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**International Merchandise Trade Statistics:
National Practices, Compliance with IMTS, Rev.2 and Areas where
International Recommendations might need a revision**

New York, November 2007

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Introduction

1. This report provides a preliminary overview of national compilation and dissemination practices and their compliance with the recommendations contained in *International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions, Revision 2* (IMTS, Rev.2) and compilation guidelines outlined in *International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Compilers Manual* (IMTS:CM). The report is based on 122 responses to the questionnaire drafted by UNSD, reviewed by other TFIMTS¹ members and sent out jointly by UNSD, OECD and WTO to trade statistics compilers in 2006. The final report on this subject is expected by the end of December 2007.

2. The questionnaire contained 173 questions covering all recommendations contained in IMTS, Rev.2 and guidelines provided in IMTS:CM. It included a number of the same questions used in a survey conducted between 1992 and 1995. This allowed, with respect to the topics covered in those questions, to assess changes in country practices over time. Below is a summary of findings organized by the questionnaire sections.

Institutional arrangements

3. The country responses confirmed that the compilation and dissemination of IMTS are normally the responsibility of national statistical offices (77.6% of countries confirmed that). However, in the remaining countries the official international merchandise trade statistics (thereafter, trade statistics) is compiled and disseminated by other governmental agencies such as statistical departments of the customs administrations (e.g., in China and the Russian Federation) or central banks (e.g., in Latin American countries).

4. It is encouraging that in most countries Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) or similar working agreements between the agency responsible for official trade statistics and other agencies are established (MoUs exist in 67% of developing and transitional and in 59.3% of developed countries). However, only 44.6% and 22.2% of the same countries reported conducting regular inter-agency meetings before the release of statistics (see Table 1). This clearly indicates that there is room for improvement in the inter-agency cooperation. Should the recommendations on inter-agency cooperation be included in the next revision?

¹ TFIMTS is an inter-agency body and consists of representatives of the following organizations: Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (Statistics Division, Macroeconomics Division), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organization, International Trade Center, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, Statistical Office of the European Communities and World Customs Organization

Table 1

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Does your office have any memorandum of understanding or any similar working agreement with any of the mentioned agencies?	65.2	28.1	6.7	59.3	29.6	11.1	67.0	27.7	5.3
If you have working agreements with other agencies, does your office regularly meet or consult with these agencies before release of the trade statistics?	39.7	45.4	14.9	22.2	55.6	22.2	44.6	42.6	12.8

Sources of data

5. For 88.4% of countries customs declarations remain the main source of data (see Table 2). However, there is a considerable difference in country practices as only 55.6% of developed countries confirmed that customs declarations are the main source of data, while 97.9% of developing and transitional countries did. Developed countries use a lot more additional data sources, such as administrative records associated with taxation (59.3%) and enterprise surveys (51.9%) as compared with developing and transitional countries where these percentages are only 21.3% and 19.1%, respectively. This is one of the consequences of the abolition of customs controls among countries of European Union and significant simplification of customs procedures among other developed countries. The trend towards more active use of non-customs sources is also due to the fact that in certain countries some important trade flows are not declared to customs.

Table 2

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Are customs declarations the main source of data?	88.4	9.1	2.5	55.6	40.7	3.7	97.9	0	2.1
Do you use the following as additional sources of data:									
Parcel and letter post records	30.6	62.8	6.6	11.1	85.2	3.7	36.2	56.4	7.4
Administrative records associated with taxation	29.7	62	8.3	59.3	37	3.7	21.3	69.1	9.6
Currency exchange records or other records of monetary authorities	28.1	65.2	6.7	22.2	74.1	3.7	29.8	62.8	7.4
Enterprise surveys	26.4	63.6	10	51.9	44.4	3.7	19.1	69.1	11.8

	Aircraft and ship registers	23.1	68.5	8.4	40.7	55.6	3.7	18.1	72.3	9.6
	Foreign shipping manifests	14.9	79.3	5.8	7.4	92.6	0	17.0	75.5	7.5
	Reports of commodity boards	9.9	75.2	14.9	3.7	88.9	7.4	11.7	71.3	17

6. The trend towards a more active use of non-customs sources should be carefully examined during the current revision process in order to see whether additional international recommendations on use of non-customs data sources are needed to ensure best possible comparability and promotion of good practices.

Coverage and time of recording

7. The information presented in Table 3 proves that countries overwhelmingly base their trade statistics on the principle of physical movement of goods between countries as recommended in IMTS, Rev.2. Change of ownership is also used for some categories of goods by 59.2% of developed and 20.2% of other countries. However, the capability of compiling detailed trade statistics on the basis of change of ownership is confirmed only by 11.1% of developed countries. Ability to compile detailed trade statistics on this basis was indicated by 30.9% of other countries.

8. Availability of trade statistics on the change of ownership basis is very important for balance of payments statistics and national accounts. In this connection further studies are needed to clarify the range of cases where change of ownership should be used to determine inclusion/exclusion of certain categories of goods in trade statistics.

9. In general, time of recording is the time of lodgement of the customs declaration (71.9% of responses) as recommended. However, the IMTS, Rev.2 recommendations in this respect need to be updated as the use of non-customs data sources becomes more common and the time of recording in such cases needs to be clarified. It looks like a new recommendation has to be proposed.

Table 3

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
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) ?	90.9	5	4.1	96.3	3.7	0.0	89.4	5.3	5.3
Do you use change of ownership (between residents and non-residents) as a basis for inclusion of certain goods in trade statistics?	28.8	64.5	6.7	59.3	40.7	0.0	20.2	71.3	8.5

Can your office compile detailed commodity by partner trade statistics on the basis of change of ownership?	26.4	66.9	6.7	11.1	85.2	3.7	30.9	61.7	7.4
Do you use date of lodgement of the customs declaration as an approximation for the time when goods enter/leave your territory?	71.9	24.8	3.3	70.4	29.6	0.0	72.3	23.4	4.3

Categories of included and excluded goods

10. Annex 1 and 2 to this report summarize countries' responses to the questions about their practices with respect to the inclusion and exclusion of certain categories of goods. Both annexes list those goods in a descending order of percentage of "Yes" answers by all respondents. Several general observations are provided below.

Goods to be included in the detailed international merchandise trade statistics

11. Annex 1 confirms a good compliance with IMTS, Rev2 recommendations and improvement in the compliance rate for most of economically important categories of goods since 1996. The low compliance (less than 50%) is taking place typically in the cases of goods in which international trade is relatively less significant and where there is no customs recording, or such recording is very limited. Certain categories of goods are of special interest.

