



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**

Provisional Agenda
As of 30 November 2007

Monday, 3 December 2007

Morning session: 9:00 – 12:30

9:00 – 9:30 Registration

- 9:30 – 10:00
1. Opening statement by Paul Cheung, Director, UNSD
 2. Objectives and organization of the meeting
 3. Administrative matters

Chair: *Vladimir Markhonko, UNSD*

10:00 – 10:30 4. Adoption of agenda

5. *Why International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions* need a new revision?

UNSD presentation Towards revised recommendations
(a) Canada

10:30 – 10:50 *Coffee break*

10:50 – 12:30 5. – cont.
(b) Eurostat
(c) IMF
General discussion

UNSD presentation on country practices in IMTS and compliance
with IMTS, Rev.2
General discussion

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

Monday, 3 December 2007

Afternoon session: 14:00 – 17:00

Chair: *Andreas Maurer, WTO*

14:00 – 15:30 6. Coverage and time of recording

- i. Definition of coverage and time of recording; use of physical movement and change of ownership criteria; lists of inclusions and exclusions

UNSD introduction

General discussion

- ii. Special case - Goods for processing

UNSD introduction

(a) France

(b) Canada

15:30 – 15:50 *Coffee break*

15:50 – 17:00 6. cont.

(c) China

(d) Czech Republic

(e) Mexico

General discussion

Tuesday, 4 December 2007

Morning session: 9:00 – 12:30 [Note: 9.00-10.40 session in conference room on 19th floor]

Chair: *Craig Kuntz, Canada*

09:00 – 10:40 7. Trade system

- i. Statistical territory and definitions of trade systems
- ii. Treatment of free zones
- iii. Trade flows – general/special systems

UNSD introduction

(a) United Kingdom

(b) United States

(c) Chile

(d) Viet Nam

General discussion

10:40 – 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 – 12:30 8. Commodity classifications and Mode of Transport

- i. Harmonized System and SITC
- ii. Trade statistics by CPC, BEC and ISIC
- iii. Trade by Mode of Transport

UNSD introduction
(a) Malaysia
(b) United Kingdom
(c) Chile
General discussion

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

Tuesday, 4 December 2007

Afternoon session: 14:00 – 17:00

Chair: *Ronald Jansen, UNSD*

14:00 – 15:30 9. Valuation

- i. The WTO Valuation Agreement and statistical value of imported and exported goods: country experience with implementation

UNSD introduction
(a) Germany
(b) WTO
General discussion

15:30 – 15:50 *Coffee break*

15:50 – 17:00 9. cont..

- ii. Compilation of data on CIF components; feasibility of imports FOB

(a) Brazil
(b) United States
(c) Czech Republic
(d) Nigeria

General discussion

Wednesday, 5 December 2007

Morning session: 9:00 – 12:30

Chair: *Paolo Pavao, Brazil*

09:00 – 10:30 10. Quantity measurement

UNSD introduction
General discussion

10:30 – 10:50 *Coffee break*

10:50 – 12:30 11. Partner country

- i. Imports/Export – country of origin, country of consignment and other partner attributions: concepts and issues of implementation

UNSD introduction
(a) Norway
(b) Ukraine
(c) Eurostat
General discussion

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

Wednesday, 5 December 2007

Afternoon session: 14:00 – 17:00

Chair: *David Dickerson, United States*

14:00 – 15:30 11. cont.. Partner country

- ii. Re-exports – Multiple partner country attribution (country of origin, country of consignment on imports side; country of last known destination, country of consignment on exports side); concepts and issues of implementation; rules of origin/ substantial transformation; distinction re-exports from transit and transshipment.

UNSD introduction
(a) Belgium
(b) Senegal
(c) Jordan
General discussion

15:30 – 15:50 *Coffee break*

15:50 – 17:00 12/13. Institutional arrangements and interagency cooperation and an overview of data sources and data compilation strategies

- i. Customs records
- ii. Other sources (including enterprise surveys)

UNSD introduction

(a) Germany

(b) Malaysia

(c) OECD

General discussion

Thursday, 6 December 2007

Morning session: 9:00 – 12:30

Chair: *Klaus Geyer-Schaefer, Germany*

09:00 – 10:30 14. Metadata and data quality

UNSD introduction

(a) Italy

(b) France

General discussion

15. Dissemination

UNSD introduction

General discussion

10:30 – 10:50 *Coffee break*

10:50 – 12:30 16. Round table discussion on issues for a world-wide consultation and other EG conclusions

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

Afternoon session: 14:00 – 17:00

Chair: *Vladimir Markhonko, UNSD*

14:00 – 17:00 17. Evaluation of the meeting

18. Conclusion of the meeting
