

UNSD-ECLAC Workshop on International Trade Statistics

Implementation of IMTS 2010 and a new vision for trade statistics

1 – 5 October 2012, San José, Costa Rica

Item 5:

UNSD Activities in the field of International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)

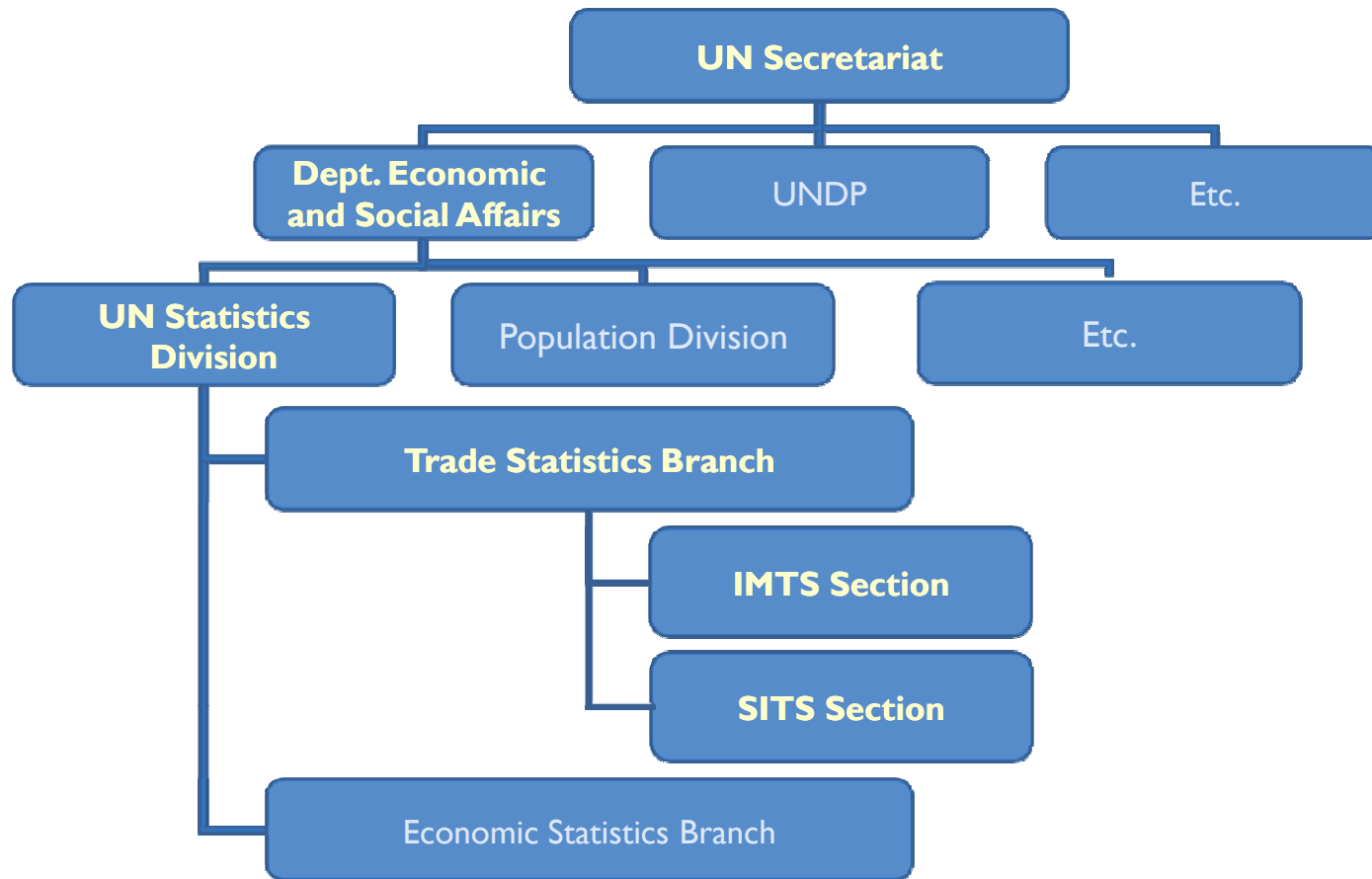
Presentation by Matthias Reister

Chief, International Merchandise Trade Statistics

Trade Statistics Branch, United Nations Statistics Division

Email: reister@un.org

The United Nations



Activities of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) Section

- Four areas of work:
 1. Methodology / international standards and recommendations
 2. UN Comtrade database
 3. Analytical tables (publications)
 4. International coordination and technical assistance

