

**STATISTICS DIRECTORATE  
COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS AND STATISTICAL POLICY**

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

**Conclusions of the Working Party on Trade in Goods and Services Statistics (22-24  
March 2017)**

This document presents the draft Conclusions of the WPTGS Bureau and the draft summary record of the 9th meeting of the Working Party on International Trade in Goods and Trade in Services Statistics (WPTGS, 22-24 March 2017).

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## WPTGS 2017 Main Conclusions

1. In presenting the conclusions of the WPTGS meeting and the WPTGS Bureau, the Chair, Mr François Mouriaux (Banque de France), began by re-emphasising the changing policy environment and public discourse that was shaping today's views on globalisation in many quarters. He noted that much of the work that had been achieved by WPTGS in recent years – measurement of complex global production arrangements, trade in services by mode of supply, GVC and TiVA indicators, the trade and investment nexus (and the Joint WPTGS-WGIIS meeting), register linking, and more recently digital trade – had been central to informing these debates, and that momentum on these fronts would need to be maintained in WPTGS's work-plan. But he also stressed the importance of broadening our prism of data and data integration towards social statistics, such as labour, wages and salaries and skills, in order to provide insights and evidence that could help shape policies towards inclusive globalisation: a central theme of the 2017 OECD Ministerial Meeting. The following concrete action plans and deliverables were agreed by WPTGS:

### Follow-up activities for 2017

#### *1. Continuation of the Informal Reflection Groups*

2. The Bureau concluded that the two active informal reflection groups should continue and intensify their work<sup>1</sup>. More specifically, IRG 1 on Global Production Arrangements is encouraged to continue its work on five topics:

- Develop guidance on the country allocation of merchanting transactions - as such information is not currently included in relevant manuals.
- Exchange practices and develop guidance on merchanting transactions where goods do not physically cross borders (e.g., a French merchanter buying goods in Germany for resale in Germany).
- Investigate the scope to develop guidelines, consistent with the accounting framework, to determine when transformation (as opposed to merchanting) of a good occurs.
- Share techniques and methods used by countries to identify Factory-less Goods Producers.
- Investigate asymmetries that might be caused by differences in the recording of processing transactions – for example, valuation (such as transfer pricing).

3. The Bureau also concluded that the IRG 4 on Linking Trade and Business Statistics should continue its work on developing the Handbook, in particular regarding

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<sup>1</sup> Note that IRG 2 and 3, established in 2015 and reporting their findings to WPTGS in 2016, do not continue.

common challenges related to data linking, with a view to a complete draft version being ready at the 2018 WPTGS meeting.

## ***2. Digital trade***

4. The Bureau concluded that the measurement framework for Digital Trade presented by the Secretariat, including the timeline for future statistical work and incorporating the results of the extensive WPTGS Stocktaking Questionnaire, presented a strong foundation for further work in this area. The Bureau asked the Secretariat, as a follow up of the stocktaking questionnaire, to bring together further country experiences on measurement and recommended the development of a Handbook on Digital Trade. The Bureau strongly encouraged WPTGS members to participate in this work, as well as the Expert Group Meeting on Measuring Digital Trade that will be organised in October 2017 in Paris, under the auspices of the Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics.

5. The Bureau noted that the Handbook and future work would need to give high priority to dealing with known challenges, such as the improvement of estimates of trade flows below the *de minimis* threshold and small transactions, but should also explore new measurement tools, including through important digital intermediaries and guidance on improved exploitation of existing data sources. These investigations should also consider the scope provided by accessing credit card and payment systems data, and other potential Big Data sources but also potential legal and institutional barriers. Experiences and alternative ways in engaging more efficiently with the industry players could also be considered.

## ***3. Secretariat work on TiVA and Global Value Chains***

6. The Bureau strongly encouraged continued efforts on TiVA, its extensions, and on the development of balanced trade statistics, and particularly supported efforts to improve coherence across existing global and regional estimates of TiVA. In this regard the Bureau particularly welcomed the strong on-going cooperation between the Secretariat and other organisations such as WTO and Eurostat, as well as the Regional-Global TiVA Workshop organised by the Secretariat to foster improved collaboration towards a single benchmark dataset of TiVA, and encouraged the dissemination of documentation and related material being developed by the various initiatives, which could help countries better understand how their national data were used in constructing TiVA estimates. In relation to this, the Bureau also noted that an agreed formulation on the nature of TiVA estimates, for example ‘institutional statistics based on official data’, would be particularly useful for countries to communicate TiVA results (and differences from official statistics) to policy makers. The Bureau also supported the approach presented by the OECD to develop nowcast estimates of TiVA and looked forward to their imminent release.

## ***4. Format and additional topics for the next meeting***

7. In addition to the above, the Bureau noted the following as important topics for the 2018 WPTGS:

- **Bilateral asymmetry meetings.** The Bureau concluded that these had been very successful and should be continued and strongly encouraged all countries to participate. The Bureau asked the Secretariat to provide specific country notes as input to the meetings, and to be more ‘directive’ in identifying partners and issues

for discussion. The bilateral meetings demonstrated that it is particularly important to better account for merchandise trade via intermediate countries, and that the dual recording and publication of imports by country of origin and of consignment helps analytical efforts to reduce asymmetries. The Bureau asked all participants to asymmetry meetings to provide further conclusions and feedback to the Secretariat in order to improve insights on asymmetries and to improve the balanced merchandise and balanced services trade databases. In this regard the Bureau also noted the potential afforded by the sharing of mirror data and asked that this topic was included in the 2018 WPTGS agenda.

