

# **WORKSHOP ON THE METHODOLOGY AND DATA COMPILATION OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS (IMTS)**

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**PRESENTED BY**

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1. CURRENT ISSUES CONCERNING WITH QUESTIONNAIRE PART I.
2. CURRENT ISSUES CONCERNING WITH QUESTIONNAIRE PART II.

## **Questionnaire Part I, Q - 2**

### **Who are the agencies providing detailed trade data for the responsible agency mention above?**

- The main agency providing detailed trade data for the responsible agency is Customs Department.

## **Questionnaire Part I, Q - 3**

**Does the responsible agency have any memorandum of understanding (MoU) or any similar working agreement with any of the agencies mentioned above?**

- Yes, as we all are government agencies we have been already prescribed the specific duty to provide and compile IMTS data.

## **Questionnaire Part I, Q - 4**

**What are the present and potential sources of data in your country?**

- Customs Declarations are main source of data in Myanmar.

## **Questionnaire Part I, Q - 5**

### **How does the responsible agency receive the data from providing agencies?**

- CSO; responsible agency organized the data with the help of the Customs department by softcopy. A group of staff is assigned to receive weekly data undertaken by customs department of day by day data entry.

# Questionnaire Part I, Q - 6

## Do the providing agencies validate data entries, i.e., proper coding for commodity, partner country, etc?

- Yes, the providing agency, Myanmar Customs validate the data entries. We use Country Codes, Currency Codes prescribed by the Int'l standard, Commodity codes and Unit Codes prescribed by the AHTN 2007 Version (HS), Importer/Exporter Codes, Station Codes and Port Codes prescribed by the Myanmar Customs.

- e.g. Country Code

- 1. Myanmar - MM 2 Digits
- 2. Japan - JP Level
- 3. Malaysia - MY

- E.g. Currency Codes

- 1. American Dollar - USD 3 Digits
- 2. Japanese Yen - JPY

- e.g. Commodity Code

- 1. Peanut - 2008.19.00 11 10 Digits

## Questionnaire Part I, Q – 6 Cont;

**Do the providing agencies validate data entries, i.e., proper coding for commodity, partner country, etc?**

### e.g. Importer / Exporter Codes

- 1. Dragon Oil Ltd - 2111746 7 Digits
- 2. AA Electronic Ltd - 2137681 Level
- 3. Myanstar Garment - 2114683

### e.g. Station Codes

- 1. Yangon - YGN 3 Digits
- 2. Muse - MUE
- 3. Tarchilate - TCL

### e.g. Port Codes

- 1. Yangon, AWPT Port - YGW 3 Digits
- 2. Yangon, MITT Port - YGT
- 3. Yangon, Int'l Airport - YGA



## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 2**

**Do you use date of lodgment (e.g., the date when goods are unloaded, presented at the Customs Office or released) of the Customs Declaration as an approximation for the time when Goods enter / leave your territory?**

- Yes, we use registered date of Import or Export Declaration at Customs registry section for the data compilation purpose.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 8**

**Do you include in your trade statistics goods entering or leaving the following territorial elements from / to Rest of the world? ( Premises for Customs Warehousing, Premises for Inward Processing, Industrial free Zone, Commercial Free Zone. )**

- The goods entering to the premises for Customs warehousing no need to file customs declarations before delivery.
- All the goods entering or living from / to the premises for inward processing must be declared using Customs declarations and must be submitted to the Customs Department.
- We can get statistical data from Customs Declarations.
- Industrial Free Zone and Commercial Free Zone Systems are not applicable yet.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 9**

**Do you compile trade data based on the Harmonized System (HS) as the basis for detail commodity trade database?**

- Yes, we compile trade data based on the Harmonized System (HS) as the basis for detail commodity trade database.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 10**

**Please specify the edition of Harmonized System currently used by Customs Administration.**

- Myanmar Customs currently use the ( ASEAN Harmonized Tariff Nomenclature ) AHTN 2007 Version.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 11**

### **Do you use HS chapter 00, 98 or 99 for special use?**

- Yes,
- Chapter 00 – We don't use this chapter up to now.
- Chapter 98 – We currently use it for special classification provision. All the tariff lines of this chapter are exempted from the Customs Duty.
- Chapter 99 – We don't use this chapter up to now.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 12**

