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

RESULTS OF THE INFORMAL REFLECTION GROUP 3 ON MORE DETAILED TRADE IN  
SERVICES STATISTICS

21-24 March 2016, OECD Headquarters, Paris

*This document describes the work of the WPTGS Informal reflection group on more detailed trade in services statistics, focusing on additional geographical breakdowns (where needed), affiliated transactions and modes of supply*

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## RESULTS FROM THE SECOND ROUND: WPTGS INFORMAL REFLECTION GROUP 3 ON MORE DETAILED TRADE IN SERVICES STATISTICS

### 1. Introduction

1. In 2014, the WPTGS set up an Informal Reflection Group 3 (IRG1) to improve the compilation and publication of more detailed trade in services statistics through the exchange and development of best practices. This includes more detailed breakdowns by *e.g.* geographical area, service category and modes of supply (including FATS).

2. The first results of the IRG 3<sup>1</sup> were presented at the 2015 meeting of the WPTGS (see STD/CSSP/WPTGS(2015)7), which summarised current practices and main barriers to publishing more detail. The dialogue highlighted that a more detailed exchange on exact questionnaire design for measuring partner country detail would be a useful next step, as would work on better estimating Modes of Supply. In addition, the Secretariat agreed to provide insights into the estimations currently made for individual countries (jointly with WTO), as part of the Trade in Value Added (TiVA) database, for feedback from the group (see Annex I for the description of activities).

3. This document presents an overview of the results obtained in these areas.

### 2. Recap of the 2015 results

4. The work of the IRG presented to the WPTGS at its 2015 meeting highlighted that many OECD countries already comply with the MSITS2010 recommendations to *e.g.* publish trade in services statistics broken down by all 12 main EBOPS items and detailed geographical partner<sup>2</sup> (see also the country notes in Annex 2). However, IRG participants flagged that limitations in source data are among the most important barriers to publishing more detailed statistics, related to confidentiality and respondents burdens but that smart electronic survey design (*e.g.* autocomplete options) could overcome these.

5. As regards trade in services by *Mode of Supply*, it was observed that despite constraints with respect to Mode 3 and Mode 4, these difficulties would not hamper a basic allocation of available services data using the simplified method (MSITS2010), and the group concluded that every country should be able to provide at least experimental data. For the collection of affiliated trade, it was considered useful to exchange and share information on the exact nature in which these data are collected across member countries (see the Stocktaking Questionnaire prepared for the 2016 WPGS, STD/CSSP/WPTGS(2016)7).

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<sup>1</sup> The IRG3 consists of participants from Australia, Chile, the Czech Republic, Germany, France, Iceland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

<sup>2</sup> For example, many EU countries that report to Eurostat/OECD break down their services statistics at the Geo 6 level (total services) and the Geo 5 level (detailed EBOPS).

### 3. Suggested items for discussion at the 2016 WPTGS

6. For the second round of IRG3, members were asked to bring together information on several topics:

- A. The detailed questions and instructions for successfully collecting partner country detail at the national level;
- B. The detailed questions and instructions for collecting affiliated/non-affiliated trade; and
- C. Any experiences regarding the estimation of services by modes of supply, either using the simplified method or, where breakdowns are compiled using a survey, relevant extracts of the survey.

7. In addition, the OECD secretariat provided each IRG3 participant with the bilateral services matrix (for their country) estimated by the OECD and WTO for feedback on the estimation methods used. This was accompanied by country-specific questions regarding additional available data.

8. Responses on parts A to C were received from 8 countries: Chile, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Sweden, Turkey, the UK and the United States. Responses providing feedback regarding the OECD-WTO estimations methods were received from 9 countries: the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Iceland, Italy<sup>3</sup>, Sweden, Turkey, the UK and the United States.

