



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE
CARIBBEAN

**Workshop for Developing Countries on the Revision of the International
Recommendations for International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS),
Bogotá, 31 March -3 April, 2009**

Final Agenda

Morning sessions are from 9:00 to 12:00 and afternoon sessions from 13:30 to 16:30 (*Each 3 hour session includes a break of 15 minutes*)

Tuesday, 31 March

Registration for participants: 8:00-9:00

Morning session 9:00 - 12:00

1. Opening of the meeting (DANE, ECLAC)
2. Opening statement by Paul Cheung, Director, UNSD
3. Adoption of Agenda, Purpose of workshop and Administrative matters (UNSD, DANE)
4. UNSD activities in the field of International Trade Statistics (UNSD presentation)
5. ECLAC activities in the field of International Trade Statistics (ECLAC presentation)
6. Need for the revision of IMTS, Rev.2; Outline and status of the revision process (UNSD presentation followed by General Discussion)

Afternoon session 13:30-16:30

7. Coverage (Definition of IMTS and nature of transactions covered; Change of ownership; Goods for processing; Trade between affiliated enterprises)
 - UNSD introduction
 - Country presentations (*Bahamas, Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru*)
 - General discussion

Wednesday, 1 April

Morning session 9:00 - 12:00

8. Coverage - cont. (Packaged software; Downloadable software and audiovisual products; Asymmetric inclusions and exclusions; Other inclusions and exclusions)
 - UNSD introduction
 - Country presentations (*Dominican Republic, Honduras, Jamaica*)
 - General discussion

9. Trade system (Clarification of territorial elements; Boundaries of the relaxed definition of the special trade system; Free zones, Other concerns)
 - UNSD introduction
 - Country presentations (*Argentina, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Panama, Paraguay*)
 - General discussion

Afternoon session 13:30-16:30

10. Commodity classification and quantity measurement (Review of existing recommendations; Other concerns)
 - UNSD introduction
 - Country presentations (*Bolivia, El Salvador*)
 - General discussion

11. Mode of transport (What to record; How to classify)
 - UNSD introduction
 - Country presentations (*Ecuador, Mexico, Peru*)
 - General discussion

12. Valuation (Compilation of Imports FOB in addition to Imports CIF; Valuation reviewed, i.e. value components, estimation methods, valuation and time of recording in case of non-customs sources; Valuation in certain special cases, i.e. electricity, gas and water, used goods etc.)
 - UNSD introduction
 - Country presentations (*Brazil, Cuba, Uruguay*)
 - General discussion

Thursday, 2 April

Morning session 9:00 - 12:00

13. Partner country (Country of origin and country of consignment for imports; Country of last know destination and country of consignment (destination) for exports; Country of sale/ purchase; Calculation of trade balances; Issues concerning the determination of the country of origin and re-exports (rules of origin); Other concerns)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations (*Argentina, Bahamas, Paraguay*)

General discussion

14. Data sources (Use of non-customs sources; Data compilation strategies and promotion of an integrated approach to economics statistics)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations (*Dominican Republic, Panama*)

General discussion

Afternoon session 13:30-16:30

15. Institutional arrangements (Adding a recommendation on the need for establishing and maintaining necessary institutional arrangements; Promoting data exchange)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations (*Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Venezuela*)

General discussion

16. Data quality and metadata (Providing guidance on data quality (reporting, assessment and indicators); Ensuring data quality; Compilation and dissemination of metadata; Main elements of metadata)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations (*Brazil, Jamaica*)

General discussion

Friday, 3 April

Morning session 9:00 - 12:00

17. Data dissemination (Review of existing recommendations ; Use of new technologies)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations (*Bolivia, El Salvador*)

General discussion

18. Supplementary topics (External trade indices; Relationship and differences to national accounts and balance of payments statistics; Recommendation on seasonally adjusted data; Other)

UNSD introduction

Country presentations (*Chile, Colombia, Uruguay*)

General discussion

Afternoon session 13:30-16:30

19. Round Table Discussion: Identification of the important issues for countries of the ECLAC region

20. Preliminary findings and conclusions (UNSD, ECLAC)

21. Evaluation of the Workshop and other business