Questionnaire 2006 on National Compilation and Dissemination Practices for International Merchandise Trade Statistics

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Code	Section	Question		Comments

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	PART 1: **Main recommendations of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics, Concepts and Definitions, Rev.2, (IMTS, Rev.2) and the Compilers Manual to IMTS, Rev.2**			**Please answer only with Yes, NO or Not Applicable**	
1.01	**Section 1: Institutional arrangements**	Is your national methodology of compilation and dissemination of foreign merchandise trade statistics **(hereafter called 'trade statistics')** based on IMTS, Rev.2 ?		Yes	
1.02		Is the National Statistical Office the responsible agency for the compilation and dissemination of trade statistics ? ***If No**, please specify in the Comments field which agency is responsible for this.*		Yes	
		Do the following agencies provide data to your office for use in the compilation of the trade statistics:			
1.03			Customs administration	Yes	
1.04			Central Bank	No	But exchange rates used - see 2.03
1.05			Commodity board ***If Yes**, please specify in Comments field*	No	Unless as an exporter or importer via Customs documentation
1.06			National Energy Agency	No	

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1.07			Other, ***If Yes**, please specify in Comments field*	No	
1.08		Does your office have any memorandum of understanding or any similar working agreement with any of the mentioned agencies?		No	No formal agreements but there is a good working relationship with the Australian Customs Service and a MoU is planned
1.09		If you have working agreements with other agencies, does your office regularly meet or consult with these agencies before release of the trade statistics?		No	
2.01	**Section 2: Sources of data**	Are customs declarations the main source of data? ***If No**, please specify your main source of data in the Comments field*		YES	
		Do you use the following as additional sources of data:			
2.02			Foreign shipping manifests	Yes	As submitted to Customs
2.03			Currency exchange records or other records of monetary authorities	Yes	Exchange rates from the Reserve Bank of Australia
2.04			Parcel and letter post records	No	
2.05			Aircraft and ship registers	No	
2.06			Reports of commodity boards	No	
2.07			Administrative records associated with taxation	No	Some taxation data used for specialised analysis eg numbers and characteristics of exporters
2.08			Enterprise surveys	No	
2.09			Other ***if Yes**, please provide examples in Comments*	No	

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3.01	**Section 3: Coverage and Time of recording**	As a general rule, do you include in trade statistics goods which enter (imports) or leave (exports) your economic territory (except for goods in transit and temporary admissions/ withdrawals) ?		Yes	
3.02		Do you use change of ownership (between residents and non-residents) as a basis for inclusion of certain goods in trade statistics? ***If Yes** , please provide examples in Comments*		Yes	Basically use data as reported to Customs but may use change of ownership to treat major capital items (eg ships and aircrafts) as non-merchandise
3.03		Can your office compile detailed commodity by partner trade statistics on the basis of change of ownership?		No	see 3.02; BoP statistics present broader level data on a change of ownership basis
3.04		Do you use date of lodgement of the customs declaration as an approximation for the time when goods enter/leave your territory? ***If No** , please indicate which dates are used for this purpose in the Comments field.*		No	Use data of departure for exports and date declaration sent to us from Customs for imports
4.01	**Section 4: Customs procedures**	Does your country use the Kyoto Convention (*the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs procedures*) as the basis for the definitions of customs procedures ?		Yes	
		Does the recording by customs procedures allow for the identification of:			
4.02			Importation of goods under clearance for home use	Yes	
4.03			Reimportation of goods in the same state	Yes	
4.04			Exportation of domestic goods (outright exportation)	Yes	
4.05			Temporary admission of goods subject to re-exportation in the same state	Yes	

Code	Section	Question			Comments
4.06			Re-exportation of goods in the same state	Yes	
4.07			Temporary admission of goods for inward processing	Yes	
4.08			Goods leaving the country after inward processing	Yes	
4.09			Temporary exportation of goods for outward processing	Yes	
4.10			Reimportation of goods after temporary exportation for outward processing	Yes	
4.11			Goods admitted into a customs warehouse?	Yes	
4.12			Goods leaving a customs warehouse?	Yes	
4.13			Goods admitted into a commercial free zone (zones where only minimal repackaging and similar processing of goods is allowed) ?	Not applicable	
4.14			Goods leaving a commercial free zone?	Not applicable	
4.15			Goods admitted into an industrial free zone (zones where specific processing or manufacturing of goods is allowed) ?	Not applicable	
4.16			Goods leaving an industrial free zone?	Not applicable	
4.17			Goods in customs transit?	NO	
	Section 5: Trade system	Do you include in your trade statistics goods entering or leaving the following territorial elements			
5.01			industrial free zones	Not applicable	
5.02			commercial free zones	Not applicable	
5.03			customs warehouses	Yes	We have separate general and special statistics