I. Methodological work on IMTS

i. Concepts & Methods

- ✓ IMTS, Concepts and Definitions 2010 (IMTS 2010)

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/EG-IMTS/EG-IMTS%20web%20announcement.htm>

- ✓ Updated IMTS, Compilers Manual (IMTS 2010-CM)

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/EG-IMTS/EG-IMTS%20web%20announcement.htm>

- ✓ IMTS, Supplement to the Compilers Manual (2008)

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/imtssupplcompilersmanual.htm>

- ✓ Unit Value index and trade indices calculation

(Strategies for Price and Quantity Measurement in External Trade; A technical report.)

ii. National Practices

- ✓ IMTS, National Compilation and Dissemination Practices (2006)

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradereport/>

iii. IMTS classifications and correspondence tables

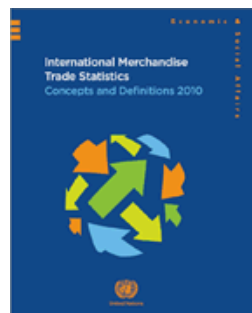
I. Methodological work on IMTS

i. Concepts & Methods – old...

- IMTS: Concepts and Definitions, Rev. 2 (1998)
- IMTS: Compilers Manual (2004)
- IMTS:

... and new

- IMTS: Concepts and Definitions 2010 (IMTS 2010) (2010)
- IMTS: Compilers Manual (IMTS 2010 – CM) (2012)



I. Methodological work on IMTS (*cont.*)

iii. IMTS classifications and correspondence tables:

○ Commodity classifications:



- ✓ Standard International Trade Classification (SITC, Revision 4) and correspondence tables - <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/sitcrev4.htm>
- ✓ Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC): Correspondence table with the Harmonized System (2002) and SITC, Rev3 - <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm>
- ✓ Other IMTS classifications and related correspondence tables - <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm>

○ Statistical Territories of the World for Use in International Merchandise Trade Statistics:

<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm>

2. UN comtrade

- The UN Comtrade database (comtrade.un.org):
 - Collection and standardization of detailed merchandise trade statistics by partner and commodity (over 170 reporter countries)
 - More than 1 billion records starting 1962
 - Modern data processing system with extensive verification procedures
 - Totals
 - Data by partner and commodity
 - Quantity information
 - Powerful web-based dissemination system with free and subscriber access
 - Additional services: Knowledge Base and Community Forum
 - Reference database for worldwide data on IMTS
 - Also available at UN Data (data.un.org)

2. UN MONTHLY COMTRADE

- The UN Monthly Comtrade database (comtrade.un.org/monthly):
 - Collection and standardization of detailed monthly merchandise trade statistics by partner and commodity
 - 50- 60 reporter countries representing more than 75 percent of world trade;
 - Data starting January 2010;
 - Data browsing and bulk download

3. Analytical tables (publications)

- International Trade Statistics Yearbook
 - Country tables
 - Commodity tables
 - Analytical tables
- Monthly Bulletin of Statistics
 - Monthly and quarterly data
 - World and region totals for trade values
 - Indices for total exports and imports, manufactured goods exports, and fuel imports
- Annual Totals Table
 - Country totals compared
- Historical data (1900-1960)
- Other analytical outputs
 - Unit value calculation based on UN Comtrade
 - Conversion factors calculation

