Partner country

Short note to Agenda item 11 from Norway

*Expert Group Meeting on IMTS, 3-6 December 2007, New York*

UN recommendations

- *Country of origin* is recommended in the case of import,

- *Country of consignment* should be collected as additional information for imports, and

- *Country of last known destination* is recommended to be recorded for exports.
Norwegian practice

- Norway follows the UN recommendations
  - Foreign trade statistics is largely based on customs data which again are based on the SAD questionnaire
  - Largest export items (oil and gas) not based on customs data
- There is no particular difficulty in handling the information obtained
- Received data may have poor quality and some times be of very little use or very difficult to utilise

Export Petroleum and Natural gas

- 2/3 of Norwegian exports
- Not included in customs territory
- Data from exporters and government
Direct landings of fish

• Norway does not get information about export
• Importers probably record import with Norway as country of origin

Export of salmon

• Trade via third country case:
  – auctions in Denmark, Norwegian exporters do not know the final destination country
Skis from Ukraine to Norway

Import of teak wood from Burma

- Production added to goods (substantial transformation)
  - We are not able to see in which country the wood has grown
BoP/National Accounts

• The BoP accepts partner country distribution as it appears in the foreign trade statistics (e.g. no adjustment for differences in change of ownership – crossing border)

• The BoP needs good quality on partner country to make
  – Mirror analysis
  – Aggregates across countries

Proposals/Conclusions

• The analytical use of trade by partner country is important
  – Two main user groups
    • Macroeconomic societies (BoP, trade policy analytics etc)
    • The market analysts

• Partner country should be recommended produced
  – Demand is greatest for
    • Country of origin of import and
    • Country of final destination of export
  – Also demanded
    • Country of consignment (import and export)
Final comments

• Poorer quality on partner country statistics as globalisation increases
  – Are today's guidelines for reporting country of origin clear enough?
  – Alternatives to country of origin?

• Demand for statistics on country of consignments on exports
  – How useful?
  – Burden?

Thank you!