

Second meeting of the Expert Group on International Merchandise Trade Statistics

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Agenda item 17: Chapter IX Data quality and metadata



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Chapter IX Data quality and metadata

This is a new chapter:

- Based largely on work done in other areas of official statistics;
- Good practices will be provided in the revised Compilers Manual.

Outline:

- A. Enhancing quality of international merchandise trade statistics;
- B. Measuring quality of international merchandise trade statistics;
- C. Quality measures and indicators;
- D. Metadata on international merchandise trade statistics.

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A. Enhancing quality of international merchandise trade statistics

- Para: 9.1-9.2: Objective of quality measurement
- Para: 9.3: Enhancing data quality of IMTS
- Para: 9.4 Recommendation on standards and good practices
- Para: 9.5 Recommendation on standards for regular quality reports
- Para: 9.6 Recommendation on the frequency of quality reports
- Para: 9.7 Quality reports to be based on quantitative and qualitative indicators

B. Measuring quality of international merchandise trade statistics

- Para 9.8: Data quality assessment framework: *(a) IMF Data Quality Assessment Framework, (b) European Statistical System (ESS), (c) OECD quality measurement framework*
- Para 9.9: Overall aim of the three quality assessment framework
- Para 9.10: Dimension of quality: *(a) Prerequisites of quality, (b) Relevance, (c) Credibility, (d) Accuracy, (e) Timeliness, (f) Methodological soundness, (g) Coherence, (h) Accessibility.*
- Para 9.11: Recommendation on publishing a provisional estimate
- Para 9.12 – 9.13: Countries are encouraged to use a system of quality measures/indicators and develop their own quality assessment framework

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C. Quality measures and indicators

- Para 9.14 Quality measures
- Para 9.15 Quality indicators
- Para 9.16 Recommendation on a balance between different dimensions of quality and the number of indicators;
- Para 9.17 Minimum set of quality measures/indicators (Table 1: Selected indicators for measuring the quality of IMTS)

D. Metadata on international merchandise trade statistics

- Para 9.18 Content of statistical data
- Para 9.19 Metadata
- Para 9.20 Statistical metadata
- Para 9.21 Minimal recommendation on metadata (reference and structural metadata)
- Para 9.22 IMTS metadata items
- Para 9.23 Purpose of IMTS metadata
- Para 9.24 Recommendation on the dissemination of metadata
- Para 9.25 Cross-country data comparability

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Results of the world wide consultation:

1. Countries welcome this chapter as a very important addition to the recommendations;
2. Countries describe their national practices and plans in this area;
3. Several countries point out the need for resources, training and practical guidance in order to implement these recommendations;
4. Several mostly minor amendments or changes are suggested;
5. Brazil presents its system for quality control.

Thank you for your attention!