Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Project "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
Amman – Jordan, 28 October – 2 November 2007

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Sunday, 28 October 2007

Registration for participants: 8:00-9:00

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

1. Opening of the meeting (ESCWA/UNSD/Department of Statistics Jordan)
2. Adoption of agenda and administrative matters (ESCWA/UNSD)
3. Introduction of the ESCWA project 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)

Break: 11:00-11:15

Second session   11:15-15:30   Chair: MEDSTAT II

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

Break: 13:15-14:15

Data sources
8.   Customs Declarations – Revised Kyoto Convention, Single Administrative Document and relation to IMTS
    a. Introduction by UNSD
    b. Invited Country presentations (UAE/Customs, Morocco/Customs)
    c. General Discussion

07-0430

Data sources (Cont'd)

Third session   *8:30 -11:00*   *Chair: UNSD*

9. 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. Invited Country presentations (Syria/Customs, Yemen/Customs, Palestine/Customs)
    c. General Discussion

10. 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 and interventions (Iraq/Statistical Office, Oman/Statistical Office, Qatar/Statistical Office, Kuwait/Central Bank)
    c. General Discussion

Break   11:00-11:15

Fourth session   *11:15-15:30*   *Chair: UNCTAD*

11   Points of concern for ESCWA member states – Round table discussion
Break   13:15-14:15

Data validation   14:15-15:30

12. Data validation procedures <u>at Customs</u> – commodity classification, valuation and partner country attribution   Chair: UNCTAD

    a. Introduction by UNSD
    b. Invited Country presentations (Lebanon/Customs, Jordan/Customs, Algeria/Customs)
    c. General Discussion

Data validation (Cont'd)

Fifth session   *8:30 -11:00*   *Chair: ESCWA*

13. Data validation procedures <u>at the NSO</u> – Customs Procedure Codes, commodity nomenclature, country nomenclature, valuation, quantity units, quantity measurement

    a. Introduction by UNSD
    b. Invited Country presentations (Saudi Arabia/Statistical Office, Palestine/Statistical Office)
    c. General Discussion

14. Data validation – Use of Technology: Eurotrace

    a. Introduction by UNSD
    b. Invited Country presentations (Bahrain/Statistical O\Office, Algeria/Statistical Office)
    c. General Discussion

Break   11:00-11:15

Sixth session   11:15 -15:30   Chair: MEDSTAT II

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

Break   13:15-14:15

Application of methodological concepts   14:15-15:30

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
    Application of methodological concepts (Cont'd)

Seventh session   8:30 -11:00   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. Invited Country presentations (Lebanon/Statistical Office, Tunisia/Statistical Office, Bahrain/Customs)
    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. Invited Country presentations (Jordan/Statistical Office, Oman/Customs, Morocco/Statistical Office)
    c. General Discussion

Break   11:00-11:15

Field Trip to Jordan EPZ   11:15-15:30

Thursday, 1 November 2007
    Application of methodological concepts (Cont'd)
    Eighth session   8:30 -11:00   Chair: ESCWA

19. Commodity classifications (including correspondences between classifications) and Quantity measurement

    a. Introduction by UNSD/ WCO
    b. Invited Country presentations (Egypt/Statistical Office, Syria/Statistical Office, Saudi Arabia/Customs)
    c. General Discussion

20. Valuation – Imports CIF and FOB, Exports FOB – and currency conversion

    a. Introduction by UNSD
    b. Invited Country presentations (Yemen/Statistical Office, Tunisia/Customs)
    c. General Discussion
Break   11:00-11:15

Application of methodological concepts (Cont'd)
Ninth session   11:15 -15:30   Chair: UNSD

21. Partner country – Country of Origin and Last known destination

  a. Introduction by UNSD
  b. Invited Country presentations (UAE/Statistical Office, Egypt/Customs)
  c. General Discussion

Break   13:15-14:15

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

Friday, 2 November 2007

Last session   09:00 -11:00   Chair: ESCWA

23. Recommendations of the meeting (UNSD, ESCWA, UNCTAD)

24. Evaluation of the Workshop and other business