12. *Goods for processing.* 93.6% developed and 79.8% of other countries include these goods in their trade statistics. Countries reported also that valuation of such goods is on gross basis. It should be noted that countries are normally unable to capture goods for processing if they are not so declared. In view of the recommended exclusion of all kinds of goods for processing from the trade in goods in balance of payment statistics the ability of countries to separately identify all kinds of goods for processing in their external trade statistics has to be reexamined.

13. *Goods used as carriers of information and software developed for general or commercial use.* Most of developed (88.9%) and other countries (73.4%) include these goods in their statistics of external trade while non-inclusion was confirmed only by 11.1% of developed and 16.0% of developing and transitional countries. Countries reported also that valuation of such goods is based on their full value.

14. *Goods crossing borders as a result of transactions between parent corporations and their direct investment enterprises (affiliates/branches).* All developed countries follow the recommendation to include this category of goods into their trade statistics. For developing and transitional countries it proved to be more difficult to implement as only 67% of them confirmed compliance. It follows that in view of ever increasing globalization further studies are needed in order to see how the situation in developing countries can be improved and whether additional recommendations in this respect are needed.

15. *Water.* The information of country practices in respect of water is important in view of growing environmental concerns. It is encouraging that 74.1% of developed countries indicated

that they are compiling data reflecting trade in water. However, only 41.5% of developing and transitional countries indicated that they follow this recommendation.

16. *Estimates of unrecorded trade.* The country responses show that inclusion of estimates of unrecorded trade into official statistics is not a widespread practice as only 22.2% of developed and 11.7% other countries do it. We need to revisit this issue in the context of promotion of use of non-customs sources and obtaining a better coverage (e.g., use of sample surveys to estimate trade below thresholds?).

Goods to be excluded in the detailed international merchandise trade statistics

17. Responses to questions about exclusion of particular categories of goods showed that most countries comply with the recommended list of specific exclusions and the compliance rate improved noticeably for most of those categories. However, for many important categories of goods the compliance rate among developed countries is noticeably higher than among other countries. Several examples of this kind are provided below.

18. *Goods acquired by all categories of travelers, including non-resident workers, for their own use and carried across the border in amounts or values not exceeding those established by national law.* Goods of this category are recommended for exclusion from merchandise trade as they are to be included in trade in services. The country responses show that clear majority of developed countries (96.3%) excluded them with 73.4% of developing countries doing the same. This information indicates that delineation of trade in goods and trade in services in this product area is well established in developed countries but needs further efforts by compilers of other countries.

19. *Goods under operational lease.* There is a dramatic increase in the compliance rate with respect to this recommendation between 1996 and 2006 (from 78.8% to 93.6% for developed and from only 29.6% to 69.1% for others). Yet, in view of importance of operational leasing in the context of globalization the main reasons for a relatively low compliance among the developing countries need to be examined. Do we need to provide some additional recommendations in this respect?

20. *Non-financial assets, ownership of which has been transferred from residents to non-residents, without crossing borders.* In case of these goods 96.3% of developed countries exclude them, but only 62.7% of other countries reported their exclusion which calls for reemphasizing the importance of this recommendation and possibly provision of some additional guidance in this respect.

21. *Used or second hand goods.* These goods are not recommended for exclusion and the question was asked to obtain information on actual country practices. The responses confirm that these goods are not excluded by 88.9% of developed and 55.3% of other countries. Again, reasons for a low compliance among the developing countries should be investigated and recommendation be made in a more strong terms.

Kyoto convention and relevant customs procedures

22. A clear majority of countries (71.9%) use the Kyoto convention on customs procedures as the basis for their customs legislation. This is noteworthy as the application of the same customs standards is an important factor to improve comparability of customs records and the resulting trade statistics. Table 4 below provides a summary of responses to the question of whether customs procedures followed in countries allow for collection of data on certain flows of goods. In general, all countries are in a very similar position. There is a slight tendency that developed countries use more extensively the procedures allowing for recording of goods in inward and outward processing (85% versus 70% by other countries), whereas developing and transitional countries use more procedures reflecting flows in and out of free trade zones (55% versus 45% by developed countries). The revised recommendations may support more strongly the use of the globally standardized customs procedures as provided in the revised Kyoto convention (Kyoto 2000).

Table 4

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Does your country use the Kyoto Convention (<i>the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs procedures</i>) as the basis for the definitions of customs procedures ?	71.9	13.2	14.9	81.5	14.8	3.7	69.1	12.8	18.1
Does the recording by customs procedures allow for the identification of:									
Importation of goods under clearance for home use	89.2	8.3	2.5	85.2	14.8	0.0	90.4	6.4	3.2
Reimportation of goods in the same state	85.1	8.3	6.6	88.9	3.7	7.4	84.0	9.6	6.4
Exportation of domestic goods (outright exportation)	81.0	9.2	9.8	77.8	22.2	0.0	81.9	5.3	12.8
Temporary admission of goods subject to re-exportation in the same state	83.5	9.1	7.4	77.8	14.8	7.4	85.2	7.4	7.4
Re-exportation of goods in the same state	85.1	6.6	8.3	81.5	11.1	7.4	86.2	5.3	8.5
Temporary admission of goods for inward processing	73.6	13.2	13.2	88.9	7.4	3.7	69.1	14.9	16.0
Goods leaving the country after inward processing	72.0	14.0	14.0	85.2	11.1	3.7	68.1	14.9	17.0
Temporary exportation of goods for outward processing	73.6	14.0	12.4	92.6	7.4	0.0	68.0	16.0	16.0
Reimportation of goods after temporary exportation for outward processing	75.2	14.1	10.7	92.6	7.4	0.0	70.2	16.0	13.8
Goods admitted into a customs warehouse?	70.2	14.9	14.9	77.8	18.5	3.7	68.1	13.8	18.1
Goods leaving a customs warehouse?	71.9	11.6	16.5	81.5	14.8	3.7	69.1	10.7	20.2

Goods admitted into a commercial free zone (zones where only minimal repackaging and similar processing of goods is allowed) ?	52.9	24.8	22.3	48.2	33.3	18.5	54.3	22.3	23.4
Goods leaving a commercial free zone?	54.5	24.0	21.5	44.5	37.0	18.5	57.4	20.3	22.3
Goods admitted into an industrial free zone (zones where specific processing or manufacturing of goods is allowed) ?	53.8	23.1	23.1	48.1	29.6	22.3	55.3	21.3	23.4
Goods leaving an industrial free zone?	57.9	19.0	23.1	48.2	29.6	22.2	60.6	16.0	23.4
Goods in customs transit?	55.4	33.9	10.7	48.1	48.1	3.8	57.4	29.8	12.8

Trade system

23. It is obvious (see Table 5) that the use of the recommended general trade system of recording calling for inclusion of goods entering economic territory of the country is not well followed by most of the countries, especially by the developed (59.3% of them indicated that they disseminate trade data only on the basis of the special trade).

