



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION

Expert Group on International Merchandise Trade Statistics
First meeting
New York, 3-6 December 2007

Presentation
UNSD

Item 6: Coverage and Time of Recording



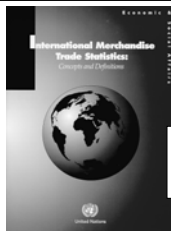
IMTS, Concepts and Definitions

Chapter I: Coverage and Time of Recording



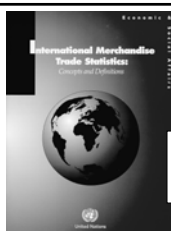
Coverage – General Guideline

- **Coverage :**
International merchandise trade statistics record all goods which add to or subtract from the stock of material resources of a country by entering (imports) or leaving (exports) its economic territory.



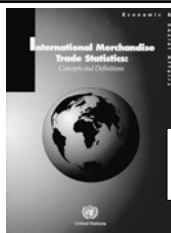
Coverage – General Guideline

- **Coverage :**
Goods simply being transported through a country (goods in transit) or temporarily admitted or withdrawn (except for goods for inward or outward processing) do not add to or subtract from the stock of material resources of a country and are not included in the international merchandise trade statistics



Coverage – General Guideline

- **Coverage :**
In many cases, a country's economic territory largely coincides with its customs territory, which is the territory in which the customs law of a country applies in full.



Coverage – General Guideline

- **Coverage – underlying concepts**
 - **Goods**
 - **Addition to or subtraction from the material resources of a country**
 - **Criteria for identification of goods being simply transported through a country**
 - **Criteria for identification of goods temporarily admitted or dispatched**
 - **Economic territory**

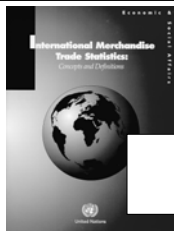


1993 SNA and BPM5

The economic territory of a country

“consists of the geographic territory administered by a government within which persons, goods and capital circulate freely” (1993 SNA, para. 14.9) and it includes:

- o **Airspace, territorial waters, and continental shelf**
- o **Territorial enclaves in the rest of the world**
- o **Any free zones, or bonded warehouses or factories operated by offshore enterprises under customs control**

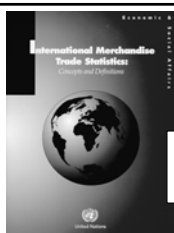


1993 SNA Rev.1 and BPM6

The economic territory of a country

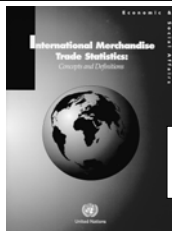
“an economic territory can be any geographic area or jurisdiction for which statistics are required. Although in many cases, an economic territory is a country, that is not necessarily the case” and it includes:

- o Airspace, territorial waters, and continental shelf
- o Territorial enclaves in the rest of the world
- o Any free zones, or bonded warehouses or factories operated by offshore enterprises under customs control



Coverage – Specific Guidelines

In principle, all goods which satisfy the definition of coverage should be included in the international merchandise trade statistics under the appropriate headings of the commodity classification and in the aggregates. However, **in certain instances the general guidelines are not sufficient** to provide a clear answer on the issue of inclusion or exclusion of particular types of goods, due either to the **peculiarity of such goods** or the **complexity of the transaction**. It is also recognized that **practical considerations of data collection** limit the application of the general guidelines.



Coverage – Specific Guidelines

Criteria for making exceptions to General Guideline

❖ Peculiarity of such goods

- Aircraft, Ships – Change of Economic Ownership/ Residency
- Goods under Financial Lease - Change of Economic Ownership
- Goods under Operational Lease – No Change of Economic Ownership

❖ Complexity of the transaction

❖ Practical considerations of data collection

- Fish catch sold at high sea
- Trade with embassies and military bases



1993 SNA and BPM5

Change of ownership

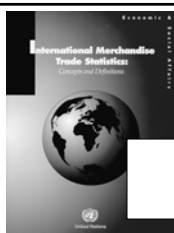
A change of ownership of goods may be a legal, physical or economic one provided that it results in change of control or possession (see BPM5, para. 111).



1993 SNA Rev.1 and BPM

Change of economic ownership

New definition: The economic owner of an entity such as goods and services, natural resources, financial assets and liabilities is the institutional unit entitled to claim the benefits associated with the use of entity in the course of an economic activity by virtue of accepting the associated risks.