- Joint WPTGS-WGIIS meeting. The Bureau strongly encouraged the continuation of the joint session of WPTGS and WGIIS. They highlighted in particular the benefits and insights that could be provided by the linking of services trade and FDI statistics, not only for GVC policy making but also with regards to BEPS.
- Organisation of Statistical Information Systems to better measure Globalisation. The Bureau called for the 2018 WPTGS to feature a session focusing on organisational changes, and methods (such as data linking), being made within statistical agencies that were oriented towards better measuring globalisation.
- Inclusive Globalisation. The Bureau concluded that the use and integration of social statistics, including e.g. labour statistics and migration statistics, deserved to be explored in earnest in order to inform the inclusive globalisation debate. They called for countries to provide relevant presentations/papers for the 2018 WPTGS meeting.
- Stocktaking questionnaire. The Bureau asked the Secretariat to include a question in the next stocktaking questionnaire to provide an inventory of most recent data requests received from policy makers regarding trade and globalisation, in order to help ensure that the WPTGS compass continued to point in the right direction.

## Detailed Minutes of the Working Party of Trade in Goods and Services (22-24 March 2017)

### 1. Welcome and adoption of the agenda

8. The Chair, François Mouriaux (Banque de France) welcomed the delegates, and introduced Nadim Ahmad, Head of the Trade and Competitiveness Statistics Division of the OECD Statistics Directorate, for his introductory statement.

9. Nadim Ahmad (OECD) highlighted the importance of the WPTGS discussions in light of the central themes discussed at the Ministerial Council Meeting (MCM) 2016, which included not only the measurement of trade but also, more generally, the topic of *Inclusive Globalisation*, which puts the spotlight on the distributional effects of trade and the winners and losers of globalisation, but also on the activities of MNEs (including profit shifting related to tax policies). Much of the discussion at WPTGS would shape how that measurement of (transactions by) MNEs evolves, and that it was important to review conceptual frameworks in order to better measure current challenges and realities.

10. Delegates approved the minutes of the 8th WPTGS meeting and the agenda for the 2017 WPTGS meeting was adopted.

### 2. Complex global production arrangements: merchanting, manufacturing services and factory-less goods producers

#### *2.a. Results of the WPTGS stocktaking questionnaire, and 2.b. Draft chapter for MSITS 2010 compiler's guide*

11. David Brackfield (OECD) presented the main findings of the 2017 WPTGS stocktaking questionnaire dealing with manufacturing services, merchanting, and factory-less goods producers, summarising replies from 34 countries. The first set of questions focused on countries' abilities to develop statistics on the gross flows of goods related to merchanting and manufacturing services. The responses indicated several countries currently capture the gross flows of goods in relation to these transactions, and that many others would be able to, including with some breakdowns by product and partner country. As regards factory-less good producers (FGPs), only 5 countries indicated that they were currently able to identify these.

12. David Brackfield subsequently presented the draft chapter of the online MSITS compiler's guide covering manufacturing services, merchanting and FGPs, which summarised the work and experiences of the WPTGS Informal Reflection Group on this topic. Delegates were encouraged to comment on the draft and provide feedback to the Secretariat who will present a final version to the International Taskforce on International Trade Statistics meeting in October 2017.

13. In the discussion that followed, Germany commented on the difficulty of providing a country allocation of the gross flows for merchanting, particularly within the EU, and in the case of 'reverse merchanting' i.e. when the merchanting takes place inside one's country. A multifaceted approach to identifying if a good has substantively changed would be better than only using a change in the 6-digit HS code. Israel agreed that a case by case approach would be required. Denmark highlighted the need for consistency across all the accounts, and the need for care in introducing a change in one account.

14. Ireland emphasised the need to use clear language when asking enterprises about merchanting, and in their experience doing so leads to good responses. They agreed with the need to ensure consistency across the accounts and described how the creation of a dedicated unit inside the Irish CSO for MNEs helped achieve this. The United States outlined their current work programme to capture manufacturing services by looking at microdata and patterns, and suggested the current terminology of 'negative exports' should be revisited.

### *2.c. Trade in aircraft and aircraft leasing structures in Ireland*

15. Patrick Quill (CSO Ireland) presented Ireland's implementation of the 2011 Eurostat methodology regarding treatment of ships and aircraft in IMTS. Under this methodology, an import of an aircraft is recorded when a company buys an aircraft and it appears on their balance sheet as an asset, meaning the value of aircraft would be included even if they remain outside of Ireland, for example in international waters (the balance of payments treatment). Moving to record a change in ownership when aircraft appear on the balance sheets of an Irish company has meant large revisions and increased volatility in the data series. In addition, staying abreast of new aircraft and new subsidiaries (as there is often a registered subsidiary for each aircraft) of aircraft leasing companies (ALCs), identifying trade in second-hand aircraft (complicating country of origin identification), identifying the timing of the acquisition, and managing both the introduction of irregular shocks and the large revisions to trade data remains challenging.

16. In the discussion, Turkey noted that they receive aircraft data from customs and financial agreements, containing the aircraft ID, which allows cross-checking of these sources. Hungary asked for clarification on the definition of operational leasing, and highlighted how information included in the contracts (such as the duration of contract), were able to provide important evidence in determining economic ownership, and whether the contracts were operational or finance lease arrangements. Ireland responded that both operational and financial leasing companies exist in Ireland but that SPEs do not play a large role in aircraft leasing, they also highlighted, with regards to the discussion around financial/operational leases, that if a company puts aircraft on their balance sheet, it is counted as an international merchandise trade transaction in aircraft.

### *2.d. Manufacturing services on inputs owned by others: methodological and practical aspects in Costa Rica*

17. Manfred Viquez (Costa Rica Central Bank) presented recent work in Costa Rica to identify manufacturing services, highlighting that 21 of the 120 companies surveyed reported to be engaged in manufacturing services. BCCR representatives visited most of these companies, and learned that companies may consider it desirable to show gains for the parent company (e.g. making imports larger than exports post-processing in the subsidiary) and that sometimes raw materials are not recorded and inventories are not captured because those inventories did not belong to parent company.

