

Workshop on the Methodology and Data Compilation of International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)

Phnom Penh, 2-5 February 2010

Agenda item 22: Supplementary topics



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IMTS 2010 Chapter XI

Supplementary topics

A. External trade indices

- **It is recommended** that all countries produce and publish volume (quantum) indices and either price or unit value indices for their total imports and exports on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis. Countries are also encouraged to calculate and publish such indices for commodity groups of particular importance to countries at least quarterly and annually.
- Conceptual and compilation issue: Price vs. unit value indices; How to do it.
 - More detailed information and guidance on good practices will be provided in revised IMTS Compilers Manual

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Supplementary topics

B. Seasonally adjusted data

- **Countries are encouraged** to compile and publish, where appropriate, seasonally adjusted monthly and quarterly international merchandise trade data on a regular basis.
- **It is recommended** that information on the adjustment methods, data quality etc. should be provided by countries in their metadata.

Chapter XI - Supplementary topics

C. Linking trade and business statistics

- **Countries are encouraged** to integrate their trade register with their business register and to take steps towards an integrated system of economics statistics for data compilation and analysis.
 - **Further examples of the applications of linking trade and business statistics will be provided in the IMTS Compilers Manual.**
- **Need for linking business and trade statistics:**
 - Significant efficiency and quality gains in data collection.
 - New information for many analytical purposes that otherwise would not exist.
 - **One application is the analysis of trade by enterprise characteristics which, for example, allows to examine the impact of globalization on businesses.**

Annex F - Conceptual differences between IMTS2010 and BPM6

Table F.1. Reconciliation between IMTS and total goods on a balance of payment basis

	Exports	Imports
Merchandise trade statistics as provided in data source		
Adjustments, as relevant:		
For example (with paragraph reference)		
- Goods sent for or returned after processing without a change of ownership (F.3)		
+ Goods acquired from other economies for processing abroad (F.3)		
+ Goods sold abroad after processing in other economies (F.3)		
...		
= Total goods on a balance of payment basis		



Thank you for your attention!