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5.04			premises designated for inward processing	Yes	
5.05			territorial waters, and continental shelf	No	
5.06			offshore territories, possessions, dependencies etc (including outer space installations).	No	
5.07			your country's embassies, military bases and other territorial enclaves in other countries	No	Goods leaving Australia to, or entering Australia from these enclaves are identified and excluded
		If your country is a member of a customs union, do the trade data cover:			
5.08			both trade with countries outside the union and intratrade with the member states of the union?	Not applicable	
5.09			only trade with countries outside the union and exclude intratrade with the member states?	Not applicable	
5.10		Do you disseminate trade statistics **only** according to the general trade system ?		No	
5.11		Do you disseminate trade statistics **only** according to the special trade system ?		No	
5.12		Do you disseminate trade statistics according to **both** the general **and** special trade system ?		Yes	

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6.01	**Section 6: Commodity classifications and Quantity measurement**	Do you use the Harmonized System (HS) as the basis for your detailed commodity trade database? ***If Yes****, please give the number of digits at which you maintain your commodity codes in the Comment field.*	Yes	Exports - 8 digits comprising 6 digits of HS plus 2 digits for statistical codes. Imports - 10 digits comprising 6 digits for HS plus 2 digits for Customs purposes plus another 2 digits for statistical codes
6.02		Do you use the Harmonized System for dissemination purposes?	Yes	
6.03		Do you publish any data in terms of Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) ?	Yes	SITC, Rev.3, 5-digit.
6.04		Do you publish any data in terms of Common Product Classification (CPC) ?	No	
6.05		Do you publish any data in terms of the Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC) ?	Yes	
6.06		Do you publish any data in terms of International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC) ?	No	Data on the industry of the commodity are published according to ANZSIC which aligns with ISIC where possible
6.07		Do you collect quantity data?	Yes	
6.08		Do you record or estimate net weight for quantity measurement of all commodities, where applicable?	No	Gross weight is recorded on Customs documentation
6.09		Do you record or estimate the World Customs Organizations (WCO) recommended units of quantity for each of the headings of the HS?	No	

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7.01	**Section 7: Valuation and currency conversion**	Are you using provisions of the WTO Agreement on Valuation as the basis for calculating the statistical value of goods ?	Yes	
7.02		Is the statistical value of imported goods a CIF-type value?	Yes	C.i.f. is reported on a consignment basis only and estimated for the individual lines based on FOB value.
7.03		Are data for international freight and insurance associated with the importation of goods available separately?	Yes	Calculated as CIF less FOB
7.04		Do you compile and publish value of imported goods as a FOB-type value?	Yes	Both FOB and a Customs determined FOB value are published
7.05		Is the statistical value of exported goods an FOB-type value?	Yes	
7.06		Do you record and maintain information on the currency which was used in specifying the value on the customs declaration?	Yes	
7.07		In conversion of foreign currencies into national currency, do you use a rate published by the official authorities of your country?	Yes	
7.08		If both buying and selling rates are available, do you use for conversion purposes a midpoint between the two?	Not applicable	
7.09		Do you use the exchange rate which is in effect at the date of exportation or importation? ***If No**, please indicate which exchange rates are used for this purpose in the Comments field*.	Yes	Date of exportation used for both exports and imports
7.10		If an exchange rate is not available for the date of exportation or importation, do you use the average rate for the shortest period applicable?	Not applicable	

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8.01	**Section 8: Partner country**	Do you identify your trade partners on the basis of the definition of the statistical territory as given by your partners themselves?		No	
		Do you compile **import** statistics by:			
8.02			country of origin?	Yes	Country of origin is collected by Customs
8.03			***If Yes**, do you broadly follow the origin criteria outlined in the Kyoto Convention?*	Yes	
8.04			country of consignment?	Yes	Port of loading is available and includes country
8.05			country of purchase?	No	
8.06			other? ***If Yes**, please specify in Comments field*	No	
		Do you **record** for **imports:**			
8.07			country of requested preferential treatment	No	
8.08			country of granted preferential treatment	Yes	
		Do you compile **export** statistics by:			
8.09			country of last known destination?	Yes	Country of final destination
8.10			country of consignment?	Yes	Port of destination
8.11			country of sale?	No	