Table 5

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you disseminate trade statistics only according to the <u>general</u> trade system ?	43.0	52.0	5.0	14.8	85.2	0.0	51.0	42.6	6.4
Do you disseminate trade statistics only according to the <u>special</u> trade system ?	41.3	52.1	6.6	59.3	37.0	3.7	36.2	56.4	7.4
Do you disseminate trade statistics according to both the general and special trade system ?	19.8	62.0	18.2	22.2	74.1	3.7	19.2	58.5	22.3
Do you include in your trade statistics goods entering or leaving the following territorial elements									
industrial free zones	50.4	26.4	23.2	40.8	37.0	22.2	53.2	23.4	23.4
commercial free zones	48.0	28.9	23.1	33.4	44.4	22.2	52.1	24.5	23.4
customs warehouses	61.2	28.9	9.9	59.3	40.7	0.0	61.7	25.5	12.8
premises designated for inward processing	55.4	26.4	18.2	70.4	22.2	7.4	51.0	27.7	21.3
territorial waters, and continental shelf	31.4	37.2	31.4	37.0	33.3	29.7	29.8	38.3	31.9
offshore territories, possessions, dependencies etc (including outer space installations).	19.0	44.6	36.4	18.6	40.7	40.7	19.2	45.7	35.1
your country's embassies, military bases and other territorial enclaves in other countries	16.5	62.0	21.5	11.1	81.5	7.4	18.1	56.4	25.5

24. Difficulties in the application of the general trade system are mostly due to difficulties with compiling data in the absence of customs controls, in particular, on goods moving in and

out of the territorial elements having a special status such as commercial or industrial free zones and customs warehouses. The responses confirm that just about half of countries have procedures in place to record movements in and out of commercial or industrial free zones. On the other hand, inclusion in trade statistics of goods admitted into or withdrawn from the customs warehouses is possible in about 61.2% of the cases.

25. Less than 20% of countries are able to include in trade statistics goods entering or leaving their offshore territories, possessions, dependencies etc (including outer space installations) as well as their country's embassies, military bases and other territorial enclaves in other countries. In view of relatively small value of this kind of trade countries normally do not develop procedures to capture it.

26. Taking into account that trade statistics compiled on the general trade system basis is needed not only for better tracing of international movements of goods, but also to provide data to compile better balance of payments statistics and national accounts the recommendations on trade systems have to be reviewed. For example, the recommendation to use the general trade system can include reference to use of non-customs sources to ensure better capturing movements of goods not entering customs territory. The boundary of the statistical territory which defines the general system of trade needs to be reviewed as well (e.g., by listing territorial elements which have to be covered by countries applying this system as well as by indicating which territorial elements may not be covered).

Commodity classifications

27. Table 6 provides the confirmation of practically universal use of the Harmonized System (HS) for recording trade flows and dissemination of trade statistics as recommended by IMTS, Rev.2. It should be highlighted that the compliance with this recommendation increased from 77.0% in 1996 to 94.2% in 2006. The Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) remains an important dissemination tool for most countries, especially for developed (almost 82% confirmed its use). The revised recommendations may reconfirm continued importance of SITC for analytical purposes especially taking into account issuance of the SITC, Rev.4. The responses indicated that the Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC) is applied by about 45% of countries. This raises question about a need for an update of BEC. On the other hand, application of the Central Product Classification (CPC) and the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) is not widespread – only 9% of countries use CPC and about 22% use ISIC while publishing their trade data.

Table 6

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you use the Harmonized System (HS) as the basis for your detailed commodity trade database?	94.2	2.5	3.3	96.3	3.7	0.0	93.6	2.1	4.3

Do you use the Harmonized System for dissemination purposes?	86.8	9.1	4.1	88.9	7.4	3.7	86.1	9.6	4.3
Do you publish any data in terms of Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) ?	62.0	36.3	1.7	81.5	18.5	0.0	56.4	41.5	2.1
Do you publish any data in terms of Common Product Classification (CPC) ?	9.0	86.0	5.0	11.1	88.9	0.0	8.5	85.1	6.4
Do you publish any data in terms of the Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC) ?	44.6	48.0	7.4	40.7	55.6	3.7	45.7	45.7	8.6
Do you publish any data in terms of International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) ?	22.3	72.7	5.0	14.8	85.2	0.0	24.5	69.1	6.4

Quantity measurements

28. Table 7 demonstrates that all developed and practically all other countries collect quantity data. The percentage of countries collecting such data increased from 79.3% in 1996 to 93.4% in 2006. There is a solid compliance with the IMTS, Rev.2 recommendation to use the net weight for quantity measurement of all commodities, where applicable (76% in 2006 as compared with 70.9% in 1996). However, it should be noted that in mid 90th 90.9% of developed countries compiled net weight data while only 74.1% confirmed this practice in 2006. This raises the question of whether this recommendation should be reinforced. The use of the WCO recommended units of quantity at the HS headings level is rather a common practice as well (71.1% of countries confirmed this).

Table 7

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you collect quantity data?	93.4	3.3	3.3	100.0	0.0	0.0	91.4	4.3	4.3
Do you record or estimate net weight for quantity measurement of all commodities, where applicable?	76.0	20.7	3.3	74.1	25.9	0.0	76.6	19.1	4.3
Do you record or estimate the World Customs Organizations (WCO) recommended units of quantity for each of the headings of the HS?	71.1	21.5	7.4	66.7	25.9	7.4	72.3	20.2	7.5

Valuation

29. Country responses to questions on valuation (see table 8 below) reveal that two main recommendations (use of CIF-type valuation of imported goods and FOB-type valuation of

exported goods) are very well implemented. Comparison with country responses on statistical value of goods provided more than ten years ago indicated that there is an increase in compliance rate with recommendations on valuation. For example, CIF-type valuation of imported goods increased from 90.5% to 93.4% while FOB-type valuation increased from 94.6% to 96.7%. However, the issue of accuracy of value data needs more attention as there are cases of not proper conversion of the invoice prices to the CIF/FOB types of statistical values when the terms of goods delivery are other than CIF or FOB.

