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\textsuperscript{nd} 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!