1993 SNA and BPM5

(iii) Residency. An institutional unit (a household, legal or social entity) is said to have a centre of economic interest and is a resident unit of a country when, from some location within the economic territory of the country, the unit “engages, and intends to continue engaging, either indefinitely or over a finite but long period of time, in economic activities and transactions on a significant scale”. The 1993 SNA considers one year as a reasonable approximation of such a period.



1993 SNA Rev.1 and BPM6


(iii) Residency

The residence of each institutional unit is the economic territory with which it has the strongest connection, in other words, its center of predominant economic interest. Each institutional unit is a resident of one and only one economic territory determined by its center of predominant economic interest.



Basic principles of International Merchandise Trade Statistics

- **Time of Recording**
 - **Date of lodgement.** This the date on which the customs accepts the declarations submitted by importers, exporters or their agent.


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Section 3: Coverage and Time of Recording

3.01 As a general rule, do you include in trade statistics goods which enter (imports) or leave (exports) your economic territory (except for goods in transit and temporary admissions/ withdrawals)

3.02 Do you use change of ownership (between residents and non-residents) as a basis for inclusion of certain goods in trade statistics? *If Yes, please provide examples in Comments*

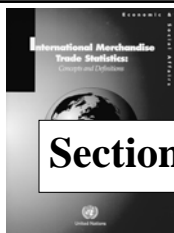
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Section 3: Coverage and Time of Recording

		121 Countries			
		Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
3.01	As a general rule, do you include in trade statistics goods which enter (imports) or leave (exports) your economic territory (except for goods in transit and temporary admissions/ withdrawals)	3.01	95.4	4.6	0.0
3.02	Do you use change of ownership (between residents and non-residents) as a basis for inclusion of certain goods in trade statistics? <i>If Yes, please provide examples in Comments</i>	3.02	28.0	69.2	2.8

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Section 3: Coverage and Time of Recording

3.03 Can your office compile detailed commodity by partner trade statistics on the basis of change of ownership?

3.04 Do you use date of lodgement of the customs declaration as an approximation for the time when goods enter/leave your territory?
If No, please indicate which dates are used for this purpose in the Comments field.

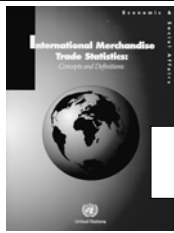


Section 3: Coverage and Time of Recording

3.03 Can your office compile detailed commodity by partner trade statistics on the basis of change of ownership?

		121 Countries		
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
3.03	Do you use date of lodgement of the customs declaration as an approximation for the time when goods enter/leave your territory?	26.9	70.4	2.7
3.04	Do you use date of lodgement of the customs declaration as an approximation for the time when goods enter/leave your territory?	73.6	24.5	1.9

If No, please indicate which dates are used for this purpose in the Comments field.



Coverage – Specific Guidelines

Specific guidelines regarding
GOODS TO BE INCLUDED IN IMTS

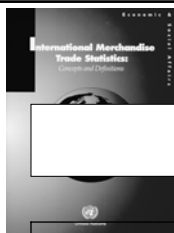
Specific guidelines regarding
GOODS TO BE EXCLUDED IN IMTS

**GOODS TO BE EXCLUDED
BUT Recorded Separately for SNA/BOP purposes**



Specific guidelines regarding
GOODS TO BE INCLUDED IN IMTS

- Non-monetary gold
- Un-issued banknotes and securities, and coins not in circulation
- Goods traded in accordance with barter agreements
- Goods traded on government account
- Food and other humanitarian aid
- Goods for military use



Section 12: Inclusions

Do you include in trade statistics the following:

12.01 non-monetary gold

12.02 unissued banknotes and securities, and coins not in circulation

12.03 *If Yes, do you value unissued banknotes and securities and coins not in circulation on a basis of the transaction value of the printed matter or stamped metal?*



Section 12: Inclusions

Do you include	121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
12.01 non-monetary gold	12.01	85.6	11.7	2.7
12.02 unissued banknotes and securities, and coins not in circulation	12.01	85.6	11.7	2.7
	12.02	57.5	40.6	1.9
12.03 <i>If Yes, do you value unissued banknotes and securities and coins not in circulation on a basis of the transaction value of the printed matter or stamped metal?</i>	12.03	68.6	17.6	13.8



