

## Meeting on compilation issues of IMTS 2010

6 – 9 December 2011, Mexico City, Mexico

### Agenda Item 7: UNSD activities in the field of International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)

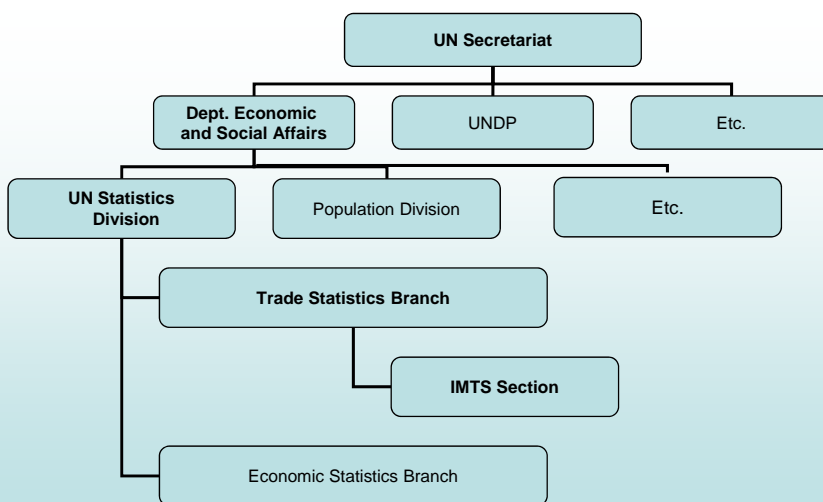


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## Activities of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) Section

### Four working areas:

1. Methodology / International standards and recommendations
2. UN Comtrade Database
3. Analytical tables (publications)
4. International Coordination and Technical Assistance

## 1. Methodological work on IMTS

The IMTS Section is responsible for:

the development and maintenance of the IMTS methodology, including IMTS concepts and definitions (IMTS, Rev.3), IMTS Compilers Manual and the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC, Rev. 4)

### i. Concepts & Methods

- IMTS, Concepts and Definitions 2010, Rev.3 (IMTS2010) (2010)  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/EG-IMTS/EG-IMTS%20web%20announcement.htm>
- IMTS, Compilers Manual, Rev. 1 (*forthcoming in 2012*)
- IMTS, Compilers Manual <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?id=111>
- IMTS, Supplement to the Compilers Manual (2008)  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/imtssupplcompilersmanual.htm>
- Unit Value index and trade indices calculation (1981)  
(Strategies for Price and Quantity Measurement in External Trade; A technical report., available at [http://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesM/SeriesM\\_69E.pdf](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/publication/SeriesM/SeriesM_69E.pdf))

### ii. National Practices

- IMTS, National Compilation and Dissemination Practices 2006  
<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradereport/default.asp>

# 1. Methodological work on IMTS

## i. Concepts & Methods

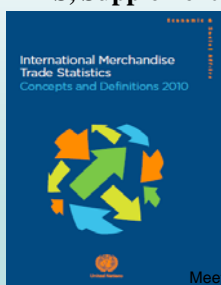
IMTS, Concepts and Definitions, Rev.2 (1998)



IMTS Compilers Manual (2004)



IMTS, Supplement to the Compilers Manual (2008)



**IMTS, Concepts and Definitions 2010 (IMTS2010)**

# 1. 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, R3) <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 (<http://comtrade.un.org/>):

- Collection and standardization of detailed merchandise trade statistics by partner and commodity (over 170 reporter countries);
- More than 1 billion trade records starting from 1962;
- Modern data processing system with extensive verification procedures regarding totals, data by partner and commodity, and quantity information;
- Powerful web-based dissemination system with free and subscriber access;
- Additional services: Knowledge base, Community Forum  
→ reference database for worldwide data on IMTS
- Also available at UN Data <http://data.un.org/>
- Upcoming: Upgrade of UN Comtrade to comply with new ITMS recommendations (and monthly data)

## 3. Analytical tables (publications)

...covering trade values and indices for individual countries and regions.

