Second meeting of the Expert Group on International Merchandise Trade Statistics
3-6 November 2009, New York

Agenda item 10:
Chapter II Trade System

Presentation by Matthias Reister
Chief, International Merchandise Trade Statistics Section
Trade Statistics Branch, United Nations Statistics Division
E-mail: reister@un.org
Chapter II Trade System

What’s new

1) Chapter starts now with an overview of basic terms
2) Focus on the general trade system
3) Reimports and re-exports are clearly defined and recommended to be separately identified, (information about the customs procedure applied should be part of the dataset)
4) Limitations of the special trade system are explained
Chapter II Trade System

A. An overview of basic terms

- Para 2.1 Statistical territory.
- Para 2.2 Customs territory.
- Para 2.3 Elements of statistical territory
- Para 2.4 The commercial and industrial free zones.
- Para 2.5 Premises for inward processing.
- Para 2.6 Premises for customs warehousing.
- Para 2.7 Territorial waters and continental shelf
- Para 2.8 Offshore and outer space installations and apparatus.
- Para 2.9 Territorial enclaves and exclaves.
- Para 2.10 Domestic and foreign goods. - Definition
- Para 2.11 Trade systems.
Chapter II Trade System

B. General trade system

- Para 2.12 Statistical territory under general trade system.
- Para 2.13 – Para 2.17
  - General imports = Imports of foreign and Reimports
  - Reimports: Definition and separate recording
  - General exports = Exports of domestic goods and Re-exports
  - Re-exports: Definition and separate recording
- Para 2.18 Recommendation to include customs procedure code in dataset
- Para 2.19 Recommendation to use the general trade system
- Para 2.20 Time of recording under the general trade system
Chapter II Trade System

C. Special trade system and its limitations

- Para 2.21 The special trade system
- Para 2.22 The strict definition of the special trade
- Para 2.23 The relaxed definition of the special trade system.
- Para 2.24 Limitations of special trade system
- Para 2.25 Time of recording under special trade system.
- Para 2.26 Recommendations in case special trade system is used
Results of the second Round of Worldwide Consultation

1. Overwhelming majority of comments agree with new presentation of this chapter

2. Countries share their national practices difficulties encountered, in particular, in the case of some countries, when moving to the general trade system.

3. Compilation/ estimation for free zones etc.

4. It is suggested to further specify the types of trade, besides re-exports and re-imports, which would be useful to identify via custom procedure (nature of transaction) codes.
Thank you for your attention!