

**Workshop on updated and new recommendations for  
International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS 2010) and  
their implementation in countries of the Sub-Saharan Africa region**

Lusaka, Zambia, 1-5 November, 2010

**Agenda items**

**14 Data quality and metadata**

**16 Dissemination**

**Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles,  
South Africa**



**Presentation by  
The team**

## IMTS 2010 new recommendations – Data quality

### **Q1 Quality reports: Do you have or consider to develop a standard for regular quality reports which covers the full range of statistical processes and their outputs? (para. 9.5)**

- either producer-oriented with the aim to identify strengths and weaknesses of the statistical process and lead to or contain the definition of quality improvement actions
- or user-oriented with the aim to keep users informed on the methodology of the statistical process and the quality of the statistical output

**Adhoc or cursory checks are done, there are no comprehensive report on standards for quality reports. Applicable to all countries in this team. We will all develop a plan to adhere to this recommendation.**

## IMTS 2010 new recommendations – Data quality

**Q2 What are the obstacles or difficulties for developing such quality reports for IMTS in your country?**

Staff (Nam & Moz), (can be done)

Other countries do not have obstacles.

**Q3 What should be covered in the suggested IMTS-Compilers Manual chapter 9 “Data quality: assurance, measurement and reporting”?**

Sample of a country that has this report should be added to the compilers manual.

**Q4 Do you plan to conduct bilateral and multilateral reconciliations studies?**

YES

## IMTS 2010 - new recommendations - Metadata

### **Q5 In your metadata do you cover (plan to cover in the future) the following categories? (para. 9.23) (all, most, some)**

- i. description of all underlying concepts and definitions, including the trade system used, and deviations from international standards, if any;
- ii. legal framework, institutional arrangements and description of data sources; description of data collection and data processing procedures;

**Points above, All countries, yes**

- i. description of estimation methods;

**Moz, Mau, Sey, does estimations but it is not documented. RSA & Nam does not do this.**

- i. data dissemination policy including release and revision schedules;

**All other countries, Yes. Namibia does not have this in place.**

## IMTS 2010 - new recommendations - Metadata

- i. description of the all data fields/ variables.
- ii. explanations and footnotes concerning the data as required, i.e. informing about revisions, break in series and application of confidentiality;

**Points above, All countries, yes**

- i. quality reporting.

**No**

### **Q.6 What should be covered in the suggested IMTS-Compilers Manual chapter 25 “Metadata quality”?**

**Aspects in question 5 are sufficient, examples will be useful**

## IMTS 2010 - new recommendations - Dissemination

### Q.7 What should be covered in the suggested IMTS-Compilers Manual chapter 26 “Dissemination”?

Aspects currently covered are sufficient

### Q8 Have you implemented / do you plan to implement the following recommendations of IMTS 2010? (all, most, some)

1. Do you apply passive confidentiality? (para. 10.3)

Yes

2. When suppressing data due to confidentiality do you report this information in full detail at the next higher level of commodity and/ or partner aggregation that adequately protects confidentiality? (para. 10.3)

Sey & Mau, not applicable.

Moz , electricity is from one company only, this is shown. Moz & Nam, confidential data is not shown at all.

RSA shows confidential data separately in a section designed specifically for RSA.

## IMTS 2010 - new recommendations - Dissemination

3. **Do you have an advance release calendar to announce in advance when data will be released and revised? (para. 10.5)**

Yes, Nam does not

4. **Do you conduct routine and special revisions (10.11)?**

Yes

5. **Do you treat all users equally when dissemination your data (para. 10.13)?**

Yes