#### 3.1 *Partner country detail*

9. Sweden, the Czech Republic, France, the United States, the United Kingdom and Germany all compile and disseminate international trade in services statistics by country for all items. Turkey compiles and disseminates international trade in services statistics by country for a number of services items (but not all), however more geographical breakdowns will become available in the near future and even more will become available as the compilation system becomes more survey based. The Central Bank, Ministry of Economy and the National Statistics Office (TURKSTAT) have been working at furthering the geographical breakdown and TURKSTAT undertook a pilot survey in 2014. The Central Bank of Chile compiles and disseminates international trade in services by geographical breakdown for a limited number of items (e.g. transport, travel, etc.). More is available but not published, reflecting lower quality in these areas and the scarcity of data sources.

10. Of the countries that provided details, most collect international trade in services via a combination of sources, typically surveys and administrative data. In the case of the United States, no less than 10 other government agencies are involved, in addition to the seven BEA surveys and partner country data from Statistics Canada and Bank of Mexico.

#### 3.2 *Affiliated/non-affiliated trade statistics*

11. The Czech Republic, France, Sweden, Turkey, Chile and Germany either do not collect and or publish data on affiliated/non-affiliated trade in service statistics or couldn't provide details about their current practices. Chile expects it will investigate the scope to collect affiliate data in 2016.

12. The Czech Republic referred to the current situation in the European Union where "The BOP DSD in the case of services in dimensions *Reference Sector* and *Counterpart Sector* prescribes the

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<sup>3</sup> Italy is not an IRG member but contacted separately following the TFITS member, for similar purposes)

mandatory reporting for all sectors of the economy without a detailed breakdown (all sectors S1 to S1) – for EU countries. However, the EBOPS 2010 complementary groupings include the item C5 *Total Services transactions between related enterprises* (defined as sectors S1 to S1A) which has not been reported yet. The Czech Republic suggest that this could be done for large respondents using estimates based on their structure (this would need to be verified), namely by interviewing FDI enterprises to see what is the affiliate/non-affiliate split.

13. France also explained that they only ask the *smaller respondents* for a ‘rough’ estimate of the percentages of intragroup international trade in services details (purchases, sales, etc.). The *big players*<sup>4</sup> are not asked for any information.

14. In the United States, affiliation detail is collected within the same matrix as that used to collect the country detail (i.e. for maintenance and repair services; insurance services; financial services; charges for the use of intellectual property; telecommunications; and other business services). Affiliate information is also collected for international trade in services statistics provided via the BEA Benchmark and Annual surveys of US Direct Investment Abroad. The reverse information of foreign affiliates in the US undertaking this type of activity is not collected.

### 3.3 *Mode of supply experiences*

15. Sweden, Turkey, the Czech Republic, the United States, Germany, Chile and the United Kingdom either do not collect and or publish data on modes of supply or couldn’t provide details about their current practices.

16. While Turkey does not compile statistics on modes of supply it considers the simplified approach as a clear starting point. TurkStat undertook a pilot survey in 2014 and further studies are expected (although this is considered a long term project). The Czech Republic proposed to investigate of the scope to better use data it currently has (so as to not increase respondent burden) while acknowledging that modes 3 and 4 will be problematic.

17. The United States is currently exploring options with regards to compiling and disseminating modes of supply (experimental estimates). The work is based on ‘simple allocation’ and ‘simple allocation with enhancements’ of current international trade in services data collected in the compilation process of international trade in services statistics, following the approach outlined in MSITS 2010. In the medium term, the BEA is considering what changes it could make to its current international services questionnaires to collect modes of supply data (including whether a new survey is required).

18. France presently measures modes 1, 2 and 3. Mode 4, although related to the BOP travel item, relates to a very specific subpopulation and no estimates are currently made. The work on modes of supply has led to close cooperation between the BdF and INSEE and the creation of a specific database (LIFI database), which is populated with data from both organisations. This work has led to the LIFI database being able to provide inward FATS data. Outward FATS is also compiled and disseminated through cooperation and data-sharing between the BdF and INSEE.

19. Other countries also publish FATS statistics (separately and not as part of Mode of Supply statistics).

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4. Big players are those which export or import more than 30 million EUR annually, there are approximately 450 such enterprises. All other enterprises involved in international trade in serves are considered smaller players.