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Section 12: Inclusions

- 12.04 goods traded in accordance with barter agreements
- 12.05 goods traded on government account
- 12.06 food and other humanitarian aid
- 12.07 goods for military use
- 12.08 goods transferred from foreign enclaves (embassies, military or other foreign installations)

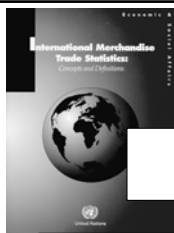
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Section 12: Inclusions

	121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
12.04 goods t	12.04	65.4	27.1	7.5
12.05 goods t	12.05	80.0	15.5	4.5
12.06 food an	12.06	76.4	21.8	1.8
12.07 goods f	12.07	59.6	34.9	5.5
12.08 goods t (embassies, military or other foreign installations)	12.08	31.7	63.5	4.8

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Specific guidelines regarding
GOODS TO BE INCLUDED IN IMTS

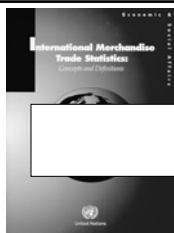
- Goods acquired by all categories of travelers
 - ✓ Declaration above threshold
 - ✓ Estimation of all low value trade
- Goods on consignment
 - ✓ Unknown partner country – to be added later
- Goods used as carriers of information and software
- Goods for processing -- **To be discussed in detail**
- Goods which cross borders as a result of transactions between parent corporations and their direct investment enterprises (affiliates/branches)



Section 12: Inclusions

12.09 goods acquired by all categories of travellers, including non-resident workers, to a significant scale (i.e., excluding goods for their own use) as defined by national law; for example, so-called Shuttle Trade.

12.10 goods on consignment



Section 12: Inclusions

121 Countries				
Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	
12.09	56.4	42.6	1.0	
12.10	65.7	31.3	3.0	

12.09 goods and including scale (i defined by national law, for example, so-called Shuttle Trade.

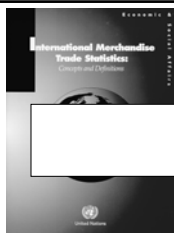
12.10 goods on consignment



Section 12: Inclusions

12.11 goods used as carriers of information and software developed for general or commercial use (e.g., packaged sets containing CD-ROM or DVD with stored computer software and/or data); Note: this category excludes materials developed "to order".

12.12 *If Yes, do you value these goods on a basis of their full transaction value?*



Section 12: Inclusions

121 Countries

12.11 goods used in development packages (stored computer software and/or data), NOTE: this category excludes materials developed "to order".	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
	12.11	76.6	16.8	6.6
	12.12	90.7	6.2	3.1

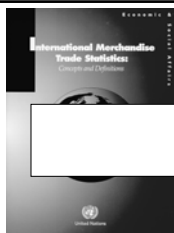
12.12 *If Yes, do you value these goods on a basis of their full transaction value?*



Section 12: Inclusions

12.13 goods for processing (i.e., goods sent abroad or brought into your country for processing, including processing under contract and processing under the inward processing procedure)

12.14 *If Yes, do you record goods for processing and the goods resulting from such processing on a gross basis before and after processing?*



Section 12: Inclusions

121 Countries

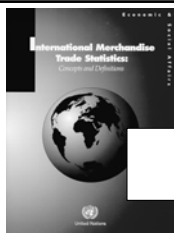
12.13 goods for processing (including goods brought back after processing under the inward processing procedure)	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
	12.13	86.0	9.3	4.7
	12.14	79.2	19.5	1.3

12.14 *If Yes, do you record goods for processing and the goods resulting from such processing on a gross basis before and after processing?*



Special Issues

- Goods for processing (inward and outward)**
- ✓ Can you link goods imported for processing with goods being exported (or enter free circulation) after processing?
 - ✓ Do you have information regarding change of ownership (i.e. can you identify manufacturing under contract – i.e. oil refining?)



