
Presentation
United Nations Statistics Division

Item 3: UNSD activities in trade statistics
Review of UNSD activities

Structure of United Nations

UN Secretariat

DESA

DPI

DPKO

UNSD

Population

e tc.

Trade Branch

International Trade Statistics Section

Economic Statistics

United Nations Statistics Division

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
Methodology / International standards and recommendations

- 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)

United Nations Statistics Division
**UN Comtrade**

- 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.

→ Standard database for worldwide data on IMTS

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**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

- 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](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/imts/annual%20totals.htm)

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](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/workshops_imts.htm)
- Participation in other meetings/workshops on IMTS

Thank you for your attention