



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION



ANDEAN COMMUNITY
GENERAL SECRETARIAT



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR
LATIN AMERICA AND THE
CARIBBEAN

**Regional Workshop on Country Practices in Compilation of
International Merchandise Trade Statistics, 7-11 May 2007, Lima**

Agenda item No. 9: Customs Procedures, Trade System and Partner Country
Presentation
Language: English

CUSTOMS PROCEDURES, TRADE SYSTEM, AND PARTNER COUNTRY

Presentation by

Jamaica

JAMAICA'S PRESENTATION

**CUSTOMS PROCEDURES
TRADE SYSTEM &
PARTNER COUNTRY
FOR REGIONAL
WORKSHOP IN
INTERNATIONAL TRADE
LIMA, PERU
MAY 7 – 11, 2007**

THE GENERAL SYSTEM

Jamaica uses the “General System” of trade to process its trade data.

- Under this system imports include all goods :
 - (a) Which have come into Jamaica for domestic consumption
 - (b) Which have come in for transformation
 - (c) Entering customs storage or manufacturing warehouses.

THE GENERAL SYSTEM (cont'd)

- Domestic exports include commodities:
 - (a) Grown in the country or extracted from its natural resources
 - (b) Manufactured in the country
 - (c) Of foreign origin which have been assembled or transformed in the country

THE GENERAL SYSTEM (cont'd)

- Re-exports

These are exports of goods of foreign origin which have not been materially transformed while in Jamaica.

This includes goods moving outward from customs storage or manufacturing warehouses.

A re-export entry is completed for these commodities.

THE GENERAL SYSTEM (cont'd)

- In principle the “General system” of trade records all goods entering the country’s customs territory as imports and all goods leaving the country as exports.

THE GENERAL SYSTEM (cont'd)

- Inclusions in the trade are for example:
 - Non-monetary gold
 - Goods imported by government
 - Goods dispatched via courier service or by post and
 - Goods imported for humanitarian purposes.

THE GENERAL SYSTEM (cont'd)

- Exclusions from the trade are for example:
 - Migrant's effects and personal purchases by travelers
 - Ship's/aircraft stores and bunkers supplied to locally registered craft
 - Monetary gold and bullion, bank notes and coins in circulation

THE GENERAL SYSTEM (cont'd)

- Exclusions from the trade (cont'd)
 - Goods consigned to territorial enclaves and international organizations (Embassies, High Commissions and Diplomatic Representatives etc.)
 - Goods on lease for less than 1 year
 - Goods on loan, samples or goods brought in for exhibition or study
 - Goods being trans-shipped through the island.

TRADE WITH THE FREE ZONE

- In Jamaica there are two types of Free Zones namely the Jamaica Free Zone and the single entity free zones.
 - The Jamaica Free Zone is treated as a foreign country (that is it is outside of the Customs territory). Trade between the Free Zone and other countries other than Jamaica is not currently being processed or recorded by the Statistical Institute of Jamaica.

THE NEED FOR FREE ZONE STATISTICS

- The single entity Free zone are companies within the Customs territory which are given a similar status like the Jamaica Free Zone. Trading activity within these companies is included in the statistics produced.
- Please note that treatment of Free Zone statistics in line with international standards will be adopted in the near future. This will facilitate harmonization with the System of National Accounts (SNA 1993) and the Balance of Payments (BOP) Manual, Fifth Edition.

COVERAGE AND TIME OF REPORTING

- **TIME OF RECORDING**

- Date of report versus date cleared

- Most items are processed according to the date cleared i.e. when the duties are paid. Trade data is sent to the statistical office according to the date goods are cleared.

- For some imports the date of report is used. The date of report is used to process major import items such as late caustic soda and late fuel entries as these items have to be cleared before the final document is filed.

COVERAGE AND TIME OF REPORTING (cont'd)

- **TIME OF RECORDING (CONT'D)**

- In many instances these late documents are found in subsequent data belonging to later months. To prevent over reporting on these commodities in any particular month, the data is put back to the month it came in the country.

- Exports are recorded according to the departure date.

COVERAGE AND TIME OF REPORTING (cont'd)

- **COVERAGE**

- Only imports and exports between Jamaica and the Free Zone are captured in the data.
- Jamaica includes trade into customs warehouses and other premises. An entry called a warehouse entry is filled out for these imports which are not placed in immediate circulation.

PARTNER COUNTRY - IMPORTS

- Imports are recorded according to country of origin and country of consignment.
- However, only data by county of origin is disseminated.
- The data on the invoice and other documents sent by Customs is strictly adhered to. If there are doubts regarding origin then queries are made and the data adjusted accordingly.

PARTNER COUNTRY - EXPORTS

- Export (domestic and re-exports) statistics are compiled by country of last known destination.

RE-IMPORTS

- When goods are re-imported a new customs document is filled out. Reference is made to the original document the good was sent out on.
- In the case where country of origin becomes Jamaica these documents are recorded separately using specific codes. Examples of these are returned goods.

REPORTING

- Trade data compiled from these customs documents are aggregated and published monthly in the External Trade Bulletin.
- At the end of each calendar year, an Annual Report is done, which provides further detail including the direction of trade.

THANK YOU