

**PRESENTATION ON COMMODITY  
CLASSIFICATIONS AND THE  
INTRODUCTION OF HS – 2007**

**ADDIS ABABA  
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**REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA  
CENTRAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

# **INTRODUCTION**

The Republic of Namibia is a member of the United Nations and the use of approved and recommended international procedures and standards are implemented in the compiling of Merchandise Trade Statistics.

## **a. CLASSIFICATIONS IN USE**

The Harmonised System (HS) is used in disseminating trade statistics.

Trade statistics is provided from 2 to 8 HS digit levels. These HS digit levels are also very important in the analysis of trade statistics for various purposes such as determining the state of economy investment, research, etc.

## **b. THE CONVERSION OF HS DATA TO OTHER CLASSIFICATIONS**

Currently, the Republic of Namibia only uses the Harmonised System. At the moment there are no conversions to other classifications such as the Broad Economic Categories (BEC) and Standard International Trade Classifications (SITC). However, the importance of other classifications is very crucial and ground work is in the process to ensure that conversions are done in order to use other classifications.

**c. PROBLEMS FACED WITH THE  
INTRODUCTION OF HS - 2007**

At this point of time, there are no problems with loading and processing of data.

**d. AVAILABILITY OF ANNUAL DATA**

Annual data is available in both the fiscal year and the January – December period, depending on how it is requested and what purpose it is needed for.

There are no major adjustments, the fiscal period is arranged by aggregating the months that forms up a fiscal period (April-March).

The annual period is also available (January-December).

Time series are maintained by keeping a computer which contains data of previous years in the same format as they were at that time.

The Central Bureau of Statistics, specifically the Trade Statistics Unit compares processed data with stipulated commodity

classifications to see if commodities are correctly classified. If they are not, changes are done to ensure that commodities are correctly classified.

Arrangements are in place for the cooperation between the Central Bureau of Statistics and the Customs that, verifications and correction of commodity classifications are jointly done by the two offices.

Customs informs the CBS with new developments taking place on a continuous basis, like wise the CBS also does the same.