Specific guidelines regarding
GOODS TO BE INCLUDED IN IMTS

- Returned goods
- Electricity, gas and water
- Goods dispatched through postal or courier services
- Migrants' effects – if economically significant
- Goods transferred from or to a buffer stock organization



Section 12: Inclusions

- 12.15 goods which cross borders as a result of transactions between parent corporations and their direct investment enterprises (affiliates/branches)
- 12.16 returned goods
- 12.17 electricity and gas
- 12.18 water
- 12.19 goods dispatched through postal or courier services

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Section 12: Inclusions

		121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	
12.15 goods v transac direct i	12.15	79.4	15.7	4.9	ir
12.16 returne	12.16	82.1	14.9	3.0	
12.17 electric	12.17	75.2	17.8	7.0	
12.18 water	12.18	54.5	32.3	13.2	
12.19 goods dispatched through postal or courier services	12.19	83.4	13.8	2.8	

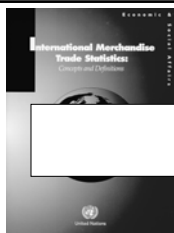
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Specific guidelines regarding GOODS TO BE INCLUDED IN IMTS

- Goods under financial lease**
 - Ships, aircraft and other mobile equipment
 - Recorded at full value on acquisition – imports
 - Recorded at full value on dispatch – re-exports
- Goods delivered to or dispatched from offshore installations located in the economic territory of a compiling country (from or to the economic territory of another country)**

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Section 12: Inclusions

- 12.20 migrants' effects

- 12.21 goods transferred from or to a buffer stock organization

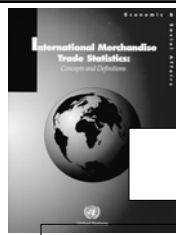
- 12.22 goods under financial lease (i.e., a lease of one year or more)

- 12.23 ships, aircraft and other mobile equipment



Section 12: Inclusions

		121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	
12.20 migrants' effects	12.20	48.5	48.5	3.0	
12.21 goods transferred from or to a buffer stock organization	12.21	48.9	36.7	14.4	
12.22 goods under financial lease (i.e., a lease of one year or more)	12.22	67.0	26.4	6.6	
12.23 ships, aircraft and other mobile equipment	12.23	78.0	17.4	4.6	



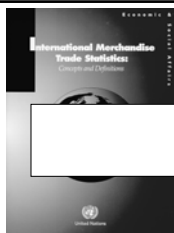
Specific guidelines regarding
GOODS TO BE INCLUDED IN IMTS

- Fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage landed from foreign vessels in national ports or acquired by national vessels on the high seas from foreign vessels are to be included in import statistics**
- Bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage (acquired from or landed by (or supplied to) foreign vessels or aircraft in the economic territory of a country)**
- Empty bottles**
- Waste and scrap**



Section 12: Inclusions

- 12.24 goods delivered from the rest of the world to offshore installations located in the economic territory of your country, and goods dispatched to the rest of the world from offshore installations located in the economic territory of your country
- 12.25 fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage landed from foreign vessels in national ports
- 12.26 fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage acquired by national vessels on the high seas from foreign vessels



Section 12: Inclusions

		121 Countries			
		Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
12.24	goods de installati country, offshore your cou	12.24	35.0	42.7	22.3
12.25	fish catch	12.25	57.9	27.1	15.0
	from for	12.26	44.3	39.6	16.1
12.26	fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage acquired by national vessels on the high seas from foreign vessels				



Section 12: Inclusions

- 12.27 bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage acquired by national vessels/aircraft from foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country
- 12.28 bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage landed in national ports from foreign vessels/aircraft
- 12.29 bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage supplied to foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country

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Section 12: Inclusions

		121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	
12.27 bunkers national vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country	12.27	34.0	52.6	13.4	
12.28 bunkers national ports from foreign vessels/aircraft	12.28	41.2	46.4	12.4	
12.29 bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage supplied to foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country	12.29	53.7	36.1	10.2	

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Section 12: Inclusions

- 12.30 empty bottles not meant for refilling
- 12.31 waste and scrap, the value of which is positive
- 12.32 local border trade
- 12.33 gifts, if to significant scale as defined by national law
- 12.34 goods seized by customs and subsequently resold
- 12.35 estimates of unrecorded trade

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Section 12: Inclusions

		121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	
12.30 empty	12.30	64.4	28.7	6.9	
12.31 waste a	12.31	86.4	12.6	1.0	
12.32 local bo	12.32	37.6	48.6	13.8	
12.33 gifts, if law	12.33	64.7	33.3	2.0	
	12.34	35.6	54.5	9.9	
12.34 goods s	12.35	14.6	75.7	9.7	
12.35 estimate					

