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

PHANOM PENH, 2-5 FEBRUARY, 2010.
IMTS Data become available to the public after closing of the reference period. Monthly data come out approximately 60 days lag behind and Annual data comes out approximately 10 month lag behind.

The Monthly publication is the selected monthly Economic Indicator and Annual Data publication is the Statistical Yearbook. It is also available with CD Rom.

The SMEI and salient part of Statistical Yearbook can be found in the CSO website

www.csostat.gov.mm
What is the level of detail of publicly available monthly, quarterly and annual data?

- The monthly and Annual data are available aggregated data, some detail level for Import/Export by type of Trade, type of goods, type of principal commodities, Import/Export by Major Trading country, Import/Export by government/private, etc.
What confidentially 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.
- This question is not so clearly understand for us.
- If we realize what kind of information is expected from this question, we could provide somewhat answer.
Do you publicly announce scheduled release dates?

Yes, The SMEI for monthly data is available every public bookshops and the statistical yearbook with CD ROM going to come out is publicly announced at the newspapers.

Do you make documentation on your sources and methods publicly available?

Yes. Every documentation of data sources are mentioned together with statistical tables and some explanatory notes is also attached.
Do you regularly revise data (when additional information is available)?

- Yes, we regularly revise the data updated at the website when additional information is available.

Do you compile and disseminate trade indicators, index numbers or seasonally adjusted data?

- Yes. We compile and disseminate trade indicators, index numbers such as value index, unit value index, quantum index, terms of trade and etc..
- The index numbers are mentioned in the statistical Yearbook.
- We could not able to mention the seasonal adjusted data of IMTS due to lack of technical knowhow.
If you have working agreements with other agencies, does your office regularly meet or consult with these agencies before release of the trade statistics?

- We have inter agency working group for IMTS coordination and cooperation. It consists of Myanmar Customs Department (MCD), Directorate of Trade, Border Trade Department, Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) together with CSO. We have regularly meeting with them.
If non-customs sources are used, are the users informed (as metadata) that non-custom data are merged and integrated with customs data?

- No. Such a practice for non-customs sources is not implemented. For cross-checking, only for Licence basis by Border Trade Department and ID/ED basis by Customs Department are used. As a metadata the notes and sources are always mentioned.
Thank You
For Kind Attention