

ETHIOPIAN CUSTOMS AUTHORITY

Presents

***ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS
(Collection, Compilation & Dissemination)***

at:

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Compilers Manual**

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1. Introduction

- Apart from revenue collection and combating smuggling, ECuA has a responsibility of Collecting, Compiling and Disseminating foreign trade data to different users
- This responsibility is given by customs establishing law
- Accordingly Customs has been giving this service since its establishment
- To accomplish this task customs has come across two stages, Manual and Electronic declaration and data processing
- However, during manual data processing there was no timely data and the national reports were not indicating current conditions

2. Implementation of ASYCUDA

- Before agreement was reached with UNCTAD to implement ASYCUDA, Customs was preparing data sheets from declarations and data processing was done by Ministry of Finance
- Only fixed number of printed reports were produced
- This task was managed by Plan, Research and Statistics Service which was accountable to the General Manager.
- In 1997 Customs reached agreement with UNCTAD to implement ASYCUDA V.2
- As a result Customs Automation Project Office was established.
- In July 1998 the first site (A.A. Airport Cargo) was automated
- Presently more than 95% of declarations is processed electronically

3. Customs Collection Offices

- Through out the country there are about 13 collection offices, Zonal Coordination Offices, plenty of control stations and one coordination office in Djibouti Port
- Most of the imported goods are coming to Addis and most exported goods are also from Addis
- As a result most of duty and taxes are collected by offices which are located in Addis Ababa

3. Ethiopian Customs Collection Offices Contd...

- Automated Offices with ASYCUDA
 1. Addis Ababa Kality (former Lagar)
 2. Addis Ababa Airport Cargo Section (A++)
 3. Addis Ababa Airport Passenger Section
 4. Nazareth Customs Office
 5. Dire Dawa Lagar Customs (Railway)
 6. Moyale Customs Office (Kenya Border)
 7. Combolcha Customs Office
 8. Customs Coordination Office at Djibouti Port

3. Ethiopian Customs Collection Offices Contd...

- Non – Automated offices
 1. Addis Ababa Post Office
 2. Dire-Dawa Airport Customs
 3. Jijiga Customs Office (Somalia Border)
 4. Dewele Customs Office (Somalia Border)
 5. Mekele Customs Office
 6. Metema Customs Office (Sudan Boarder)

3. Ethiopian Customs Collection Offices Contd...

- Addis Ababa Airport Cargo and Addis Ababa Kality office are connected to the central server which is found in Automation and Data Processing Division via DDN
- These two offices cover more than 80% the transaction
- The rest of the automated offices data is incorporated via backups to the statistical server in HQ.
- The data of non-automated offices is keyed in to ASYCUDA in the near by automated offices
- Most of the non-automated offices are remote and the number of declarations processed is very small
- The over all contribution of these non-automated offices to the national data is less than 5%
- The reason that they are still not automated is the small amount of the declaration they process

4. Declaration Processing

Automated Office	Avg. no. of Decl./Month
1 A.A. Airport Cargo	3060
2 A.A. Kality	3350
3 Dire Dawa Lagar	561
4 Nazareth Customs	212
5 Combolcha Customs	57
6 Moyale Customs	39
7 A.A Airport Passenger	223

4. Declaration Processing Contd ...

Non Automated Office	Avg no. of Decl./Month
1 Jijiga Customs	380
2 Metema Customs	45
3 Mekele Customs	15
4 Dire Dawa Airport	610
5 A.A Post Office	75
6 Dewele Customs	Border Trade (<2000 ETB)

4. Declaration Processing Contd...

- Customs Coordination Office in Djibouti is not a collection office
- The Coordination Office only records arrival manifests
- According to the dispatch orders from Inland offices the Coordination office releases, monitors and controls the goods
- The main report found from the coordination office is the Port Position Report
- Actual Import – Export is compiled from declarations processed in inland offices.
- In 2003 the Authority has gone through revision of customs operation process. As a result improved customs clearance and control manual is in place
- In this manual the total average time that should be taken for various procedures is indicated provided that all customs requirements (documents and physical conditions) are fulfilled

5. Ethiopian Foreign Trade Data

5.1 Data Collection

- The main source of our foreign trade data is the customs Declaration/SAD
- This declaration is also accepted by COMMESA
- Based on the completion guide, the declaration will be prepared by Declarants/Agents (manually or Electronically)
- The Face-vet Officers will examine it and when accepted the completed declaration will be passed to the registry desk (ASYCUDA V2)
- The Registry Officer enters all of the data on the declaration to the ASYCUDA software and prints electronic version of the declaration (V2)
- Then the Assessment Officer will take the task of validating and verifying the info keyed in by the Registry Officer
- After verifying the information and assessing the necessary duties and taxes assessment notices will be printed to the declarant and the electronic document will be passed to the cashers for payment
- In the case of ASYCUDA++ Declarations are directly registered to the system in the presence of the declarant or are electronically lodged through remote DTI then follows assessment
- It is the ASSESSED DECLARATIONS INFORMATION that will be taken as Import – Export Data and will be incorporated into the trade database

5.2 Data Compilation

- The Import – Export data is centrally organized at HQ's Automation and Data Processing Division
- The data will be backed up from all Automated Offices and restored at the Statistics Server at HQ
- Using the extraction utilities developed by UNCTAD all the information of the declaration will be extracted and changed to dbf tables
- From this integrated data tables and based on users requirements reports will be generated and disseminated using FoxPro relational database software