18. Statistics Netherlands mentioned that they populated a database of around 300 large enterprises where all global production activities are brought together and monitored for merchanting, inward and outward processing and factory-less goods production. France noted that Costa Rica's presentation highlighted many important elements, such as transfer pricing and the importance of good relationships with respondents. UNSD asked about the revisions involved, with Costa Rica indicating that all adjustments are published so that there is transparency between trade flows and balance of payments flows for data users. OECD noted the importance of having an explicit mechanism in place to scrutinise the occurrence of transfer pricing and the importance of finding auxiliary data. Costa Rica clarified that it was modifying its balance of payments only, as IMTS is not compiled by the BCCR. Ireland commented on the complexity of the Irish situation, specifically where other royalty and service fees are applied, so some of processing is not goods and this makes communication to data users more difficult.

### *2.e. Global production and the Canadian/North American auto sector*

19. Tony Peluso (Statistics Canada) presented on Canada's work to model the value chains of the North American auto sector in an Input-Output framework. Various issues in modelling value chains arise, such as commodities entering a country more than once, and diversity in the foreign content of imports from partner countries. Mr Peluso identified import declarations (country of origin) as a potential source for further information. The mapping exercise considered different treatment of manufacturers (of finished vehicles and parts) and wholesalers.

## **3. Trade in services by modes by supply**

20. The Chair introduced the item by noting that while capturing trade in services by modes of supply is statistically complex, there remains a great and varied policy interest for these statistics, as they help to better understand globalisation and the international flows of services, but he also noted the link with, and growing interest in, migration and the movement of natural persons.

### *3.a. Experimental estimates of U.S. trade in services by modes of supply*

21. Paul Farello (Bureau of Economic Analysis, United States) presented exploratory estimates of US trade in services by modes of supply. Balance of payment statistics cover modes 1, 2 and 4 while FATS data were used to approximate mode 3 (each service allocated to its dominant supply mode). He noted that respondents have difficulty quantifying the value of transactions by mode, given that many transactions involve multiple modes. Future plans to enhance estimates include: evaluation of other countries' methods and looking to how better exploit administrative data (for mode 4). In addition, users showed an interest in more data detail: by geography, e.g. to support trade negotiations; by type of service; by industry; and by complementary groupings. The first results indicated that mode 3 exceeds the value of the other three modes combined (approximately 70% of total).

22. A joint discussion was held after item 3.b.

### *3.b. Proposals to estimate mode 3 from FATS and other sources*

23. José Isanta Foncuberta (INE, Spain) set out three possible methodologies to estimate mode 3 transactions (exports) without creating additional burden for

respondents, to complement existing statistics on services by mode. Method 1 would be to select only OFATS affiliates classified to the service sector, which however would exclude services supplied by enterprises in non-services industries and would have to assume that all OFATS sales were not subsequently exported. Method 2 aimed to refine method 1 by using IFATS to calculate the proportion of services in Spain and apply these ratios to OFATS affiliates, although this would also introduce strong assumptions, and difficulties in converting from EBOPS to NACE. Method 3, currently preferred by INE, is to leverage STEC data by assuming OFATS affiliates sell services by EBOPS in host countries in the same proportion as affiliates of Spanish MNEs do in Spain (i.e. extrapolate behaviour of Spanish MNEs to foreign affiliates). While again introducing a strong assumption, the advantages would be to include services provided by industrial affiliates and an avoidance of NACE-EBOPS mapping.

24. The United States responded to a question by Germany about why balance of payments construction services appeared in both modes 3 and 4, despite the fact that balance of payments services by definition only cover modes 1, 2 and 4 – construction services via mode 3 would be classified as FDI transactions. The BEA offered to investigate.

25. OECD asked the United States:

- If a link between their activities on digitally-delivered services and services traded through mode was envisaged; and
- If the United States considered integrating employment or migration statistics to elaborate modes 2 and 4?

26. The United States replied that they plan to further exploit ICT and ICT-enabled services in the context of researching the digital economy. They have no plans yet to link to employment and migration but they will add to the list.

27. In response to the Spanish presentation, OECD asked if INE could access Spain's national EBOPS-NACE conversion used in national accounts and if these could be shared, and if INE had considered using mirror OFATS and IFATS data to validate their estimates? Spain responded that their national accountants indeed have such a concordance table, and that using mirror data for validation would be excellent assuming that other countries have the same IFATS information, but noted that countries may vary in their acceptance of data sharing.

### *3.c. Trade in services by modes of supply*

28. Axel Behrens (Eurostat) began his presentation by noting the very strong demand from EU policy makers and trade negotiators for international trade in services by modes of supply data, despite statisticians' concerns about data quality. Eurostat, together with EU DG Trade and the Joint Research Centre, has therefore developed a non-official, experimental dataset by Modes of Supply. Results have been published on the Eurostat website with a "Statistics Explained"<sup>2</sup> article as well as in a joint European Commission paper. Based on MSITS 2010 recommendations and using published ITSS and FATS data, the statistics cover modes of supply 1, 2, 3 (EU28 aggregate only) and 4, for all EU28 countries and the EU28 aggregate, with intra-EU, extra-EU and the World as partner countries. Mode 3 statistics by country will be developed once a non-resource

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<sup>2</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Services\\_trade\\_statistics\\_by\\_modes\\_of\\_supply](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Services_trade_statistics_by_modes_of_supply)

intensive methodology has been determined. Results by sector show great differences in size and proportions which is of great interest to trade negotiators.

29. Opening the discussion, the Chair asked what had been the policy impetus for the development of 'Mode 5' statistics. Nadim Ahmad (OECD) replied that it had grown out of preliminary TiVA work and had been labelled mode 5 by the European Commission. Mode 5 is important as it evidences the role of services as upstream providers within the production process. The IMF stated that despite strong policy interest in mode 5, calculating it would imply an extra burden for compilers while mode 5 data could be derived from TiVA output. Nadim Ahmad replied that there should indeed be no impact for data providers as TiVA/Figaro will generate mode 5. The United States asked about Eurostat's allocation of distribution services to mode 3 which the United States has assigned to mode 1. Eurostat proposed to explore this bilaterally.

