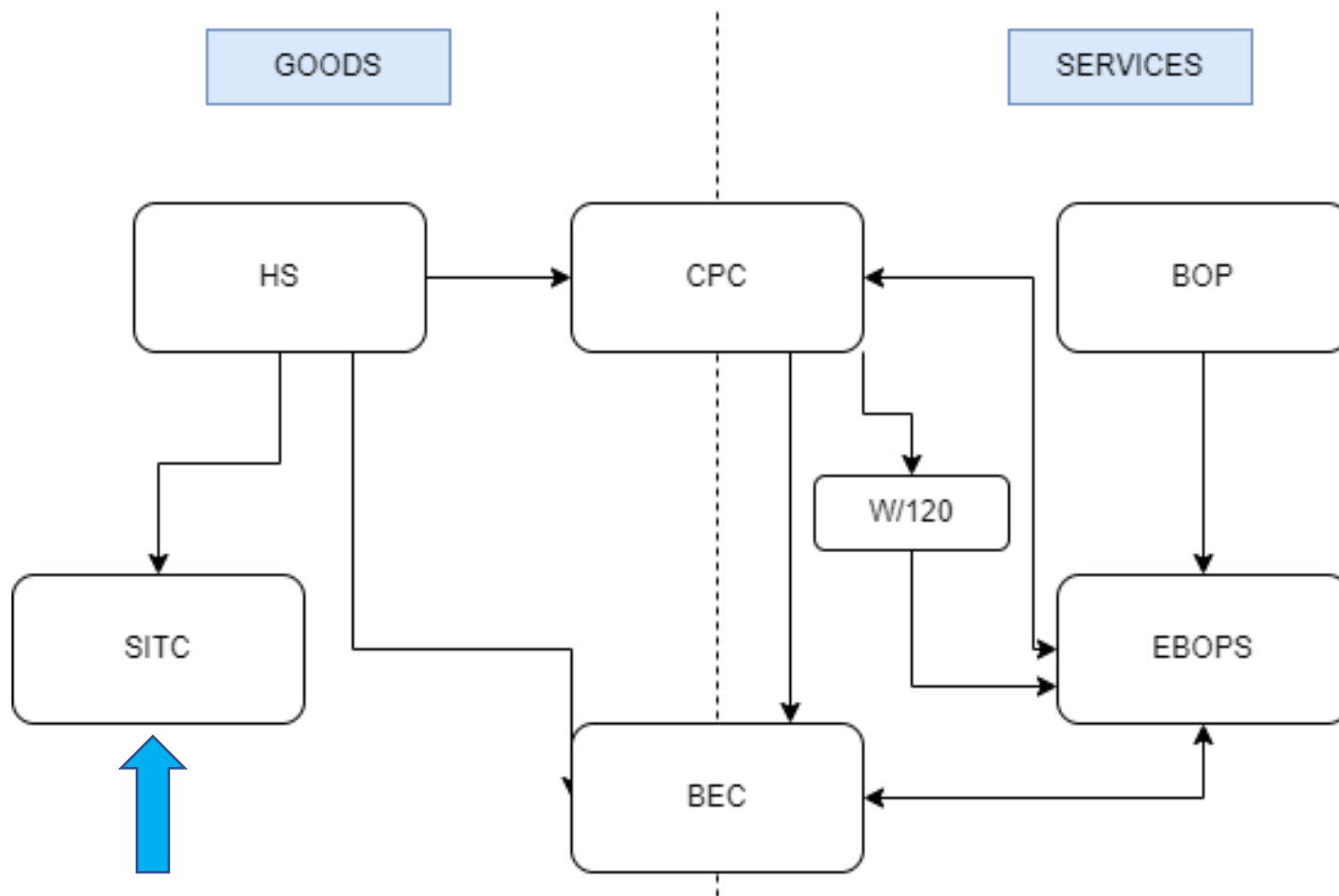# Revising
Standard International Trade Classification (SITC)
2023 Update

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Relationship among (trade) product classifications

- **Primary classification in data collection**
  - HS
  - EBOPS (currently being revised by the trade task team - 2024)

- **Analytical classifications**
  - SITC (currently being revised - 2025)
  - BEC
  - W/120
  - CPC goods/services

SITC = the Standard International Trade Classification

SITC 5 will be based on the forthcoming HS 2028

Used mostly for analytical purposes of the main product groups

Background

- Analytical framework classification

(since early 2000s after wide adoption of HS as the compilation classification)

- Indications are that many users still find the classification useful for analytical purposes
  - ❏ In a decennial survey (2016-2017), 82 out of 108 respondents publish data in SITC
  - ❏ The global consultation on ITS research topics in Dec 2021 re-affirmed the need for SITC revision

- The last revision of SITC 4 was undertaken in 2006, aligning with HS 2007

Issues

- Deteriorating correspondence with newer version of HS
  - ❏ Amendments in HS 2022, notably on electronic components
  - ❏ Increasing number of 1:N and N:N relationships
- Revision cycles, if required

Relationships between HS editions and SITC 4

	SITC 4			
	1To1	NTo1	1ToN	NToN
HS 2002	1867	3157	65	381
HS 2007	1996	3056	0	0
HS 2012	1923	3230	18	127
HS 2017	1779	3496	24	704
HS 2022	1257	4156	23	7759

Summary / Discussion

The outcome of global consultation on research topics in Dec 2021 shows that SITC is actively being used by compilers/users

The plan is to align the next revision of SITC with HS 2028

Another issues is about the revision cycle:

      Should it be aligned with HS in a fixed cycle (cons: too short for time series analysis) or depending on the scale of drifting with HS (cons: what is the threshold)?

      Alternative: the current proposal is to align the revision of SITC with the revision of IMTS Concepts and Definitions (~15 years cycle) – similar with the EBOPS which aligns itself with BPM update

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Thank you