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Country Paper

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COUNTRY PRACTICE: SECTION 6

COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND QUANTITY MEASUREMENT

PAPUA NEW GUINEA - NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICE

COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION

Since January 1981, commodities were classified in accordance with the “Papua New Guinea International Trade Classification, Revised 1980”, which was based on the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) Revision 2⁽¹⁾. Earlier Merchandise Trade Statistics were classified under the “PNG Export and Import Trade Classification, Revised 1974”, which was based on SITC, Revised. Currently Merchandise Trade Classification is based on Harmonised System which was introduced by Customs Bureau in 1991.

QUANTITY MEASUREMENT AND QUALITY CONTROL

In this regard the NSO does collect and record all Quantity as supplied by the Customs from its administrative record. Where there is discrepancies in the data due to incorrect Quantity which causes unreliable unit value, no proper analyses is carried out. This is due to the fact that the NSO lacks source data to refer for amendment. Most cases the raw data provided by Customs using Customs Asycuda System for capturing data is incomplete that it is quite difficulty to write a guard file to check on the out-layers and do proper analyses. Overall this set-back leads discrepancies. To conclude the NSO, though is aware of the lack of Quality data. However is not in the position to rectify the situation.

REPORTING AND DISSEMINATION

The PNG Statistics Office previously was publishing Merchandise Trade Statistics on Quarterly and Annually on Georgian Calendar basis (Jan-Dec). Apart from that, Preliminary Statistics was also released and was updated or revised during the release of Quarterly bulletins. This was practice when NSO was using SITC for reporting purposes. Currently this is not so. This is due to the untimely and delays in transmission of raw data from Customs office through the Country particularly after the introduction of Asycuda data capturing system. The National Statistics Office now publishes and releases Trade Statistics on Annual basis, broken down by Quarter. The data is tabulated in aggregated level, however most detail Statistics is obtained upon request.

⁽¹⁾ Statistical Papers Series M.No.38, REV 2.

MODE OF TRANSPORT

In Papua New Guinea the only mode of transport used which is recorded is either by air or by sea. This is recorded by Customs on the declaration document. However not identified by NSO when the raw data is transmitted.

AFFILIATED TRADE AND CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP

This particular Trade does takes place, however is not identified also. All special Trade is supposed to be identified by Customs Procedures Codes (CPC), thus being sorted out during the extraction.