### *3.d. A global dataset on trade in services by modes of supply*

30. Andreas Maurer (WTO) reported on an EU-funded WTO project to develop a global dataset on international trade in services by modes of supply, which was created to meet the growing user demand. The methodology follows the simplified approach presented in MSITS2010. Modes 1, 2, and 4 will be estimated from OECD-WTO Balanced International Trade in Services (BaTIS) database. To date, balance of payments data have been integrated covering 198 reporting countries, one partner (World), one flow (exports), for 59 selected BPM6 items (detailed in the documentation), for years 2005-2015. Several types of data issues such as misreporting have been resolved but the single biggest issue has been estimating missing items, which were estimated following the BaTIS methodology. Work is ongoing to integrate mode 3 data. An expert meeting will be held in fall 2017 to discuss and refine the methodology. To support the work, delegates were asked to inform WTO about any relevant existing or planned national pilot studies.

## **4. Research agenda towards the update of BPM6**

31. The Chair introduced the item by observing that, at its last meeting, the IMF's BOP Committee (BOPCOM) had determined a research programme as well as procedures for updating BPM6. Details of the IMF proposals were available in the document accompanying the presentation as well as on the IMF dedicated website (at <https://www.imf.org/external/bopage/topics.htm>).

32. Silvia Matei (IMF) reported on progress made on the research agenda towards updating BPM6. In response to a 2015 BOPCOM call for contributions, IMF had received 73 proposals from countries and international organisations. Of these BOPCOM retained 53, many related to trade in goods and/or services. The list of topics is continually evolving and will be discussed at the October 2017 BOPCOM meeting. To date, topics have been grouped under four headings: those requiring clarification or guidance; methodological issues; BOP/IIP framework issues; analytical and cross-domain issues. The IMF Statistics Department, with BOPCOM members, is conducting the work via a network of working groups, task forces and technical expert groups constituted to provide balanced regional representation; information is exchanged through the BOPCOM Collaboration site, emails and conference calls backed up with limited face-to-face meetings.

33. Costa Rica asked if, given that in recent years many non-residents had acquired second homes in Costa Rica, the national accounts requirement to estimate the service

component of owner-occupied dwellings should also be recorded as exports of services in the balance of payments, to avoid overestimating household final consumption. IMF replied that this was covered in the existing BPM6 and that they would follow up bilaterally. In response to a question from Germany about OECD's activities on digital trade, IMF said digital trade is acknowledged to be important for several international organisations. The OECD added that it is scheduled to report to BOPCOM any findings on digital trade. The Chair and IMF invited countries to communicate comments as well as suggestions for topics of interest to the IMF bilaterally.

## 5. Report from other OECD bodies

### *5.a. Working Party on National Accounts*

34. Jennifer Ribarsky (OECD) presented an overview of recent developments in national accounts, with a focus on globalisation and digitalisation. As regards globalisation, the 26 per cent upward revision of Ireland's GDP for 2015 provided a good example of the difficulties faced by both national accountants and data suppliers in tracking internationally mobile assets, where economic ownership can be unclear (domestic versus foreign control) against a background of MNEs seeking to optimise their tax situations. In this context, as a result of the G20 data gap initiative, a joint OECD-Eurostat task force has been created to address how to improve measurement of land and other non-financial assets. The UNECE Group of Experts on National Accounts will meet in Geneva, 31 May-2 June 2017, to examine measuring global production. Members of the WPTGS were invited to participate.

35. On the Digital Economy, Ms Ribarsky reported that discussions at WPNA concluded that while the digital component of economies needs to be properly captured, existing mismeasurement is unlikely to explain, as has been suggested, the slowdown in productivity growth. In addition, there was agreement that the existing SNA framework adequately encompasses the digital economy conceptually and that a satellite account could be developed. Additional work on volume and price measurement, particularly for services, was also foreseen. To support these developments, the OECD has recently created a new informal advisory group on the Digital Economy, chaired by Erich Strassner of the BEA.

36. IMF asked if the work on the Digital Economy envisaged reviewing the production boundary. OECD replied that the national accounts community was not inclined to, as doing so would open up debate about other own-account production of services. Ireland intervened on the Irish GDP revaluation, saying it had led to a national re-evaluation of the most appropriate macro-economic indicator. A group of Irish experts had recommended introducing a "GNI\*" measure. In addition, in line with OECD suggestions, Ireland is aiming to produce domestic and non-domestic institutional accounts in the next few years.

37. The Chair concluded the afternoon session by noting several key ideas that had appeared: the study of large case units as a working method to better understand complex organisations and production chains; the notion of data sharing; and the importance of constructing enterprise typologies, notably on whether enterprises are owned by resident or foreign (non-resident) enterprises, which all contribute to the discussions on profiling and build on earlier work, such as the development of (services) Trade by Enterprise Characteristics.

## 6. Joint WPTGS-WGIIS session on TiVA, trade, and foreign direct investment

38. The Chair opened the second joint WPTGS-WGIIS meeting, and highlighted that the topics on the agenda were of particular relevance for trade and FDI statisticians in light of the ongoing demand from policy makers and the general public to better understand the current trade environment and the role of GVCs and multinational enterprises in this picture.

### *6.a. Linking FDI and services trade by MNEs: results of OECD stocktaking questionnaire*

39. Fabienne Fortanier (OECD) presented the results from the WPTGS 2017 Stocktaking Questionnaire with respect to linking of services and FDI statistics, discussing the importance of this type of linking as well as the major challenges. The development of linked TIS-FDI statistics can shed new light on the trade-investment relationship. In particular, related-party transactions involving IPPs, may provide indications on how MNEs shift profits internationally.

