

**Workshop on the Updated & New Recommendations for
International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS 2010)
& their Implementation in Countries of the Sub-Saharan
Region, Lusaka, 1 – 5 November, 2010**

**10. Commodity Classifications & Quantity
Measurements**

12. Partner Country & Mode of Transport

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1. Introduction:

- 1.1. The Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) is responsible for the compilation, processing and dissemination of external trade statistics in the Sudan.
- 1.2. Customs Administration is the source of trade data, in addition the Central Bank is the source of exports of Petroleum and petroleum products data.
- 1.3. ASYCUDA System has been introduced at the major Customs offices in the Sudan since 1992, for processing of customs trade documentation.
- 1.3. Goods of exports, imports and re-exports in the Sudan are captured through Customs Administration.

1. Introduction:

1.4. Sudan follows the International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concept and Definitions, Revised 2 (IMTS, Rev.2) and the International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Compilers Manual in compilation of external trade statistics.

1.5. External trade statistics in Sudan is established on General Trade System.

2. Eurotrace System:

- 2.1. With assistance of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) the Eurotrace software (Master Unit) has been installed at Foreign Trade Statistics Administration, CBS, since 1996, for compilation and processing of external trade statistics data. The latest version of the Eurotrace software (Eurotrace Windows) is already being installed.
- 2.2. The Foreign Trade Statistics Administration at CBS receives the monthly declaration files (electronic files) from the Customs Administration. The monthly declaration files are collected from the Computerised Customs Offices. The monthly declaration files are then transferred into Eurotrace System.

3.Commodity Classifications:

- 3.1. The Harmonized Commodity Description Coding System (HS) at the eight-digit level has been used since 1995 by Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) for collection and dissemination of external trade statistics. The HS has been upgraded from (HS 96) to (HS 2007) with assistance of COMESA in 2007.
- 3.2. The General Interpretative Rules (GIR) are applied in the classification of goods in order to assist in the interpretation of HS and to give guidance in the classification of several type of goods.
- 3.3. The Customs Administration split some subheadings of HS (six-digit code) into several subheadings in order to code some exports of domestic products and to give more details for them, for examples:

a) Gum Arabic:

HS Codes	Description
1301	LAC; NATURAL GUMS, RESINS, GUM-RESINS, AND BALSAMS
13012010	Gum Arabic (clean)
13012020	Hashab
13012030	Talha
13012040	Powder
13019000	Other

Hashab, Talha: type of Gum Arabic.

b) Cotton, not Carded or Combed:

HS Codes	Description
5201	COTTON, NOT CARDED OR COMBED
52010010	Super cotton stable not carded or combed
52010020	Medium cotton stable not carded or combed
52010030	Long cotton stable not carded or combed
52010090	Short cotton stable not carded or combed

3. Commodity Classifications:

3.4. In CBS the correlation tables between HS and SITC are used to prepare external trade statistics for the National Accounts Administration at CBS.

3.5. The CBS applies data validation procedures in processing of customs data to improve the quality of data.

The main validation checks of commodity nomenclature are shown below:

Sudan does not export some commodities, e.g. machinery, equipment, motor cars. Searching of these commodities is done in the customs declarations of export in the Eurotrace Editor. If these commodities are found or some of them, from our experience these commodities have to be included in the re-exports, they were included in the exports due to their CPC4 and CPC extension were applied wrong. So these CPC codes on the customs declaration are changed to suitable codes of CPC.

4. Quantity Measurements:

- 4.1. The quantity of measurement is the net weight in kilogram.
- 4.2. The term “supplementary unit” means a unit of measurement of quantity other than kilogram.
- 4.3. The allocation of supplementary units to HS headings are based on the recommendation of WCO.
- 4.4 The main problem in the Eurotrace System is related to the quantity, gross and net weight that when the monthly declaration files are transferred into Eurotrace, a lot of declarations appear with incorrect quantities and the gross and net weights are not accurate.

5. Partner Country:

- 5.1. The trading partner country in case of imports is the country of origin, and in the case of exports is the country of last known destination.
- 5.2. The two – and three – digit alphabetical codes are used for processing and reporting purpose.
- 5.3 The main validation checks of country nomenclature are shown below:

In the Eurotrace Editor a searching for countries which are not likely to trade with Sudan, if these countries are found, then CBS enquires about these countries by asking the Customs Administration to verify.

6. Mode of Transport:

6.1. The mode of transport at the time goods cross the statistical territory border is classified as follows:

a) Sea Transport

b) Rail Transport

c) Road Transport

d) Air Transport

e) Mail

f) Fixed Transport (to this code, a second digit may be added to meet national needs)

g) Inland Waterways

h) Other Modes of Transport

6. Mode of Transport:

6.2. The Mode of Transports which are used in Sudan are Sea, Road and Air Transport and mail.

Thank you

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