### 3.4 *Feedback concerning the OECD-WTO Trade in Services Estimates*

20. The IRG members were asked to review the estimates that OECD and WTO had made for their countries in the context of the work on developing worldwide bilateral trade in services statistics by EBOPS category (see also STD/CSSP/WPTGS(2016)16). In addition to a few certain country specific questions related to e.g. missing or apparently aggregated EBOPS categories, countries were asked to:

- a. give their opinion on the types of estimates and methodologies that were used;
- b. check – possibly with internal sources – if the estimates for their country were plausible, and
- c. check if any additional national data were available nationally (e.g. older data, or unpublished information).

21. Regarding (a) most countries noted that in light of the data limitations and the lack of additional information, the estimates and methodologies were ‘appropriate’, ‘the best possible’, ‘good and transparent’, ‘quite reasonable’, and ‘convenient’. In addition, the plausibility of the estimates was also considered to be ‘good’, ‘more or less plausible’, ‘reasonable’, or ‘more or less plausible especially for big trading partners’.

22. Countries that did not reply to either or both of these questions generally did so for two reasons. First of all, several countries have provided (or are in the course of providing) additional national data (generally unpublished) including suggestions on how these could be used by OECD and WTO as a basis for estimates (which will be clearly flagged as ‘OECD-WTO estimates’ in the dataset to avoid any impressions that these are official data).

23. Secondly, several countries noted that the BPM5 data currently used by OECD and WTO for the 1995-2012 period were outdated. They emphasized that with the introduction of BPM6, superior data collection methods were also introduced resulting in improved information on partner breakdowns, which in some cases were already backcast. For those countries, OECD-WTO will replace the current BPM5 statistics with the new BPM6 data (converted to BPM5 standards). In addition, a new OECD-WTO trade dataset in BPM6 is being developed (covering years from 2005 onwards) in which these data will feature.

**4. Examples of collection of partner detail in trade in services surveys**

24. Turkey compiles partner information for several services items, using surveys asking respondents to choose from the relevant partner country out of a list of 237 countries. An example for insurance and pension services:

Insurance and pension services  
(USD)

Country	Life insurance and pension funding		Freight insurance		Other direct insurance		Re-insurance accepted from non-resident insurers		Re-insurance ceded to non-resident insurers		Auxiliary services (fees and commissions etc.)	
	Premiums Earned	Claims Paid	Premiums Earned	Claims Paid	Premiums Earned	Claims Paid	Premiums Paid	Claims Earned	Premiums Earned	Claims Paid	Fees and Commissions Earned	Fees and Commissions Paid
Geographical Breakdown												
TOTAL												

25. In the US, country details for most services are collected by first asking firms to identify the service types for which they have sales or purchases with foreign. Subsequently, respondents are asked to report country detail in a separate matrix for each service type (see table 1), which also distinguishes transactions with foreign affiliates, the foreign parent group, and unaffiliated foreign persons.

Table 1. Format of matrix used to collect country and affiliation detail for most business services on the BE-125/120

SALES TO	Foreign affiliates	Foreign parent(s) and foreign affiliates of foreign parent(s)	Unaffiliated foreign persons
Country 1			
Country 2			
Country 3			
...			

26. In Germany, data are collected as part of the overall BOP survey. An extensive list of countries is available for respondents to choose from. An example of the reporting form is shown in the figure below:



**SUMMARY OF COUNTRY RESPONSES FROM THE OCTOBER 2015 INFORMAL REFLECTION GROUP 3 QUESTIONNAIRE**

**SWEDEN**

A. Instructions given concerning the definition of trade in services:

Foreign trade in services implies that a Swedish unit (enterprise, government authority, organisation etc.) supplies/acquires services to/from a foreign party. A "foreign party" is a client or supplier not domiciled in Sweden (with a foreign address). A Swedish subsidiary or branch in a foreign country is considered a foreign party while a foreign-owned subsidiary or branch in Sweden is considered a Swedish party. The services can be conducted either in Sweden or abroad, as it is the transaction flow which determines the existence of international trade in services.

