

Agenda

UN Expert Group meeting on the draft MSITS 2010 Compilers Guide

25-28 June 2013, Geneva, Switzerland

hosted by WTO and UNCTAD

Tuesday, 25 June

Morning	
8.30 – 9.00	Registration
9:00 – 9:20	Opening statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNCTAD-WTO• UNSD
9:20 – 9:40	Overview of the process of developing the Compilers Guide
9:40 – 10:00	Objectives of the Expert Group meeting
10:00 – 10:15	<u>Discussion on chapter 1</u> This chapter clarifies the modes of supply framework of MSITS 2010 covering both the treatment of resident-nonresident transactions of services and of Foreign Affiliates Statistics (FATS), and relates the concepts and definitions used in MSITS 2010 to the frameworks of the Systems of National Accounts 2008, the 6 th edition of the Balance of Payments Manual, the OECD Benchmark Definition of FDI 4 th edition and the International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions, 2010.
10:15 – 10:30	<u>Discussion on chapter 2</u> This chapter deals with the legal framework within which statistics on the international supply of services are collected, compiled and disseminated. The chapter covers the legal acts defining the roles and responsibilities of national statistical offices, central banks, ministries of trade and other governmental institutions involved in the compilation of trade in services statistics and FATS and which are at the basis of many institutional arrangements.

10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 11:15	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 3</u></p> <p>The chapter describes challenges and good practices in setting up effective institutional arrangements between various agencies involved in compilation of statistics on the international supply of services such as national statistical offices, central banks, ministries of trade and others. It will provide details of country experiences in setting up such arrangements under various circumstances, including the specificity of national legal frameworks.</p>
11:15 – 11:30	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 4</u></p> <p>This chapter briefly describes the main data sources and their main advantages and shortcomings in the context of the modes of supply framework. It will also cover the distinction between direct and indirect reporting, and the relationships between the various data sources and policy options regarding their use. This chapter also explains where applicable the role that IT can play in the data collection process as well as the roles of quality management and metadata.</p>
11:30 – 12:45	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 5</u></p> <p>The chapter highlights the central role of the statistical business register in the organization of data collection. The characteristics and maintenance of the business registers will be described as they are relevant for the collection of trade in services and foreign affiliates data. An overview of the uses of business registers and survey frames will be provided in the context of resident-nonresident trade in services, FATS and Modes of Supply.</p>
<u>Afternoon</u>	
14:00 – 15:00	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 6</u></p> <p>This chapter describes enterprise surveys. An integrated approach is to be promoted so that the survey framework, when designed, takes into consideration response burden of the companies, as well as linking trade in services and business statistics. The chapter focuses on a general description of enterprise and establishment surveys; types of surveys, organization of surveys; and advantages and shortcomings of surveys. The chapter also provides a description of how some specific services industries function.</p>
15:00 – 16:00	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 7</u></p> <p>This chapter describes surveys of persons and households. In particular, the</p>

	chapter focuses on general description of household surveys; organization of such surveys; and their advantages and shortcomings.
16:00 – 17:00	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 8</u></p> <p>This chapter describes the International Transaction Reporting System (ITRS). The ITRS is generally originated from foreign-exchange regulations but countries' systems have evolved to include not only reporting from resident banks but also direct reporting from transactors. Some countries adopt reporting thresholds for the ITRS. In recent years, the threshold amount has been raised to reduce reporting burdens, leading to a loss of coverage especially for the compilation of certain services. Against the background of such an evolution of the ITRS, details on advantages and limitations of ITRS will be provided.</p>

Wednesday, 26 June

<u>Morning</u>	
9:00 – 9:30	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 9</u></p> <p>This chapter describes administrative records and their advantages and shortcomings.</p>
9:30 – 10:00	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 10</u></p> <p>This chapter describes all other relevant data sources. It presents how these can be used for collecting useful information for resident-nonresident transactions in services, FATS and non-monetary indicators on modes of supply.</p>
10:00 – 10:30	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 11</u></p> <p>This chapter more profoundly describes the advantages and shortcoming of the various data sources for responding to all information needs of MSITS2010 and give country experiences as to these advantages and shortcomings. It will provide guidance on the assessment of the cost-benefit analysis of each source.</p>
10:45 – 11:00	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 12</u></p> <p>This chapter reiterates the four modes of supply and the importance of compiling sufficiently detailed resident-nonresident trade in services and FATS. It also shows the importance to compile the four modes of supply by distinguishing the modes within each of the resident-nonresident trade in</p>

	services categories, as well as by distinguishing mode 4 within the statistics of foreign affiliates.
11:00 – 11:30	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 13</u></p> <p>The chapter highlights a number of issues that need to be addressed in the integration of data from different sources, such as (a) matching similar data elements available from different sources; (b) working out conceptual differences between sources; (c) matching data with different levels of detail; (d) working out issues of delays resulting in unsynchronized reception of data; (e) overlaps in the information provided and (f) the overall efficient use of all data sources.</p>
11:30 – 12:45	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 14</u></p> <p>This chapter recaps and extends on the BPM6 compilation guide focusing on the statistical processing aspects. It will provide examples of good practices in compilation of resident/non-resident trade in services statistics.</p>
<u>Afternoon</u>	
14:00 – 15:00	<u>Discussion on chapter 14</u> (continued)
15:00 – 16:30	<p><u>Discussion on chapter 15</u></p> <p>This chapter describes the compilation of FATS, including confidentiality issues and possible exchange of data among countries.</p>
16:30 – 17:00	<p><u>Discussion of chapter 17</u></p> <p>This chapter describes the use of models and estimates to complement the observed SITS/FATS data which are frequently needed. It is in particular common (a) to impute data gaps and missing replies, and correct suspect outliers etc; (b) to forecast and compensate for lack of timeliness of data sources; (c) or to back cast and revise time series backward to incorporate newly available historical data or after a break, for example due to a change in estimation methodology, compilation system, or conceptual standards. Models and estimates can be also used to verify the plausibility of the collected data.</p>

