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IMTS Quality Control:
The Case of Vietnam Customs

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Vietnam Customs
Today Agenda

- Organization of Customs Data Quality Checks
- Data Quality Checks
- Price, Value, Volume, Country, … Trend
- Instruments for Checking Quality
- Method of Communications
- Difficulties and Problems
- The Way Forward: Enhancing Quality Check
Organization of Customs Data Quality Checks

- Customs organization: Headquarter, city, provincial customs departments, and customs checkpoints (sub-departments)
- Data quality checks implemented at three levels
Data Quality Checks

- In principle, Identification of all transactions with a value of USD 100 thousand or more;
- Legality checks on all transactions (value, HS code, unit of quantity, volume, exchange rate, country, customs checkpoint, ...);
- Unit value range for all main imports and exports;
- Net weight and volume;
- Supporting documents (C/O, B/L, Invoice, ...);
- More focus on exports and non dutiable imports (processing trade); and
- Double-check with respondents (crude oil, aircraft, ..).
Average Price Trends

Average price trend of all main exports and imports, every 10 days
Value, Volume, Country,…Trends

Vietnam Volume Trend for Cashew nut Exported, from Jan. to Nov. 2006
Instruments for Checking Quality

- In-house tools;
- Customs Declarations Processing System;
- Customs Statistics Report Program;
- MS Excel, MS Access, SQL Server; and
- Data warehouse, etc
Data warehouse

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Methods of Communication

- Reporting system
- Telephone
- Internet
- Paper
Difficulties and Problems

- Lack of off-the-shelf softwares;
- Mistake of data entry;
- No systematic procedures;
- Many operational systems but not integrated;
- No annual quality report;
- Lack of experiences;
- Lack of human resources; and
- Lack of an effective coordination and feedback mechanism with end-users.
The Way Forward: Enhancing Quality Check

- Customs Modernization Project;
- Strategic Plan for Customs Statistics Development;
- Customs Statistics Capacity Building Program;
- Awareness Program for Trading Community;
- Data reconciliation and exchange with trading partners;
- Technical Assistance and Cooperation; and
- Customs and Statistics Cooperation.
In Sum

- Organization of Customs Data Quality Check
- Data Quality Checks
- Price, Value, Volume, Country, …Trend
- Instruments for Checking Quality
- Method of Communications
- Difficulties and Problems
- The Way Forward: Enhancing Quality Check
Questions & Answers
General Discussion

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Thank you very much