The key question in the questionnaire translates as:

“How are the incomes and/or costs abroad divided by country”?

The respondent can add more rows, if there are several countries concerned.

B. Do not collect information regarding affiliates.

C. Same as B, therefore no attempt has been made.

**TURKEY**

A. System originally based on the ITRS system but given gaps survey data is taking over. TURKSTAT compile: travel services statistics (survey data); freight and freight insurance statistics (estimated from customs data); manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others (estimates); and maintenance and repair services n.i.e. (estimates).

Geographical breakdowns are not available for the following services statistics which use ITRS: construction; financial services; Charges for the use of intellectual property n.i.e.; computer services; other business services (except for legal services); and personal, cultural and recreational services. Additionally the following categories also don't have geographical breakdowns: government services/embassies and consulates (administrative data); travel expenditures; freight and freight services.

Geographical breakdowns are available for the following survey based categories: transport services/air transport (Passenger Services, Catering, Ground Handling); Transport Services/ Postal and courier services; Insurance services (other than freight insurance); Telecommunications, computer, and information services/Telecommunications Services & News Agency Services; Other Business Services/Operating Leasing Services; and Travel Receipts.

Additionally, geographical breakdowns will become available in the near future for: manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others (estimates); and maintenance and repair services n.i.e. (estimates).

Since November 2011, the Central Bank, TURKSTAT and the Ministry of Economy have been coordinating work to improve the coverage and geographical breakdown of the trade in services statistics as well as to be able to compile modes of supply. In this context, further co-ordination possibilities were explored with TURKSTAT which conducts the “Business Registers/Business Statistics”. A pilot survey was conducted by TURKSTAT in 2014 for 2013 data and the pilot survey for 2014 data will be finalised by the end of 2015. Based on the results of the pilot surveys, further studies will be jointly conducted.

B. Not compiled currently.

C. Not compiled currently. But for modes of supply, within the compilation framework described, the adoption of the “simplified approach” seems to be the best starting point for Turkey. Turkey's compilation system also entails some advantages for modes of supply analysis. The first advantage stems from already having the following breakdown of travel by type of product for Mode 2 purposes both for travel credit and debit as well as for personal and business travel (except for the expenditure on package tours: the share pertaining to Turkey for credit and the share pertaining to non-residents for debit) almost on an EBOPS 2010 classification: a) Goods, b) Local transport services, c) Accommodation Services, d) Food-serving Services, e) Health services, f) Sports, education and culture.

## **CZECH REPUBLIC**

A. A respondent is asked to report in a quarterly survey each service code in detailed country breakdown (if available, otherwise the most important countries).

B. The BOP DSD in case of services in dimensions Reference sector and Counterpart sector prescribes the mandatory reporting for all sectors of economy without detailed breakdown (all sectors S1 to S1) – for EU countries. EBOPS 2010 complementary groupings include the item C5 Total services transactions between related enterprises (defined as sectors S1 to S1A) which has not been reported yet. That means for each affiliated respondents to split data obtained from the primary data collection system between affiliated and non-affiliated enterprises. Use of estimates according to type of respondent (affiliated x non-affiliated) for big companies might be a possible solution, but this possibility would be necessary to verify, at least for big respondents.

This could be solved in the short-term based on interviews with the main FDI respondents and splitting data between affiliated/non-affiliated trading partners. The results if reasonable might be used for proposing estimation procedures.

C. A first step might be to determine the share of each mode of supply on existing data and to find possible links between the mode of supply and nature of service or other variable (e.g. institutional sector). In order not to increase reporting burden on respondents the way forward might be to elaborate estimates over existing data sources based on these links. The most problematic are modes 3 and 4 where the results may be undermined by a lack of detailed data sources. Suggestions are welcome.

## **FRANCE**

A. Respondents are split into “big players” (import or export more than 30 million EUR) and “smaller players”. The big players are included in a monthly census survey (there are only 450 of them) which asks for full country detail.

