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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS  
STATISTICS DIVISION



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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 6: Overview of NCDP Questionnaire - 1*

**International Merchandise Trade Statistics  
(IMTS) Compilers Manual  
National Compilation and Dissemination Practices  
(NCDP) Questionnaire 2006**

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## The Compilers Manual

- The Manual has been prepared in accordance with the recommendation of the twenty-ninth session of the United Nations Statistical Commission;
- The primary purpose of the Manual is to assist Member States in implementation of the methodological guidelines adopted by the Commission and laid out in *International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions, Revision 2* (IMTS, Rev.2);
- The Manual clarifies a number of basic concepts and identifies compilation practices that promote implementation of the IMTS, Rev.2;

## Compilers Manual (continued)

- The manual builds upon a number of international conventions and agreements regarding customs procedures and trade policy matters, mainly those worked out by WTO and WCO.
- The Compilers Manual is on the process of being revised. As part of the revision exercise, questionnaires comprising of 13 sections with a total of 173 questions were sent to countries in 2006. The title of the questionnaire is National Compilation and Dissemination Practices (NCDP) in International Merchandise Trade Statistics.

## Compilers Manual (continued)

- A total of 121 countries replied, out of which, 12 are South and Eastern African countries. With the exception of 3 questions, the allowed answer is either “Yes”, “No” or “N/A”. However, there is a comment column where countries may put any clarification for their replies. The result is shown in percentage of “Yes”, “No” and “N/A”.
- The results of selected questions for all respondents (121 respondents) and for South and Eastern Africa (12 respondents) are shown.
- It is followed by comparison of compliance to UN recommendations between 1996 and 2006 for all respondents and Africa (23 respondents).

## NCDP Questionnaire PART I

**Section 1: Institutional arrangements**

**Section 2: Sources of data**

**Section 3: Coverage and Time of recording**

**Section 4: Customs procedures**

**Section 5: Trade system**

**Section 6: Commodity classifications and  
Quantity measurement**

## NCDP Questionnaire PART I

**Section 7: Valuation and currency conversion**

**Section 8: Partner country**

**Section 9: Data Quality Control**

**Section 10: Mode of transport**

**Section 11: Reporting and dissemination**


## NCDP Questionnaire PART II

**Details on INCLUSIONS and EXCLUSIONS of particular items in the international merchandise trade statistics**

**Section 12: Inclusions**

**Section 13: Exclusions**

## Section 1: Institutional arrangements

1.01  Is your national methodology of compilation and dissemination of foreign merchandise trade statistics based on IMTS, Rev.2 ?

1.02 Is the National Statistical Office the responsible agency for the compilation and dissemination of trade statistics ?

*If No, please specify in the Comments field which agency is responsible for this.*

| International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) |       | 121 Countries |       |  |
|---|-------|---------------|-------|--|
| Question  | Yes % | No %          | N/A % |  |
| 1.01  | 71.1  | 13.2          | 15.7  |  |
| 1.02  | 77.6  | 19.0          | 3.4   |  |

**Section 1: Institutional arrangements**

1.01 Is your national methodology of compilation and dissemination of foreign merchandise trade statistics based on IMTS, Rev.2 ?

1.02 Is the National Statistical Office the responsible agency for the compilation and dissemination of trade statistics ?  
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| International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) |       | Eastern and Southern Africa (12) |       |  |
|---|-------|----------------------------------|-------|--|
| Question  | Yes % | No %                             | N/A % |  |
| 1.01  | 75.0  | 8.3                              | 16.7  |  |
| 1.02  | 83.4  | 8.3                              | 8.3   |  |

**Section 1: Institutional arrangements**

1.01 Is your national methodology of compilation and dissemination of foreign merchandise trade statistics based on IMTS, Rev.2 ?

1.02 Is the National Statistical Office the responsible agency for the compilation and dissemination of trade statistics ?  
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## Section 1: Institutional arrangements

|             |   |  |
|-------------|---|--|
|             | Do the following agencies provide data to your office for use in the compilation of the trade statistics: |  |
| <b>1.03</b> |   | Customs administration   |
| <b>1.04</b> |   | Central Bank   |
| <b>1.05</b> |   | Commodity board<br><i>If Yes, please specify in Comments field</i> |
| <b>1.06</b> |   | National Energy Agency   |
| <b>1.07</b> |   | Other, <i>If Yes, please specify in Comments field</i>             |

## Section 1: Institutional arrangements

|             |  |  | 121 Countries |       |      |       |
|-------------|--|--|---------------|-------|------|-------|
| Do the      |  |  | Question      | Yes % | No % | N/A % |
| <b>1.03</b> |  | Cust   | 1.03          | 95.9  | 0.8  | 3.3   |
| <b>1.04</b> |  | Cent   | 1.04          | 19.8  | 67.8 | 12.4  |
| <b>1.05</b> |  | Com  | 1.05          | 7.5   | 72.7 | 19.8  |
|             |  | <i>If Y</i>  | 1.06          | 25.6  | 62.0 | 12.4  |
| <b>1.06</b> |  | Nati   | 1.07          | 42.1  | 30.6 | 27.3  |
| <b>1.07</b> |  | Other, <i>If Yes, please specify in Comments field</i> |               |       |      |       |

## Section 1: Institutional arrangements

|        |  | Eastern and Southern Africa (12) |       |      |       |
|--------|--|----------------------------------|-------|------|-------|
| Do the |  | Question                         | Yes % | No % | N/A % |
| 1.03   | Cust   | 1.03                             | 100   | 0.0  | 0.0   |
| 1.04   | Cent   | 1.04                             | 41.7  | 50.0 | 8.3   |
| 1.05   | Com  | 1.05                             | 25.0  | 50.0 | 25.0  |
|        | <i>If Y</i>  | 1.06                             | 50.0  | 33.3 | 16.7  |
| 1.06   | Nati   | 1.07                             | 50.0  | 8.3  | 41.7  |
| 1.07   | Other, <i>If Yes, please specify in Comments field</i> |                                  |       |      |       |

