

**Second meeting of the Expert Group on International  
Merchandise Trade Statistics**  
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**Agenda item 11:  
Chapter III Commodity  
Classifications**



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# Chapter III Commodity Classifications

## Introduction

- This chapter is mostly unchanged
- Contains descriptive text regarding the different classifications

## What' s new

- Illustration about relationship between different classifications
- Explanation and guidance regarding the use of the HS chapters 98 and 99 and also 77 [Para. 3.10]
- Recommendation regarding the use of SITC for trade statistics dissemination [Para. 3.19]

## Outline of Chapter III

- A. Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
- B. Standard International Trade Classification
- C. Classification by Broad Economic Categories
- D. Central Product Classification
- E. International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities

## Results of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of Worldwide Consultation

- Countries find the contents of this chapter useful
- Several countries explicitly welcome the new paragraph on the use of HS chapters 98 and 99; others express concerns
- Not all countries agree with the recommendation on the use of SITC or the formulation of this recommendation
- Several countries express their interest to be informed about correlation tables between the different classifications
- It is also pointed out that non-customs sources might not contain equally detailed commodity information as customs declarations.

Thank you for your attention!