U.S. Working Methods on Economic Classifications
National Perspective within the Trilateral Context

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Presentation Overview

- **Governance** of classifications in the U.S.
- Working methods: **Internal Network** (intragovernmental)
- Working methods: **External Network** (public consultation)
- Development and implementation, integration
Working Methods in U.S. System: Governance

- Decentralized statistical system—no single ‘National Statistical Office'
- Federal statistical system includes:
  - 13 principal statistical agencies
  - Over 100 Federal programs in statistical activities
- Office of Management and Budget (OMB) coordinates the US statistical system, establishes statistical policy and standards
- Economic Classification Policy Committee (ECPC) advises OMB on activity and product classifications (i.e., NAICS and NAPCS)
- OMB: final authority on classifications for official statistics
Working Methods in U.S. System: Internal Network

- Permanent Classification staff (Census Bureau)
- ECPC
  - National Accounts (BEA)
  - Econ Census, Trade, Periodic surveys (Census)
  - Industry Prices, Employment (BLS)
- OMB
- Agriculture
- Transportation
- Energy
- Education
Working Methods in U.S.: External Network

- OMB conducts public consultation
  - Federal Register Notice
- Two comment periods prior to release of 2027 NAICS revision
  - December 2024: Solicitation of Proposals
  - October 2025: Notice of ECPC recommendations
  - Consultation periods are time-limited, e.g., 60 days
- Consultation includes invitations to dozens of industry and trade associations
- Statistical agencies also advertise notices through their channels
- Classification staff monitor correspondence continually, maintain list of issues for revision, “research agenda”
U.S. Development and Implementation

- U.S. Census Bureau maintains permanent, full-time classification staff that handles development and implementation

- U.S. NAICS is fixed, no update between revisions every 5 years
  - Ensures consistent basis for statistics sharing same reference period

- Emphasis on data integration through classification
  - Regionally: comparability with Canada and Mexico
  - US: For industry and product data across statistical measures, business registers

- Example: Mfg and Int’l Trade Report, presents annual trade data on NAPCS basis. Using HS/NAPCS correspondence.
Thank You

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