



Joint GCC-STAT/UNSD Regional Workshop on International Merchandise Trade Statistics

7-10 February 2016, Muscat, Oman

Draft – 23 November 2015

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

Day 1: Sunday, 7 February 2016

08:00 - 08:30

REGISTRATION

08:30 - 09:15

INAUGURAL PROGRAMME

- a. Welcome address by **GCC-Stat**
- b. Opening remarks by **UNSD**

09:15 - 09:30

GROUP PHOTO

09:30 - 10:30

PRE-SESSION - SETTING THE STAGE

- a. Adoption of draft agenda and administrative matters (**UNSD**)
- b. Progress report on the measurement on trade and economic globalization (presentation by **UNSD**)
- c. Linkage of IMTS to other economic statistics (presentation by **GCC-Stat**)

10:45 - 12:30 & 13:30 - 14:15

SESSION I – DATA QUALITY FRAMEWORK & ASSESSMENT

- a. Overview of data quality framework (presentation by **GCC-Stat**)
- b. Indicators of quality (developed by GCCSTAT for GCC countries) (presentation by **GCC-Stat**)
- c. Presentation on **country practices** country experiences– result of pre-workshop questionnaire (moderated by **GCC-Stat**)

14:15 - 14:45 & 15:00 - 16:00

SESSION II – SCOPE, VALUATION & TIME OF RECORDING

- a. Introduction by **UNSD**
- b. Presentation on **country practices** – result of pre-workshop questionnaire
- c. Roundtable discussion on compilation challenges related to scope, valuation and time of recording (moderated by **UNSD**)

Day 2: Monday, 8 February 2016

08:00 - 9:30

SESSION III – DATA COMPILATION IN THE CASE OF A CUSTOMS UNION

- a. Introduction by **UNSD**
- b. Data compilation in the case of a GCC Customs Union (presentation by **GCC-Stat**)
- c. Compilation practices in other customs union (presentation by **SACU**) *TBC*

9:30 - 10:30 & 10:45 - 11:15

SESSION IV – TRADE SYSTEM & MOVEMENT OF GOODS

- a. Introduction by **UNSD**
- b. Customs Procedure Codes (CPC) & Trade System: *Inclusion of free zones* (presentation by **UNSD**)
- c. Presentation on **country practices** – result of pre-workshop questionnaire
- d. Roundtable discussion on compilation challenges related to trade system and movement of goods (moderated by **UNSD**)
- e. Harmonization of Customs Procedure Codes (CPC) in GCC (presentation by **GCC Customs Department**) *TBC*

11:15 - 12:30 & 13:30 – 14:45

SESSION V – COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND QUANTITY INFORMATION

- a. Introduction by **UNSD**
- b. Understanding Harmonised System & HS 2017 (presentation by **WCO**)
- c. Importance of quantity information & method to check unit values (presentation by **WCO**)
- d. Progress made on revision of BEC-Broad Economic Categories (presentation by **UNSD**)
- e. Correspondence tables between editions of HS and other classifications (presentation by **UNSD**)
- f. Presentation on **country practices** – result of pre-workshop questionnaire
- g. Roundtable discussion on compilation challenges related to commodity classification and quantity information (moderated by **UNSD**)

15:00 - 16:00

GROUP DISCUSSION 1: MOVING TOWARDS IMTS 2010

Day 3: Tuesday, 9 February 2016

08:00 - 11:00

TECHNICAL VISIT TO CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT

- Visit to Customs Office in Oman – Customs System and Data Validation (*TBC*)

11:00 - 12:30 & 13:30 - 14:15

SESSION VI – DATA COMPILATION STRATEGIES

- Introduction by **UNSD**
- Data acquisition & Institutional Arrangement (presentation by **GCC-Stat**)
- Standardizing raw data to comply with IMTS 2010 (presentation by **ECOWAS**) *TBC*
- Presentation on **country practices** – result of pre-workshop questionnaire
- Roundtable discussion on compilation challenges related to data compilation strategies: checking and cleansing raw data, tools and techniques (moderated by **UNSD**)

14:15 - 14:45 & 15:00 - 16:00

SESSION VII – RECORDING OIL & GAS EXPORTS, PARTNER COUNTRY & OTHER ISSUES

- Introduction by **UNSD**
- Compilation of oil & gas exports: use of non-customs record, confidentiality issues (presentation by **UNSD**)
- Presentation on **country practices** – result of pre-workshop questionnaire
- Roundtable discussion on compilation challenges related to oil & gas exports, country of consignment, mode of transport, recording of trading enterprise, etc. (moderated by **UNSD**)

Day 4: Wednesday, 10 February 2016

08:00 - 10:30

SESSION VII – DATA ANALYSIS & DISSEMINATION

- Introduction by **UNSD**
- Bilateral Asymmetry in IMTS; How to reduce it? (presentation by **UNSD**)
- Exploring trade data using advanced data visualization (presentation by **UNSD**)
- Global SDMX-IMTS Data Structure Definition (presentation by **UNSD**)
- Presentation on **country practices** – result of pre-workshop questionnaire
- Roundtable discussion on compilation challenges related to data analysis and dissemination (moderated by **UNSD**)

10:45 - 12:30

SESSION IX – LINKING TRADE AND BUSINESS STATISTICS & EXTERNAL TRADE INDICES

- Introduction by **UNSD**
- Result of 2015 Global Survey on Linking Trade And Business Statistics (presentation by **UNSD**)
- Result of 2015 Global Survey on External Trade Indices (presentation by **UNSD**)

- d. Presentation on **country practices** – result of pre-workshop questionnaire
- e. Roundtable discussion on compilation challenges related to linking trade/business statistics and external trade indices (moderated by **UNSD**)

13:30 - 16:00

CLOSING SESSION

- a. Roundtable discussion: implementation of IMTS 2010 and identification of the important issues for the participating countries (moderated by **GCC-Stat**)
- b. Conclusion and recommendations of the Regional Workshop

PROGRAMME ANNEX

Day 1 – 4: 7 – 10 February 2016

10:30 - 10:45

COFFEE BREAK - MORNING

12:30 - 13:30

LUNCH

14:45 - 15:00

COFFEE BREAK - AFTERNOON