40. Of the 35 countries responding to the stocktaking questionnaire, 22 countries indicated interest in producing such data, while seven countries already developed such statistics. Among the challenges identified by respondents were the limited possibility to identify related-party transactions in international trade in services surveys; differences in statistical units, classifications and consolidation approaches in sources; incompatible survey and sampling methodologies (TIS and FDI surveys); and institutional barriers (i.e. where TIS and FDI are collected by different national statistics institutions).

### *6.b. FDI and trade in international services statistics in Poland*

41. Grzegorz Dobroczyk (National Bank of Poland) described the TIS and FDI microdata linking project in Poland and presented its results, including, for example, statistics on the imports and exports of services by FDI-connected and domestic enterprises, with detailed industry and geographical breakdowns. The results indicated that enterprises with FDI connections demonstrated higher export growth, and that domestic enterprises contributed to two-thirds of TIS surplus. The project took around three months to complete and involved two experts (from TIS and FDI).

42. In the following discussion, Hungary asked about the exact definition of 'FDI connected enterprises' and Germany whether the results would be published. OECD asked if Poland could identify FDI-connected enterprises engaged in either manufacturing services or services related to intellectual property products (IPP), or affiliate trade. Poland replied that the terminology was used to describe majority (>50% ownership) and non-majority owned affiliates (10-50% ownership). The work will be published as a working paper and a decision will be made as to whether this will become a regular exercise. No indication is possible on whether the services trade flow related to FDI connected enterprises are affiliate trade or not.

### *6.c. Integrated trade and FDI statistics in Canada*

43. Denis Caron (Statistics Canada) presented the ongoing work at Statistics Canada regarding the linking of trade and FDI data. Mr Caron highlighted several recent publications by Statistics Canada that required such linkages, and outlined the approaches for overcoming some of the challenges related to the lack of common identifiers across various data sources; information collected at different levels in the business structure;

different survey approaches (census, versus sample; sampling strategy); timeliness and frequency; and confidentiality issues. Looking forward, Statistics Canada plans to further develop statistics on trade by importer characteristics; foreign affiliate statistics; inward FDI by ultimate investing country; and activities of Canadian MNEs.

44. During the discussion Mexico asked about arrangements Statistics Canada had with other Canadian statistics agencies in undertaking this linking work and how they determined the priority and usefulness of these linking projects. The United Kingdom was interested in how Statistics Canada communicated with users when publishing such data given its complexity. Statistics Canada answered that while in Canada trade and FDI statistics are centralised in their agency, some arrangements are necessary with the taxation agency and having conversations with other agencies is helpful to solicit inputs, ideas and quality comments. The published data are accompanied with information notes and detailed metadata.

#### *6.d. FDI and trade in services statistics in Germany*

45. Jens Walter and Miro Holzer (Deutsche Bundesbank, Germany) gave a combined presentation on the process Germany is currently going through to restructure its data collection, storage and publishing systems to streamline microdata linking and lift the resulting data quality. The process consists of two phases, of which the first focuses on harmonising *output* – e.g. by creating a common reference data warehouse with linked TIS and FDI data, and the second on reorganising the data production process (input). This reorganisation will see one application being used for all primary data collection and processing, a unified IT environment and data validation, and an integrated reporting approach (all starting in 2017). Among the advantages are the facilitation of microdata reconciliations, better data quality, and improved communication and cooperation within the Bundesbank. However, risks were identified as well, e.g. in relation to new job descriptions for staff and the need to ensure the new system can meet reporting requirements, for example to the ECB.

46. The subsequent discussion was lively. Belgium mentioned that they were currently undertaking a similar exercise and wanted to know what the German timeline was. Hungary was interested in how Germany (given its strict confidentiality rules) gained access to firm-level data, and Luxembourg was interested in whether the Bundesbank planned on collaborating with other agencies. Finally, the Netherlands was interested to know if the Bundesbank had encountered challenges to the plan to consolidate surveys. The Bundesbank replied that it aims to finalise the IT system by 2018, but its full implementation will not be until 2020, considering the need for organisational restructuring and improved collaboration with other agencies. Since the 2016 changes in German law, the Bundesbank now can access firm microdata.

#### *6.e. Country notes on international trade and investment*

47. Caroline Mehigan (OECD) presented first drafts of new statistical country notes on international trade, global value chains and investment. International trade and investment are key drivers of global value chains, however, they are typically treated separately in a country's statistical system. The country notes aim to provide an integrated perspective using data from all statistical areas concerned, including trade, FDI, TEC, TiVA, FATS, and STEC. They will be produced for all OECD countries and will be released in Q3 2017.

48. WPTGS and WGIIS delegates welcomed the notes, indicating that countries like to do this work but are often constrained by other competing priorities. Delegates asked for the opportunity to review the notes, and indicated that the identification of any ‘missing’ data sources to a broader public may help to further prioritise such statistics within statistical offices.

## 7. Digital trade

### *7.a. Digital trade: main policy questions*

49. Javier Lopez Gonzalez (OECD, Trade Directorate) explained that the internet and digitalisation have fundamentally changed the nature of trade. Small value transactions have increased, goods and services are more closely intertwined, cross-border data flows are growing and new players, such as digital platforms, are emerging. Digital trade raises a number of new policy questions related to market access, trade facilitation, opportunities for SMEs and developing countries, regulation, competition, cross-border data flows and privacy.

### *7.b. Towards a measurement framework for digital trade*

50. Fabienne Fortanier (OECD) highlighted that the growing policy interest in digital trade, including as expressed e.g. at the G20 ministerial meetings, was paired with an equally strong demand for statistics on this topic. She presented the conceptual measurement framework and typology for digital trade developed by OECD, the results of the WPTGS Stocktaking Survey, and remaining data gaps. She outlined the work plan for the next two years, including the development of a Handbook on Measuring Digital Trade in collaboration with national compilers and international organisations.

