



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR AFRICA

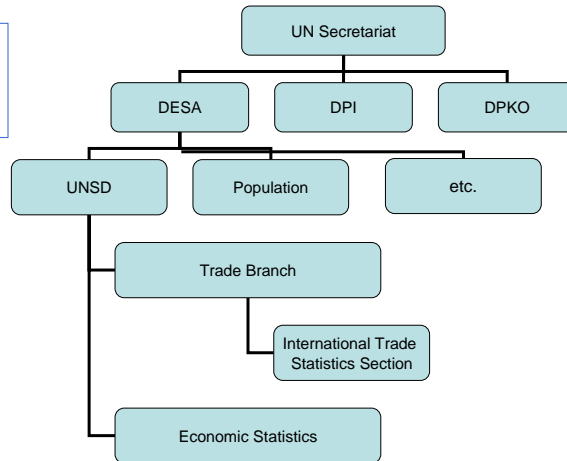
**International Workshop on Country Practices in Compilation of
International Merchandise Trade Statistics, 12-16 November 2007, Addis Ababa**

Presentation
United Nations Statistics Division

Item 3: UNSD activities in trade statistics

Review of UNSD activities

Structure of
United Nations



United Nations Statistics Division

1

Review of UNSD activities

- International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)
- Statistics of 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**

United Nations Statistics Division

2

Methodology / International standards and recommendations

- IMTS, Concepts & Definitions (1998) <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?id=317>
- IMTS, Compilers Manual (2004) <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?id=111>
- IMTS, Supplement to the Compilers Manual (2008)
- 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)

Methodology / International standards and recommendations

- 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>
- National Practices in Compilation and Dissemination of External Trade Index Numbers (2005)
- 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

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

Data publication besides UN Comtrade

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

International Coordination 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 you for
your attention