	44	42
8523.59		8543.81	1 to n	41	2	2	2	3	2	
8523.59	ex	8524.91	n to n	42	22	16	14	12	15	
8523.59	ex	8524.99	n to n	42	22	18	14	12	16	42
8523.59	ex	8523.90	n to n	62	54	64	69	73	67	
8523.80	ex	8524.91	n to n	42	22	16	15	12	16	
8523.80	ex	8524.99	n to n	42	22	18	14	12	16	42
8523.80		8524.10	1 to n	62	2	1	1	1	1	
8523.80	ex	8523.90	n to n	62	55	64	70	75	68	
8528.71	ex	8528.13	n to n	41	1	1	0	0	1	
8528.71	ex	8528.12	n to n	61	99	99	100	100	99	61
8536.70	ex	7419.91	n to n	22	1	1	1	1	1	
8536.70	ex	6909.19	n to n	22	2	3	3	3	3	
8536.70	ex	7419.99	n to n	22	6	6	6	6	6	
8536.70	ex	3926.90	n to n	62	91	90	90	89	90	62
9006.52	ex	9006.20	n to n	41	11	23	52	57	26	
9006.52		9006.52	1 to n	61	89	77	48	43	74	61

ex = part of