The smaller players are involved in an annual stratified sample survey (split by import/export value) and in total 5500 firms are surveyed from a pool of 43 thousand. For each services item they are asked for their three biggest country import/export partners, the ‘other’ part is imputed (the amount is small as a percentage of the total).

B. The questionnaire for the big players doesn't ask for this information. For the smaller players, a yes/no question is asked on their relationships to affiliates, if yes the four further questions are asked on 'rough estimates' for percentages of intragroup: purchases of services; sales of services; purchases of merchanting; and sales of merchanting. No country breakdown is asked for.

C. The BdF can measure modes 1 and 2 from the balance of payments. Mode 4, while somewhat counted for in the balance of payments Travel item, is a very specific subpopulation and no estimates are made.

Mode 3 is measured by INSEE for the non-bank part and by the BdF for banks. Information on 3 variables is collected: number of affiliates by country and business sector; turnover; and number of staff of these subsidiaries.

For inward Foreign Affiliates Statistics (FATS), fiscal data are linked to the INSEE database on financial links (LIFI database). LIFI is a result of an extensive collaborative workstream between BdF and INSEE, governed by appropriate data-sharing arrangements. BdF provides inputs to the LIFI from its own surveys on non-financial firms (central balance sheet).

For outward FATS (European Regulation FATS n° 716/2007), a specific survey is sent to Ultimate Controlling Institutional units on the turnover, staff and number of subsidiaries by country of presence of subsidiaries and by business sector. It also integrates some additional variables e.g. costs of staff, physical investment, etc. The same data are asked for the whole group (including French affiliates).

The coverage is all the groups for which the main centre of decision is in France and controlling at least a company outside France. Control is defined by a threshold that differs from that of direct investment: the controller must own over 50% of a subsidiary, compared to 10 % in direct investment.

INSEE questions yearly about 2,500 groups of the non-financial sectors with at least one subsidiary outside France. The results of the survey are statistically adjusted for partial and total non-response. Due to the dominant role of major groups in the global economy, the largest groups that have not responded are subject to a specific treatment, based on information about their foreign affiliates available in their yearly reports.

For groups of the financial sector, the BdF produces the required statistics from the data it collects through its own surveys and prudential enquiries. The BdF transmits their results to INSEE which is in charge of the treatment of confidentiality and then sent to Eurostat. BdF publishes FATS of the financial sector.

## **UNITED STATES**

A. All BEA surveys are available online. International services are collected via a number of surveys operated by a large range of government agencies, from the US Army Corps of Engineers to the US Department of Homeland Security. All services surveys undertaken by the BEA (e.g. insurance services) collect country detail. For surveys undertaken by other government agencies, if country breakdowns are not collected directly then the BEA makes estimates based on relevant variables or other information provided by difference government agencies, private agencies (for travel), Bank of Mexico and or Statistics Canada.

B. Considering modes 1, 2, and 4, trade in services in the categories maintenance and repair services, insurance services, financial services, charges for the use of intellectual property, telecommunications, and other business services, affiliation detail is collected within the same matrix that is used to gather the country detail.

For services supplied through the channel of direct investment (mode 3), information on affiliation detail for services is gathered on Benchmark Survey of U.S. Direct Investment Abroad and the Annual Survey of U.S. Direct Investment Abroad. For services supplied by foreign MNEs to the U.S. market through U.S. affiliates, affiliation detail is not collected for sales of services to the U.S. market.

C. The BEA is exploring options to release information on services transactions by modes of supply and work includes the simple allocation and the simple allocation with enhancements. The BEA is considering releasing a set of experimental estimates which would allocate trade in services to modes using statistics available from BEA's international transactions accounts, more detailed statistics on trade in services published annually by BEA, and BEA's AMNE statistics covering services supplied through the channel of direct investment by affiliates of multinational enterprises (MNEs).