51. In the following lively discussion, many countries supported the work. Turkey asked how a workable definition for *digital trade* is going to be created and asked that WPTGS be involved in such work. Eurostat expressed strong support for the OECD work, agreed that the complex nature of the topic means guidance will be needed, and supported the plans for coordination with other international organisations. The United States also expressed a strong interest in the work, and noted that they had already experienced interest from users and policy makers and had started work on compiling and disseminating ICT and ICT-enabled international services. They noted that policy questions that relate the recent slowdowns in labour productivity to potential mismeasurement and underestimations related to digitalisation.

52. Germany raised the issue of data sharing, for example some big American companies like Amazon and Uber are important in the German economy and needed for the compilation of quality statistics. Hungary noted the importance of a clear definition to allow for solid methodological work, and that the Handbook should also provide practical compilation guidance while considering differences in data sources across countries. Canada explained that they had introduced questions into their labour force survey (LFS) on the sharing economy (e.g. Uber, Airbnb), and found that participation was lower than expected. However, while consumers knew *what* they were buying, they didn’t always know *from where*, as pointed out in their stocktaking questionnaire response.

53. The OECD welcomed the positive response and emphasised that further work will be necessary to refine definitions and concepts, as well as to provide practical measurement guidance. Country pilot studies will be very useful contributions in this process. OECD is also ensuring continued alignment with related ongoing work in the

area of national accounts, on measuring the Digital Economy. Finally, the OECD emphasised that an important part of the challenge is to ensure that various policy needs are met even if these are not always aligned with current accounting concepts. WPTGS will be an important forum to coordinate this work going forward.

54. UNSD indicated that an important challenge relates to data collection, and collaboration with the private sector. The WTO agreed that a clear definition for digital trade is needed, and on measurement priorities. The WTO has organised a policy meeting on ecommerce and plans a second meeting, and expressed the hope that this can complement the work of WPTGS. The IMF noted that digital trade is also on the BOPCOM agenda. Eurostat reminded WPTGS that while measuring cross-border flows is important, domestic flows are also important and any collection should think about both.

### *7.c. Trends in U.S. trade information and communications technology (ICT) services and in ICT-enabled services*

55. Paul Farello (Bureau of Economic Analysis, United States) presented how the BEA compiled statistics on ICT services and potentially ICT-enabled services, using definitions developed by UNCTAD's TGServ. He presented the results by services type and key partner countries. From 2016 onwards this compilation and dissemination work has become officially part of the BEA's work programme.

56. The OECD welcomed the presentation and observed that this work not only provides insights on digital trade, but can also be linked to previous discussions on the connections between FDI and international trade in services, particularly for IP-related services. The statistics showed a significant increase of exports of these services, to what extent are these transaction with foreign affiliates? The United States replied that they are yet to look into these linkages, but the report is certainly a first step and the ongoing services initiative will allow more work in this field in the future.

### *7.d. The use of credit card data in Norwegian trade statistics*

57. Espen Kristiansen (Statistics Norway) explained the collection and use of credit card data in Norway. Credit card data collection started in 1989 on voluntary basis, and has been mandatory from 2007 onwards. Data are collected from 15 companies. At present the data are used to estimate below the customs threshold for imports of international merchandise trade and households' imports of services not related to travel or passenger transport. The presentation visualised recent data trends and highlighted its relevance for the conceptual framework of measuring digital trade.

58. During the discussion, Iceland outlined its experiences with collecting credit card data and its use in the compilation processes, mainly for international travel services. More recently there has been a further focus on digital trade e.g. buying software, Netflix subscriptions, etc. Sweden noted that it is an important data source for travel services, for example they can catch day trips between Sweden and Norway with credit card data.

## **8. TiVA and global value chains**

### *8.a. Update on TiVA, regional initiatives and CSSP Expert Group on Extended SUTs (ESUTs)*

59. Nadim Ahmad updated the WPTGS on recent developments in the TiVA database, such as the inclusion of Peru. The OECD is currently working on "Nowcast

TiVA Estimates" which will take the TiVA time series up to 2014, these data are expected to be released shortly after the WPTGS meeting. OECD also outlined the framework on Extended Supply and Use tables, developed by the CSSP expert group, which will figure in the forthcoming UN Handbook on International Integrated Globalisation. Finally, Nadim Ahmad provided information on ongoing Regional TiVA initiatives (e.g. APEC, Eurostat Figaro), and efforts to build the foundational elements and methodologies to ensure coherence in the statistics across the various initiatives, including with other important stakeholders (e.g. WIOD).

### *8.b. Estimating CIF-FOB data in France*

60. Yann Wicky (Banque de France, France) presented recent work to improve French estimates of CIF-FOB data. In France, the major data source is the "Customs Administrative Survey", undertaken every five years, which is based on 10 000 transactions and 6 000 operators. The results from the latest survey (2015), provides an overall CIF-FOB rate of 3.3% which compares well with the 3.2% provided from the 2009 survey. Banque de France can calculate CIF-FOB rates by carrier country, residence of transporter and by mode of freight (transport and insurance costs are treated separately).

61. During the discussion France stated that it is possible that there are large groups of ships flying foreign flags that declare in France but these cannot be separately identified. They again highlighted the complexity of undertaking these calculations and the need to ensure the reliability of the information. For transactions such as processing and merchanting, further information is needed, and in some cases mirror data is required to reduce asymmetries. An important point to note is that this new methodology has reduced asymmetries internally in the French system with national accounts, however asymmetries still remain (e.g. French gross exports of services as published nationally compared to those in the OECD TiVA dataset); the Banque de France is aware of these and is investigating.