Reference Period

- The declaration assessment date is used as a reference for most of the compiled data
- This is because mostly assessment is done after arrival of incoming goods and during departure of outgoing goods.
- It is also at this stage that the declaration is validated by senior officers
- Other Reference periods as Registration date and Payment date are also used when specific and special needs arise

Customs Procedures

- **The General Procedures Applied by ECuA are:**
 1. Permanent Export
 2. Temporary Export
 3. Re-Export
 4. Entry for Home Use
 5. Temporary Import
 6. Re - Importation
 7. Entry for Customs Warehousing
 8. Customs Transit
- **There are about 26 CPCs under these procedures which are revised and implemented in ASYCUDA++**

5. Ethiopian Foreign Trade Data Contd ...

Customs Procedures	Avg no. of Decl/Month
E1 – Permanent Export	2508
E2 – Temporary Export	7
E3 – Re Export	68
C4 – Entry for home use	5842
C5 – Temporary Imports	144
C6 – Re Importation	9
S7 – Entry for WH	26
S8 – Customs Transit	1

Quantity Measurements

- Gross and net weight of every item of the declaration in KG is captured, how ever unless asked (eg Transport Companies) net weight is reported
- Standard units attached to the HS are also used for those items which require additional units of measurement

5. Ethiopian Foreign Trade Data Contd ...

Valuation of goods

- As it is stipulated in the Customs Proclamation the customs valuation method is inline with the WTO Valuation Agreement.
- For the last five years till last June 2004 valuation and classification of goods was done by a foreign contracted company
- As of June 2004 Customs is performing valuation and classification of goods by its own staff
- Overall responsibility is given to Valuation Tariff and Classification Department of the Authority
- The price data base which is quarterly updated will be available both for Customs officers and Declerants
- For statistical compilation FOB value for exported goods and CIF value for imported goods is applied
- Amounts of freight and insurance are also collected separately for each item making possible reporting of prices/actual cost of goods
- Currency rates are updated weekly based on NBE's orders

Country Identification

- For imported items both country of origin and consignment are captured and the information is disseminated according to the users requirements
- However, Country of Origin is mostly requested
- Country of origin is identified by following the standard rules of origin and most of the importers are asked to present certificate of origin and other documents not only for statistical purpose but also primarily for valuation activities
- For export goods country of final destination is used for reporting

Classification of goods

- Ethiopian Customs has adopted HS 2002
- Accordingly collection compilation and dissemination of data is based on HS
- The National code is eight digits
- Usually tariff amendments are done biannually if the need arises

6. Trade Data Dissemination

Central Statistical Authority

- **There is a Service-Level Agreement**
- **The Central Statistical Authority's data requirement has been identified**
- **Accordingly, data is extracted by customs and will be prepared in proper format (text file) to update the Euro-trace data bank**
- **According to the agreement, Customs shall avail data at the end of each month**
- **However because of remote and non automated offices there is some delay**
- **Currently CSA is preparing to use another version of Euro-trace and Customs is implementing ASYCUDA++ and both are discussing ways for the smooth transfer of data**

Regular Users

- **In this category the main users are government institutions**
- **The following are some of them.**
 - **National Bank of Ethiopia (Monthly)**
 - **Export Promotion Agency (Monthly)**
 - **Ministry of Trade and Industry (Monthly)**
 - **Some Embassies (Quarterly)**
 - **Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (Biannual)**
 - **Inland Revenue Collection Institutions (Annual)**

Non Regular Users

- Private Investors
- Governmental Investment Institutions (i.e. Regional and Federal Investment Offices)
- Companies and individuals working on import, export and wholesale activities
- Manufacturing Industries
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our embassies abroad
- Foreign Countries Embassies in
- Commercial Banks and Insurances
- Research institutes, Consultants, Higher education students

7. Data Quality and Timeliness

- The basic challenge we faced is data quality problem
- The problem areas are volume, quantity, country codes and Classification for those duty free procedures and items with similar rates
- The data quality problems arise due to
IMPERFECTLY FILLED IN DECLARATIONS
INCORRECTLY KEYED IN INFORMATION
INSUFFICIENTLY VERIFIED ENTRY
- The Timelines of the data is better since data transfer to HQ is electronically done and around 80% of clearances are made in Addis.
- For 100% data completeness we need to wait those remote automated offices until they send us a backup copy and the declaration of those non automated offices (very small proportion) should be keyed in the nearby automated station
- This will take at least a period of a month

8. Current Status of ASYCUDA ++

- Currently ASYCUDA++ is implemented at the pilot site (Addis Ababa Airport Cargo Section)
- This site is connected with the central server with wire less communication
- Among the modules implemented, Bureau DTI, Remote DTI, Manifest and Selectivity are the main once
- Currently rollout has started to the rest of the collection offices which are found in Addis (i.e. A.A Kality Customs, A.A. Airport Passenger's Section and A.A. Post Office)
- According to the Rollout schedule, by the end of June 2005 all customs stations will use ASYCUDA ++ and will be connected to the central server in the HQ since now there is a telecom broadband infrastructure and a project called RevenueNet is initiated
- By then we will be able to provide 100% complete and timely data
- Currently interfaces are also under development to enable data exchange b/n Inland revenue authorities and NBE
- We are also working to connect Our Coordination Office in Djibouti to implement transit module
- Together with ASYCUDA ++ we will use Oracle Discoverer as a tool for data management

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