
Agenda item No. 5: Current revision processes influencing the measurement of international merchandise trade statistics (SNA, BPM5, MSITS, HS, Kyoto Convention)

Presentation
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CURRENT REVISION PROCESSES INFLUENCING THE MEASUREMENT OF INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS

Presentation prepared by

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)
Current revision processes influencing International Merchandise Trade Statistics (SNA, BPM5, MSITS, HS, SITC, Kyoto convention)

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Current and completed revision processes

- Revision of Balance of Payment Manual (BPM6) available by late 2008
- Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services (MSITS, Rev.2) for SC approval in 2009
- Harmonised System 2007 in force as of 1 Jan. 07
- Standard international trade classification (SITC) Rev. 4, plus correlation tables now available
- Revised Kyoto convention entered into force 3 February 2006
Change of borderline between goods and services in SNA/BPM6 due to stricter application of change of ownership principle

- Goods for processing recoded as trade in services
- All repairs recorded as trade in services
- Merchanting of goods recorded as trade in goods
- Migrants effects to be excluded from trade in goods
- Standard software, video and audio recordings delivered electronically to be included as trade in goods (?)

→ Increased differences to IMTS
→ New data requirements for IMTS (recording of ownership change for goods for processing, migrants effects)
→ New bridge table required
→ Need to update manuals accordingly
HS updated to account for technological progress, change in trade patterns, clarification of text, to reflect better trade practices

354 sets of amendments (deleted codes, added codes, same code but amendments in content)

→ Need to update processing system
→ Problems in continuation of time series data for affected codes
→ Need to update correlation tables (SITC, Rev. 4 available)

Kyoto convention of 1974 was reviewed and in June 1999 the WCO Council adopted the amendments, came into force 3. Feb. 2006

Consists of Preamble, Body, the General Annex and Specific Annexes and Implementation Guidelines

Legal provisions within the General Annex and the Specific Annexes detail the application of simple yet efficient procedures to give maximum level of trade facilitation
- **General Annex** is obligatory and recommends the following principles for a modern Customs Administration:
  - Standard simplified procedures
  - Continuous development and improvement of Customs control techniques
  - Maximum use of information technology
  - Partnership between Customs and Trade

- **Key elements**
  - The maximum use of automated systems
  - Risk management techniques (including risk assessment and selectivity controls)
  - Use of pre-arrival information to drive programmes of selectivity
  - Easy access to information on customs requirements, laws, rules and regulations

Thank you for your attention