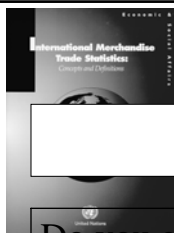
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Specific guidelines regarding GOODS TO BE EXCLUDED IN IMTS

- Monetary gold
- Issued banknotes and securities and coins in circulation
- Goods temporarily admitted or dispatched → exact definition?
- Goods in transit

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Section 13: Exclusions

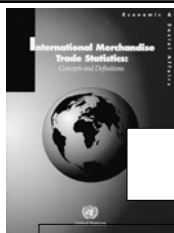
Do you exclude from trade statistics the following:

- 13.01 monetary gold (i.e., that gold which is exchanged between national or international monetary authorities or authorized banks)
- 13.02 issued banknotes and securities and coins in circulation
- 13.03 goods temporarily admitted or dispatched
- 13.04 goods in transit



Section 13: Exclusions

Do you exclude		121 Countries			
		Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
13.01 monetary gold (i.e., that gold which is exchanged between national or international monetary authorities or authorized banks)	13.01		83.8	13.3	2.9
	13.02		91.6	8.4	0.0
13.02 issued banknotes and securities and coins in circulation	13.03		75.7	20.6	3.7
	13.04		86.9	10.3	2.8
13.03 goods temporarily admitted or dispatched					
13.04 goods in transit					



Specific guidelines regarding
GOODS TO BE EXCLUDED IN IMTS

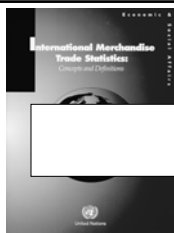
- Goods consigned to and from territorial enclaves**
 - Diplomatic trade
 - Trade with military bases
- Non-financial assets, ownership of which has been transferred from residents to non-residents, without crossing borders**
- Goods treated as part of trade in services**
(travelers purchases– below threshold, newspapers direct subscriptions, purchases by embassies etc. for own use, software developed to order, original recordings, blueprints)



Section 13: Exclusions

13.05 goods moving between your country and territorial enclaves of your country in other countries (e.g., your embassies, military or other installations)

13.06 non-financial assets, ownership of which has been transferred from residents to non-residents, without crossing borders



Section 13: Exclusions

121 Countries				
Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	
13.05	81.1	12.3	6.6	
13.06	73.3	11.5	15.2	

13.05 goods in
territory
country
installations)

13.06 non-financial assets, ownership of which has been transferred from residents to non-residents, without crossing borders



Section 13: Exclusions

13.07 goods acquired by all categories of travellers, including non-resident workers, for their own use and carried across the border in amounts or values not exceeding those established by national law

13.08 newspapers and periodicals sent under direct subscription

13.09 goods purchased by foreign embassies, military or other installations located in your country, for their own use

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Section 13: Exclusions

		121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	
13.07	goods and including and cars not exc	83.8	13.3	2.9	
13.08	newspaper subscription	74.2	21.8	4.0	
13.09	goods purchased by foreign embassies, military or other installations located in your country, for their own use	81.7	13.5	4.8	

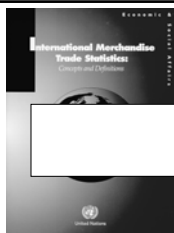
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Specific guidelines regarding GOODS TO BE EXCLUDED IN IMTS

- Fish caught on the high seas by national vessels of a country and landed in its economic territory
- Goods which are acquired and relinquished within the compiling country, by non-residents, within the same recording period, and which do not cross the frontiers of this country
 - Merchancing
- Goods under operational lease
 - No change of economic ownership

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Section 13: Exclusions

- 13.10 fish caught on the high seas by national vessels of your country and landed in its economic territory
- 13.11 goods which are acquired and relinquished within your country, by non-residents, within the same recording period, and which do not cross the frontiers of the country
- 13.12 goods under operational lease (i.e., a lease of less than one year)



Section 13: Exclusions

		121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	f
13.10 fish caught on the high seas by national vessels of your country and landed in its economic territory	13.10	70.3	13.9	15.8	
13.11 goods which are acquired and relinquished within your country, by non-residents, within the same recording period, and which do not cross the frontiers of the country	13.11	79.2	11.9	8.9	n
13.12 goods under operational lease (i.e., a lease of less than one year)	13.12	81.5	14.6	3.9	