30. It is very encouraging also that the recommendation to compile data on international freight and insurance is followed by 40.5% countries while ten years ago only 29.7% of countries were compiling such data. In addition, 14.8% of developed and 30.9% of developing countries confirmed that they already compile and publish FOB valued imports data. The experience of countries able to compile FOB valued imports is of a great interest in the context of the provision of the balance of payments and national accounts compilers with the needed information as well as for reconciliation of international merchandise trade statistics with statistics on international trade in services.

31. At the same time, country responses showed a low compliance with respect to recommended practices for currency conversion both for use of the midpoint between the selling and buying rates (24.8% of countries use it) and use of the average rate for the shortest period applicable (33.1% do it).

Table 8

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Are you using provisions of the WTO Agreement on Valuation as the basis for calculating the statistical value of goods ?	59.5	20.7	19.8	66.7	11.1	22.2	57.4	23.4	19.2
Is the statistical value of imported goods a CIF-type value?	93.4	5.0	1.6	96.3	3.7	0.0	92.6	5.3	2.1
Are data for international freight and insurance associated with the importation of goods available separately?	40.5	57.8	1.7	25.9	74.1	0.0	44.7	53.2	2.1
Do you compile and publish value of imported goods as a FOB-type value?	27.3	70.2	2.5	14.8	85.2	0.0	30.9	65.9	3.2
Is the statistical value of exported goods an FOB-type value?	96.7	2.5	0.8	96.3	3.7	0.0	96.8	2.1	1.1
Do you record and maintain information on the currency which was used in specifying the value on the customs declaration?	62.0	33.0	5.0	70.4	22.2	7.4	59.5	36.2	4.3
In conversion of foreign currencies into national currency, do you use a rate published by the official authorities of your country?	81.0	4.1	14.9	85.2	0.0	14.8	79.8	5.3	14.9

If both buying and selling rates are available, do you use for conversion purposes a midpoint between the two?	24.8	53.7	21.5	29.7	33.3	37.0	23.4	59.6	17.0
Do you use the exchange rate which is in effect at the date of exportation or importation? <i>If No, please indicate which exchange rates are used for this purpose in the Comments field.</i>	65.3	20.7	14.0	48.1	29.6	22.3	70.2	18.1	11.7
If an exchange rate is not available for the date of exportation or importation, do you use the average rate for the shortest period applicable?	33.1	28.9	38.0	37.0	11.1	51.9	32.0	34.0	34.0

Partner country

32. The IMTS, Rev.2 recommendations on partner country attributions are well followed (see table 9 below) with 90.9% of countries compiling the country of origin for imports and 91.7% compiling the country of last known destination for exports. In both cases the compliance rate has increased as compared with the 1996 situation (it was 81.8% and 87.8% respectively). In determination of country of origin provisions of Kyoto convention are followed by 81.5% of developed and 59.5% of developing countries. This makes partner data of developing countries less comparable than similar data of developed countries. It raises the question of whether the revised recommendations for IMTS should address this issue in more detail. In particular, the recommendation to use in the partner attribution the statistical territory, as defined by the partner country itself, needs clarification, especially if that country uses the special system of trade (para. 151 of IMTS, Rev.2).

33. The use of country of consignment as additional partner attribution was reported only by 46.3% of countries for imports and by 19.8% for exports. However, it should be noted that most developed countries use country of consignment for import (but not for exports) statistics.

Table 9

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you identify your trade partners on the basis of the definition of the statistical territory as given by your partners themselves?	58.7	14.0	27.3	51.9	29.6	18.5	60.6	9.6	29.8
Do you compile import statistics by:									
country of origin?	90.9	7.4	1.7	96.3	3.7	0.0	89.4	8.5	2.1
<i>If Yes, do you broadly follow the origin criteria outlined in the Kyoto Convention?</i>	64.5	5.7	29.8	81.5	11.1	7.4	59.5	4.3	36.2
country of consignment?	46.3	47.1	6.6	74.1	25.9	0.0	38.3	53.2	8.5
country of purchase?	29.8	64.4	5.8	11.1	88.9	0.0	35.1	57.4	7.5
other?	13.2	43.0	43.8	7.4	63.0	29.6	14.9	37.2	47.9

Do you record for imports:									
country of requested preferential treatment	22.4	54.5	23.1	18.5	70.4	11.1	23.4	50.0	26.6
country of granted preferential treatment	31.4	47.1	21.5	37.0	51.9	11.1	29.8	45.7	24.5
Do you compile export statistics by:									
country of last known destination?	91.7	5.8	2.5	92.6	7.4	0.0	91.5	5.3	3.2
country of consignment?	19.8	62.0	18.2	11.1	85.2	3.7	22.3	55.4	22.3
country of sale?	23.1	71.1	5.8	0.0	100.0	0.0	29.8	62.8	7.4
other?	5.0	47.9	47.1	0.0	70.4	29.6	6.4	41.5	52.1

Data quality

34. IMTS, Rev.2 does not contain comprehensive recommendations on data quality. A possibility of inclusion of such recommendations in the revised version of the publication has to be discussed during the current revision process (e.g., recommendations on quality dimensions, quality indicators etc.). However, the questionnaire contained several questions intended to obtain some information on country practices relevant for the assessment of data quality. The received country responses (shown in table 10) are quite informative in a number of respects. For example, it is encouraging that in 80.2% of cases customs administrations conduct seminars to train traders and their agents in the filing of customs declarations. The credibility of customs records is being assessed and 72.7% of countries use commodity prices or unit values for this purpose.

35. The use of carefully prepared estimates to replace missing values and quantities is encouraged by the IMTS: Compilers Manual. Yet, currently it is not a practice of most countries. Still, almost every third country does it. Less than a half of developed countries make estimates of trade below the applied threshold and include them in their trade statistics while this is being done only by 8.5% of other countries. These numbers prove that further efforts to collect and disseminate good practices in respect to creation and use of estimates should become a task for the future.

36. An important factor in improving data quality is conducting bilateral or multilateral reconciliation studies with the trading partners. It is a very good sign that such studies have become a common practice for most developed (70.4%) and a significant part (40.4%) of other countries. This is a relatively new phenomenon which should be encouraged and supported as it results in a better data quality and improved methodology. Publication of the results of such studies is encouraged to ensure a better understanding of the trade statistics by users.

