



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR
WESTERN ASIA
STATISTICS DIVISION



UNITED NATIONS
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
AFFAIRS
STATISTICS DIVISION

Project 06/07K: Strengthening the Development of International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) and the compilation of e-commerce in Member Countries of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Workshop on data compilation and application of methodological concepts

28 October – 2 November 2007, Amman, Jordan

- Provisional agenda -

Morning session will be from 8:30 to 11:30 and afternoon session from 12:00 to 15:00 (*two breaks of 15 and 30 minutes, respectively*)

Sunday, 28 October 2007

Registration for participants: 8:00-9:00

First session 9:00 -11:30 Chair: ESCWA

1. Opening of the meeting (ESCWA/UNSD)
2. Adoption of Agenda and Administrative matters (ESCWA/UNSD)
3. Introduction of the project and ESCWA activities in the field of International Trade Statistics (ESCWA)
4. UNSD activities in the field of International Trade Statistics (UNSD)
5. MedStat II project – Introduction and latest developments (Henri Tyrman)

Second session 12:00-15:00 Chair: ESCWA

6. Results of the National Compilation and Dissemination Practices (NCDP) Questionnaire 2006 (UNSD)
7. Summary of feedback from country missions

- a. Introduction by ESCWA and UNSD
 - b. General discussion
8. Points of concern for ESCWA member states – Round table discussion

Monday, 29 October

Data sources

Third session 8:30 -11:30 Chair: UNSD

9. Customs Declarations – Revised Kyoto Convention, Single Administrative Document and relation to IMTS
- a. Introduction by UNSD/WCO
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion
10. Customs declarations - Use of technology: ASYCUDA - IT solution and its impact for the generation of statistics, including validation checks
- a. Presentations by UNCTAD (*ASYCUDA Project*)
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion

Fourth session 12:00 -15:00 Chair: UNCTAD

11. Institutional arrangements in data collection; cooperation between the national statistical office (NSO) and (i) Customs and (ii) other agencies
- a. Introduction by UNSD
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion

Data validation

12. Data validation procedures at Customs – commodity classification, valuation and partner country attribution
- a. Introduction by UNSD
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion

Tuesday, 30 October

Fifth session 8:30 -11:30 Chair: ESCWA

13. Data validation procedures at the NSO – Customs Procedure Codes, commodity nomenclature, country nomenclature, valuation, quantity units, quantity measurement
 - a. Introduction by UNSD
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion

14. Data validation – Use of Technology: Eurotrace
 - a. Introduction by UNSD
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion

Sixth session 12:00 -15:00 Chair: UNSD

15. Identification of best practices in data compilation – Round-table discussion

Application of methodological concepts

16. Overview of international recommendations - Current recommendations; revision processes influencing the measurement of IMTS and the upcoming third revision of the IMTS manual, including conceptual relationship between IMTS and SNA/BOP and additional data collection for SNA/BOP purposes. (ESCWA, UNSD).

General Discussion

Wednesday, 31 October 2007

Seventh session 8:30 -11:30 Chair: UNCTAD

17. Coverage, treatment of goods for repair and good for processing; and time of recording – lodgement of declarations, inclusions and exclusions from IMTS
 - a. Introduction by UNSD
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion

18. Trade System, re-exports and re-imports, Customs Procedure Codes and Free Zone Administration (including adjustments to create General trade from Special trade).
 - a. Introduction by UNSD

- b. Country papers
- c. General Discussion

Eighth session: 12:00 -15:00 Field Trip to Jordan EPZ (to be confirmed)

Thursday, 1 November 2007

Ninth session 8:30 -11:30 Chair: ESCWA

- 19. Commodity classifications (including correspondences between classifications) and Quantity measurement
 - a. Introduction by UNSD/ WCO
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion
- 20. Valuation – Imports CIF and FOB, Exports FOB – and currency conversion
 - a. Introduction by UNSD
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion

Tenth session 12:00 -15:00 Chair: UNSD

- 21. Partner country – Country of Origin and Last known destination
 - a. Introduction by UNSD
 - b. Country papers
 - c. General Discussion

Conclusions

- 22. Implementation of best practices and international recommendations and capacity building – Round-table discussion

Friday, 2 November 2007

Last session 8:30 -11:30 Chair: ESCWA

- 23. Conclusions and recommendations of the meeting (UNSD, ESCWA, UNCTAD)
- 24. Evaluation of the Workshop and other business