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**Working Party on International Trade in Goods and Trade in Services Statistics**

**RESULTS OF THE OECD WPTGS STOCKTAKING QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING NEW AREAS OF WPTGS WORK**

**24-26 March 2015**  
**Conference Centre, OECD Headquarters, Paris**

*This document provides the results of the Stocktaking questionnaire that was sent out in preparation to the WPTGS 2015 meeting. The aim of the questionnaire was to obtain an overview of the activities and plans of WPTGS members' institutions regarding the new areas of work that were identified at the WPTGS 2014 meeting. The replies of 29 OECD and 2 non-OECD countries are incorporated.*

*Items 3.1 and 4.1 of the Agenda.*

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## RESULTS OF THE OECD WPTGS STOCKTAKING QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING NEW AREAS OF WPTGS WORK

### 1. Background

1. At the last WPTGS meeting (March 2014), the Bureau concluded that there are several new areas of work that should form part of the work programme for the WPTGS. Two key areas that were mentioned included a) the further exploitation of *links between trade and business statistics* (building on the Trade by Enterprise Characteristics (TEC) exercise), and b) a renewed focus on *improving the international quality and coherence of bilateral trade data* (merchandise and services), in particular given the heightened interest in Trade in Value Added (TiVA) and Global Value Chains (GVCs).

2. In order to take stock of the activities that are already ongoing or planned in WPTGS Member countries with respect to these new lines of work, the WPTGS Bureau also concluded at the March 2014 meeting that a questionnaire should be developed and sent, in order to identify the most promising areas further collective work. This questionnaire (see also annex 1) was subsequently launched on the 23<sup>th</sup> of December 2014 and the secretariat has received replies from 29 OECD countries and 2 non-OECD to date<sup>1</sup>.

3. This note summarises the replies to this questionnaire. It first presents the main findings and conclusions, before describing the detailed answers on a question-by-question basis.

### 2. Main findings and conclusions

#### 2.1 Linking trade and business statistics

4. The replies to the questionnaire confirm that the OECD member countries are progressing in linking trade with business registers for goods and also, to a lesser extent, to services items. For those countries (22) having performed the linking exercise on the goods side, almost all can compile merchandise export and import values by trading status and about two thirds are in the position to present the data according to ownership.

5. Ten countries have already linked structural business statistics (output or turnover, value added, employment) to the trade register; either fully or (four) partially (for a limited number of variables or only on the export side). Five countries will be in the position to do so in the foreseeable future.

6. Regarding the linkages in the area of services, nearly all of the 13 countries that have linked their service trade register with their business register are in the position to compile service export and import values broken down by industry, by ownership and by trading status.

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<sup>1</sup> Country responses were incorporated up to the 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2015.

## ***2.2 Merchandise trade statistics useful for TiVA***

7. Only one country has already undertaken analysis on whether trade flows attributed to the wholesale sector can be reallocated to the real producing or consuming industry, mostly by taking into account the wholesales affiliates within an enterprise group. Seven noted however being in the position to do so within a reasonable time if required. It was flagged by one country that the retailer/wholesaler may indeed be exporting on behalf of the producer but that imports into this sector might be valid.

8. Progress is made in the area of alternative presentations of merchandise trade (by CPC or industry) as half of the respondents are presenting or could present trade in goods by CPC/CPA or industry mostly using available correspondence tables but also linking trade and business registers. Eleven respondents have imports by product and partner both in CIF and FOB value readily available. In supplements 3 respondents noted compiling FOB values either by partner or by product. The CIF-FOB numbers/adjustment, are either compiled directly at the level of the customs or calculated for the needs of the BOP and NA data. 10 countries have re-exports available (even if not disseminated), either by product and country or by only one of these dimensions.

## ***2.3 Services trade statistics useful for TiVA***

9. Regarding the missing or not available data in bilateral services trade flows by main EBOPS categories, thirteen countries would be able to indicate which are actually zeroes (or less than half a measurement unit), many countries noting in supplement that this would not be possible for confidentiality reasons. Half of the respondents (fourteen) agreed it would be possible for them to check if estimates provided by OECD-WTO of which “missing” or “not available” value are actually zeroes and if estimates align with the (perhaps) confidential data.

10. Less progress is made regarding the alternative presentation of service trade as only four respondents are in the position to provide such data because of confidentiality issues but also, as noted by one country because in particular a presentation by industry could induce misunderstanding on how service trade functions.

