

# Workshop on the updated and new Recommendations for International Merchandise

## Trade Statistics and their implementation in countries of the sub-Saharan region

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Samuel Hailu  
Central Statistical Agency  
Ethiopia

# Commodity Classification and Quantity Measurement

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## *A. Commodity Classification*

- I. Harmonized System (HS) 2, 4 & 8 digits
- II. Sections I – XXI
- III. End-use 0 – 9

## *B. Quantity Measurement*

- I. Quantity (Gross Weight & Net Weight) in Kgs
- II. Supplementary Units (SU)

## *C. Report using UN Recommendations for IMTS*

## A. Commodity Classification

### *I. HS revised in 2007*

A total of 99 chapters are available for commodity classification of which chapters 77, 98 & 99 are reserved for future use in HS.

- HS 4 digit, Division : total numbers are 1098,
- **HS 6 digit, Position : not in use at the moment,**
- HS 8 digit, National Commodity classification: total numbers are 6875,
- **SITC is not used even though that there is a conversion table (SITC to HS and visa vise).**

HS 2007 is a combined Tariff (Statistical Nomenclature) based on the 2002 version of the Harmonized system.

It comprises the following:-

i) First schedule Tariff

Import tariff at basic rates, which begins with **general rules for the Interpretation of the Harmonized System.**

ii) Second schedule Tariff

a) Import Tariff at conditionally **reduced rates or free of customs duty.**

b) Imports conditionally **exempted from all duties and taxes.**

iii) Special customs Tariff rates applicable to goods produced in and imported from COMESA member countries.

Item no	Regular Tariff rate (%)	COMESA Tariff rate (%)
1	5	4.5
2	10	9
3	20	18
4	30	27
5	35	31.5

**There is relevance of statistical concepts which means that the data meets users' needs. It refers to whether all statistics that are needed are produced and the extent to which concepts used are reflecting user needs.**

## II. Sections

A group of HS's are categorized in each section

Section I covers HS codes 1 – 5

“	II	“	HS	“	6 – 14
“	III	“	HS	“	15 <i>Animal or vegetable fats &amp; their cleavage products</i>
“	IV	“	HS	“	16 – 24
“	V	“	HS	“	25 – 27
“	VI	“	HS	“	28 – 38
“	VII	“	HS	“	39 & 40
“	VIII	“	HS	“	41 – 43
“	IX	“	HS	“	44 – 46
“	X	“	HS	“	47 – 49
“	XI	“	HS	“	50 – 63
“	XII	“	HS	“	64 – 67
“	XIII	“	HS	“	68 – 70
“	XIV	“	HS	“	71 <i>Natural or cultured pearls, precious or semi precious stones, metals, imitation jewelry, coin</i>
“	XV	“	HS	“	72 – 83
“	XVI	“	HS	“	84 & 85
“	XVII	“	HS	“	86 – 89
“	XVIII	“	HS	“	90 – 92
“	XIX	“	HS	“	93 <i>Arms &amp; ammunition, parts &amp; accessories thereof</i>
“	XX	“	HS	“	94 – 96
“	XXI	“	HS	“	97 - 99

*III. End-use classifications are grouped in to 10 main groups*

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0 - RAW MATERIALS (00-08)

1 - SEMI-FINISHED PRODUCTS (10-19)

2 – FUEL (20-24)

3 - CAPITAL GOODS (TRANSPORT) (30-36)

4 - CAPITAL GOODS (AGRICULTURE) (40-44)

5 - CAPITAL GOODS (INDUSTRIAL)(50-59)

6 - CONSUMER GOODS (DURABLE) (60-66)

7 - CONSUMER GOODS (NON-DURABLE) (70-77)

8 – MISCELLANEOUS (80-85)

9 – UNSPECIFIED (91)

IT IS USED FOR IMPORT

## B. Quantity Measurement

Quantities are taken in Kilograms for both Gross Weight and Net Weight (data are in Net Weights)

Supplementary Units are being recorded in a better way beginning 2008 data (Customs gave equal importance like tariff) and the units are:-

### weight

Kilogram – Kg  
Carat – carat

### Length

Meter – m

### Area

Square meters – m<sup>2</sup>

### Volume

Cubic meters – m<sup>3</sup>  
Liters – l

### Electrical Power

1000 kilowatt hours – 1000kwh

### Number (Units)

Pieces/items – u  
Pairs – 2u  
Dozens – 12u  
Thousands of pieces/items – 1000u  
Packs – (u (set/pack))

STM – Stem (only for cut flowers) → Kg is standard unit but stem is added for own use.

### No more in use

Gram - 30, Ton (1000kgs) - 33, Gallon - 50, Factor for sure tax/Coffee - 58, Carton - 59, Undefined - 99

## *C. Reports using UN Recommendations for IMTS*

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- Reports are compiled and summed at 2 digits chapter level, 4 digits division and 8 digits commodity level (values and quantity),
  - All sections are covered in the import, summary of the 21 sections,
  - End-use summary by category for import and it is values only.
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- ✓ In our data set we have data on CPC & others but don't publish it in our merchandize trade statistics.
  - ✓ We don't use ISIC for IMTS but use it in other economic surveys (ISIC rev. 3.1 is in use for manufacturing statistics and ISIC rev. 4 for distributive trade and construction surveys).