



UNITED NATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

STATISTICS DIVISION  
TRADE STATISTICS BRANCH

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TASK FORCE ON STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES  
Paris, 16 September 2005  
*item 6 of the revised agenda as of 31. August 2005*

TFSITS WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER

Report by UNSD

**Website**

1. UNSD hosts and manages the TFSITS website (<http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/taskforce.htm>). The documents and minutes of the last Task Force meeting have been posted at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/meetings-tf.htm>. Members of the Task Force are invited to provide information about upcoming and past meetings on international trade in services and to send important background papers for a better understanding of statistics of international trade in services for posting on the website.

2. In the UNSD view, the website should be used as an important tool in the coordination of technical assistance activities. All TF members are invited to submit to UNSD their plans for any training events as soon as they are prepared. UNSD will put them in a specially designed calendar, so that at any time any agency will have a full picture of what is planned by others. This will be helpful in adjusting our future activities. To assist in organizing the information flow, UNSD will send reminders to the TF members (one in December and one more, say, in February to get a comprehensive list of expected events during each year).

3. The website of the Task Force is part of the trade in services website of UNSD which also contains links to the Manual and the Technical Subgroup on Movement of Persons - Mode 4. The website of the Task Force currently contains the following five elements: (1) Meetings of the Task Force, (2) Reports to the Statistical Commission, (3) Training Material, (4) Technical Cooperation and (5) Archive of Papers on Trade in Services (see Annex I). The members of the Task Force are invited to provide comments and suggestions.

**Newsletter**

4. UNSD developed a prototype of the TFSITS newsletter (see Annex II). It is suggested that the first issue of the Newsletter will be published in November 2005.

5. The following topics are currently suggested for the first edition of the newsletter: (1) Introduction of the first Newsletter of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (OECD/ UNSD), (2) Revision of the Manual on International Trade in Services (OECD), (3) The framework of the Movement of Natural Persons - Mode 4 (UNSD), (4) Recommendations on the treatment of remittances in the BOP (UNSD), (5) Revision of the TSA (WTO) and (6) SNA/BOP revision (UNSD/ IMF). The following additional categories are suggested: (1) Report on past events, (2) Upcoming events and (3) Publications. At the end of the newsletter there would be an editorial note explaining the nature of the newsletter (see Annex II for details).

6. UNSD suggests that the newsletter should be published semiannually. Two month before the posting deadline UNSD will send an invitation for contributions. The proposals will be reviewed by OECD and UNSD and agreement on the contents of each issue will be reached. All accepted materials should be submitted three weeks in advance of the posting deadline. The final editing and posting of each issue will be done by UNSD with the OECD consent. It is suggested that the newsletter as well as the website will be a permanent item on the agenda of the Task Force to allow for discussion of the contents of upcoming editions etc.

7. The members of the task force are invited to provide comments and suggestions, especially regarding periodicity, arrangements for materials submission, the proposed topics and categories, the editorial note as well as the general outline and presentation of the newsletter.

[About us](#)[Contact us](#)

<b>HOME</b>	<b>STATISTICAL DATABASES</b>	<b>PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>METHODS AND CLASSIFICATIONS</b>	<b>STATISTICAL COMMISSION</b>
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Millennium Profiles   Demographic & Social   Energy   Environment   Industry   **National Accounts**   Trade

## Trade in Services

**Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services**

▼ **Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services**

▼ **Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services**

Meetings of the Task Force  
 Reports to the Statistical Commission  
 Training Material  
 Technical Cooperation  
 Archive of papers on Trade in Services

▼ **Technical Subgroup on Movement of Persons - Mode 4**

▼ **Related Links**

National Accounts  
 Trade Statistics  
 Environmental Accounting  
 Classifications  
 Eurostat  
 ILO  
 IMF  
 OECD  
 UNCTAD  
 World Trade Organisation  
 World Tourism Organisation

▼ **Contact Information**

Contact Us

The Task Force was formed at the request of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and UNCTAD to the Statistical Commission in 1994. The objectives of the Task Force were to elaborate the statistical requirements of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS).

The Task Force is convened by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and consists of members of the European Commission, International Monetary Fund (IMF), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Statistics Division and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Until 2002, the work of Task Force focused on the development of the [Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services \(MSITS\)](#), which was approved by the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2002. The Manual sets out a statistical framework for the collection and dissemination of Trade in Services data.