**Do you publish/ disseminate any data in terms of these following commodity classification? Harmonized System (HS), Standard International Trade Classification (SITC), Classification by Broad Economic Categories ( BEC ), Common Product Classification (CPC), International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC), Others, Please specify;  
From all of commodity classifications mentions above, which one is the most widely requested by users?**

- We publish and disseminate the trade data in terms of Harmonized System (HS) and it is the most widely requested by users.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 13**

### **Do you collect quantity data (net weight and supplementary quantity units)?**

- We collect the quantity data by net weight and we also collect detail of the quantity such as the gross weight, quantity amounts and its measurement if available.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 14**

**Do you compile world Customs Organization ( WCO ) Recommended units of quantity for each of the sub-Headings of HS ( 6 – digit codes )?**

- Yes, we compile the quantity unit in terms of world Customs Organization ( WCO ) Recommended units for each of the sub-Headings of HS ( 6 – digit codes ).



## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 15**

**Do you compile net weight for quantity measurement of all commodities, where applicable?**

- Yes, we compile net weight for quantity measurement of all commodities where applicable.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 16**

**Do you follow recommendation to use for imports CIF-type value and for exports FOB-type value?**

- Yes, we collect import value based on CIF-type value and export value based on FOB-type value.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 17**

**In addition of CIF-type value for imported goods, do you also compile FOB-type value?**

- No, we don't collect FOB-type value for imported goods.
- If the importer declared value using FOB-type we have to convert to CIF-value by adding the freight charges and insurance to FOB value for assessment before data compilation according to the our rules and regulations.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 18**

**In conversion of foreign currencies into national currency, do you use a rate published by the official authorities of your country?**

- Yes, In conversion of foreign currencies into national currency, we use a rate published by the official authorities of our country.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 19**

**Do you use the exchange rate which is in effect at the date of exportation or importation?**

- No, we use the exchange rate which is in effect at the date of submitting the declaration form to the Customs.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 20**

**Do you compile import statistics by Country of Origin, Country of Consignment, Country of Purchase, etc? If country of origin used, do you broadly follow the origin criteria outlines in the revised Kyoto Convention?**

- Yes, we compile import statistics by country of origin follow by the original criteria outlined in revised Kyoto convention.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 21**

**Do you compile export statistics by Country of Last Known Destination, Country of Consignment, Country of sale, etc?**

- Yes, we compile export statistics by country of destination.

## Questionnaire Part II, Q - 23

**If you compile trade statistics by mode of transport, what modes of transport do you identify?**

No	Inclusion List in Trade Statistics	Yes	No	Not Applicable
1	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2	WATER			
2.1	SEA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
2.2	INLAND WATERWAY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3	LAND	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
3.1	RAILWAY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
3.2	ROAD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
4	NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFY			
4.1	PIPELINES AND CABLES		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4.2	POSTAL CONSIGNMENTS, MAIL OR COURIER SHIPMENTS		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4.3	SELF-PROPELLED GOODS		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
4.4	OTHERS, PLEASE SPECIFY		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	



## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 24**

**When confidentiality is applied to certain products, do you always report the full trading partner details at the next higher level of commodity aggregation, which adequately protects confidentially?**

- No, this practice is not implemented yet for the normal commodities.
- But for the commodities related with narcotic drugs such as precursor chemical, it will be bilateral cooperation and sharing information with our trading partner.
- Actually that is not our business of Customs and NSO.
- It is responsibility of Anti-Narcotic Drug Abuse Committee.

