**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

Points for discussion:
Implementing IMTS 2010

Group IV
Egypt, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe,

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 <u>producer-oriented</u> with the aim to identify strengths and weaknesses of the statistical process and lead to or contain the definition of quality improvement actions

- or <u>user-oriented</u> with the aim to keep users informed on the methodology of the statistical process and the quality of the statistical output

ANSWER: - No

Producers – oriented should document the weakness and strength

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

ANSWER: -

- Transfer of the manpower from one place to another

-We don't document our methodologies

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

ANSWER: -

- Re-emphasis on key fields that need to be capture by the customs officials

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

ANSWER: - YES

- It is costly although it improves the quality of the data

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;

iii.   description of data collection and data processing procedures;

iv.   description of estimation methods;

v.   data dissemination policy including release and revision schedules;

vi.   description of the all data fields/ variables

vii.   explanations and footnotes concerning the data as required, i.e. informing about revisions, break in series and application of confidentiality;

viii. quality reporting.

ANSWER: - Most of them (Not all)

Q.6   What should be covered in the suggested IMTS-Compilers Manual chapter 25 "Metadata quality"?

ANSWER: -

- - Define Terms used to describe them
- - Detailed of legal framework
- - Examples

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

ANSWER: -

- - The minimum level of disaggregation by either commodity or CPC

IMTS 2010 - new recommendations - Dissemination

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)**

    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)**

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

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

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

ANSWER: -

    - Most