Thursday, 27 June: SPECIAL SESSION ON MODES OF SUPPLY

Modes of services supply are at the foundation of the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services and the accompanying Compiler's Guide, currently under discussion in the Expert Group Meeting (EGM). This session aims at reviewing measurement issues concerning specifically modes of supply, i.e. estimating the value of individual modes and compiling non-monetary aspects, in particular the number of mode 2 and mode 4 persons. Given the importance of this topic and the generalized lack of data, it is proposed as a separate session within the agenda of the EGM. The objective of this session is therefore to identify and validate compilation proposals on modes of supply for inclusion in the Compiler's Guide. This will be based on existing country experiences. The session was chaired by Patricia Walter from OeNB.

<u>Morning</u>	
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome, opening, <i>UNCTAD-WTO</i>
9:10 – 9:15	Adoption of the agenda
<u>General introduction</u>	
9:15 – 9:45	General introduction, <i>Eurostat-OECD-WTO</i> A user's perspective, <i>New Zealand (New Zealand Permanent Mission to the WTO)</i>
<u>Value of supply of services by mode</u>	
9:45 – 10:00	Introduction, <i>OECD</i>
10:00 – 10:45	New Zealand: trade in services census and co-operation with Ministry of Trade, <i>Statistics New Zealand, New Zealand</i> Modes of supply in BoP services surveys, <i>INE, Spain</i> Sector specific surveys and modes, <i>DGCIS, India</i>
10:45 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:00	Mode 2: a more detailed breakdown of travel, <i>Bank of Turkey, Turkey</i> Mode 3, <i>Bureau of Economic Analysis, United States</i> Mechanical allocation, <i>WTO with countries (Chile, United States)</i>
12:00 - 12:30	Discussion and agreement on best practices on collecting and compiling data by mode of supply for value, <i>All</i>

<u>Afternoon</u>	
<u>Compiling non-monetary aspects of modes of supply - chapter 16</u>	
14:00 – 14:15	Introduction, <i>WTO</i>
14:15 - 15:30	Gathering mode 2 and mode 4 data from tourism surveys/travel, <i>UNWTO</i> Survey on business travel and use for mode 4, <i>Eurostat on behalf of Netherlands</i> Using travel data sources to derive measures of mode 2 and mode 4 number of persons, <i>Bank of Italy, Italy</i> Use of household surveys-labor force surveys, <i>Eurostat</i> Views on the data collection possibilities for modes 2 and 4 number of persons, <i>Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI), Norway</i>
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45:16:15	Use of migration records and other administrative data (including data from Business Registers-Population registers), <i>Eurostat</i> Number of persons: Mode 4 - example based on administrative data, <i>NBS, China</i>
16:15 – 16:45	<u>Discussion on chapter 16</u> Chapter 16 describes the compilation of the other indicators, in particular non-monetary aspects, of the modes of supply. The chapter will in particular discuss the compilation of statistics on the number of mode 4 persons. Under this agenda point experts will in particular be asked to discuss and agree on best practices on collecting and compiling data by mode of supply for non-monetary indicators, <i>All</i>
<u>Requirements for dissemination, quality and metadata</u>	
16:45 - 17:00	Requirements for dissemination, quality and metadata, <i>OECD, United States</i>
<u>Concluding session</u>	
17:00 - 17:30	Concluding session: a way forward, best practices and incorporation in CG for MSITS2010, <i>All</i>

Friday, 28 June

Morning	
9:00 – 9:15	<u>Discussion on chapter 18</u> This chapter reiterates the four modes of supply and the related issues of quality assurance and data dissemination. It shows the need for a combined dissemination of the traditional BOP-based resident-non-resident trade in services transactions and foreign affiliates statistics while distinguishing among the four modes of supply. It also discusses the dissemination of non-monetary statistics relating to the four modes of supply.
9:15 – 9:45	<u>Discussion on chapter 19</u> This chapter describes the factors to take into consideration when establishing the dissemination policy. Some factors cover timely release of data; revision policy; cooperation with government entities, with compilers of balance of payments, merchandise trade statistics and national accounts, with users, with mass media; clarification of types of data issued; and the use of information technology to improve the data dissemination.
9:45 – 10:30	<u>Discussion on chapter 20</u> This chapter provides an overview of quality management at the level of the responsible agency, in particular when it comes to resident-non-resident trade in services statistics and FATS. Major quality issues will be identified and discussed, including issues related to the editing of data, the responsibilities of each agency and minimum requirements for data quality. Further it describes the measurement of quality and the process of producing quality reports and provides examples and best practices.
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 11:15	<u>Discussion on chapter 21</u> This chapter describes all the information about the trade in services data and FATS as well as about other relevant statistics which should be considered metadata. It explains that metadata are relevant for the correct understanding of the content, coverage and limitations of the data, and should guide users on the correct interpretation of the trade statistics. This chapter provides advice and examples on how best to present and disseminate the metadata, in particular in relation to resident-non-resident trade in services statistics and FATS.
11:15 – 11:30	<u>Discussion on chapter 22</u> This chapter describes the use of ICT in all aspects of the compilation process, which includes electronic administration of surveys, electronic capturing of data, IT and data processing, database management, electronic dissemination and web publishing
11:30 – 12:30	Discussion of way forward (e.g., Annexes, on-line content, more country experiences, editing, etc.)
12:30 – 13:00	Concluding remarks