### *8.c. Feedback on the bilateral trade asymmetry meetings*

62. The Chair outlined that the 2017 bilateral asymmetry meetings were held prior to the main WPTGS meeting and involved 10 countries: Australia, Canada, the Czech Republic, Ireland, Israel, Germany, Mexico, Poland, the United Kingdom and the United States. There was the well-established trilateral meeting between Canada, Mexico and the United States (which mostly covered asymmetries in international trade) and 16 other bilateral meetings covering asymmetries in both international trade in goods and international trade services statistics. The Chair then invited those who participated in the meetings to provide thoughts/feedback.

63. The United Kingdom found the meetings very interesting, stating that they focused mostly on the larger asymmetries in goods and services, namely: pharmaceutical goods; electrical equipment; financial services; transport; and tourism. The ONS has launched a new study to see to what extent the asymmetries are a problem of definition, and have also increased the sample size of their International Trade in Services survey (in particular seeking better country coverage).

64. Canada commented that it was a busy day for them, starting with the trilateral meeting where a plan was agreed to reduce asymmetries as part of the North American TiVA project. In other meetings they agreed to continue working mainly on the

international trade in services side and noted that they will need to exchange information so countries can distinguish between Canadian exports and re-exports.

65. The United States stated that they had a very interesting exchange with Ireland where there are big asymmetries on goods: aircraft and pharmaceutical products, and on services: financial, insurance and tourism. They also have asymmetries with Germany on aircraft, but this could be because spare parts are in a different classification.

66. Mexico had fruitful meetings with Canada and the United States on data reconciliation and believed a practical solution can be found if solid data can be provided to their national accounts experts. With the United States, Mexico looked at re-exports, considering the country of origin and destination, to see if the results can explain the asymmetries (results suggest it could be used in the automotive industry).

67. Ireland thanked the United States and the United Kingdom for the meetings which were very beneficial (despite that fact that Ireland is unable to exchange microdata). Good progress was made in the transport and travel sectors through a better understanding of methodologies, which will allow better adjustments to the data, but it will be more difficult for goods. Germany stated that most asymmetries reduce or disappear when they look at the country of consignment rather than the country of origin.

68. The Czech Republic felt it was a very good preparation for the Eurostat balance of payments exercise in April. In its meeting with Poland, the source of asymmetries in the transport sector was identified.

#### *8.d. Balanced merchandise trade and CIF-FOB database*

69. Fabienne Fortanier presented an update of the OECD work on developing balanced merchandise trade statistics, which are a key requirement for the construction of inter-country input output tables as well as for stand-alone analysis and trade negotiations. The presentation focused on new developments since the WPTGS 2016 where the topic was discussed in detail. Since then, several further steps were completed, including the conversion of all data to a common FOB valuation; the introduction of adjustments for unallocated and confidential trade and for obvious product misclassifications; and the conversion of HS 6-digit to CPA 2-digit product classifications. She also highlighted the collaborative work with WTO, and with Eurostat and other partners involved in the various regional TiVA initiatives, to jointly develop modules to further reduce asymmetries, which would allow the balanced merchandise dataset to be further improved over time. Delegates welcomed the work of the OECD and suggested that the data, as well as detailed country notes, should be released as useful input for further work on reducing asymmetries.

#### *8.e. OECD-WTO balanced trade in services database*

70. Fabienne Fortanier and Andreas Maurer presented the ongoing work by OECD and WTO to develop a balanced international trade in services database. To generate a full balanced international trade in services database, simple derivations and back-casting and interpolation techniques were combined with a Poisson gravity model to estimate missing data. Exports and imports are subsequently balanced via using a symmetry index and an indicator to differentiate reported from estimated data as weights. One of the final challenges to overcome is the conversion of the services data in EBOPS to CPA, and delegates were asked to contribute any national conversion matrices (e.g. as used in national accounts) to support this work.

71. France asked if the gravity model should possibly include FDI data, and what the approach was in situations where the bilateral flow is zero. The OECD replied that given that the model was already performing very well, and also needed to be parsimonious to allow further policy analysis, FDI flows have not been considered as an additional explanatory variable. The situation with zeros is complicated: reported zeros from countries are in principle treated as such, but in some cases further investigation revealed that these zeros reflected 'not available' figures, in which case they were treated as missing (and subsequently estimated). Hungary asked if there were plans to combine the balancing of merchandise trade and services trade in 'one package' considering some overlaps e.g. in manufacturing. The United States was interested to know the number of non-OECD countries with large imbalances. The OECD replied to Hungary that indeed, going forward, these datasets will be brought closer together. To the question by the United States, the OECD replied that several countries had large imbalances, and that the OECD is actively trying to reach out to such countries, e.g. via the regional TiVA initiatives to reduce these.

#### *8.f. Converting international trade data to industrial classification system*

72. Erich Strassner (Bureau of Economic Analysis, United States) presented on how the BEA converts very detailed merchandise trade data (17 000 unique codes) and international trade in services (EBOPS) to NAICS; which is based on physical characteristics and the type of economic activity and ultimately provides the product classification for the input-output and supply-use tables. This process involves many challenges, for example changes to classifications, enterprise versus establishment data, but also reviewing trade values compared to domestic supply.

73. The BEA uses a range of available data, for example economic census, manufacturing surveys, MNE data, and assumptions such as the 'Import proportionality assumption'. The presentation concluded that converting trade classifications to industrial classifications is more straightforward when the description of the trade in goods and/or services is detailed and precise; that there is a major challenge in the allocation of imports to intermediate and final use given there is no direct data collection in this area; and that efforts will continue to improve estimates of import use, primarily through microdata efforts focused on microdata work for extended supply-use table development conversions.

74. The OECD welcomed the BEA's presentation, and suggested that the MNE data, in combination with the detailed trade statistics, would be an important source for the ongoing work on extended supply use tables, where a breakdown by key partners could be made available. The OECD also commented on how linking trade data with the business registers has the ability to improve import flow matrices and allocations to end use categories. BEA indicated that it plans to look more closely at the MNE data, and in particular microdata linking and a bottom-up approach. As a first step in a project with Canada and Mexico the BEA is looking at adding a partner country dimension to the import use tables.