The work of the Task Force focuses at present on the

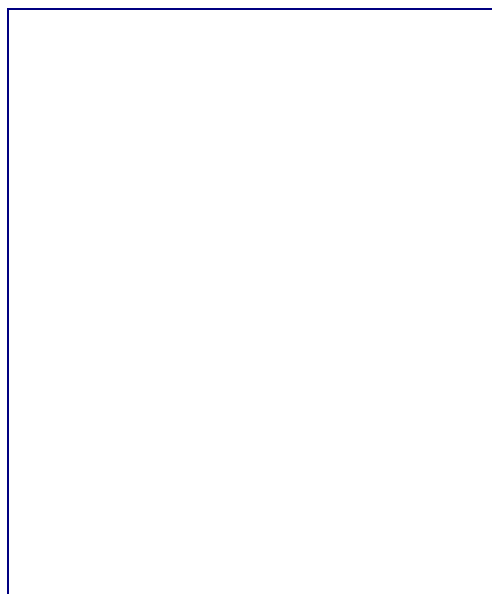
- Promotion of the implementation of the Manual through various means;
- Development of compilation guidance documents;
- Revision of MSITS

The revision of MSITS will reflect the results of the revision of the [IMF 5th Balance of Payments Manual \(BPM5\)](#) and the [update of the 1993 SNA](#). It will also reflect the outcome of the work of the [Technical Subgroup on the Movement of Natural Persons – Mode 4](#).

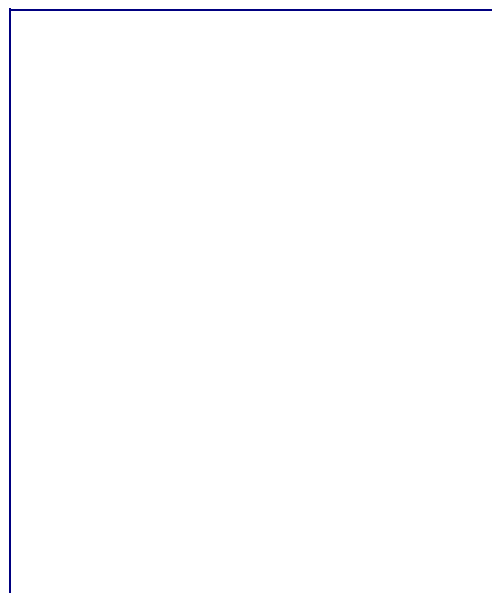
The UN Task Force can be reached by e-mail at: [STD.Servstat@oecd.org](mailto:STD.Servstat@oecd.org)

# NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES

## INTRODUCTION OF THE FIRST NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES (OECD/ UNSD)



## REVISION OF THE MANUAL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES (OECD)

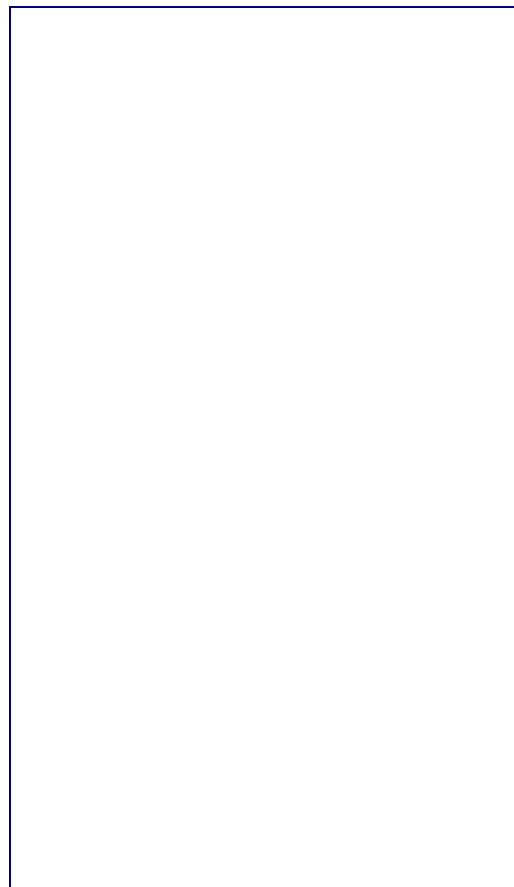


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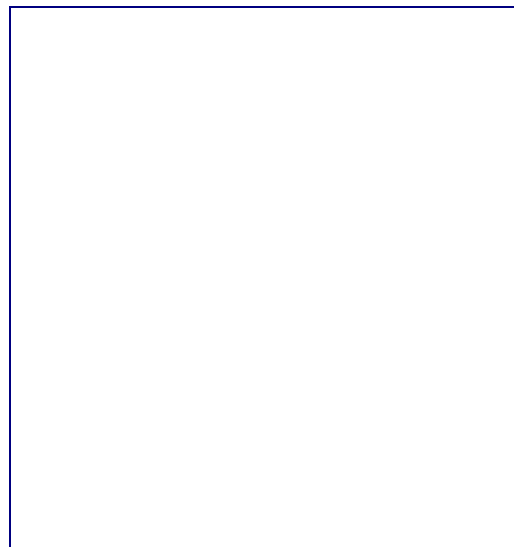
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**THE FRAMEWORK THE MOVEMENT OF  
NATURAL PERSONS - MODE 4 (UNSD, IVO  
HAVINGA AND ALESSANDRA ALFIERI)**