37. The responses confirmed that UNCTAD's work on development and promotion of ASYCUDA (Automated SYstem for CUstoms DAta) for automated entry and checking of customs declarations is paying off as half of developing and transitional countries use it.

Table 10

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you use a threshold value below which customs declarations are not required to be filed ?	36.4	52.9	10.7	55.6	44.4	0.0	30.9	55.3	13.8
If you use a threshold value, do you make estimates of trade below the threshold and include them in your trade statistics ?	15.7	44.6	39.7	40.8	29.6	29.6	8.5	48.9	42.6
Does the Customs administration of your country use ASYCUDA (Automated SYstem for CUstoms DAta) for automated entry and checking of customs declarations ?	43.8	51.2	5.0	22.2	74.1	3.7	50.0	44.7	5.3
Is physical inspection of cargo by Customs based on risk assessment?	73.5	9.1	17.4	88.9	0.0	11.1	69.1	11.8	19.1
Does the Customs administration of your country conduct seminars to train traders and their agents in the filing of customs declarations ?	80.2	13.2	6.6	88.9	11.1	0.0	77.7	13.8	8.5
Does your office use Eurotrace to process the customs records ?	14.9	76.8	8.3	3.7	96.3	0.0	18.1	71.3	10.6
Do you use commodity prices or unit values to assess the credibility of customs records ?	72.7	23.1	4.2	85.2	7.4	7.4	69.1	27.7	3.2
Do you use estimates to replace missing values at detailed record level?	31.4	59.5	9.1	37.0	59.3	3.7	29.8	59.6	10.6
Do you use estimates to replace missing quantities at detailed record level?	34.7	55.4	9.9	37.0	55.6	7.4	34.0	55.3	10.7
<i>If Yes, do you use different estimation methods (for quantities) depending on the kind of commodities traded ? Please specify, if necessary.</i>	14.9	14.0	71.1	7.4	29.6	63.0	17.0	9.6	73.4
Since the year 2000, did you conduct bilateral or multilateral reconciliation studies with your trading partners or do you plan to conduct such studies in the near future?	47.1	40.5	12.4	70.4	29.6	0.0	40.4	43.6	16.0

Trade by mode of transport

38. Compilation of trade statistics by mode of transport is increasingly a common practice as 88.9% of developed and 76.6% of other countries compile such data (see Table 11 below). In this connection it becomes necessary to review the relevant country compilation practices and to provide international recommendations in order to recognize the importance of such compilations and to ensure better data comparability.

Table 11

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
If you compile trade statistics by mode of transport, do you identify the following modes:									
Air	85.9	8.3	5.8	92.6	0.0	7.4	84.0	10.6	5.4
Sea	76.0	13.2	10.8	85.2	7.4	7.4	73.4	14.9	11.7
inland waterway	33.9	38.8	27.3	55.6	18.5	25.9	27.7	44.6	27.7
Railway	53.7	28.1	18.2	66.7	14.8	18.5	50.0	31.9	18.1
Road	66.2	19.8	14.0	66.7	14.8	18.5	66.0	21.2	12.8
Pipeline	38.8	38.0	23.2	59.3	18.5	22.2	33.0	43.6	23.4

Reporting and dissemination

39. Responding to questions on timeliness of various data series countries provided information summarized in tables 12 to 14.

Table 12

Timeliness in 2006 by groups of countries	Monthly data becomes available within			Quarterly data becomes available within			Annual data becomes available within		
	0-43 days	44-66 Days	67 and more	0-43 days	44-66 days	67 and more	0-139 days	140-210 days	211 and more
All	77.0	15.3	7.7	69.1	13.8	17.1	69.2	12.5	18.3
Developed	62.9	22.3	14.8	62.0	19.0	19.0	69.5	17.5	13.0
Developing and transitional	81.8	13	5.2	71.2	12.4	16.4	69.1	11.1	19.8

40. *Timeliness.* Timeliness in general has improved since 1996. In 2006 77.0% of countries were able to provide monthly data in less than 43 days while only 63.6% were able to do so in 1996. It is of interest to note that more developing and transitional countries (81.8%) are able to fit within this time frame than developed (62.9%). Unfortunately, there is no information to compare the quality of such data compiled by various groups of countries. Quarterly data are disseminated by most countries (82.9%) within two months (81.7% in 1996). Annual data typically (in 81.7% of countries) becomes available within seven month (about the same as in 1996). It follows that timeliness of external trade statistics, in most cases, complies or even exceeds normally recommended guidelines for economic statistics.

41. As of 5 October 2007, 81 of the 122 countries (which had responded to the NCDP questionnaire) had its annual 2006 data published in the UN Comtrade database, which is 67% and is far less than the expected 81.8% as indicated by all 122 respondents. Restricting the data availability only to those 81 countries that actual reported its 2006 data to UN Comtrade, the timeliness lacks significantly behind expectation (which was derived from the answers on release dates for annual data on the questionnaire), especially for the developed countries.

42. *Details of released data.* A summary of the detail of the released data is provided in Table 13. It follows that monthly data released by developed countries on average are more informative than similar data released by other countries - 96.3% of developed countries publish data by major trading partners or by major commodity groups while 72.3% of other countries do it.

43. *Public announcements of the release dates.* Developing and transitional countries are significantly behind developed countries with respect to public announcements of the release dates (56.4% and 92.6% respectively).

44. *Confidentiality.* Preserving confidentiality of individual data is a general requirement and countries normally have adequate policies in place. At the same time such policies should be implemented in a way that minimizes the impact on availability of aggregated data. In this respect country policies differ. Table 13 shows that while most developed countries (66.7%) always report the full trading partner detail at the next higher level of commodity aggregation that adequately protects confidentiality, 44.7% of other countries do this. However, more developed than developing and transitional countries indicated that they do not have such a policy (29.6% and 25.5%). 29.8% of countries from the latter group did not give an answer to this question. It suggests that the recommendations with respect to confidentiality have to be reviewed more carefully.

