



# Contribution from OECD to the Inter-agency Consultation on the Future of International Trade Statistics, Wednesday 24 February, United Nations, New York

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## Implementing IMTS2010 and MSITS2010 and towards a more integrated approach to international trade and globalisation-related statistics: the role of the OECD

- Implementing IMTS 2010
- Implementing MSITS 2010
- Towards a more integrated approach to trade and globalisation statistics

# IMTS 2010

- TF IMTS, chaired by WTO, has proven its effectiveness
- OECD continues its commitment to contribute to its work
- Next TF meeting is end March in Beirut. Agenda items include:
  - The implementation plan and provisional time-table
  - Technical assistance
  - Research issues to be dealt with as a priority (such as complementarities and coordination issues with other statistical frameworks and the process of compilation guidance)

# Implementation at OECD

- Since more than 10 years, OECD convenes an annual trade and globalisation statistics meeting to share best practices amongst OECD countries and selected non-member countries.
- These meetings, organised by OECDs **Working Party on International Trade in Goods and Trade in Services Statistics (WPTGS)** and under the authority of the OECD Committee on Statistics (CSTAT), gather yearly some 130-140 experts from over 40 countries and not only cover merchandise trade and trade in services, but also trade and globalisation-related statistical issues. The next WPTGS meeting is scheduled for **4-6 October 2010 at OECD**.
- The WPTGS meetings, which bring together producers and users of trade statistics form a good platform for exchanging best practices and solutions across developed countries
- OECD and also emerging economies participate (for instance, the enhanced engagement countries of OECD, namely Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa).
- The WPTGS is amongst the largest regular international trade statistics fora where concrete know-how and new developments are analyzed and discussed.
- Papers and presentations of the last meeting in November 2009 at OECD can be found under: [www.oecd.org/std/its/wptgs2009](http://www.oecd.org/std/its/wptgs2009)

# Implementation and compilation guidance

- Concerning developing countries, OECD could consider ways to help also these countries implement IMTS 2010. There is a concrete opportunity to be grasped to make these countries benefit from progress made by developed countries. A possibility could be to organise **Seminars back-to-back to the next WPTGS meetings in October 2010 and in April 2011.**
- However, this option is subject to available technical assistance funds from external sources (such as UN, World Bank, etc.) to enable participation of developing countries.
- With respect to UNSD training workshops, OECD welcomes the planned regional approach to have regional focus and relevance. As in the past, OECD will contribute to these as well as to the global virtual expert discussion groups.

# OECD merchandise trade statistics

- OECD has COMTRADE equivalent for member countries
- UNSD receives all OECD countries data through OECD (Memorandum of Understanding)
- 5 new countries will become members
- Data are available in different commodity/product classifications: Harmonised System (HS), SITC, ISIC (OECD classification), and ICT goods (OECD classification).

# MSITS 2010

- Very successfully managed through TF, chaired by OECD.
- The agenda of the next TFITS meeting 23-24 March 2010 in Beirut includes:
  - Concordance review of MSITS2010 annexes and remaining editorial issues
  - Organisation of the implementation and compilation guidance process, including a provisional timetable
  - Compilation experience and plans in the ESCWA region
  - Using SDMX for TIS data transmission to OECD - a pilot project
  - Developing a new and integrated framework for goods and services trade by product – an OECD pilot study



# Implementation at OECD

- The implementation plan very much follows the model described under merchandise trade statistics, namely:
- Stocktaking of progress achieved so far since the March TFSITS meeting and roadmap for next steps to be presented at the following TFSITS meeting 7-8 October 2010 at OECD.
- In 2011, progress will be reported to the WPTGS meeting in April 2011 and the TFSITS meeting thereafter.
- As part of the WPTGS meeting 4-6 October 2010, summary of cross-cutting issues concerning both TFIMTS and TFSITS.
- The possibility for a dedicated Seminar for developing countries already described under IMTS2010 also applies to MSITS2010.



# OECD Trade in Services Data activities

- OECD's work on trade in services statistics is based on the needs of trade policy analysis and trade negotiations for detailed, relevant and internationally comparable information on trade by type of service, by direction of trade flows and mode of delivery.
- Data are submitted directly to the OECD by the non-EU OECD member countries and are published after checking and validation. Data for the European Union (EU) countries are transmitted to the OECD by Eurostat.
- This work-sharing procedure ensures that data published by both organisations are largely the same and should better satisfy users' requirements. OECD transmits trade in services data to UNSD for the Non-EU OECD countries. |
- In analogy to merchandise trade, a more formal MoU between UNSD and OECD on data sharing is in preparation. In the end, this inter-agency sharing should lead to greater harmonization of data published by UNSD, OECD, Eurostat and WTO.

# **Towards a more integrated approach to trade and globalisation statistics**

The growing interconnection of different statistical domains and their related frameworks, coupled to identified “dissonances” between some of them, valuation considerations and the necessary better measurement of multinationals – all these challenges stemming from globalisation require a fresh look at how statistics could better reflect today’s functioning of economies

# **Towards a more integrated approach to trade and globalisation statistics**

- OECD has been addressing these issues for some years now and intends to do so also in 2010 and 2011. For instance, half of the time (=1 ½ days) of the yearly WPTGS meetings focus on these issues. Also the yearly Joint Session of the two Task Forces is addressing these

# The agenda

- How can the measurement issue “goods for processing” be resolved, taking into account the stricter application of change of ownership in BOP and SNA and the move from goods to services in trade statistics for goods sent abroad for processing? The fact that value chains do not necessarily imply a change of ownership and the risk of data gaps for merchandise trade statistics have been repeatedly stressed in expert meetings.
- Trade and value chains: customs records measure merchandise flows at gross customs values, but not the economic content in terms of value added. However, trade in intermediate inputs as part of fragmented supply chains and this “trade in tasks” would be better measured in value added terms, including an appreciation of the imported content of exports. Several database developments in this respect are under way at OECD

# The agenda (2)

- Trade and Input-Output/Supply-Uses matrices: linked to the above, this field of research is on the agenda of both OECD and WTO and progress reports will be made during 2010-2011.
- Another new, and quite promising, field of development is linking trade and business registers together, thus having identical statistical units, producing fully integrated business and trade statistics. This is a priority item at the WPTGS meetings and significant developments in countries have been presented and discussed.

# Thank you!

## Questions?

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