## ***2.4 Reducing asymmetries***

11. Regarding asymmetries, eight countries expressed interest for discussing them bilaterally, indicating also with which partner and on what issues they wished to focus the meeting. Several other countries indicated to be interested only after the first data in BPM6 could be compared, and also noted that within Europe, such exercises typically are being coordinated with Eurostat.

## SUMMARY OF RESPONSES BY QUESTION

### 1. Linking Trade and Business Statistics

#### *Q1. Data linking of the business register and the trade register in the area of GOODS*

12. 22 OECD and 2 non-OECD countries confirmed having conducted such data linking in the area of goods. Israel and Poland responded not having done so but being in the position to do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance. Switzerland responded already having plans as being implementing an extract of the business register into the metadata database of the Federal Customs Administration. Moreover, from January 2016, the indication of the ID of the enterprise will be mandatory in the customs declaration. Chile responded having no plan currently, noting however some initial discussions have started between the Central Bank and the National Statistics Office. Japan noted not having done so and not being in the position to do so in the foreseeable future.

#### *Q2. Compilation of merchandise trade broken down a) by firm ownership (foreign vs. domestic) and b) by trading status (separating exporters vs. importers vs. two-way traders)*

13. Amongst the 22 countries having linked the business register and the trade register in the area of goods, 15 are in the position to compile merchandise export and import values broken down by ownership: and 6 are not. New Zealand checked the category “other” noting that this would take some time and given their relatively small economy they would strike confidentiality issues. The United States (having responded positively) flags this may be possible to a limited extent with a link between the trade information and business register. US is also investigating the feasibility of compiling these export and import values by combining merchandise trade data with survey data of U.S. direct investment abroad and foreign direct investment in the United States.

14. Amongst the 22 countries who confirmed having linked the business register and the trade register in the area of goods, almost all (21) are in the position to compile merchandise export and import values broken down by trading status while one (New Zealand) notes that importer and exporter statuses are not held in their business register so they could only tell which companies were actually importing or exporting.

#### *Q3. Linking of structural business statistics and the trade register*

15. 7 countries confirmed having linked structural business statistics to the trade register, France specifying however that this is done at an experimental stage for the pharmaceutical industry. 6 countries noted not having done so and having no plan to do so in the foreseeable future. 5 responded not having done so but being in the position to do so within a reasonable time if required. The United Kingdom flagged already having some plans and noted that tables concerning export intensity (exports as a proportion of turnover) are currently optional in the TEC legislative requirements but will become mandatory in the future. Having checked the category “other”, the United States reported only being able to link employment at this time, adding they have plans to link micro-data on trade in services and merchandise trade with enterprise and establishment level data in order to determine the feasibility of creating breakouts of industry output, intermediate input, and value added by exporter and non-exporter firms and also by ownership characteristics<sup>2</sup>. Australia indicated having only linked Structural business

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<sup>2</sup> These statistics, if developed, would be used to prepare “extended” supply-use tables along the lines described in the OECD terms of reference for extended supply-use tables

statistics for Australian exporters. Austria flags linkages are being undertaken in the course of an EU-MEETS project.

#### ***Q4. Analyses on the attribution of wholesale trade flows to the original producing or consuming industry***

16. Only France responded to undertake analyses on whether trade flows attributed to the wholesale sector can be attributed to the real producing or consuming industry however indicating reallocations are not made but rather wholesale affiliates are taken into account within enterprise groups (instead of thinking only in terms of legal units). 11 noted not having done so and not being in the position to do so in the foreseeable future. 7 responded not having done so but being in the position to do so within a reasonable time if required. 2 countries noted already having plans.

17. In supplement Canada noted retail/wholesale on export side are likely exporting on behalf of producer but Canada's thinking is that imports into retail/wholesale sector may very well be valid, with the consuming unit being the retailer/wholesaler (*e.g.* imports of machinery used in warehouse) or the Canadian consumer (*e.g.* washing machines or other consumer goods). United States noted not being undertaking analyses, but having begun producing a report that provides a comparison between detailed manufacturing product class data and associated import and export data. Potential research opportunities involving importer and exporter information collected for wholesalers are being considered in their Economic Census.