The BEA allocation method would follow the approach outlined in chapter V, table V.2, of the MSITS 2010 and the associated MSITS 2010 Compilers Guide. Estimates would allocate services types to either one dominant mode or, in many cases, to several modes based on assumptions on how specific service items are most probably supplied by exporters (or to importers).

The BEA does not currently collect information on transaction by mode of supply on our services surveys, and are not yet in a position to provide details on structure or the instructions associated with potential mode-of-supply survey questions. The planning phase for the next benchmark services survey (for 2016) is beginning, which will consider changes to the survey to help collect services transactions by mode. Consideration will also be given as to whether a new, special survey, is needed.

## **GERMANY**

A. International services surveys conducted by the Deutsche Bundesbank all collect country information. All questionnaires are conducted electronically, and therefore respondents are obliged to provide country data in an ISO two character format.

B. and C. The Deutsche Bundesbank is unfortunately, not in the position to give provide any additional information for the moment concerning affiliated trade or modes of supply.

## **UNITED KINGDOM**

A. The ONS conduct a "Survey of International Trade in Services" (established in 1996). The questionnaire covers 52 different services activities, but not items such as seas transport, air transport etc. The questionnaire has a threshold question of 1,500 GBP, with those reporting below only asked to confirm their contact details while those above the cut-off asked for all their transaction details by component by country.

No information regarding foreign affiliates is asked in the questionnaire.

For the services activities not collected in the survey, a geographical breakdown of exports and imports is largely based on the existing sources of estimates for the global estimates.

B. ONS Outward Foreign Affiliate Statistics (OFATS) are compiled using data from the European Group Register and the Outward Foreign Affiliates Statistics survey. OFATS measure the number of UK Foreign Affiliates (UKFAs) (UK companies based abroad and controlled by a UK parent) and their employment and turnover. These data are not directly incorporated in the balance of payments or UK Trade data – however the activity of UKFAs may be captured indirectly. For example OFATS will measure the employment and turnover of a UKFA based in Germany, but these data will not be utilised by either BOP or UK Trade. However the German based UKFA may export to or import from the UK and this would

impact on UK Trade and BOP (e.g. if the company exports to the UK it will have a downward impact on the UK trade balance). The company may also be sampled in ONS Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) statistics and this would then affect the International Investment Position (IIP) and other associated FDI statistics.

The OFATS survey collects information from the ultimate parent company. This is a UK-based company that controls at least one foreign affiliate but is not itself controlled by another institution. A foreign affiliate is a non-UK business that is controlled by the UK-based ultimate parent company. For the purposes of this survey ONS treat the UK as England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland only. Included are Jersey, Guernsey, Isle of Man and Gibraltar as foreign affiliates. In addition to the OFATS survey, these estimates are based on information from the Eurogroups Register (EGR). This contains information on legal units: identification, demographic, control and ownership characteristics; enterprises: identification and demographic characteristics, activity code (NACE), number of persons employed, turnover, institutional sector and enterprise groups: identification, demographic characteristics, the structure of the group, the group head, the country of global decision centre, activity code (NACE), consolidated employment and turnover of the group.

UK OFATS are currently branded as experimental statistics which means that they are new official statistics undergoing evaluation. The primary user is Eurostat. Other international organisations (particularly the OECD) are also interested. It is currently considered that the Department of Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS) is the main potential UK user. Whether the data could also be useful to other departments and organisations, including the Bank of England (BoE) and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), is a strategy currently being pursued. No results have been published in the UK to date, however, a first set of results were produced at the end of August 2011 for the 2009 survey (data) year and sent to Eurostat but are considered as ‘experimental’ for this first year. Subsequently other annual results for 2010, 2011 and most recently 2012, have been delivered to Eurostat too. In November 2014 the 2012 estimates will be published for the first time. Being able to compare these results over the three year time series has given the ONS confidence that the estimates are now suitable to be published.

