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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

STATISTICS DIVISION
INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS BRANCH

WORKSHOP ON THE COMPILATION OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS
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Country Presentation

Statistics - Kenya

Presentation by the Central Bureau of Statistics of Kenya

A brief outline on the processing of External Trade Statistics: The Kenyan Case.

- The mandate of the Statistical office: The Central Bureau of Statistics is mandated to collect, analyze and disseminate external trade statistics among other Statistics.
- Sources of information: The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) reports are the main source of Kenya's External trade data.
- The central Bureau of Statistics does not key punch paper declarations, rather they receive data in terms of monthly and annual reports in print out form from the customs office. The Bureau also receives the data in electronic format from the customs office (KRA). However the system is not yet operational. It is not yet used for dissemination.
- The bureau only receives reports from the Kenya Revenue Authority. The national Statistical therefore does not deal with declarations.
- The system of Trade used in Kenya is mainly, the General trade System as defined in the united Nations Commodity Index with minor variation to suit Kenyan conditions. Imports and exports from the Export Processing Zones are however classified under Special Trade.
- Exclusions: Traveler's samples, passengers' baggage, motor vehicles moved on triptyque or carnet de passage de Duane, naval and military stores, duty free goods with value of less than Sh.1,000 moved by airfreight, goods in transit to neighboring countries outside Kenya, diplomatic

goods imported and exports by parcel post are excluded from the trade statistics.

- Checks on the data received from customs: Consistency checks are carried out on receipt of data for values and quantities. Other checks include aggregates, unit prices trading partners and supplementary units.
- If declarations seem to have errors, the errors are pointed out to the customs officer dealing with statistics. Further discussions between the customs office and the officer from the statistical office dealing with trade data are carried out to obtain clarity on the figures given.
- Processing declarations is the mandate of the customs office. This is done within 2-3 months for monthly data.
- Consultations are carried out between the customs office and the Central bureau of Statistics throughout the preparation of Trade statistics. This is especially done during the preparation of the trade statistics to be published in the Annual Economic survey and yearly Statistical Abstract. In addition, quarterly meetings are held throughout the year drawing participants from the Central Bank, Kenya Revenue Authority, Kenya Pipeline Company, Kenya Petroleum and Oil Refineries, National Oil Corporation, Ministry of Trade Department of External Trade, Export Promotion Council among others. The Central Bureau of Statistics chairs the meetings. Through this quarterly sub-committee, certain issues regarding the consistency of trade figures are discussed and resolved.

Kenya's Trade During 1999-2003

Year	Exports	Imports	Volume	Exchange rate to US D
1999	122,559.0	206,400.6	328,959.6	70.90
2000	134,527.1	247,803.9	382,330.9	76.88
2001	147,590.0	290,108.2	437,698.1	78.62
2002	169,283.4	257,710.0	426,993.4	77.74
2003*	183,153.5	281,843.9	464,997.4	76.00

* The 2003 figures are provisional.

Note: Value of Exports, Imports and Volume are given in millions of Kenya shillings.

Kenya's Major exports are horticulture, tea, coffee fish and fish preparations. The leading destination for Kenya's exports is Africa, especially COMESA and the European Union. Within the European the major importers of Kenyan goods are the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

The main source of Kenya's Imports is the Middle East and more specifically, the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia. Japan and India are also important sources of Kenya's Imports. Among the European Union countries, United Kingdom and Germany are the leading suppliers of Kenya's imports. South Africa is a major source within the African region.