## Questionnaire Part II, Q - 31

### **Do you use the revised Kyoto Convention (The International Convention On the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures) as the Basis for the definition of Customs Procedure?**

- Regarding the Customs procedures for the facilitation of the clearance of Commercial goods within the ASEAN countries, the clearance procedures of Myanmar has to be conformed with those laid by the Kyoto Convention which was held by the World Customs Organization. As the purpose of discussion on Customs procedures is to check how far the existing procedures of Myanmar Customs conform to the procedures of the Kyoto Convention, the following relevant customs regulation, rules, orders, etc. Governing the existing system is to be examined.
  - (a) The Sea Customs Act ( India Act No. VIII, 1978 )
  - (b) Myanmar Sea Customs Manual
  - (c) Myanmar Customs Appraisers Manual
  - (d) The preventive Service Manual of Myanmar Customs
  - (e) Other Allied Acts
  - (f) The Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. 1974.
  - (g) The Control of Imports and Exports (Temporary ) Act: 1947.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q – 31 Cont;**

### **Revised Kyoto Convention ( The International Convention On the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures) Cont (1);**

- Most of Myanmar Customs Procedures are in conformity with those laid down by the Kyoto Convention. At present stage of Myanmar's economic development situation, the following procedures of Kyoto Convention are not in practice yet:
  - (a) Annex F1 Free Zones
  - (b) Annex J1 Customs Application of Computer
- There are thirty-one annexure to the Kyoto Convention. Among them some are selected by the ASEAN Economic Ministers, as preferential customs procedures in 1995, and instructed to be used in 1996. At the fourth meeting of ASEAN Directors General the following are decided as the preferential procedures : -
  - (a) Clearance for Home Use (Annex B1)
  - (b) Customs Transit (Annex E1)
  - (c) Goods in Temporary Admission (Annex E5 & E6 )
  - (d) Customs Facilities (Annex F3)
  - (e) Customs Application of Computer (Annex J1).

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q – 31 Cont;**

### **Revised Kyoto Convention ( The International Convention On the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures) Cont (2);**

- Among the above annexure (a) , (c ) and (d) comply with Myanmar Customs Procedures. The Customs Transit (b) reveals the limited amount to the approximate cost of services rendered should be levied but import and export duties are not included. Due to the present condition of Myanmar, the Customs Application of Computer is not fully adaptable. Since computerization of Customs procedures is the ASEAN 's preferential program, efforts are being taken to accomplish the requirements by Myanmar Customs.
- Myanmar has an agreement with annexure B1 consisting of thirty-six standards and twenty-nine recommended procedures, except for standards 22,54,57,58, and recommended procedures 20-23-25-52-53-54 and 55 respectively. Those which are not in agreement as mentioned above will be reviewed and the progress report be presented to the secretary of the WCO, in every three years duration.
- As there are eighteen standards and six recommended procedures in Annex C1, Myanmar is in agreement with all except for standard 14.

## Questionnaire Part II, Q - 32

### Are all customs declarations stored electronically?

- Myanmar Customs has a small Computer Section which has been organized with 25 staffs, 14 Computers connected with one main server. We use the computers only to enter data for statistical purpose and issued periodical reports for higher authorities and CSO, ( responsible agency ). We cannot use the specialized system software for data processing and dissemination.
- We can store the customs declarations of head office and six numbers of large border customs stations electronically. It is about 90% of all customs declarations. We cannot store the customs declarations of five border customs stations because it is very difficult in transportation, communication and infrastructure. But it is not more than 10% of total customs declaration.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 33**

### **Do you used threshold value below which customs Declarations are not required be filed?**

- We don't define the threshold value for manifested cargo or unaccompanied baggage of passengers. These are needed to file customs declarations.
- But for the passenger belongings which are accompanied by the passenger as personally used are allowed to bring into the country without filing customs declaration. It contains some specific personal goods and other household goods total amount of which is not more than 500 USD.
- And also the goods entering or leaving from / to other country through post office no need to be filed Customs Declaration.

## Questionnaire Part II, Q - 34

**Customs declaration form: Are these information set as mandatory item: transaction value, Insurance and freight, net weight supplementary quantity and its unit of measurement?**

- In Myanmar Customs Declaration form, Insurance and Freight are not mandatory items.
- But followings are mandatory items to be filled in Customs Declaration form. It is prescribed by the Notification of Myanmar Customs-
  - (1) Description of Goods
  - (2) H.S Code
  - (3) Value
  - (4) Quantity
  - (5) Net Weight / Gross Weight
  - (6) Mode of Transport
  - (7) Port of Loading / Destination/ Port of Transshipment.
  - (8) Country Whence Consign / For goods to be received From Etc.,

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 36**

### **Do you verify the accuracy of the partner country declared by the trader?**

- We verify Country of Origin based on the trader's declaration and attached documents submitted by importers such as invoice, packing list, Country of Origin Certificate etc; in case of import.
- We verify Country of destination based on the attached documents submitted by exporters such as invoice, packing list, Shipping Instruction, Letter of Credit, sale contract and bill of lading etc; in case of export.



## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 37**

### **Do you validate the quantity declare by the trader using commodity prices?**

- No, we don't accept the quantity and commodity price declared by the traders mostly.
- As our Country practice, all cargo shipment of import or export need to be examined manually by the customs officer except military and diplomatic imports and Exports. We call it 100% examination. And also the commodity price need to be checked compare with the recorded value prescribed by the Customs according to the existing Customs Valuation Systems.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 38**

### **Do you regularly conduct outreach and education for Customs officers and traders?**

- There is a training school In Myanmar Customs Department.
- It always provide various trainings and workshops to Customs Officers.
- And we also provide information and knowledge to Traders and their Agents occasionally such as subjects on H.S, WTO Valuation System, Rules of Origin, Customs Rules , Regulations and Related Procedures and the Knowledge of FTA, etc.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 39**

### **Do you compile customs procedure codes included in the data submitted by the Customs Administration?**

- No, Myanmar Customs cannot use Customs Procedure Codes in data compilation at present.
- But we will use Customs Procedure Codes in near future when we use the new e-customs software. Now we have been preparing to practice this software.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 40**

**Do you use estimates to replace missing values or quantities at detail record level?**

- No, we don't use estimated value to replace missing value or quantities at detail record level?

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 41**

**Do you use estimates to replace missing value (for major commodities or partners) at macro level?**

- No, we don't use estimated missing value or replace value (for major commodities or partners) at macro record level.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 42**

**Have you conducted bilateral or multilateral reconciliation studies with your trading partners in recent year or do you plan to conduct such studies in the near future?**

**No, we don't have bilateral or multilateral reconciliation studies with our trading partners in recent year. The plan to conduct such studies it will be hoped in the near future.**

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 43**

**If errors are detected, do you request clarification from the data providers and correct the data?**

- When we found the error we contact and discuss with the data compiler on phone line and try to correct the error in both sides.

## Questionnaire Part II, Q - 45

**What are the greatest obstacles you had to face in IMTS compilation and dissemination?**

1. Myanmar Customs Department has organized a small computer section and installed the LAN system.
2. But our LAN system is not a fully computer application system of Customs operations.
3. All the Customs clearance process including the data compilation process are done manually.
4. The system was only in-house close system and not connecting directly to trading partners.



## **Questionnaire Part II, Q – 45 Cont;**

### **What are the greatest obstacles you had to face in IMTS compilation and dissemination? ( Cont; )**

5. We can not use automation system and specialized system software because of the financial constraints, lack of technology and expertise and insufficient Information and Communication Infrastructure.
6. All computers are only used for data keeping, calculating the duty and taxes and issuing periodical report to higher authorities and CSO who is responsible agency for IMTS compilation and dissemination.
7. So that we often find data errors because of the manual data entry process. These are greatest obstacles we face in IMTS compilation and dissemination in data providing agency side.
8. therefore we need to improve our system to get the correct and complete data for the IMTS compilation.

## Questionnaire Part II, Q - 46

### What are the plans for further improvement in IMTS compilation and dissemination?

1. Myanmar Customs has a plan to improve our system in the future for the Customs role of trade facilitation and effective Customs control. It needs to get a correct balance between these aspects of Customs works.
2. Because we acknowledge that the existing computer application system is insufficient in many Customs works.
3. Therefore we need to change and develop our system.
4. It will be special advantage for Customs to accomplish its objectives such as to improve facilitation of trade and more effective Customs control.

## **Questionnaire Part II, Q - 47**

**In case you would like to highlight other related issues and information, please provide detail.**

1. As we mentioned above our computerization system needs to be changed and developed in all sectors.
2. But our great obstacles are financial problems, lack of technology and expertise and then insufficient information and communication infrastructure.
3. So financial assistance, technical assistance are also invited.



# ANY QUESTION PLEASE?



**Thank You  
For Your Kind Attention**