

**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 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

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