✓ All are freely accessible

3. Analytical tables (publications)

2009 International Trade Statistics Yearbook tables, Vol. I: Trade by Country

Zambia

Imports: CIF, by origin

Exports: FOB, by last known destination

Trade System: Special

Overview

After several years of continuous growth marked by a peak of 5.1 bln US\$ in 2008, the value of the exports of Zambia dropped by 15.4 percent in 2009 and amounted to 4.3 bln US\$, well below its 2007 level (see table 1 and graph 1). Imports showed a more pronounced development with a decline of 25.1 percent in 2009 to 3.8 bln US\$ (see table 2 and graph 1). The trade balance recorded a surplus of 519 mln US\$ in 2009 (see graph 1). By MDG region, trade recorded deficits with Sub-Saharan Africa (-1.3 bln US\$) and Western Asia (-0.2 bln US\$) while Developed Europe and Eastern Asia recorded surpluses respectively 1.8 bln and 0.3 bln US\$ (see graph 2). Zambia's trade was relatively concentrated among a few partners: respectively 8 and 6 major partners accounted for 80 percent of exports and imports. In addition, Switzerland, the top partner for exports, accounted for a large share (47.0 percent) of total exports in 2009 (see table 4).

Graph 1: Total imports, exports and trade balance (Bln US\$ by year)

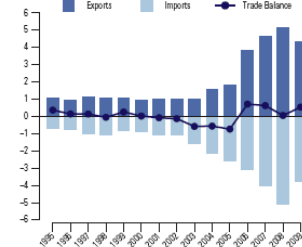


Table 1: Exports by SITC sections (Value in million US\$, growth and shares in percentage)

SITC	2009	Avg. Growth rates (%) 2005-2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Total	4312.1	24.2	-15.4	100.0		
0+1	314.9	7.8	12.1	7.3		
2+4	585.9	25.1	-30.4	13.6		
3	39.2	30.5	6.2	0.9		
5	87.3	34.7	20.7	2.0		
6	3071.9	25.6	-18.5	71.2		
7	138.8	56.1	-2.7	3.2		
8	29.7	-15.1	69.9	0.7		
9	45.3	207.4	57.9	1.1		

Table 2: Imports by SITC sections (Value in million US\$, growth and shares in percentage)

SITC	2009	Avg. Growth rates (%) 2005-2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Total	3782.8	10.3	-25.1	100.0		
0+1	168.3	9.9	-9.9	4.4		
2+4	474.3	38.3	-30.2	12.5		
3	528.8	18.5	-34.8	13.9		
5	709.0	11.9	-4.4	18.7		
6	617.2	12.9	-16.8	16.3		
7	1065.8	7.7	-34.0	28.6		
8	195.9	-15.0	-8.9	5.2		
9	15.5	-17.5	-64.3	0.4		

Exports Profile:

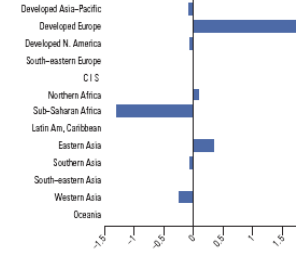
In 2009, exports of manufactured goods classified chiefly by material (SITC section 6), the largest commodity group for exports, dropped by 16.5 percent and represented 71.2 percent of exported goods (see table 1). Exports of inedible crude materials (except fuels), animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes (SITC sections 2+4), the other major commodity group for exports, also decreased by 30.4 percent and represented 13.6 percent of exports in 2009. In addition to Switzerland, other major partners for exports included China and South Africa (see table 4). Over the last three years, copper products were the top commodities for exports (see table 3). These are refined copper and copper alloys, unwrought (HS code 7403), copper plates, sheets and strip, of a thickness exceeding 0.15 mm (HS code 7409) and copper ores and concentrates (HS code 2603). They accounted respectively for 52.2, 12.4 and 6.7 percent of exports in 2009.

Table 3: Top 10 export commodities 2007 to 2009 (Value in million US\$)