C. From the documentation provided it appears that the ONS have no projects on modes of supply underway.

## **CHILE**

A. International Trade Services Statistics are compiled by the Central Bank of Chile, according to the statistical functions established in the Bank’s Constitutional Organic Law (COL) of 1989. Services are compiled following BPM5. In regards to BPM6 only FISIM and “Goods for repair” have been implemented.

In some cases a geographical breakdown is available.

Transport Services – on a quarterly basis, Sea and Air Transportation companies (resident and agencies acting on behalf of non-resident companies) report to the Central Bank about earnings and expenses in: passengers, freight, rentals of transportation equipment with crew and supporting and auxiliary services. Annually, a special questionnaire is sent to these companies asking them information about geographical breakdown by item of services. This breakdown must be coherent to the global data sent by the Transport Companies on quarterly bases. Geographical breakdown is available in the case of Customs Registers for the items compiled from this source. Statistical adjustments are done when the geographical detail does not fit totally with the aggregated data.

Travel – travel services by partner country are compiled from the Quarterly Survey of Tourism Expenses by the National Service of Tourism (SERNATUR). SERNATUR collects information about tourism expenses (credit/debit), by travel purposes, and country of origin or destination of the travellers.

Computer Services and Other Business Services (Miscellaneous business, professional and technical services) – Chilean services exporters get guarantees in taxes if they prove that they export services. The Custom National Services is in charge of reporting to the Internal Revenue Service if these exports are Services. The Chilean version of the Harmonised System Classification is used for classification.

B. Services statistics calculated by the Central Bank are not currently compiled according to affiliated/non-affiliated trade. In 2016 the Bank will investigate the scope to produce affiliated/non-affiliated statistics.

C. Chile doesn't have any experience regarding the estimation of services by modes of supply.

## **ANNEX I. WPTGS INFORMAL REFLECTION GROUP 3 ON MORE DETAILED TRADE IN SERVICES STATISTICS: SCOPE, PLANNING AND PARTICIPANTS**

### **Scope**

The aim of this group is to exchange practices and look into ways in which more detailed trade in services statistics can be made available (e.g. by partner country AND service category; by mode of supply, and affiliated/non-affiliated trade), without substantively increasing respondent burden. After the successful identification of current practices and main barriers (results of the IRG3 last year), the work of the IRG3 will now gravitate towards exchanging detailed practices, especially concerning questions and instructions for measuring partner country detail. The group will work on better estimating modes of supply, using the simplified method (or an adaption thereof). In addition and as part of this broader activity, the Secretariat will provide insights into the estimations that are currently made for individual countries (joint with WTO), as part of the TiVA database.

### **Planning of activities**

#### **Step 1. Collection of materials**

Each IRG3 participant provides where available:

- A. The detailed questions and instructions for successfully collecting partner country detail at the national level;
- B. The detailed questions and instructions for collecting affiliated/non-affiliated trade;
- C. Any experiences regarding the estimation of services by modes of supply, either using the simplified method or, in the case the breakdown is compiled using a survey, the detailed structure of question and instructions for collecting services by modes.

IRG3 participants are kindly asked to send this information to the OECD before 4 December 2015, to the email address: [WPTGS@oecd.org](mailto:WPTGS@oecd.org).

In addition, by 4 December 2015, the OECD secretariat will share with each IRG3 participant, the bilateral services matrix (for their country), including the estimates produced by OECD and WTO so far. It will be accompanied with a few specific questions regarding the available data and the opinion of the IRG3 members regarding the estimation techniques and results for their specific country.

#### **Step 2. Summary of materials**

The OECD secretariat collects and stores the available questionnaires and instructions in a separate folder on the WPTGS ClearSpace website. This site is accessible only to registered WPTGS participants. The secretariat will also summarise the materials, including a list of questions and proposals for discussion for the WPTGS meeting, on how to improve the level of detail of trade in services statistics. This summary and list of items will be sent to the IRG for their reflection and comments. Deadline 31 January 2016.

**Step 3. Comments on summary of materials**

The IRG3 is asked to comment on, and add to, the summary of materials and list of items for discussion. Deadline is 28 February 2016.