Table 13

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you make aggregate data (by major trading partners or by commodity groups) publicly available on a monthly basis?	77.6	20.7	1.7	96.3	3.7	0.0	72.3	25.5	2.2
Do you make detailed data by commodity and partner publicly available on a quarterly basis?	63.6	28.9	7.5	66.7	25.9	7.4	62.8	29.8	7.4
When confidentiality is applied to certain products, do you always report the full trading partner detail at the next higher level of commodity aggregation that adequately protects confidentiality?	49.6	26.4	24.0	66.7	29.6	3.7	44.7	25.5	29.8

45. *Dissemination of metadata.* Availability of metadata contributes to the overall quality of trade statistics (see paras 34-37 above). The responses to the questionnaire confirmed that countries normally disseminate metadata. At the same time, it is clear that developing and transitional countries need to do more in this respect as only 67.0% of them confirmed public

dissemination of documentation on data sources and data compilation methods (100.0% of developed countries do this). The results are shown in Table 14.

46. *Revision policy.* Table 14 also shows that 91.2% of countries revise their data when new information becomes available. It is encouraging that most of both developed and developing and transitional countries made data revision a part of their data compilation policies.

Table 14

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you make documentation on your sources and methods publicly available ?	74.4	18.2	7.4	100.0	0.0	0.0	67.0	23.4	9.6
Do you publicly announce scheduled release dates?	64.4	29.8	5.8	92.6	7.4	0.0	56.4	36.2	7.4
Do you make data available on a Web site?	85.1	10.7	4.2	96.3	3.7	0.0	81.9	12.8	5.3
Do you regularly revise data (when additional information is available)?	91.8	4.1	4.1	92.6	3.7	3.7	91.4	4.3	4.3

Annex 1

**Distribution of country responses with respect to
goods recommended for inclusion**

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you INCLUDE in trade statistics the following:									
Non-monetary gold	86.8	10.7	2.5	96.3	3.7	0.0	84.0	12.8	3.2
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)	83.5	9.1	7.4	96.3	0	3.7	79.8	11.7	8.5
goods dispatched through postal or courier services	81.8	14	4.2	96.3	3.7	0.0	77.7	17	5.3
waste and scrap, the value of which is positive	81.8	10.8	7.4	92.6	7.4	0.0	78.7	11.7	9.6
goods traded on government account	81.0	14	5	92.6	3.7	3.7	77.7	17	5.3
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".	76.8	14.9	8.3	88.9	11.1	0.0	73.4	16	10.6
ships, aircraft and other mobile equipment	76.8	17.4	5.8	96.3	3.7	0.0	71.3	21.3	7.4
Food and other humanitarian aid	75.2	22.3	2.5	63.0	37	0.0	78.7	18.1	3.2
goods which cross borders as a result of transactions between parent corporations and their direct investment enterprises (affiliates/branches)	74.4	14	11.6	100.0	0	0.0	67.0	18.1	14.9
returned goods	72.7	15.7	11.6	96.3	3.7	0.0	66.0	19.1	14.9
electricity and gas	67.7	17.4	14.9	88.9	3.7	7.4	61.7	21.3	17
goods under financial lease (i.e., a lease of one year or more)	66.1	24	9.9	96.3	3.7	0.0	57.4	29.8	12.8
goods traded in accordance with barter agreements	62.8	28.1	9.1	92.6	3.7	3.7	54.3	35.1	10.6
goods for military use	60.3	33.1	6.6	88.9	7.4	3.7	52.1	40.4	7.5
gifts, if to significant scale as defined by national law	59.5	30.6	9.9	55.6	40.7	3.7	60.6	27.7	11.7
goods on consignment	57.9	28.1	14	74.1	18.5	7.4	53.1	30.9	16
empty bottles not meant for refilling	57.0	28.1	14.9	63.0	25.9	11.1	55.3	28.7	16
unissued banknotes and securities, and coins not in circulation	56.2	38	5.8	77.8	18.5	3.7	50.0	43.6	6.4
fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage landed from foreign vessels in national ports	55.4	28.1	16.5	81.5	3.7	14.8	47.9	35.1	17

bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage supplied to foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country	52.9	35.5	11.6	59.3	37	3.7	51.1	35.1	13.8
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.	51.2	38.8	10	33.3	63	3.7	56.4	31.9	11.7
Water	48.8	28.9	22.3	74.1	14.8	11.1	41.5	33	25.5
migrants' effects	47.1	41.3	11.6	18.5	74.1	7.4	55.3	31.9	12.8
fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage acquired by national vessels on the high seas from foreign vessels	42.1	39.7	18.2	63.0	22.2	14.8	36.2	44.7	19.1
goods transferred from or to a buffer stock organization	39.7	28.9	31.4	59.3	18.5	22.2	34.0	32	34
local border trade	37.2	48.8	14	44.5	37	18.5	35.1	52.1	12.8
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	33.9	40.5	25.6	48.2	14.8	37.0	29.8	47.9	22.3
bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage landed in national ports from foreign vessels/aircraft	33.1	42.9	24	25.9	48.2	25.9	35.1	41.5	23.4
goods seized by customs and subsequently resold	32.2	49.6	18.2	29.6	51.9	18.5	33.0	48.9	18.1
goods transferred from foreign enclaves (embassies, military or other foreign installations)	30.6	57.8	11.6	7.4	88.9	3.7	37.2	48.9	13.9
bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage acquired by national vessels/aircraft from foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country	29.8	47.1	23.1	22.2	55.6	22.2	31.9	44.7	23.4
estimates of unrecorded trade	14.0	71.1	14.9	22.2	70.4	7.4	11.7	71.3	17

Annex 2

**Distribution of country responses with respect to
goods recommended for exclusion**

Question	All			Developed			Developing and CIS/SEE		
	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A
Do you EXCLUDE from trade statistics the following:									
issued banknotes and securities and coins in circulation	87.6	9.1	3.3	96.3	3.7	0.0	85.1	10.6	4.3
goods in transit	83.5	10.7	5.8	96.3	3.7	0.0	79.8	12.8	7.4
monetary gold (i.e., that gold which is exchanged between national or international monetary authorities or authorized banks)	80.2	12.4	7.4	96.3	3.7	0.0	75.5	14.9	9.6
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	78.5	13.2	8.3	96.3	3.7	0.0	73.4	16.0	10.6
goods moving between your country and territorial enclaves of your country in other countries (e.g., your embassies, military or other installations)	76.9	12.4	10.7	88.9	11.1	0.0	73.4	12.8	13.8
goods purchased by foreign embassies, military or other installations located in your country, for their own use	75.2	14.0	10.8	88.9	11.1	0.0	71.3	14.9	13.8
goods under operational lease (i.e., a lease of less than one year)	75.2	13.2	11.6	96.3	3.7	0.0	69.1	16.0	14.9
goods temporarily admitted or dispatched	73.6	19.0	7.4	92.6	7.4	0.0	68.1	22.3	9.6
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	72.7	11.6	15.7	96.3	3.7	0.0	66.0	13.8	20.2
non-financial assets, ownership of which has been transferred from residents to non-residents, without crossing borders	70.2	10.8	19.0	96.3	3.7	0.0	62.7	12.8	24.5
goods which left the economic territory of the exporting country but lost or destroyed before entering the economic territory of your country	69.4	14.1	16.5	88.9	7.4	3.7	63.8	16.0	20.2
newspapers and periodicals sent under direct subscription	68.6	19.0	12.4	77.8	22.2	0.0	66.0	18.0	16.0
empty bottles which are returned to be refilled	64.5	23.1	12.4	81.5	14.8	3.7	59.6	25.5	14.9
waste and scrap having no positive value	64.5	24.8	10.7	74.1	22.2	3.7	61.7	25.5	12.8

