

Second meeting of the Expert Group on International Merchandise Trade Statistics

3-6 November 2009, New York

Agenda item 9: Chapter I Scope and time of recording



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Chapter I Scope and time of recording

What' s new

- 1) basic recommendations and overall contents remain the same
- 2) *elaboration of the meaning of the terms “Goods simply being transported through a country” and “Goods temporarily admitted or dispatched”.*
- 3) *application of the criteria of change of ownership has been further explained.*
- 4) *newly added definition of “Media, whether or not recorded” replaces the previous terminology and definition.*
- 5) *term “goods for processing” has been further defined and countries are encouraged to explicitly identify goods for processing where no change of ownership takes place.*
- 6) *further smaller amendments and clarifications regarding the inclusion and exclusion of other specific goods*

Results of the second Round of Worldwide Consultation

General guideline:

- a) Overall, countries agree
- b) Estimation of trade below customs and statistical threshold: is it universal?
- c) Text on time of recording appears not to fully reflect the complexity of the issue and the different practices in countries.
- d) The application of the criterion of change of ownership should be further clarified.

Specific guidelines:

- a) Compilation issues for several categories of goods are pointed out, in particular in cases where customs records do not provide the required information.
- b) More guidance requested regarding (i) gold in circulation or as store of value, (ii) transaction with territorial enclaves, (iii) the time limit for temporary admission and operational leasing of one year, (iv) ships and aircraft, (v) media, electricity and (vi) illegal trade.
- c) It is suggested to present the goods and transactions which are recommended (or encouraged) to be separately identified in a consolidated form.
- d) Discussion of terms 'if economically significant' and 'statistical threshold'

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General guideline

Para 1.2 General guideline; Estimation of trade below customs and statistical threshold

Para 1.3 Change of ownership

Para 1.4 Definition of goods

Para 1.5 Definition of material resources of a country

Para 1.6 Definition of Economic territory

Para 1.7 Time of recording

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Specific guidelines

Para 1.8 Categories of goods

- (i) included in international merchandise trade statistics,
- (ii) excluded from international merchandise trade statistics,
- (iii) excluded from international merchandise trade statistics but be separately recorded for BOP/ NA purposes

And..

goods to be included and separately identified (coded) for analytical purposes

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Specific guidelines – goods included

Para 1.9 Non-monetary gold.

Para 1.10 Banknotes and securities, and coins not in circulation

Para 1.11 Goods traded in accordance with barter agreements. These are goods which are exchanged between countries without use of any means of payment.

Para 1.12 Goods traded on government account.

Para 1.13 Humanitarian aid, including emergency aid.

Para 1.14 Goods for military use.

Para 1.15 Goods acquired by all categories of travellers,

Para 1.16 Goods on consignment.

Para 1.17 Media, whether or not recorded.

Para 1.18 and 1.19 Goods for processing with or without change of ownership. – definition, separate recording, estimate of manufacturing services

Para 1.20 Goods which cross borders as a result of transactions between related parties.

Para 1.21 Returned goods

Para 1.22 Electricity, gas and water.

Para 1.23 Goods traded between territorial enclaves and other countries.

Para 1.24 Goods dispatched or received through postal or courier services.

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Specific guidelines – goods included

Para 1.25 Migrants' effects.

Para 1.26 Goods transferred from or to a buffer stock organization.

Para 1.27 Goods under financial lease.

Para 1.28 Ships and aircrafts

Para 1.29 Goods delivered to or dispatched from offshore installations located in the economic territory of a compiling country

Para 1.30 Fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage.

Para 1.31 Bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage

Para 1.32 Satellites and their launchers.

Para 1.33 Goods in electronic commerce.

Para 1.34 Power lines, pipelines and undersea communications cables.

Para 1.35 Used goods.

Para 1.36 Waste and scrap.

Para 1.37 Mobile equipment that changes ownership while outside the country of residence of its original owner.

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Specific guidelines – goods excluded

Para 1.38 – 1.39 Goods simply being transported through a country. – definition and further explanation

Para 1.40 – 1.41 Goods temporarily admitted or dispatched. – definition and further explanation

Para 1.42 Monetary gold.

Para 1.43 Issued banknotes and securities and coins in circulation

Para 1.44 Goods consigned to and from the territorial enclaves.

Para 1.45 Goods received or sent abroad by international organizations.

Para 1.46 Non-financial assets, ownership of which has been transferred from residents to non-residents, without crossing borders.

Para 1.47 Goods treated as part of trade in services. (several categories, including Goods acquired by all categories of travellers; and Media carrying software customized or written for a specific client or originals of any nature, where identifiable).

Para 1.48 Goods under merchanting.

Para 1.49 Goods under operational lease.

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Specific guidelines – goods excluded

Para 1.50 Goods lost or destroyed after leaving the economic territory of the exporting country but before entering the economic territory of the intended importing country are to be excluded from imports of the intended importing country

Para 1.51 Satellites and their launchers launched in another country without change of ownership.

Para 1.52 Goods functioning as means of transport.

Para 1.53 Waste and scrap (but to be separately recorded)

Para 1.54 Content delivered electronically.

...but separately recorded

Para 1.56 Goods for repair

Para 1.57 Goods entering or leaving the economic territory of a country illegally

Para 1.58 Goods lost or destroyed after ownership has been acquired by the importer

Thank you for your attention!