**Questionnaire for the Global Consultation on the Revision of International Trade Statistics Manuals: concepts and definitions**

**Consolidated proposed updates/clarifications for February 2024 global consultations.**

This questionnaire is aimed at getting feedback from international trade data compilers, statisticians, and analysts on the topics relating to the revision of the International Merchandise Trade Statistics: Concepts and Definitions 2010 (IMTS 2010), and the Manual on Statistics of International Trade in Services 2010 (MSITS 2010). **The revision process involves developing Guidance Notes (GNs) on the research topics.**

Your feedback will provide valuable input for this process, and we thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. Please complete the questionnaire as completely as possible. Preferably, the questionnaire should be completed by **Friday, 29 March 2024** online [click here](https://input.un.org/EFM/se/3995D1A439F0F52F) or else using this Word file.[[1]](#footnote-2)

Please provide only one return per office or statistical institute. If you are returning the completed Word file, please send it to [tradestat@un.org](mailto:tradestat@un.org) , also   
by **Friday, 29 March 2024**.

There are 7 topics included in this second part of a series of global consultations. A not-so-short introduction ([click to download](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/Summary%20of%20topics%20-%20for%20global%20consultation%202024.pdf?version=1&modificationDate=1707938240174&api=v2)) gives abridged descriptions of the proposed updates on each topic. The questionnaire is in two parts - short form including sections I and II, and a long form which includes sections III and IV for more specific feedback on items in the GNs and national practice assessment on integrating business and trade statistics, and finally concluding remarks.

**Section I:** Contact information (required)

**Section II:** Generic question for each topic (summarized).   
As a minimum, please respond to this section.

**Section III:** Guidance note specific/extended and national practice assessment on integrating business and trade statistics.

Questions…………………………….…………………..…........................................................................Page#

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[[GUIDANCE NOTE v.9: Global production arrangement, including FGPs] (online link to v.9) and [GNv.12 nature of transaction and customs procedure codes] – online link to v.12 8](#_Toc576947436)

[[GUIDANCE NOTE v.6 Trade system] – online link 10](#_Toc684357081)

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**Section IV:** Concluding remarks..................................................................................................14

1. **Your contact information (required) and consent:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Country:** Click or tap here to enter text. | |
| 1. **Institution:** Click or tap here to enter text. | |
| 1. **Contact person:** Click or tap here to enter text. | 1. **E-mail:** Click or tap here to enter text. |
| 1. **Do you give consent that we may anonymously publish your responses to this questionnaire?**  |  |  | | --- | --- | |  | Yes | |  | No | | |

1. **Generic questions**
2. Please answer whether you agree or not with the proposed recommendations/changes/ clarifications detailed under the following topics (please see corresponding guidance notes or the summary).

(Mark  for your choice)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Issue Description** | **Yes** | **No** | **No opinion** |
| [Topic #1: Scope of IMTS, inclusion of goods crossing the border illegally] |  |  |  |
| [Topic #2: Amended scope of Informal Cross-Border Trade (ICBT)] |  |  |  |
| [Topic #3: Global production arrangement, including FGPs and  nature of transaction and customs procedure codes] |  |  |  |
| [Topic #4: Trade System] |  |  |  |
| [Topic #5: SDMX for trade statistics] |  |  |  |
| [Topic #6: National practice assessment on integrating   business and trade statistics] |  |  |  |
| [Topic #7: National practice assessment on the valuation of   long-term contracts] |  |  |  |

1. Please elaborate if you have any comments/proposals on the topics.

|  |
| --- |
| [Topic #1: Scope of IMTS, inclusion of goods crossing the border illegally]  tap here to enter text. |

|  |
| --- |
| [[Topic #2: Amended scope of Informal Cross-Border Trade (ICBT)]  tap here to enter text. |

|  |
| --- |
| [Topic #3: Global production arrangement, including FGPs and   nature of transaction]  tap here to enter text. |

|  |
| --- |
| [Topic #4: Trade System]  tap here to enter text. |

|  |
| --- |
| [Topic #5: SDMX for trade statistics]  tap here to enter text. |

|  |
| --- |
| [Topic #6: National practice assessment on integrating business and trade statistics]  tap here to enter text. |

|  |
| --- |
| [Topic #7: National practice assessment on the valuation of long-term contracts]  tap here to enter text. |

1. **Specific/extended questions on each Guidance Note (this section contains more specific questions on the Guidance Notes. You may provide feedback on as many Guidance Notes as possible)**