fish caught on the high seas by national vessels of your country and landed in its economic territory	62.0	13.2	24.8	66.7	18.5	14.8	60.6	11.7	27.7
goods purchased by international organizations located in the economic territory of your country, from your country, for their own use;	54.5	26.4	19.1	59.3	33.3	7.4	53.2	24.5	22.3
goods entering or leaving the economic territory of your country illegally;	51.2	22.4	26.4	59.3	25.9	14.8	48.9	21.3	29.8
bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are acquired by national vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country;	49.6	21.5	28.9	59.3	25.9	14.8	46.8	20.2	33.0
goods for repair;	47.9	36.4	15.7	51.9	40.7	7.4	46.8	35.1	18.1
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;	46.3	22.3	31.4	40.8	37.0	22.2	47.9	18.1	34.0
mobile equipment that changes ownership while outside the country of residence of its original owner;	43.8	27.3	28.9	33.3	55.6	11.1	46.8	19.2	34.0
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;	38.0	27.3	34.7	25.9	51.9	22.2	41.5	20.2	38.3
goods exported from your country but lost or destroyed after ownership has been acquired by the importer;	33.9	43.8	22.3	37.0	51.9	11.1	33.0	41.5	25.5
any category of used or second-hand goods ?	15.7	62.8	21.5	3.7	88.9	7.4	19.2	55.3	25.5

Annex 3

**Comparison of distribution of country responses in
1996 and 2006 versions of the questionnaire**

Questions	Distribution of responses by region (in %)	1996			2006			Difference
		Yes	No	N/A	Yes	No	N/A	
Do you INCLUDE in trade statistics:								
<i>non-monetary gold</i>								
	All respondents	77.7	17.6	4.7	86.8	10.7	2.5	9.1
	Developed economies	93.9	6.1	0	96.3	3.7	0	2.4
	Developing and CIS/SEE	73	20.9	6.1	84	12.8	3.2	11
<i>goods traded on government account</i>								
	All respondents	79.7	14.9	5.4	81.2	13.9	4.9	1.5
	Developed economies	84.9	12.1	3	92.6	3.7	3.7	7.7
	Developing and CIS/SEE	78.3	15.7	6.1	77.7	17	5.3	-0.6
<i>goods for military use</i>								
	All respondents	50	42.6	7.4	59.8	33.6	6.6	9.8
	Developed economies	84.9	12.1	3	88.9	7.4	3.7	4
	Developing and CIS/SEE	40	51.2	8.8	52.1	40.4	7.5	12.1
<i>electricity and gas and water</i>								
	All respondents	74.3	18.9	6.8	68	17.2	14.8	-6.3
	Developed economies	94	3	3	88.9	3.7	7.4	-5.1
	Developing and CIS/SEE	68.7	23.5	7.8	51.6	27.1	21.3	-17.1
<i>goods dispatched through postal or courier services</i>								
	All respondents	75.7	20.9	3.4	82	13.9	4.1	6.3
	Developed economies	97	3	0	96.3	3.7	0	-0.7
	Developing and CIS/SEE	69.6	26.1	4.3	77.7	17	5.3	8.1
<i>ships, aircraft and other mobile equipment</i>								
	All respondents	52.7	37.8	9.5	77	17.2	5.8	24.3
	Developed economies	69.7	27.3	3	96.3	3.7	0	26.6
	Developing and CIS/SEE	47.8	40.9	11.3	71.3	21.3	7.4	23.5

<i>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</i>							
All respondents	27	54.1	18.9	33.6	40.2	26.2	6.6
Developed economies	57.5	27.3	15.2	48.2	14.8	37	-9.3
Developing and CIS/SEE	18.3	61.7	20	29.8	47.9	22.3	11.5
<i>in the economic territory of your country</i>							
All respondents	49.3	43.2	7.5	53.3	35.2	11.5	4
Developed economies	51.5	45.5	3	59.3	37	3.7	7.8
Developing and CIS/SEE	48.7	42.6	8.7	51.1	35.1	13.8	2.4
<i>bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage landed in national ports from foreign vessels/aircraft</i>							
All respondents	38.5	51.4	10.1	33.6	42.6	23.8	-4.9
Developed economies	54.5	39.4	6.1	25.9	48.2	25.9	-28.6
Developing and CIS/SEE	33.9	54.8	11.3	35.1	41.5	23.4	1.2
<i>fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage landed from foreign vessels in national ports</i>							
All respondents	50.7	35.8	13.5	54.9	27.9	17.2	4.2
Developed economies	84.8	9.1	6.1	81.5	3.7	14.8	-3.3
Developing and CIS/SEE	40.8	43.5	15.7	47.9	35.1	17	7.1
<i>fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage acquired by national vessels on the high seas from foreign vessels</i>							
All respondents	33.8	48.6	17.6	41.8	39.3	18.9	8
Developed economies	48.4	36.4	15.2	63	22.2	14.8	14.6
Developing and CIS/SEE	29.6	52.1	18.3	36.2	44.7	19.1	6.6
<i>goods for processing</i>							
All respondents	84.4	8.8	6.8	83.6	9	7.4	-0.8
Developed economies	100	0	0	96.3	0	3.7	-3.7
Developing and CIS/SEE	80	11.3	8.7	79.8	11.7	8.5	
<i>goods under financial lease</i>							
All respondents	62.2	29.7	8.1	65.5	23.8	10.7	3.3
Developed economies	87.9	12.1	0	96.3	3.7	0	8.4
Developing and CIS/SEE	54.8	34.8	10.4	57.4	29.8	12.8	2.6
<i>goods traded in accordance with barter agreements</i>							
All respondents	57.4	36.5	6.1	62.3	27.9	9.8	4.9
Developed economies	90.9	6.1	3	92.6	3.7	3.7	1.7
Developing and CIS/SEE	47.8	45.2	7	54.3	35.1	10.6	6.5

