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Purpose of the international Workshop on the compilation of International Merchandise Trade Statistics

IMTS Workshop, Bangkok 12-15 December 2006 **United Nations Statistics Division**



Background of the Workshop

- Confirmation of the existing recommendations of International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS, Rev2, 1998)
- Building on recent Technical Cooperation
 - 2003 UNSD Workshop on Trade Statistics for LDCs and SIDCs
 - 2006 ASEAN Workshop in Bangkok



Framework of the Workshop

- Changes in recommendations of
 - System of National Accounts (2008)
 - Balance of Payment Statistics (2008)
 - Statistics of International Trade in Services (2009)
- Possible adjusted recommendations of International Merchandise Trade Statistics (2010)



Purpose of the Workshop

- Clarification of Recommendations of International Merchandise Trade Statistics
- Clarification of Measurement of
 - Goods for Processing
 - Re-exports of Foreign Goods
 - Country of Origin
 - Change of Ownership
 - Imports FOB



IMTS Standards - Developments

- 1. IMTS, Concepts and Definitions (Rev.2, 1998)
- 2. IMTS, Compilers Manual (2004)
- 3. Supplement to the Compilers Manual (2007)
- 4. IMTS, Concepts and Definitions (Rev.3, 2010)



Supplement to Compilers Manual (2007)

Workshop as Input to the Supplement:

The Supplement will consist of two parts, namely one part on the national compilation and dissemination practices of IMTS, and the other part on selected data compilation and reporting issues.

Part I: NCDP Questionnaire

Part II: Selected issues



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



Supplement to Compilers Manual – Part II: Selected Issues

- Kyoto 2000 and its implications for data compilation
- Boundary between IMTS and SITS, including compilation of data on goods for processing
- Globalization issues, linking trade and structural business statistics
- INTRASTAT: achievements and current challenges



Supplement to Compilers Manual – Part II: Selected Issues

- Recording transactions between residents and nonresidents and change of ownership
- Experience in compilation of FOB imports
- Lessening country reporting burden to international organizations
- Other issues (e.g., origin of used goods including antiques; goods exported under financial lease)



Thank you for your attention