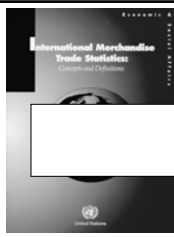
Specific guidelines regarding
GOODS TO BE EXCLUDED IN IMTS

- Goods lost or destroyed after leaving the economic territory of the exporting country but before entering the economic territory of the intended importing country
- Empty bottles (for re-filling)
- Waste and scrap (with no positive value)



Section 13: Exclusions

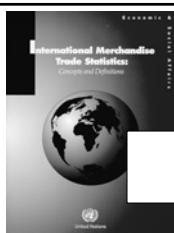
- 13.13 goods which left the economic territory of the exporting country but lost or destroyed before entering the economic territory of your country
- 13.14 empty bottles which are returned to be refilled
- 13.15 any category of used or second-hand goods ?
If Yes, please specify in the Comments field
- 13.16 waste and scrap having no positive value



Section 13: Exclusions

		121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %	
13.13	goods with positive value exported and re-exported or re-imported and re-exported	77.0	16.0	7.0	
13.14	empty transport equipment	69.3	25.7	5.0	
13.15	any category of goods	17.6	79.1	3.3	
13.16	waste and scrap having no positive value	70.5	27.5	2.0	

If Yes, please specify in the Comments field



GOODS TO BE EXCLUDED BUT Recorded Separately for SNA/BOP purposes

- Mobile equipment that changes ownership while outside the country of residence of its original owner → Explanation required : How is this different from Aircraft and Ships ?
- Fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage sold from national vessels in foreign ports or from national vessels on the high seas to foreign vessels
- Bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are acquired (or supplied) by national vessels or aircraft outside the economic territory of a country



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

13.17 Mobile equipment that changes ownership while outside the country of residence of its original owner; if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.

13.18 Fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage sold from national vessels in foreign ports or from national vessels on the high seas to foreign vessels; *if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately*



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

13.17 Mobile equipment that changes ownership while outside the country of residence of its original owner; if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.	121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
13.17	50.5	34.1	15.4	
13.18 Fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage sold from national vessels on the high seas to foreign vessels; <i>if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately</i>	13.18	42.1	32.6	25.3



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

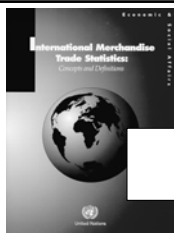
13.19 bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are acquired by national vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country; *if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.*

13.20 bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are supplied by national vessels/aircraft to foreign vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country or landed in foreign ports from national vessels/aircraft; *if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately*



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

13.19 bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are acquired by national vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country; <i>if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.</i>	121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
13.20 bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are supplied by national vessels/aircraft to foreign vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country or landed in foreign ports from national vessels/aircraft; <i>if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately</i>	13.19	55.8	25.3	18.9
	13.20	52.7	26.9	20.4



**GOODS TO BE EXCLUDED
BUT Recorded Separately for SNA/BOP purposes**

- Goods purchased by international organizations located in the economic territory of a host country, from the host country, for their own use
- Goods for repair → no longer necessary?
- Goods entering or leaving the economic territory of a country illegally
- Goods lost or destroyed after ownership has been acquired by the importer.



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

13.21 goods purchased by international organizations located in the economic territory of your country, from your country, for their own use;
if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

13.21 goods placed from yo	121 Countries			
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
	13.21	59.6	29.3	11.1

if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

- 13.22 goods for repair;
if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.
- 13.23 *If No (so, if you include goods for repair), do you value goods for repair at the value of the repair only?*



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

13.22 goods for repair:

if Yes, record

121 Countries

13.23 *If you record repair only?*

Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
13.22	52.0	43.9	4.1
13.23	42.3	30.8	26.9



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

13.24 goods entering or leaving the economic territory of your country illegally;

if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.

13.25 goods exported from your country but lost or destroyed after ownership has been acquired by the importer;

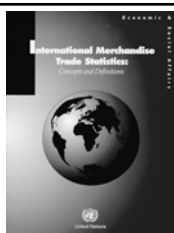
if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.



Section 13: Exclusions - record separately

13.24 goods entering or leaving the economic territory of your country illegally;
if Yes, record

121 Countries				
	Question	Yes %	No %	N/A %
13.25 goods destroyed by the importer;	13.24	60.0	25.3	14.7
<i>if Yes, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.</i>	13.25	38.8	49.0	12.2



**Thank you for your
attention**