

**Comments/Suggestions for Statistical Commission 50th Session
New York, March 2019**

3(h) Items for discussion and decision: international trade and business statistics

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2019-10-TradeStats-E/Page 2/Par. 4	The Expert Group discussed the first draft of the handbook....., and revised version at the fourth meeting, held from 7 to 9 May 2018.	The handbook for Global Value Chain is very important. But still in limited knowledge among developing countries. Therefore, the expert should share their experience especially for developing countries.
2019-11-TradeBusinessStats-EE/Page 4/Par.48	Reducing bilateral asymmetries for global value chain analyses. All TFITS members..... the reduction of bilateral trade asymmetries in merchandise trade and development of balanced merchandise trade statistics.	In ASEAN member countries, we do mirror analysis, but still there is a gap between countries. Asymmetries could not be avoided due to valuation of export in FOB and import in CIF, different exchange rate, and time of recording. Asymmetries can be reduced by: Customs office as the original source of data needs for further improvement of the system, recording of the true value of goods in the export/import declaration form, conducting bilateral consolidations between countries to further explore the possible causes of trade asymmetries.
2019-11-TradeBusinessStats-EE/Page 10/Par.52	Digital Trade. The TFITSthe conceptual measurement framework for digital trade and share emerging compilation practices.	This issue is becoming our concerns also. The Customs Office has release new HS Code (99) accommodating the trade that transfer digitally (usually software). But still unclear wether software defined as services or merchandise.
-	BEC Rev 5. (additional)	Manual Book of Classification by Broad Economic Category (BEC rev 5) is issued by the UNSTAT statistical commission. But still need to explore the correlation between HS code and BEC rev.5 code.