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8.12		other? ***If Yes**, please specify in Comments field*	No	
9.01	**Section 9: Data Quality Control**	Do you use a threshold value below which customs declarations are not required to be filed ? ***If Yes**, please specify the level of the threshold in the Comments field*	Yes	$2,000 for exports consignments $1,000 for imports consignments
9.02		If you use a threshold value, do you make estimates of trade below the threshold and include them in your trade statistics ?	No	Estimates made for Balance of Payments statistics
9.03		Does the Customs administration of your country use ASYCUDA (Automated SYstem for CUstoms DAta) for automated entry and checking of customs declarations ?	No	The Customs systems is called the Integrated Cargo System
9.04		Is physical inspection of cargo by Customs based on risk assessment?	Yes	
9.05		Does the Customs administration of your country conduct seminars to train traders and their agents in the filing of customs declarations ?	Yes	
9.06		Does your office use Eurotrace to process the customs records ? ***If No**, please specify (in the Comments field) which software you use for treating basic transactions*	No	ABS specific system
9.07		Do you use commodity prices or unit values to assess the credibility of customs records ? ***If Yes**, please specify in the Comments field*	Yes	Have edits based on the unit values for the past 12 months
9.08		Do you use estimates to replace missing values at detailed record level? ***If Yes**, please specify in the Comments field*	No	
9.09		Do you use estimates to replace missing quantities at detailed record level?	No	
9.10		***If Yes**, do you use different estimation methods (for quantities) depending on the kind of commodities traded ? Please specify, if necessary.*	Not applicable	

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9.11		Since the year 2000, did you conduct bilateral or multilateral reconciliation studies with your trading partners or do you plan to conduct such studies in the near future?		No	
10.01	**Section 10: Mode of transport**	Do you compile trade statistics by mode of transport?		Yes	
		If you compile trade statistics by mode of transport, do you identify the following modes:			
10.02			air	Yes	
10.03			sea	Yes	
10.04			inland waterway	No	Not applicable for Australia
10.05			railway	No	Not applicable for Australia
10.06			road	No	Not applicable for Australia
10.07			pipeline	No	Included in Sea
10.08			other? ***If Yes**, please specify in Comments field*	Yes	Postal.
	Section 11: Reporting and dissemination	Data become available in how many days after the closing of the reference period (exactly or approximately):			
11.01			for monthly data, please type the number of days in the Comments fields	Yes	12 working days for imports, 21 working days for exports
11.02			for quarterly data, please type the number of days in the Comments fields	Yes	available at the same time as monthly data see 11.01
11.03			for annual data, please type the number of days in the Comments fields	Yes	available at the same time as monthly data see 11.01

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11.04		Do you make documentation on your sources and methods publicly available ?		Yes	
11.05		Do you publicly announce scheduled release dates?		Yes	
11.06		Do you make data available on a Web site?		Yes	Broader level data only
11.07		Do you regularly revise data (when additional information is available)?		Yes	Every month for the previous six months
		Do you make your **annual** data available:			
11.08			according to the Gregorian calendar (January to December) ?	Yes	
11.09			on any other period basis ? ***if Yes**, please specify in the Comments field*	Yes	Financial year (July to June)
11.10		Do you make aggregate data (by major trading partners or by commodity groups) publicly available on a monthly basis?		Yes	
11.11		Do you make detailed data by commodity and partner publicly available on a quarterly basis?		Yes	Same level of detail is available monthly and quarterly
11.12		When confidentiality is applied to certain products, do you always report the full trading partner detail at the next higher level of commodity aggregation that adequately protects confidentiality ? ***If No**, please specify how confidentiality is applied in Comments field.*		No	Refer to Concepts, Sources and Methods publication (ABS cat. No. 5489.0)

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	Part 2: Details on INCLUSIONS and EXCLUSIONS of particular items in the international merchandise trade statistics				
		Do you INCLUDE in trade statistics the following:			
12.01			non-monetary gold	Yes	
12.02			unissued banknotes and securities, and coins not in circulation	No	
12.03			***If Yes**, do you value unissued banknotes and securities and coins not in circulation on a basis of the transaction value of the printed matter or stamped metal?*		
12.04			goods traded in accordance with barter agreements	Yes	
12.05			goods traded on government account	Yes	
12.06			food and other humanitarian aid	Yes	
12.07			goods for military use	Yes	Where reported on Customs documentation
12.08			goods transferred from foreign enclaves (embassies, military or other foreign installations)	No	See 5.07
12.09			goods acquired by all categories of travellers, including non-resident workers, to a significant scale (i.e., excluding goods for their own use) as defined by national law; for example, so-called Shuttle Trade.	Yes	
12.10			goods on consignment	Yes	

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12.11			goods used as carriers of information and software developed for general or commercial use (e.g., packaged sets containing CD-ROM or DVD with stored computer software and/or data); Note: this category excludes materials developed "to order".	Yes	
12.12			***If Yes**, do you value these goods on a basis of their full transaction value?*	Yes	
12.13			goods for processing (i.e., goods sent abroad or brought into your country for processing, including processing under contract and processing under the inward processing procedure)	Yes	
12.14			***If Yes**, do you record goods for processing and the goods resulting from such processing on a **gross** basis before and after processing?*	Yes	
12.15			goods which cross borders as a result of transactions between parent corporations and their direct investment enterprises (affiliates/branches)	Yes	
12.16			returned goods	Yes	
12.17			electricity and gas	Yes	
12.18			water	Not applicable	
12.19			goods dispatched through postal or courier services	Yes	
12.20			migrants' effects	Yes	
12.21			goods transferred from or to a buffer stock organization	Yes	
12.22			goods under financial lease (i.e., a lease of one year or more)	Yes	