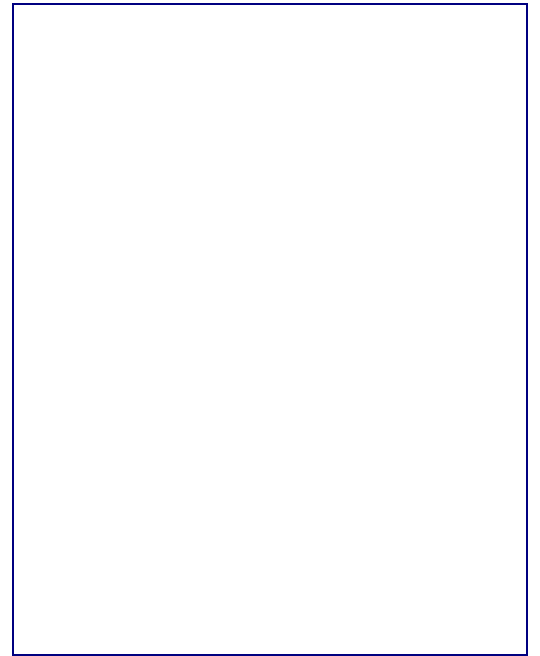
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**RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE TREATMENT OF  
REMITTANCES IN THE BOP (UNSD)**



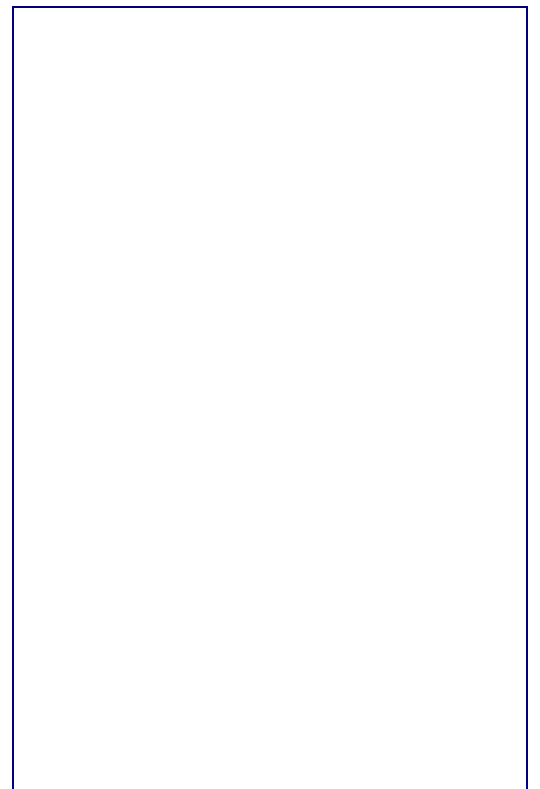
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**REVISION OF THE TSA (WTO, ANTONIO MASSIEU)**



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**SNA/BOP REVISION (IMF/UNSD - Ivo HAVINGA, NEIL PATERSON)**



**REPORT ON PAST EVENTS**

- **TASK FORCE MEETING, SEPTEMBER 16**
- **WORKSHOP ON SITS IN PANAMA, SEPTEMBER 13-16**
- **OTHER**

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**UPCOMING EVENTS: ....**

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**PUBLICATIONS**

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**EDITORIAL NOTE**

The Newsletter of the Interagency Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services (TFSITS) is a joint publication of the member of the task force: the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the World Trade Organisation (WTO) - the Task Force is chaired by OECD. The Newsletter is prepared twice a year by the International Trade Statistics Section of the United Nations Statistics Division – Department of Economic and Social Affairs. This Newsletter does not necessarily express the official position of any of the members nor is it an official document of the United Nations.

Contact: United Nations Statistics Division, International Trade Statistics Section, New York, NY 10017, USA, Email address: [tradeserv@un.org](mailto:tradeserv@un.org) or visit our website at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradeserv/default.htm>.