#### ***Q5. Data linking of the business register and the trade register in the area of SERVICES***

18. 13 OECD countries confirmed having conducted such data linking exercises in the area of services. Finland clarifies having done an exercise in which part of the services data (transport, travel, financial and insurance services excluded) was combined with business statistics as a part of an EU GRANTS project. In the same project the ITS data was also combined with trade in goods data. 4 countries noted not having done so and not being in the position to do so in the foreseeable future. 4 responded not having done so but being in the position to do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance.

19. 3 countries responded already having plans, Spain commented that from 2015 onwards, INE plans to disseminate specific tabulations only at national level linking trade in services data (from the ITS survey) with the business register on a yearly basis<sup>3</sup>. Estonia explains planning to publish preliminary results for linked data at the end of the first quarter of 2015. Previously, service data linked with business register had been prepared in the context of a EU grant<sup>4</sup>. Greece indicates within the objectives of ELSTAT's work program it is foreseen to conduct studies for the development of ITSS and furthermore to link with business statistics. Having checked the category "other", Canada explained linkages are

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<sup>3</sup> Spain specifies the INE's ITS quarterly business survey is the main source at present for the BoP and ITS macroeconomic statistics that are being sent by NCB to the OCDE and Eurostat. However there are some differences between the two sets of data due to the application of some adjustments to pass from basic survey data to macroeconomic data (CIF/FOB adjustments for freight, insurance valuation from premiums and claims, threshold adjustments, etc.) in order to fulfil the BoP EU Regulation 555/2012, the BPM6 and the MSITS 2010. For this reason, any linking exercise with business register will be exclusively made on the basis of ITS survey data.

<sup>4</sup> Trade value by activity sector and enterprise size class, trade value by product and activity sector, trade value by activity sector and type of ownership, trade value by activity sector, trade value by product and enterprise size, trade value by product and enterprise ownership, trade value by product and enterprise ownership

performed for commercial services<sup>5</sup>. United States explains having linked statistics from the trade in services surveys, which collect transactions between U.S. entities and both affiliated and unaffiliated non-residents, to business statistics from the surveys of multinational enterprises to produce profiles of services exporters and importers. Turkey notes the increased cooperation of the CRBT and TURKSTAT - under the coordination of the republic of Turkey Ministry of Economy – with an increased role of the business register also for the preparation of the first survey on International Trade in Services conducted by TURKSTAT.

***Q6. Compilation of services trade statistics broken down by industry and by firm ownership, and by industry and trading status***

20. 12 countries (including USA) are in the position to compile services export and import values broken down by ownership from linked data or another available source. 3 countries (Israel, the Slovak republic and the United Kingdom) having conducting the linking exercise cannot do so: Israel is not publishing the data as it still needs to be processed and the United Kingdom noted it is not straightforward but possible. Canada noted although a breakdown is feasible for commercial services (which exclude transport, government, and travel), a new methodology is currently being developed with some preliminary results becoming available during 2015/2016.

21. Amongst the 13 countries who confirmed having linked the business register and the trade register in the area of services, 11 (including the USA) are in the position to compile service export and import values broken down by trading status. Luxembourg flags only being in the position to do so for service exporters vs service importers (two-way traders are out of the scope of STEC). Spain confirms also but for ITS survey data which are not totally consistent with the macroeconomic ITS data flows that are being sent to Eurostat and the OECD (See footnote in Q5). In supplement Finland notes most of the services data is collected in a sample survey and the rest of the data is estimated from other sources. Therefore only information on the service traders that are included in the sample is available. 3 countries (Denmark, Israel and the Slovak republic) having conducting the linking exercise for services cannot compile services exports and imports values broken down by trading status.

**2. Merchandise trade statistics useful for TiVA**

***Q7. Bilateral trade in goods by CPC (CPA) or industry***

22. 15 OECD members (and 2 non-members) confirmed, 10 having compiled bilateral trade in goods by CPC (CPA) mostly using bridge tables but also matching business register by form identified (Canada and France) and 2 compile bilateral trade in goods by industry<sup>6</sup>, 2 both classifications. 7 countries indicated not being in the position to do so. 3 countries responded not having done so but being in the position to do so within a reasonable time if required, New Zealand noting compiling bilateral trade by CPC for ad hoc requests for 2007 data onwards. Israel plans to start publication of trade in goods by CPC. Goods are also classified by industry of origin (ISIC rev 4). In supplement Australia notes the data can be derived as a correspondence between CPC and HS is maintained. Greece explains for ITGS purposes according to the EU Regulations the imported and exported goods are compiled according to CN and SITC product

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<sup>5</sup> Which exclude transport, government, and travel services

<sup>6</sup> In particular, Canada notes the Business Register in Canada includes an industry category so for each linked exporter/importer from the trade registers, there is a 6 digit NAICS (North American Industrial Classification System used by Canada, US and Mexico) in the final TEC - Exporter and TEC - Importer (planning stage). The HS codes exported and imported, as captured in the trade register, for each exporter/importer are then connected to the industry of the linked enterprise.

classification and for national accounts purposes a correspondence table of CN to CPA classification is used.