## [GUIDANCE NOTE v.4b: Non-observed trade: goods and services] – [online link](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/GNV.4b_Non-observed_trade.pdf?version=2&modificationDate=1707941838545&api=v2)

1. Do you agree with the inclusion of goods entering and leaving a country illegally (i.e., illegal goods; and smuggled goods that are otherwise legal) to be part of IMTS so that it can be consistent with BOP?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |
| ☐ | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. How practical do you think it would be to implement inclusion of illegal movements of goods (i.e., illegal goods; and smuggled goods that are otherwise legal) in IMTS in your country?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Not at all practical |
| ☐ | Somehow practical |
| ☐  ☐ | Very practical  No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

## [GUIDANCE NOTE v.4a: Amended Informal cross-border trade (ICBT): goods and services] – [online link](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/GNV.4a%20Informal%20Cross-Border%20Trade%20%28ICBT%29.pdf?version=2&modificationDate=1707941811139&api=v2)

1. Do you agree with the inclusion of illegal movements of legal goods in Informal Cross Border Trade (ICBT) if conducted by informal economic units?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you agree with the decision tree for classifying Informal Cross-Border Trade in goods in IMTS as depicted in Figure 1 of GNV.4a?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. How practical do you think it would be to measure ICBT (including legal goods traded illegally) in your country?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Not at all practical |
| ☐ | Somehow practical |
| ☐  ☐ | Very practical  No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

## [GUIDANCE NOTE v.9: Global production arrangement, including FGPs] ([online link to v.9](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/GNV.9_Factoryless%20Goods%20Producers%20and%20Merchanting.pdf?version=2&modificationDate=1707941876713&api=v2)) and [GNv.12 nature of transaction and customs procedure codes] – [online link to v.12](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/GNV.12%20Trade%20Flow%20Nature%20of%20Transactions%20and%20Customs%20Procedure%20Codes.pdf?version=1&modificationDate=1707421369877&api=v2)

1. Does the GNV.9 address all relevant issues related to FGPs and processing arrangements? Please elaborate in the remarks if any issues are missing.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |
|  |  |

1. Do you agree that compilers of IMTS should be encouraged to identify transactions related to FGP setups?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |
|  |  |

1. How feasible do you think it would be to identify the FGP setups of transactions in your country?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Not at all feasible |
| ☐ | Somehow feasible |
| ☐  ☐ | Very feasible  No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Does the GN address all relevant issues related to merchanting of services? Please state issues that may be missing in the remarks.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you agree that the definition of trade-related services should be updated to include cases of service intermediation and classified according to the additional subitems in the new EBOPS classification?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |
| ☐ | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |
|  |  |

1. Do you agree to the proposal in v.12 to add a new encouragement that countries, when collecting NoT codes or similar additional statistical information, should ensure as a primary objective that these codes fully satisfy the need for information in relation to correct BOP and NA compilation?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |
| ☐ | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you agree to create a new data element called Nature of Transaction (output codes) and encourage countries to publish data by this data element?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |
| ☐ | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you agree to the proposed list of NoT output codes? If you you have suggestions for improvements, please put them in the remarks.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |
| ☐ | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. How feasible do you think it would be to publish the proposed NoT output codes in your country?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Not at all feasible |
| ☐ | Somehow feasible |
| ☐  ☐ | Very feasible  No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. If you have answered “Not at all feasible” to 8. above, please elaborate on the problems you see and indicate which changes to the proposed list of output codes would be necessary to make compilation feasible.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. What is your view on including the Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC) simplified Customs Procedures in IMTS outputs (in addition to NoT output codes)? Would you say that having NoT output codes is sufficient?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | RKC simplified Customs Procedures should be included |
| ☐ | NoT output codes is sufficient |
| ☐ | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text |

## [GUIDANCE NOTE v.6 Trade system] – [online link](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/GNV.6_Trade%20System_Goods.pdf?version=1&modificationDate=1707421304873&api=v2)

1. Do you agree with the recommendation that IMTS should be published according to general (preferable) or relaxed special trade system, and that strict special trade system should only be considered as a last resort?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. If your country uses special trade system other than its relaxed definition, can you share the main reasons?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Lack of data availability (to compile on general trade system basis) |
|  | Confidentiality |
|  | Policy needs (policy requires special trade system) |
|  | Not applicable  (country uses general trade system or relaxed definition) |
|  | Other |
| If “Other”, please elaborate | tap here to enter text. |