<i>food and other humanitarian aid</i>								
	All respondents	63.5	32.4	4.1	75.4	22.1	2.5	11.9
	Developed economies	69.7	30.3	0	63	37	0	-6.7
	Developing and CIS/SEE	61.7	33	5.3	78.7	18.1	3.2	17
<i>local border trade</i>								
	All respondents	36.5	53.4	10.1	36.9	49.2	13.9	0.4
	Developed economies	45.4	36.4	18.2	44.5	37	18.5	-0.9
	Developing and CIS/SEE	33.9	58.3	7.8	35.1	52.1	12.8	1.2
Do you EXCLUDE from trade statistics:								
<i>goods in transit</i>								
	All respondents	70.9	10.9	18.2	83.6	10.7	5.7	12.7
	Developed economies	90.9	3	6.1	96.3	3.7	0	5.4
	Developing and CIS/SEE	65.2	13	21.8	79.8	12.8	7.4	14.6
<i>goods entering or leaving the economic territory of your country illegally</i>								
	All respondents	83.1	10.1	6.8	50.8	22.2	27	-32.3
	Developed economies	87.9	9.1	3	59.3	25.9	14.8	-28.6
	Developing and CIS/SEE	10.4	81.7	7.9	48.9	21.3	29.8	38.5
<i>monetary gold</i>								
	All respondents	78.4	13.5	8.1	80.3	12.3	7.4	1.9
	Developed economies	90.9	9.1	0	96.3	3.7	0	5.4
	Developing and CIS/SEE	14.8	74.8	10.4	75.5	14.9	9.6	60.7
<i>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</i>								
	All respondents	59.5	25	15.5	37.8	27	35.2	-21.7
	Developed economies	54.5	36.4	9.1	25.9	51.9	22.2	-28.6
	Developing and CIS/SEE	22.2	60.8	17	41.5	20.2	38.3	19.3
<i>goods under operational lease</i>								
	All respondents	63.5	27.7	8.8	74.6	13.9	11.5	11.1
	Developed economies	78.8	21.2	0	96.3	3.7	0	17.5
	Developing and CIS/SEE	29.6	59.1	11.3	69.1	16	14.9	39.5
<i>goods for repair</i>								
	All respondents	44.6	45.9	9.5	47.5	36.9	15.6	2.9
	Developed economies	48.5	51.5	0	51.9	40.7	7.4	3.4
	Developing and CIS/SEE	44.3	43.5	12.2	46.8	35.1	18.1	2.5
<i>goods temporarily admitted or dispatched</i>								

All respondents	61.5	30.4	8.1	72.9	19.7	7.4	11.4
Developed economies	72.7	24.2	3.1	92.6	7.4	0	19.9
Developing and CIS/SEE	32.2	58.2	9.6	68.1	22.3	9.6	35.9
Valuation							
<i>Is the statistical value of imported goods a CIF-type value?</i>							
All respondents	90.5	6.1	3.4	93.4	4.9	1.7	2.9
Developed economies	93.9	6.1	0	96.3	3.7	0	2.4
Developing and CIS/SEE	89.6	6.1	4.3	92.6	5.3	2.1	3
<i>Is the statistical value of exported goods an FOB-type value?</i>							
All respondents	94.6	2	3.4	96.7	2.5	0.8	2.1
Developed economies	97	3	0	96.3	3.7	0	-0.7
Developing and CIS/SEE	93.9	1.8	4.3	96.8	2.1	1.1	2.9
<i>Do you use the exchange rate which is in effect at the date of exportation or importation?</i>							
All respondents	52.7	25.7	21.6	64.7	20.5	14.8	12
Developed economies	45.5	45.5	9	48.1	29.6	22.3	2.6
Developing and CIS/SEE	54.8	20	25.2	70.2	18.1	11.7	15.4
<i>Are data for international freight and insurance associated with the importation of goods available separately?</i>							
All respondents	29.7	65.5	4.8	40.2	58.2	1.6	10.5
Developed economies	18.8	68.7	12.5	25.9	74.1	0	7.1
Developing and CIS/SEE	26.1	67.8	6.1	44.7	53.2	2.1	18.6
Partner country							
<i>Do you compile import statistics by:</i>							
<i>country of origin?</i>							
All respondents	81.8	14.9	3.5	90.2	8.2	1.6	8.4
Developed economies	93.9	6.1	0	96.3	3.7	0	2.4
Developing and CIS/SEE	78.3	17.4	4.3	89.4	8.5	2.1	11.1
<i>country of consignment?</i>							
All respondents	50	44.6	5.4	46.7	46.7	6.6	-3.3
Developed economies	60.6	39.4	0	74.1	25.9	0	13.5
Developing and CIS/SEE	47	46.1	6.9	38.3	53.2	8.5	-8.7
<i>Do you compile export statistics by:</i>							
<i>country of last known destination?</i>							
All respondents	87.8	7.4	4.8	91.8	5.7	2.5	4

Developed economies	97	3	0	92.6	7.4	0	-4.4
Developing and CIS/SEE	85.2	8.7	6.1	91.5	5.3	3.2	6.3

Commodity classifications and quantity measurements

Do you use the Harmonized System (HS) as the basis for your detailed commodity trade database?

All respondents	77	18.2	4.8	94.2	2.5	3.3	17.2
Developed economies	100	0	0	96.3	3.7	0	-3.7
Developing and CIS/SEE	70.4	23.5	6.1	93.6	2.1	4.3	23.2

Do you collect quantity data?

All respondents	79.7	2.1	18.2	93.4	3.3	3.3	13.7
Developed economies	93.9	0	6.1	100	0	0	6.1
Developing and CIS/SEE	75.7	2.6	21.7	91.4	4.3	4.3	15.7

Do you record or estimate net weight for quantity measurement of all commodities, where applicable?

All respondents	70.9	10.8	18.3	76.2	20.5	3.3	5.3
Developed economies	90.9	3	6.1	74.1	25.9	0	-16.8
Developing and CIS/SEE	65.2	13.1	21.7	76.6	19.1	4.3	11.4