#### ***Q8. Merchandise imports by product and partner, valued at CIF and FOB***

23. 11 OECD and 2 non OECD countries confirmed compiling merchandise imports by product and partner at CIF and FOB value. The Czech republic explains collecting invoice value and deriving CIF and FOB values using coefficients based on mode of transport, Incoterms and groups of countries, the Slovak republic uses a similar method for Intrastat, whereas for Extrastat, CIF is collected and FOB is derived from CIF by coefficients. Finland explains CIF/FOB adjustments are studied every fifth year. Hungary emphasizes that fix CIF/FOB conversion rates by partner countries are estimated on the basis of the external trade data for national accounts purposes. Iceland notes that both FOB and CIF values are included in customs data. Italy notes for compiling the BoP Goods item, the Bank of Italy derives FOB values for imports, using the freight costs coming from its specific international transport survey. Luxembourg notes that based on coefficients, FOB values are derived from CIF values. New Zealand flags receiving freight and insurance values with the value of the goods from Customs. Therefore separate series for CIF and FOB are published. Turkey reports that imports are valued CIF after being converted from FOB values using calculated rates according to the type of transport. Chile notes the Customs Service provides the central bank with details of imports by partner and by product at CIF and FOB values. France explains running every 5 years a survey on CIF/FOB by partner but not at the product level.

24. 10 OECD countries explain not being in the position to compile merchandise imports by product and partner at CIF and FOB value in the foreseeable future. Israel would be in the position to do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance as there are already some plans for 2015. In supplement Austria notes for the BOP, imports are CIF/FOB corrected by running a model. Mexico explains that as a result of an inter-institutional effort imports with a detailed breakdown on FOB basis is available and the figures on CIF basis are produced just for the total level (without a breakdown)<sup>7</sup>. Portugal notes the CIF/FOB adjustment is made for imports incorporated in the National Accounts, using data from the Balance of Payments provided by Banco de Portugal. However, this adjustment is only made for total imports and by geographical zones (not by product). The United Kingdom notes producing CIF-FOB by partner or product is possible but not both. The United States explains compiling merchandise imports by product and partner valued at CIF and Free Alongside Ship (FAS). Customs values are reported on an FAS basis. Freight, insurance and other charges, including cost of loading on the carrier, are reported separately on each transaction, these are added to the customs values to produce CIF values.

#### ***Q9. Availability of re-export data***

25. 10 OECD and 2 non OECD countries confirmed being able to make detailed re-exports data separately available in their merchandise trade statistics, New Zealand specifying that re-exports are available at HS 10 by country, re-imports are not separated, Chile noting that data are received from the main Chilean free Zone including geographical breakdown. France explains the information is available but not disseminated. 12 countries noted not being in the position to do so now nor in the foreseeable future. 3 already have plans, Estonia explains that in 2015 methodology for this will be developed and the results as well as an accompanying article will be published. Greece noted this is possible for extrastat but not for Intra EU trade statistics as re-exports are included in the exports data sets and they are not distinguished. The possibility of presenting re-exports for Intra EU trade data is being investigated. Israel notes this depends on Customs new system implementation.

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<sup>7</sup> The available custom records give information on FOB basis and the Working Group on international trade calculates the insurance and freight for the total level in order to get the CIF basis.

### 3. Services trade statistics useful for TiVA

#### *Q10. Bilateral trade in services statistics by CPC/CPA or ISIC*

26. 4 OECD and 1 non OECD countries confirmed producing bilateral trade in services statistics using alternative classifications. Austria produces the ISIC classification by linking trade in services with business register, the Czech Republic produces the data by CPA, Hungary notes conversion tables between NACE and ISIC and conversion tables between EBOPS and CPA are available from Eurostat. Israel explains publishing export and import services by industry (ISIC) for 45-60 % of the data.