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12.23			ships, aircraft and other mobile equipment	Yes	
12.24			goods delivered from the rest of the world to offshore installations located in the economic territory of your country, and goods dispatched to the rest of the world from offshore installations located in the economic territory of your country	Yes	If inside the Customs border. Some offshore installations are within Australia's territory but outside the Custom's border.
12.25			fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage landed from foreign vessels in national ports	Yes	
12.26			fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage acquired by national vessels on the high seas from foreign vessels	Yes	
12.27			bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage acquired by national vessels/aircraft from foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country	Yes	
12.28			bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage landed in national ports from foreign vessels/aircraft	Yes	
12.29			bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage supplied to foreign vessels/aircraft in the economic territory of your country	Yes	
12.30			empty bottles not meant for refilling	Yes	
12.31			waste and scrap, the value of which is positive	Yes	
12.32			local border trade	Not applicable	
12.33			gifts, if to significant scale as defined by national law	Yes	
12.34			goods seized by customs and subsequently resold	Yes	If recorded by Customs
12.35			estimates of unrecorded trade	No	
		Do you EXCLUDE from trade statistics the following:			

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13.01			monetary gold (i.e., that gold which is exchanged between national or international monetary authorities or authorized banks)	Yes	
13.02			issued banknotes and securities and coins in circulation	Yes	
13.03			goods temporarily admitted or dispatched	Yes	
13.04			goods in transit	Yes	
13.05			goods moving between your country and territorial enclaves of your country in other countries (e.g., your embassies, military or other installations)	Yes	
13.06			non-financial assets, ownership of which has been transferred from residents to non-residents, without crossing borders	Yes	
13.07			goods acquired by all categories of travellers, including non-resident workers, for their own use and carried across the border in amounts or values not exceeding those established by national law	Yes	
13.08			newspapers and periodicals sent under direct subscription	No	Only if detected
13.09			goods purchased by foreign embassies, military or other installations located in your country, for their own use	Yes	Where detected
13.10			fish caught on the high seas by national vessels of your country and landed in its economic territory	Yes	
13.11			goods which are acquired and relinquished within your country, by non-residents, within the same recording period, and which do not cross the frontiers of the country	Yes	

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13.12			goods under operational lease (i.e., a lease of less than one year)	Yes	Use a more complex definition which better aligns with BoP concepts but only apply to large value items
13.13			goods which left the economic territory of the exporting country but lost or destroyed before entering the economic territory of your country	Yes	
13.14			empty bottles which are returned to be refilled	No	
13.15			any category of used or second-hand goods ? ***If Yes** , please specify in the Comments field*	No	
13.16			waste and scrap having no positive value	Yes	
13.17			mobile equipment that changes ownership while outside the country of residence of its original owner; ***if Yes** , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.*	Yes	Not separately recorded
13.18			fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage sold from national vessels in foreign ports or from national vessels on the high seas to foreign vessels; ***if Yes** , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately*	Yes	Not recorded separately
13.19			bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are acquired by national vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country; ***if Yes** , please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.*	Yes	Unless reported to Customs

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13.20		bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage that are supplied by national vessels/aircraft to foreign vessels/aircraft outside the economic territory of your country or landed in foreign ports from national vessels/aircraft; ***if Yes**, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately*	Yes	
13.21		goods purchased by international organizations located in the economic territory of your country, from your country, for their own use; ***if Yes**, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.*	Yes	Not recorded separately
13.22		goods for repair; ***if Yes**, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.*	No	
13.23		***If No** (so, if you include goods for repair), do you value goods for repair at the value of the repair only?*	Yes	
13.24		goods entering or leaving the economic territory of your country illegally; ***if Yes**, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.*	Yes	By definition not reported to Customs
13.25		goods exported from your country but lost or destroyed after ownership has been acquired by the importer; ***if Yes**, please indicate in Comments whether you record the transaction separately.*	No	

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	OECD remark	***Please confirm the following:*** ***- exports for Australia projects overseas are excluded from the statistics;*** ***- trade with Australia concerns re-imports.***		***exports for Australia projects overseas are excluded from the statistics No*** ***trade with Australia concerns re-imports - please clarify the question.***
	If you would like to add any remark or would like to pose any issue relevant for consideration in the update of the recommendations of international merchandise trade statistics please use the space below this cell.			
	Your comments: Please include definitions of terminology in future questionnaires			
	THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR COOPERATION !			