1. If your country uses special trade system (relaxed or strict), how practical would it be to estimate and publish IMTS on a general trade system basis?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Not at all practical |
|  | Somewhat practical |
|  | Very practical |
|  | No opinion |
|  | Not applicable (country uses general trade system) |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

## [GUIDANCE NOTE v.15 SDMX for trade statistics] – [online link](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/GNV.15%20SDMX-IMTS-MSITS.pdf?version=1&modificationDate=1707932865771&api=v2)

1. Does your organization have experience in the implementation of SDMX for the dissemination of IMTS data and metadata?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. If your answer for question 1 is “Yes”, which version of the IMTS DSD are you currently using?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Version 1.1 |
|  | Version 1.2 |
|  | Other (please elaborate): |
| tap here to enter text. |
|  | Don’t know |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. If your answer for question 1 is “No”, please choose the timeframe you plan (even tentatively) to implement SDMX for regular dissemination of IMTS data.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | 1-2 years |
|  | 2-5 years |
|  | More than 5 years |
|  | Not in foreseeable future |
|  | No plan at all |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you agree on establishing a baseline with the basic fields needed to describe the DSD and SDMX in the conceptual Manual of IMTS?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you consider that the fields included in Annex I (see guidance note V.15) can be considered as a minimum criterion for exchanging data on trade in goods statistics?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you agree that the development of an SDMX for Statistics on International Trade in Services (SITS) (based on the DSD for BOP) should be considered??

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Is your agency able to participate in a pilot test for the implementation of SDMX 3.0 in IMTS and/or SITS?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | Need more information |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you agree on the proposed timeline for upgrading SDMX to version 3.0?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Do you agree with including a specific section about SDMX in the IMTS and MSITS Compiler’s Manuals?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
|  | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. What other issues or recommendations would you like to be included in the guidance note?

tap here to enter text.

## [GUIDANCE NOTE v.13a: Trade under long-term contracts – [online link](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/GNV.13a%20Valuation%20on%20specific%20transactions_products%20%28goods%20andservices%29_for%20consultation_February2024.pdf?version=1&modificationDate=1707932051493&api=v2)

1. Do you agree with the proposal to maintain the status quo and not to make any changes to IMTS: Concepts and definitions regarding the valuation of goods sold under long-term contracts?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |
| ☐ | No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Are long-term contacts an important feature in your economy?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Not at all important |
| ☐ | Somehow important |
| ☐  ☐ | Very important  No opinion |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Please share any experience or practices on the valuation of goods sold under long-term contracts?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

## [Handbook on Integrating Business and Trade Statistics (HIBTS): National practice assessment on integrating business and trade statistics]

*Please coordinate/collaborate with colleagues responsible for Business Statistics regarding responses in this section.*

1. Does your country/institution have an SBR (Statistical Business Register) in place?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Does your country have any experience or practices regarding integrating business and trade statistics?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Does your country/institution use an SBR to integrate business and trade statistics?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |

1. Please describe which additional sources are employed to integrate business and trade statistics other than SBR (if any):

|  |
| --- |
| tap here to enter text. |

1. Does your country have an SBR linked to its trade in goods/services data?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes (goods) |
| ☐ | Yes (services) |
| ☐ | No |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Does your country use the SBR for linking trade in goods/services data to generate statistical products?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes (goods) |
| ☐ | Yes (services) |
| ☐ | No |

1. Does your country have a unique identifier for microdata linkage?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ☐ | Yes |
| ☐ | No |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. Please describe which additional identifiers or techniques are employed to integrate business and trade statistics other than unique business identifier for microdata linkage (if any).

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Remarks | tap here to enter text. |

1. If you are willing to share your experience or practices regarding integrating business and trade statistics, please provide more details using the following form ([click to download the template)](https://unstats.un.org/wiki/download/attachments/201752670/Template%20country%20practices%20after%20revision%20by%20HIBTS%20members_rev%206%20Feb%202024.docx?version=1&modificationDate=1707745115607&api=v2)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Title | tap here to enter text. |
| Introduction | tap here to enter text. |
| Content (core description) | tap here to enter text. |
| Closing remarks | tap here to enter text. |
| References, hyperlinks (optional) | tap here to enter text. |

1. **Concluding remarks**
2. Any other comments (if any)?

|  |
| --- |
| tap here to enter text. |

**Thank you for your responses!**

1. For readability and user friendliness, the online questionnaire gathers the comments for all the questions in the same topic in the same textbox while the offline questionnaire uses separate textbox for each question. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)