- International Trade Statistics Yearbook tables (annual data)  
→ Consisting of country tables, Commodity tables, and analytical tables
- Monthly Bulletin of Statistics tables (monthly and quarterly data)  
→ Analytical tables (containing world and region totals for trade values and trade indices for total exports, total 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 data  
→ Conversion factor calculation

**All are freely accessible**

# 3. Analytical tables (publications)

2010 International Trade Statistics Yearbook tables, Vol. I Trade by Country

**Executive Summary**  
 After several years of continuous growth recorded by a peak of 13.1 per cent in 2008, the value of the exports of Zambia dropped by 14.4 percent in 2009 and amounted to 4.3 billion USD, with a decline to 2.07 billion USD in 2010. Imports showed a more pronounced development with a decline of 21.1 percent in 2009 to 3.8 billion USD and a further drop to 2.7 billion USD in 2010. The trade balance recorded a surplus of 573 million USD in 2009 (see graph 1). In the MDG region, trade recorded deficits with Sub-Saharan Africa, 2.7 billion USD and Western Asia (2.1 billion USD), while developed regions recorded trade surpluses with Europe, 1.8 billion USD, Latin America, 1.2 billion USD, and Oceania, 0.5 billion USD. Zambia's trade with regions concentrated during a few partners, recorded a trade surplus of 1.1 billion USD in 2009 and 0.9 billion USD in 2010. In addition, furthermore, the trade surplus for exports, accounted for a large share of 41.2 percent of total exports in 2009 (see table 6).

**Graph 1: Trade balance by MDG Region in 2009**  
 The bar chart shows trade balance by MDG Region in 2009. The regions and their balances are: Europe (+1.8), Latin America (+1.2), Oceania (+0.5), Sub-Saharan Africa (-2.7), and Western Asia (-2.1). The total trade balance is +0.7 billion USD.

**Graph 2: Partner concentration of trade in 2009**  
 The pie chart shows the partner concentration of trade in 2009. The largest share is for Europe (41.2%), followed by Latin America (16.2%), Oceania (11.8%), Sub-Saharan Africa (10.8%), and Western Asia (10.0%).

**Table 1: Exports by SITC revision**  
 Value in million USD, growth and share in percentage  

Year	2008	2009	2010	2009	2010
Total	4122.1	2922.2	2147.1	-14.4	-30.2
0	234.9	274	221	11.7	5.1
1	582.8	521	388	-10.8	-32.6
2	1077.1	758	552	-29.5	-48.5
3	1324.8	953.7	721	-27.1	-45.4
4	781	551	408	-29.6	-47.1
5	451.2	287.4	227.9	-35.9	-50.1

**Table 2: Exports by SITC revision**  
 Value in million USD, growth and share in percentage  

Year	2008	2009	2010	2009	2010
Total	102.4	83.1	61.8	-18.6	-29.8
0	102.4	83.1	61.8	-18.6	-29.8
1	102.4	83.1	61.8	-18.6	-29.8
2	102.4	83.1	61.8	-18.6	-29.8
3	102.4	83.1	61.8	-18.6	-29.8
4	102.4	83.1	61.8	-18.6	-29.8
5	102.4	83.1	61.8	-18.6	-29.8

**Table 3: Top 10 import composition 2007 to 2009**  
 Value in million USD  

Year	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
40 Commodities	4522.1	4222.1	3722.1	100	100	100
402 Iron ores and concentrates	2148.7	2148.7	2148.7	47.5	51.1	57.4
403 Crude oil	1024.3	1024.3	1024.3	22.7	24.5	27.6
404 Crude oil, other	1024.3	1024.3	1024.3	22.7	24.5	27.6
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406 Crude oil, other	1024.3	1024.3	1024.3	22.7	24.5	27.6
407 Crude oil, other	1024.3	1024.3	1024.3	22.7	24.5	27.6
408 Crude oil, other	1024.3	1024.3	1024.3	22.7	24.5	27.6
409 Crude oil, other	1024.3	1024.3	1024.3	22.7	24.5	27.6
410 Crude oil, other	1024.3	1024.3	1024.3	22.7	24.5	27.6

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# 4. International Cooperation and Technical Assistance

- UN Statistical Commission (see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/imts/statcom.htm>)
- Task Force on International Merchandise Trade Statistics (see [http://imts.wto.org/task\\_e.htm](http://imts.wto.org/task_e.htm))
- Expert-Group on IMTS (EG-IMTS) to assist in IMTS2010 and update of IMTS Compilers Manual (see <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/EG-IMTS/EG-IMTS%20web%20announcement.htm>)
- Further cooperation with other international and regional organizations: ITC, OECD, FAO, WCO, ECLAC, Eurostat, etc.
- Conduct workshops to support countries in the implementation of the international recommendations on IMTS  
[http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/workshops\\_imts.htm](http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/workshops_imts.htm)
- Participation in other meetings/ workshops on IMTS



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Thank you for your attention