HS code	Value (million US\$)			Unit value		SITC code	
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008/2009		
All Commodities	4617.5	5098.7	4312.1				
7403 Refined copper and copper alloys, unwrought	2104.7	2113.7	2249.9	7.1	6.9	4.6	682
7409 Copper plates, sheets and strip, of a thickness exceeding 0.15 mm	824.7	996.6	534.6	7.3	7.4	5.5	USA/kg
2603 Copper ores and concentrates	255.5	666.6	267.9	2.3	2.0	0.7	USA/kg
9105 Cobalt mattes and other immediate products of cobalt metallurgy	250.5	294.0	75.2	55.3	74.6	10.5	USA/kg
7408 Copper wire	158.9	149.4	102.5	7.6	8.6	5.4	USA/kg
1701 Cane or beet sugar and pure sucrose, in solid form	82.4	57.9	96.1	0.6	0.6	0.6	USA/kg
2401 Unmanufactured tobacco; tobacco refuse	61.5	71.7	84.7	2.6	2.9	3.2	USA/kg
7402 Unrefined copper; copper anodes for electrolytic refining	152.1	8.9	0.1	7.5	4.7	4.4	USA/kg
2605 Cobalt ores and concentrates	8.6	24.8	101.6	2.1	4.0	2.1	USA/kg
1005 Maize (corn)	68.2	51.1	21.9	0.3	0.3	1.1	USA/kg

Source: UN Comtrade

Graph 2: Trade Balance by MDG Regions in 2009 (Bln US\$)



Graph 3: Partner concentration of trade in 2009 (Cumulative share by ranked partners)

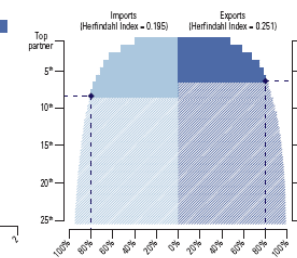


Table 4: Exports by principal countries and SITC sections in 2009 (Value in million US\$, percentages of country total)

Country	Total	Shares by SITC sections (%)									Total
		0+1	2+4	3	5	6	7	8	9		
World	4312.1	7.3	13.6	8.9	2.0	71.2	2.2	0.7	1.1	100	
Switzerland	2027.2	0.0	13.8	0.0	--	86.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	100	
China	482.6	2.0	8.6	--	0.2	88.8	0.3	0.0	0.0	100	
South Africa	394.7	10.0	37.8	0.2	0.4	32.2	12.1	2.2	5.1	100	
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	300.9	26.5	3.3	8.3	23.1	19.5	14.7	4.6	0.0	100	
United Arab Emirates	141.0	0.0	1.6	--	0.0	98.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	100	
Saudi Arabia	118.1	0.0	0.1	--	--	99.8	0.0	--	0.1	100	
Egypt	106.5	0.0	0.0	--	--	99.8	0.2	0.0	0.0	100	
United Kingdom	87.2	13.0	3.1	--	0.1	78.5	0.5	0.1	4.7	100	
Zimbabwe	84.3	81.1	1.3	7.1	3.9	4.1	18.9	2.5	0.6	100	
Rep. of Korea	77.0	0.0	0.1	--	--	99.8	0.0	--	0.0	100	

Imports Profile:

In 2009, all the commodity groups for imports dropped in total by 25.1 percent (see table 2). Machinery and transport equipment (SITC section 7), which accounted for 28.6 percent of imports dropped by 34.0 percent. Other major commodity groups for imports included chemicals and related products, n.e.s. (SITC section 5) (16.7 percent), manufactured goods classified chiefly by material (SITC section 6) (16.3 percent) and mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials (SITC section 3) (13.9 percent). They decreased respectively by 6.4, 16.8 and 34.8 in 2009. From 2007 to 2009, major imported products were petroleum oils, crude (HS code 2709), copper ores and concentrates (HS code 2603) and petroleum oils, other than crude (HS code 2710) (see table 5).

Table 5: Top 10 import commodities 2007 to 2009 (Value in million US\$)

HS code	Value (million US\$)			Unit value		SITC code	
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008/2009		
All Commodities	4007.0	5068.5	3790.6				
2706 Petroleum oils, crude	226.5	461.9	430.8	0.9	0.9	0.3	USA/kg
2603 Copper ores and concentrates	128.2	425.8	255.5	1.1	1.6	0.7	USA/kg
2710 Petroleum oil, other than crude	222.4	289.0	84.7	1.0	1.6	1.3	USA/kg
8704 Motor vehicles for the transport of goods	134.0	169.1	90.7				782
8474 Machinery for sorting, screening, separating, washing, crushing, grinding	193.0	109.8	78.3				728
8420 Self-propelled bulldozers, angledozers, graders, levelers, scrapers	122.6	109.3	60.2	62.4			thsd USA/unit
3004 Medicaments (excluding goods of heading 30.02, 30.05 or 30.06)	53.4	137.4	97.0	82.2	42.4	33.7	USA/kg
8703 Motor cars and other motor vehicles principally designed for the transport	83.5	128.7	85.6	22.5			78.3thsd USA/unit
8529 Parts suitable for use principally with the machinery of heading 84.25	92.3	105.6	62.9	22.2	14.7	15.2	USA/kg
7403 Refined copper and copper alloys, unwrought	1.9	108.7	124.3	4.4	6.0	4.7	USA/kg

