

Project 06/07K: Strengthening the Development of International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) and the compilation of e-commerce in Member Countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Workshop on the compilation of IMTS and the application of methodological concepts

28 October – 2 November 2007, Amman, Jordan

UNSD activities in International Trade Statistics



Presentation by Matthias Reister

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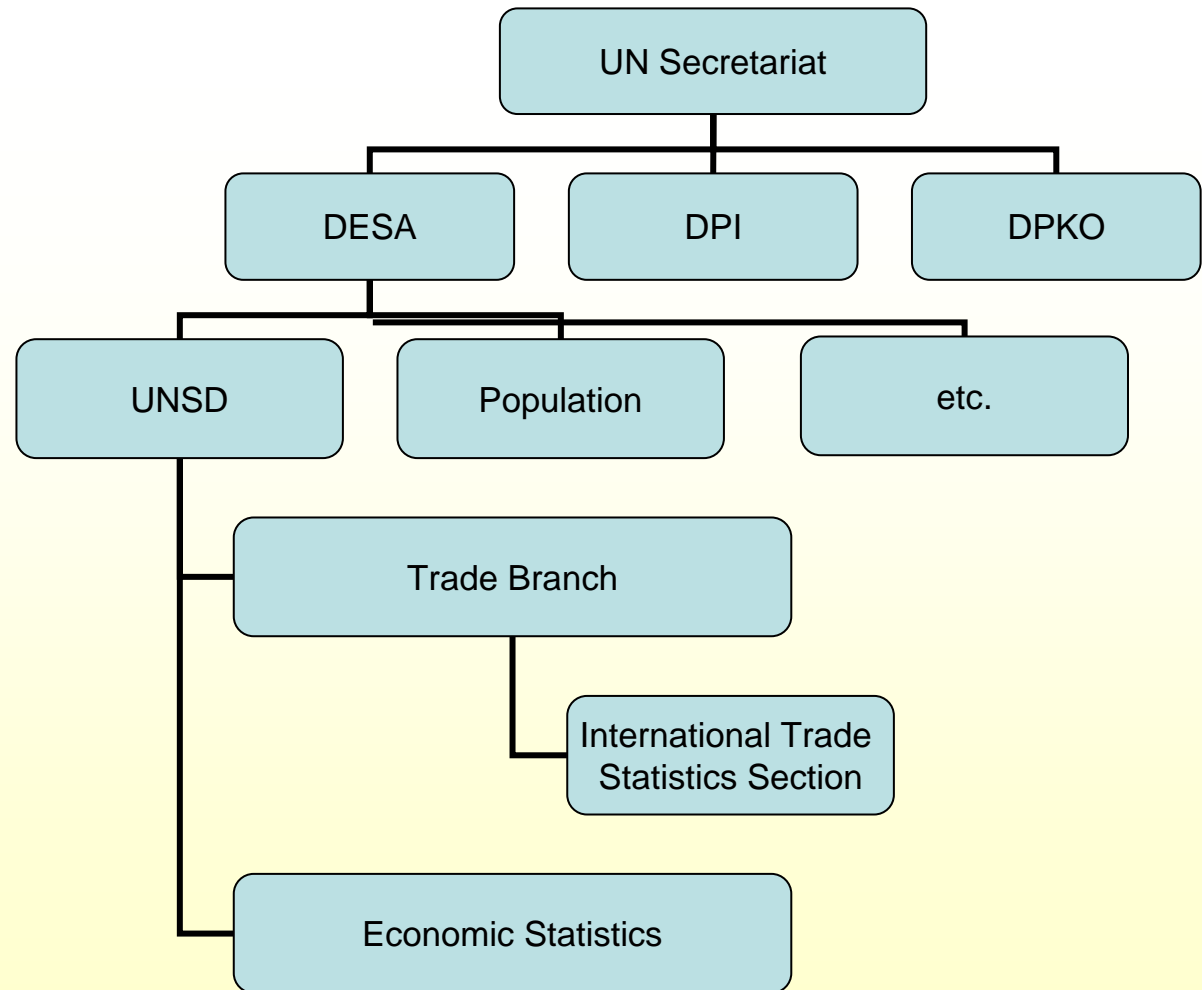
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Review of UNSD activities

Structure of United Nations



Activities of the International Trade Statistics Section (ITSS)

- International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)
- International Trade in Services (ITS)
(not further covered in presentation)
 1. **Methodology / International standards and recommendations**
 2. **Data collection, analysis and dissemination**
 3. **International Coordination and Technical Assistance**

Methodological work on International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)

- IMTS, Concepts & Definitions <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?id=317>
- IMTS, Compilers Manual <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?id=111>
- IMTS, Supplement to the Compilers Manual (forthcoming)
- IMTS, National Compilation and Dissemination Practices 2006 (database forthcoming)
- Unit value index calculation and trade indices
- IMTS, Concepts and Definitions, Rev.3 (2010?)
- Important issues: Processing Zones, Re-exports, Country of origin, Goods vs. Services, Revised Kyoto Convention (effects of globalization)

Methodological work on IMTS (continued)

- SITC, Revision 4 and correspondence tables
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/sitcrev4.htm>
- BEC, Rev.4 (in terms of HS-2002 and SITC, R3)
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm>
- Additional correlation tables
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm>
- Statistical Territories of the World for Use in International Merchandise Trade Statistics
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm>

Data collection, analysis and dissemination

UN Comtrade <http://comtrade.un.org/kb/>

- Collection and standardization of detailed merchandise trade statistics by partner and commodity (over 160 reporters)
- Modern data processing system with extensive verification procedures regarding totals, data by partner and commodity, and quantity information
- Powerful web-based dissemination system with free and subscriber access
- UN Comtrade knowledgebase for metadata, Q/A etc.

<http://comtrade.un.org/kb/>

→ Standard database for worldwide data on IMTS

Data collection, analysis and dissemination (continued)

Data analysis and estimation

- Analytical tables (containing world and region totals for trade values and trade indices for total exports, total imports, manufactured goods exports and fuel imports)
- World matrix tables for exports by provenance and destination, incl. estimation of missing trade
- World imports and exports by commodity group, incl. estimations
- Unit value calculation based on UN Comtrade data
- Conversion factor calculation
- Annual total table (new)

Data collection, analysis and dissemination (continued)

Data publication besides UN Comtrade

- Yearbook (consisting of country tables, Commodity tables, matrix tables and the other analytical tables)
- Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (matrix tables and analytical tables)
- Statistical yearbook (analytical tables)
- Annual total table <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/imts/annual%20totals.htm>

International Cooperation and Technical Assistance

- UN Statistical Commission
- Task for on International Merchandise Trade Statistics
- Further cooperation with other international and regional organizations such as OECD, FAO, WTO, WCO, regional commissions and other regional organizations such as Eurostat, ALADI (Latin America) etc.
- Conduct of Workshops on IMTS and other technical assistance activities (very limited)
http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/workshops_imts.htm
- Participation in other meetings/ workshops on IMTS
- For further information please see our Newsletter on International Trade Statistics: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/newsletter.htm>

» Thank for your
attention