Workshop on updated and new recommendations for International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS 2010) and their implementation in countries of the Sub-Saharan Africa region

Lusaka, Zambia, 1-5 November, 2010

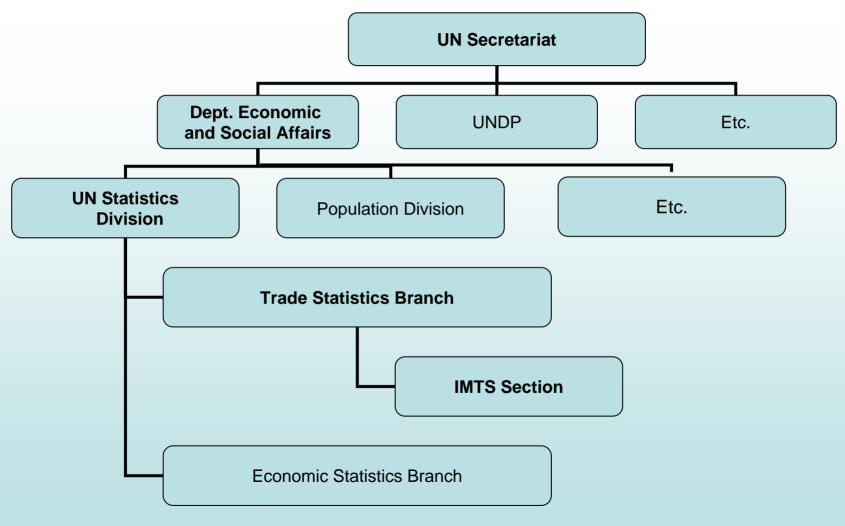
Agenda Item 4: UNSD activities in the field of International **Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)**



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The United Nations



Activities of the International Merchandise **Trade Statistics (IMTS) Section**

Four working areas:

- Methodology / International standards and recommendations
- 2. UN Comtrade Database
- Analytical tables (publications)
- International Coordination and Technical **Assistance**

1. Methodological work on IMTS

The IMTS Section is responsible for:

the <u>development and maintenance of the IMTS methodology</u>, including IMTS concepts and definitions (IMTS, Rev. 2) and the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC, Rev. 4)

i. Concepts & Methods

- IMTS, Concepts and Definitions 2010 (IMTS 2010)
- IMTS, Concepts & Definitions http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?id=317
- IMTS, Compilers Manual http://unstats.un.org/unsd/pubs/gesgrid.asp?id=111
- IMTS, Supplement to the Compilers Manual (2008) http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/imtssupplcompilersmanual.htm
- Unit Value index and trade indices calculation (Strategies for Price and Quantity Measurement in External Trade; A technical report.)

ii. National Practices

IMTS, National Compilation and Dissemination Practices 2006 http://unstats.un.org/unsd/tradereport/default.asp

1. Methodological work on IMTS

i. Concepts & Methods

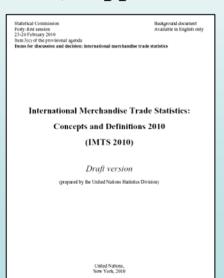
IMTS, Concepts and Definitions, Rev.2 (1998)



IMTS Compilers Manual (2004)



IMTS, Supplement to the Compilers Manual (2008)



IMTS, Concepts and **Definitions 2010 (IMTS 2010)**



1. Methodological work on IMTS (cont.)

iii. IMTS classifications and correspondence tables:



Commodity classifications:

- Standard International Trade Classification (SITC, Revision 4) and correspondence tables http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/sitcrev4.htm
- Classification by Broad Economic Categories (BEC): correspondence table with the Harmonized System -2002 and SITC, R3) http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm
- Other IMTS classifications and related correspondence tables http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm
- Statistical Territories of the World for Use in International Merchandise Trade Statistics http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/methodology%20IMTS.htm

2. **UN comtrade**

The UN Comtrade database (http://comtrade.un.org/):

- Collection and standardization of detailed merchandise trade statistics by partner and commodity (over 170 reporter countries);
- More than 1 billion trade records starting from 1962;
- Modern data processing system with extensive verification procedures regarding totals, data by partner and commodity, and quantity information;
- Powerful web-based dissemination system with free and subscriber access;
- Additional services: Knowledge base, Community Forum
 - > reference database for worldwide data on IMTS
- → Also available at UN Data http://data.un.org/

3. Analytical tables (publications)

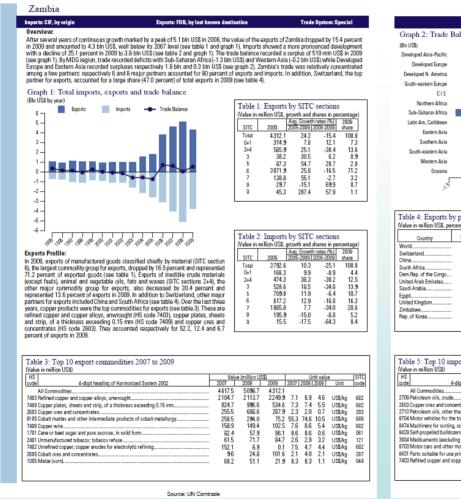
...covering trade values and indices for individual countries and regions.

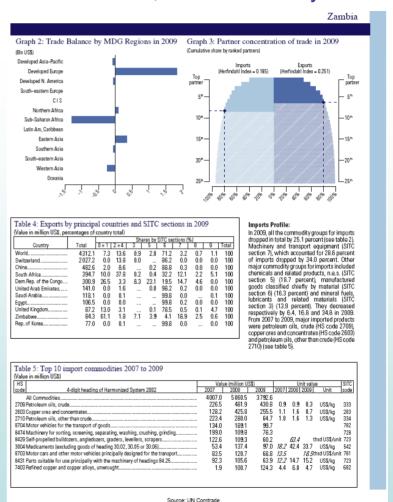
- International Trade Statistics Yearbook tables (annual data)
 - → Consisting of country tables, Commodity tables, and analytical tables
- Monthly Bulletin of Statistics tables (monthly and quarterly data)
 - → Analytical tables (containing world and region totals for trade values and trade indices for total exports, total imports, manufactured goods exports and fuel imports)
- Annual Totals Table (Country totals compared)
- Historical data (1900-1960)
- Other analytical outputs:
 - → Unit value calculation based on UN Comtrade data
 - → Conversion factor calculation

All are freely accessible

3. Analytical tables (publications)

2009 International Trade Statistics Yearbook tables, Vol. I Trade by Country





4. International Cooperation and **Technical Assistance**

UN Statistical Commission



- Task Force on International Merchandise Trade Statistics
- Further cooperation with other international and regional organizations: ITC, OECD, FAO, WCO, ECLAC, Eurostat, etc.
- Conduct workshops to support countries in the implementation of the international recommendations on IMTS
 - http://unstats.un.org/unsd/trade/workshops_imts.htm
- Participation in other meetings/ workshops on IMTS

Thank you for your attention