Source: UN Comtrade

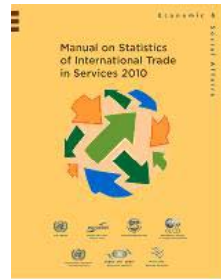
4. International cooperation and technical assistance



- UN Statistical Commission
- Task Force on International Merchandise Trade Statistics
- Further cooperation with other international and regional organizations: ITC, OECD, FAO, WCO, ECLAC, Eurostat, *etc.*
- Workshops to support countries in the implementation of the international recommendations on IMTS
http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/workshops_imts.htm
- Participation in other meetings / workshops on IMTS

Statistics of International Trade in Services (SITS) Section

- Areas of work:



1. Methodology / International standards and recommendations

2. UN Service Trade

3. International Coordination and Technical Assistance

unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/

Global Forum on Trade Statistics



Measuring Global Trade: Do we have the right numbers?

organized jointly by UNSD and Eurostat in collaboration with WTO and UNCTAD

2-4 February 2011, Geneva, Switzerland

Global Forum on Trade Statistics

- Outcome and follow-up
 - Measuring Global Trade
 - New Recommendations IMTS / SITS
 - Data Sources
 - Global Production and Outsourcing
 - Linking Trade and Business Statistics
 - Trade in Value-Added

Global Forum on Trade Statistics

Vision of the future of international trade statistics

Responding to demands of policy makers for more information on international trade and its relation to global value chains, employment, environment and the interdependence of economies, the participants of the Global Forum on Trade Statistics identify the following **points of improvement**.

- *Improve the **relevance of international trade statistics** by connecting trade information and integrating it with its economic, social, environmental and financial dimensions while minimizing the response burden.*
- *Improve the **statistical production process** by better defining and organizing the co-operation among national stakeholders*
- *Improve **international classifications and correspondence tables** relevant for research on international trade and globalization, such as research on trade in value added, on global value chains and on outsourcing of business functions.*

GLOBAL FORUM ON TRADE STATISTICS

UNITED NATIONS
STATISTICS DIVISION



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Workshop on Global Production and Trade in Value-Added, USA, Jun 2011

Seminar on International Trade Statistics, Lithuania, Sep 2011

Seminar on International Trade Statistics, China, Oct 2011

VISION STATEMENT

Vision of the future of international trade statistics

Responding to demands of policy makers for more information on international trade and its relation to global value chains, employment, environment and the interdependence of economies, the participants of the Global Forum on Trade Statistics identify the following points of improvement.

Improve the relevance of international trade statistics by connecting trade information and integrating it with its economic, social, environmental and financial dimensions while minimizing the response burden.

Improve the statistical production process by better defining and organizing the co-operation among national stakeholders

Improve international classifications and correspondences

Global Forum on Trade Statistics

The Global Forum consisting of trade statisticians, economists, trade analysts and policy makers from all over the world, developed a new vision for international trade statistics.

Intergovernmental Processes on Trade Statistics

The United Nations Statistical Commission brings together Chief Statisticians from around the world to set statistical standards, develop concepts and methods and their implementation at the national and international level.

Research Studies Analytical Reports and Trade Publications

Trade statistics are used in different statistical frameworks: national accounts, balance of payments, customs, input-output tables, etc. Structural changes linked to globalization are challenging the relevance of these traditional trade statistics.

Follow Up Events

Trade statistics are used in different statistical frameworks: national accounts, balance of payments, customs, input-output tables, etc. Structural changes linked to globalization are challenging the relevance of these traditional trade statistics.



Thank you for your
attention