## UN Recommendations

Compilers should establish good working arrangements with the organizations that keep records relevant to trade statistics



## Section 1: Institutional arrangements

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 1.08 | Does your office have any memorandum of understanding or any similar working agreement with any of the mentioned agencies?                                 |
| 1.09 | If you have working agreements with other agencies, does your office regularly meet or consult with these agencies before release of the trade statistics? |

## Section 1: Institutional arrangements

|      |  |               |       |      |       |
|------|--|---------------|-------|------|-------|
| 1.08 | Does your office have any memorandum of understanding or any similar working agreement with any of the mentioned agencies?                                 | 121 Countries |       |      |       |
|      |  | Question      | Yes % | No % | N/A % |
|      |  | 1.08          | 65.2  | 28.1 | 6.7   |
| 1.09 | If you have working agreements with other agencies, does your office regularly meet or consult with these agencies before release of the trade statistics? | 1.09          | 39.7  | 45.4 | 14.9  |

## Section 1: Institutional arrangements

| 1.08 | Does your office have any memorandum of understanding or any similar working agreement with an | Eastern and Southern Africa (12) |       |      |       |
|------|--|----------------------------------|-------|------|-------|
|      |  | Question                         | Yes % | No % | N/A % |
| 1.09 | If you have consulted with these agencies before release of the trade statistics?              | 1.08                             | 75.0  | 25.0 | 0.0   |
|      |  | 1.09                             | 41.7  | 50.0 | 8.3   |

## UN Recommendations

Compilers should also initiate, whenever appropriate, modifications to national legislation or relevant administrative regulations in order to establish a solid foundation for enhancing the quality and timeliness of trade statistics.

## Section 2: Sources of Data

2.01 Are customs declarations the main source of data?  
*If No, please specify your main source of data in the Comments field*

Do you use the following as additional sources of data:

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2.02 | Foreign shipping manifests   |
| 2.03 | Currency exchange records or other records of monetary authorities |

## Section 2: Sources of Data

|      |  |               |       |      |       |
|------|--|---------------|-------|------|-------|
| 2.01 | Are customs declarations the main source of data?<br><i>If No, please specify your main source of data in the Comments field</i> | 121 Countries |       |      |       |
|      | Do you use the following as additional sources of data:  | Question      | Yes % | No % | N/A % |
|      |  | 2.01          | 88.4  | 9.1  | 2.5   |
|      |  | 2.02          | 14.9  | 79.3 | 5.8   |
|      |  | 2.03          | 28.1  | 65.2 | 6.7   |
| 2.02 | Foreign shipping manifests   |               |       |      |       |
| 2.03 | Currency exchange records or other records of monetary authorities   |               |       |      |       |

## Section 2: Sources of Data

Eastern and Southern Africa (12)

| Question | Yes % | No % | N/A % |
|----------|-------|------|-------|
| 2.01     | 100.0 | 0.0  | 0.0   |
| 2.02     | 25.0  | 75.0 | 0.0   |
| 2.03     | 41.7  | 58.3 | 0.0   |

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 2.01 | Are customs records used to compile the Commodity Schedule?        |
| 2.02 | Foreign shipping manifests   |
| 2.03 | Currency exchange records or other records of monetary authorities |

## Section 2: Sources of Data

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2.04 | Parcel and letter post records                              |
| 2.05 | Aircraft and ship registers                                 |
| 2.06 | Reports of commodity boards                                 |
| 2.07 | Administrative records associated with taxation             |
| 2.08 | Enterprise surveys  |
| 2.09 | Other<br><i>If Yes, please provide examples in Comments</i> |

## Section 2: Sources of Data

|      |             | 121 Countries |       |      |       |
|------|-------------|---------------|-------|------|-------|
|      |             | Question      | Yes % | No % | N/A % |
| 2.04 | Parc        |               |       |      |       |
| 2.05 | Airc        |               |       |      |       |
| 2.06 | Rep         | 2.04          | 30.6  | 62.8 | 6.6   |
| 2.07 | Adm         | 2.05          | 23.1  | 68.5 | 8.4   |
| 2.08 | Ente        | 2.06          | 9.9   | 75.2 | 14.9  |
| 2.09 | Othe        | 2.07          | 29.7  | 62.0 | 8.3   |
|      | <i>If Y</i> | 2.08          | 26.4  | 63.6 | 10.0  |
|      |             | 2.09          | 14.1  | 47.1 | 38.8  |

## Section 2: Sources of Data

|      |           | Eastern and Southern Africa (12) |       |       |       |
|------|-----------|----------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
|      |           | Question                         | Yes % | No %  | N/A % |
| 2.04 | Pa        |                                  |       |       |       |
| 2.05 | A         |                                  |       |       |       |
| 2.06 | Re        | 2.04                             | 33.3  | 66.7  | 0.0   |
| 2.07 | Ac        | 2.05                             | 0.0   | 100.0 | 0.0   |
| 2.08 | Er        | 2.06                             | 16.7  | 75.0  | 8.3   |
| 2.09 | O         | 2.07                             | 33.3  | 66.7  | 0.0   |
|      | <i>If</i> | 2.08                             | 25.0  | 75.0  | 0.0   |
|      |           | 2.09                             | 0.0   | 41.7  | 58.3  |