27. 4 countries noted not being in the position to do so now but within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance. 10 noted not being in the position to do so neither now neither in the foreseeable future. 8 countries checked the category “other”. Australia noted being in the position to allocate units by industry based on its ANZSIC (Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification) - given reasonable time. However, this is not their preference as it is felt an industry classification for services activity could create a misunderstanding on how services trade functions for Australia. Canada explains, for commercial services, it will be possible to publish bilateral trade by industry based on the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). However, confidentiality restrictions could prevent the publication of such statistics for a large number of commercial partners. Finland notes having plans of producing ITSS data by industry beginning from year 2016, though there can be some restrictions in using the bilateral data due to confidentiality issues. Greece envisages the use of alternative classifications with the future development of ITSS data. Spain clarifies this is not done currently, but from 2015 onwards INE plans to disseminate at national level some tabulations of trade in services based on the ITS survey<sup>8</sup> by ISIC (more precisely by NACE rev.2). Nothing is foreseeable as regards data production by CPC/CPA. United Kingdom notes the mapping of EBOPS to CPA could be possible if time/resources agreed, although there would be confidentiality/ missing data issues. United States explains collecting transactions by NAICS industries which could be mapped to ISIC in time. A detailed NAICS-ISIC concordance is being built that will also be used to present our supply-use tables in the format recommended by the OECD for global value chain and TiVA analysis. Turkey indicates having conducted a survey on International Trade in Services for the reference year 2013. Chile notes the possibility to provide trade in services in alternative classifications for some services (not all).

#### *Q11. Bilateral trade in services by main service: indications of which ‘not available’ cells are actually ‘0’ (zero, or less than half than a measurement unit)*

28. 13 OECD countries responded they would be able to indicate which of the current missing or not available cells in their datasets are actually ‘0’. 3 countries responded they would not be in the position to do so. 10 OECD countries plus 2 non OECD countries checked the category “other”. Some countries noting that there were no missing data in their bilateral trade in services for the 12 main categories of services, others like Canada Luxembourg and Norway noting this is subject to the need to preserve confidentiality.

#### *Q12. Availability to check the services trade estimates by OECD-WTO*

29. 14 countries agreed it would be possible for them to check the file for their country. 6 countries responded this would not be possible, 7 OECD and one non OECD country checked the category “other” noting either (for two of them) that do not send any "missing" or "not available" data flows, that this would also depend on the availability of resources, other flagging that absence of data relate to confidentiality, a last one however confirming being able to help with some indication.

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<sup>8</sup> Which is not fully consistent with the ITS macroeconomic statistics

#### 4. Reducing bilateral trade asymmetries

##### *Q13. Interest in bilateral meetings to discuss asymmetries*

30. 8 countries expressed interest for such physical bilateral meetings while 16 countries expressed no interest, some noting such activities were already undertaken in the context of Eurostat meetings. 2 countries checked the category “other”, flagging it would be useful to perform the comparisons on BPM6 based data, and welcoming such meetings but at a later stage.

#### 5. Other comments

31. Five suggestions and one information point were submitted by countries:

- The STEC exercise could be transformed into BPM6 methodology
- The WPTGS could pay more attention to the compilation of national ITGS data in the framework of globalisation statistics (*e.g.* factory less enterprises, multi-country processing etc.).
- WPTGS members could exchange the methodologies of their services surveys: *e.g.*, how population of the survey is identified, the method of sample preparation and the sample size in relation to the population. The purpose would be to improving services estimation.
- The WPTGS should contribute to the new System of International Accounts and coordination with other international bodies regards to the analysis of Economic Globalization.
- The time frames for any potential work arising from the stocktaking questionnaire should be transparent.
- Spain underlines that it will soon start publishing two different sets of data for ITS (ITS survey data and the ITS-BOP-NA macroeconomic data based on the latter with some adjustments). In order to avoid confusion to users these differences will be communicated in due course when releasing first ITS survey data (Q12015 in June 2015) and BoP Q12015.

## ANNEX 1. THE WPTGS STOCKTAKING QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING NEW AREAS OF WPTGS WORK

### Introduction

At the last WPTGS meeting (March 2014), the Bureau concluded that there are several new areas of work that should form part of the work programme for the WPTGS. Two key areas include:

- Further exploitation of links between trade and business statistics (building on the Trade by Enterprise Characteristics (TEC) exercise)
- A renewed focus on improving the international quality and coherence of bilateral trade data (merchandise and services), in particular given the heightened interest in Trade in Value Added (TiVA) and Global Value Chains (GVCs).