The IRG3 participants are also kindly asked to provide any answers to the questions regarding the trade in services matrix by this time (28 February 2016).

**Step 4. Finalisation of report to WPTGS**

The Secretariat will incorporate all comments and finalize the report to present to the WPTGS.

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## ANNEX II. OECD COUNTRY NOTES

### Chile

Chile's data are presented in EBOPS 2010 format but, in general, they still conform to EBOPS 2002. The FISIM measurement has been implemented as part of the financial services calculation, and the item "Goods for repair" has been reclassified from Goods to Services. The data cover the period 2003 to 2014. World totals are provided for all main items, as well as for sub-categories of travel and transport. A geographical breakdown is only available for Travel and Transport on the import side with 29 reported partners for Transport and 9 for Travel. On the export side a geographical breakdown is provided for Travel (30 partners), Transport (11 partners), Telecommunications, computer, and information services (6 partners) and Other business services (11 partners). The next update is expected around March/April 2016.

### Czech Republic

Data for the Czech Republic are sourced from Eurostat. The data conform to EBOPS 2010 and are available for the period 2010 to 2014. World totals, as well as the geographical breakdown by partner country, are available for all main services categories, as well as for more detailed items. There are 236 reported partners for total services and 58 for the individual services items (the same for both imports and exports). The last update from Eurostat was in January 2016.

### France

France's data are sourced from Eurostat and conform to EBOPS 2010. The published data cover the period 2010 to 2014. World totals are available for all main services categories, as well as for more detailed items. The geographical breakdown is also published but only for the years 2011 to 2014. There are 236 reported partners for total services and 58 for the individual services items (the same for both imports and exports). However, a number of partners are confidential for total services (56 for exports, 31 for imports) and for the individual services items (more than half in the case of construction imports and exports, as well as manufacturing services exports and maintenance and Repair services imports). The last update from Eurostat was in January 2016.

### Germany

The German data are sourced from Eurostat. They conform to EBOPS 2010 and cover the period 2010 to 2014. World totals are available for all main services categories as well as for more detailed items. The geographical breakdown by partner country is also available. There are 236 reported partners for total services and 58 for the individual services items (the same for both imports and exports). However, in the case of travel and total services a substantial number of partners have been marked confidential, particularly on the import side (36 and 38 respectively for export and 36 and 209 respectively on the import side). The last update from Eurostat was in January 2016.

## Sweden

Data for Sweden are sourced from Eurostat. The data conform to EBOPS 2010 and are available for the period 2010 to 2014. World totals, as well as the geographical breakdown by partner country, are available for all main services categories, as well as for more detailed items. There are 236 reported partners for total services and 58 for the individual services items (the same for both imports and exports). The last update from Eurostat was in January 2016.

## Turkey

Turkey's data are sourced from Eurostat. Given that Eurostat are yet to publish the latest data sent by Turkey to them in March 2015 little can currently be said.

## United Kingdom

Data for the United Kingdom are sourced from Eurostat. The data conform to EBOPS 2010 and are available for the period 2010 to 2014. World totals are compiled for all main services categories as well as for more detailed items. Unfortunately, except for total services these have all been marked confidential in 2010. For later years only *manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others* and *maintenance and repair services* are confidential. A partner breakdown is compiled and there are 236 reported partners for total services and 58 for the individual services items (the same for both imports and exports). Unfortunately, this is heavily confidentialised with only total services, transport, travel and government services partners available. However, it is unclear why so much of the UK data published by Eurostat are shown as confidential when at least some of them are published in the UK's Pink Book publication. The last update from Eurostat was in January 2016.

## United States

The data for the US is presented in EBOPS 2010 and covers the period 1999 to 2013. The next update is expected by the end of January. World totals are provided for all main service categories except *manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others*, as well as for some sub-categories. A geographical breakdown is available for all services except *manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others*, *other business services*, and *personal, cultural, and recreational services*. However, relative to EU data, comparatively few partners are provided in their data (a maximum of 33 partners reported, with occasional confidential partners).