This self-assessment questionnaire is intended to take stock of the activities that are already ongoing or planned in WPTGS Member countries with respect to these new lines of work, in order to identify the most promising areas further collective work.

### Instructions

This questionnaire consists of 14 questions divided into 4 sections, each of which starts with a small introduction regarding the context and relevance of the questions.

For each question, please *select the check box* before the answer that best describes the situation in your country. You can do so by clicking on it in this Word file. Clicking the checkbox again will unselect it. If asked for additional explanations, please provide those in the *framed textboxes*, which will automatically expand to fit the text you write.

We would very much appreciate it if you would fill out this questionnaire and return it to the OECD secretariat at email-address [wptgs@oecd.org](mailto:wptgs@oecd.org). **BEFORE 1 FEBRUARY 2015.**

For any questions, please contact Fabienne Fortanier ([Fabienne.Fortanier@oecd.org](mailto:Fabienne.Fortanier@oecd.org)) or Bettina Wistrom ([Bettina.Wistrom@oecd.org](mailto:Bettina.Wistrom@oecd.org)).

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR TIME AND COLLABORATION!

## I. LINKING TRADE AND BUSINESS STATISTICS

*Policy makers and analysts are increasingly requesting indicators based on linked trade and business statistics. For example, the TEC (Trade by Enterprise Characteristics) dataset breaks down total trade by e.g. firm size and industry. In addition, increased attention is being paid to the economic importance (turnover, value added, and employment) of trading firms (those that export, import, import and export) compared to non-trading enterprises. This information is not only relevant for policy makers but also for better accounting for heterogeneity in analyses of Global Value Chains (e.g. TiVA). An additional and important firm characteristic in this regard, and that is typically obtainable in business registers, relates to ownership, specifically whether the firm is foreign or domestically owned.*

### Linking trade in Goods with business statistics

**Q1** Have you conducted data linking exercises that combine the business register (or business statistics more generally) and the trade register in the area of **GOODS**?

- Yes → Please continue with Q2
- No, and we cannot and will not in the foreseeable future → Please continue with Q5
- No, but we could do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance → Please continue with Q5
- No, but we already have plans → Please briefly describe your plans below and continue with Q3

- Other → Please briefly comment below

**Q2** Based on your linked data (trade information and business register), could you compile merchandise export and import values broken down by the following classifications?

#### By ownership: Foreign owned vs. Domestically owned firms

- Yes
- No
- Other → Please briefly comment below

#### By trading status: separating exporters vs. importers vs. two-way traders\*

*\* exporters: enterprises only involved in export; importers: enterprises only involved in import; two way traders: traders involved in both merchandise export and import*

- Yes
- No
- Other → Please briefly comment below

**Q3** Have you also linked *structural business statistics* (output or turnover, value added, employment) to your trade register, allowing you to produce breakdowns of these three indicators by exporting and non-exporting firms, or importing and non-importing firms?

- Yes
- No, and we cannot and will not in the foreseeable future
- No, but we could do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance
- No, but we already have plans → *Please briefly describe your plans below*

- Other → *Please comment below*

**Q4** For many countries, in the TEC dataset the wholesale sector is responsible for a significant share of imports and exports. Much of this reflects the creation of dedicated wholesale units to export the output of manufacturers, or to import their intermediates. Reallocating these flows back to the real producing and consuming unit (and industry) is essential to fully exploit TEC data.

Are you undertaking analyses on whether trade flows attributed to the wholesale sector can be reallocated to the real producing (in the case of exports) or consuming (in the case of imports) industry?

(For example, by using industry information, the enterprise group level, or by breaking down the wholesale sector into more detailed sub-categories)

- Yes
- No, and we cannot and will not in the foreseeable future
- No, but we could do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance
- No, but we already have plans → *Please briefly describe below*

- Other → *Please briefly comment below*

**Linking trade in Services with business statistics**

**Q5** Have you conducted data linking exercises that combine the business register (or business statistics more generally) and your trade statistics in the area of **SERVICES**?

- Yes → *Please continue with Q6*
- No, and we cannot and will not in the foreseeable future → *Please continue with Q7*
- No, but we could do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance → *Please continue with Q7*
- No, but we already have plans → *Please briefly describe below*

- Other → *Please briefly comment below*

**Q6** Based on your linked data (service trade information and business register), can you compile trade in services statistics broken down by the following classifications?

**By ownership: Foreign owned vs. Domestically owned firms**

- Yes
- No
- Other → *Please briefly comment below*

**By trading status: Service exporters vs. Service importers vs. Two-way services traders\***

*\* service exporters: enterprises only involved in export of services; importers: enterprises only involved in import of services; two way services traders: traders involved in both export and import of services*

- Yes
- No
- Other → *Please briefly comment below*

## II. MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS OF USE FOR TIVA

*To make better comparisons between trade data and information on value added and output, and to create a global supply and use table, data on merchandise trade by CPC (CPA) or by industry is extremely useful. In addition, more and better information is needed regarding the cif-fob margin (to better account for trade asymmetries and to better attribute this margin to individual countries) and on re-exports (which have a very different economic impact compared to 'normal' exports).*

**Q7** Do you compile bilateral trade in goods by CPC (CPA) or industry?

- Yes → Please briefly describe the methodology you used to allocate imported and exported products to CPC or industries (e.g. conversion keys, other techniques)

- No, and we cannot and will not in the foreseeable future
- No, but we could do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance
- No, but we already have plans → Please briefly describe below

- Other → Please briefly comment below

**Q8** Do you compile merchandise **imports** by product and partner, valued at CIF **and** FOB?

- Yes → Please briefly describe the methodology you used to derive imports at CIF and FOB values

- No, and we cannot and will not in the foreseeable future
- No, but we could do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance
- No, but we already have plans → Please briefly describe below

- Other → Please briefly comment below

**Q9** Can you make bilateral re-exports separately available in your merchandise trade statistics?

- Yes → Please briefly describe the level of detail (product, country) below

- No, and we cannot and will not in the foreseeable future
- No, but we could do so within a reasonable time if required and agreed upon in advance
- No, but we already have plans → Please briefly describe below

- Other → Please briefly comment below

### III. SERVICE TRADE STATISTICS OF USE FOR TiVA

*Bilateral trade in services data by industry are vital for providing good TiVA estimates. Such data provide input not only for the services trade and service value added shares in exports, but also for e.g. transport margins.*

**Q10** Do you, or could you, produce bilateral trade in services statistics using alternative classifications (i.e. in addition to EBOPS, for example by CPC/CPA or ISIC?)

- Yes, we do → Please briefly explain which classifications are available and how these are derived

- No, but we could do so within a reasonable time (if required and agreed upon in advance)
- No, and we cannot do so in the foreseeable future
- Other → Please briefly explain below

**Q11** In many countries, many values in the bilateral trade in services flows by main service category datasets are shown as 'missing' or 'not available'. Would you be able to indicate which of these are actually '0' (zero, or less than half than a measurement unit)?

- Yes
- No
- Other → Please briefly explain below

**Q12** OECD-WTO can provide estimates of which 'missing' or 'not available' values (by main service category and partner country) based on a variety of estimation methods (e.g. interpolation, back-casting, and gravity modelling). Would you be able to check the file for your country and confirm if you believe our estimates are (overall) plausible and align with your (perhaps confidential) data?

- Yes
- No
- Other → Please briefly explain below

#### IV. REDUCING TRADE ASYMMETRIES

*The March 2014 WPTGS meeting discussed the importance of solving trade asymmetries for improving TiVA estimates and the quality of trade statistics more generally. The OECD secretariat developed country notes that presented the main asymmetries by partner country and product. Subsequently, a plan was proposed for the OECD to facilitate bilateral meetings on this topic (e.g. by providing a meeting room and/or a more detailed analysis of main problem areas) back-to-back with the next WPTGS.*

**Q13** Do you want us to facilitate for you (a) bilateral meeting(s) with colleagues in margins of the next WPTGS? (note: we will contact you and your preferred counterpart(s) to discuss details)

- Yes → Please fill out the name(s) of countries you would be interested to meet

- No

- Other → Please briefly explain below

#### V. OTHER REMARKS

**Q14** Do you have any other comments or remarks that you would like to make regarding the steps towards new areas of work for the WPTGS?

- Yes → Please describe below

- No