#### *8.g. The French pharmaceutical industry in global value chains*

75. Rafael Cezar (Banque de France, France) presented the results of a project that was previously introduced at the 2016 WPTGS, on the French pharmaceutical industry in GVCs. The main results show that over the period 2000-2014, the French pharmaceutical industry opened up to GVCs as evidenced by the increase in foreign value added in total

exports from 14% to 22%. The degree to which companies participate in GVCs is heterogeneous, with important differences between exporting and non-exporting firms, and foreign controlled vs national controlled enterprises. The estimates derived from micro level data and those from the international input-output tables were well-aligned.

76. Canada indicated that one of the challenges they encounter is the rapid change in production arrangements by MNEs – for example, a foreign owned subsidiary may be engaged in processing for its parent, and may be owner of the inputs in one month (classifying its output as manufactured good) and not in the next month (making its output a processing service). Hungary asked about the possibility to further the analysis on foreign ownership by examining FDI income. France answered that foreign ownership data in France are not very robust which make these analyses hard to undertake. Ireland then suggested that given the complexity of the industry, the ease of establishing head offices in countries and the rate of mergers and acquisitions, there could be a case for treating all as foreign controlled.

#### *8.h. Detailed trade price indices and TiVA nowcasting methods*

77. Fabienne Fortanier, Guannan Miao and Aliette Cheptitski (OECD) provided an overview of the work on developing more timely TiVA indicators in value and volume terms to adequately differentiate between price changes and structural changes. The presentation focused on one element, namely the methodology used to calculate detailed merchandise trade price indices. OECD used data from UN Comtrade which guaranteed a wide coverage of countries and products, but that also require a refined outlier detection method to ensure reliability. OECD presented its iterative method to detect outliers at HS 4-digit level and by quantity unit, as well as techniques to ensure coherence with national data by benchmarking to national accounts data.

78. During the discussion, Hungary asked about possible combinations with other work, especially the balancing of merchandise trade. OECD replied that the current estimates are developed from the figures as reported by countries (i.e. unbalanced). The United States, noted that it had also developed a similar iterative outlier detection, although for efficiency reasons they have now replaced it with an approximation.

#### *8.i. Report from the UN Expert Group on Developing a Handbook on International Integrated Economic Accounts*

79. Ronald Jansen (UNSD) presented the progress made by the UN Expert Group in developing a Handbook on Accounting for Global Value Chains. The Handbook will include five parts (and 14 chapters): policy, business and statistical motivation (chapters 1 and 2); general statistical framework (chapters 3 to 8); global value chain approach (chapters 9 and 10); integrated business, trade and investment statistics (chapters 11 and 12); and application of the measurement framework (chapters 13 and 14). The Handbook is planned to be published in 2018.

## **9. Linking trade and business statistics**

### *9.a. Nordic countries in global value chains*

80. Peter Bøegh Nielsen (Statistics Denmark) presented the results of a joint project between the Nordic Statistical Offices and the OECD (financed by the Nordic Council) looking at Nordic countries in Global Value Chains. The project focused on firm

heterogeneity in global value chains, bringing together the harmonised firm-level micro databases in four Nordic national statistics offices with the OECD ICIO to develop indicators on the role of SMEs (dependent and independent), MNEs (domestic and foreign owned) and trading firms in global value chains.

81. Fabienne Fortanier noted that this new collaboration had been very successful, and was well received by policy makers in Nordic countries. The results illustrate that GVCs are pervasive and may affect those enterprises and parts of the economy that are not engaged in international trade as per traditional measures. The OECD looks forward to, and invited, similar collaboration with other countries.

82. The Chair and UNSD expressed particular interest in the concept of 'born globals', as the presentation showed that firms rarely start to export at year 2 or 3 after their birth, but either start immediately or not engage at all. The latter suggested further work on the kind of enterprises that these firms are (which Bøegh Nielsen specified are not affiliates, by definition), and on comparisons with those which are not 'born global'.

### *9.b. Services Trade by Enterprises Characteristics*

83. Alex Behrens presented Eurostat's work on services trade by enterprises characteristics, data which can be used as an input into other economic domains, for example, national accounts, TiVA and Figaro. He started the presentation by inviting countries to join the linking project given the increasing importance of STEC for such projects as TiVA and increasing requests from trade negotiators in their roles. As background, he explained that STEC was endorsed by the ESSC in 2012 and at present there are 14 countries involved in STEC. The Eurostat-OECD STEC Compiler's Guide is now available, and provides improved compilation guidelines, concepts and builds on national experiences. Next steps include encouraging more (including non-EU) countries to become involved, looking at a STEC simplified table approach and investigating published STEC data on 'born globals'.

### *9.c. Handbook on Linking Trade and Business Statistics*

84. Diana Doyle (OECD) presented on the Handbook on Linking Trade and Business Statistics being developed by the OECD. The presentation identified the main methodological challenges involved in data linking, pointing out that data linking forms the basis for a growing spectrum of statistics (TEC, SBS, STEC, FATS). An outline of the Handbook was provided, which included a review of the statistical infrastructure, compilation challenges (such as business identifiers, statistical units and classifications, imputations and grossing up, and designing statistical systems with data linking in mind), and dissemination (such as confidentiality concerns, policy relevant indicators derived from linked trade and business statistics, and enhancing statistics on firm heterogeneity in GVCs), including a summary of country contributions received to-date.

85. In the discussion that followed, Eurostat mentioned their interest for a more integrated system, given the unlimited possibilities for linking data, which requires agreement on what is linked together. The Chair added that this agreement can only emanate from policy needs.

### *9.d. Linking trade and business statistics*

86. Henry Vargas (Central Bank of Costa Rica) showed how work for the ongoing OECD accession process has meant that Costa Rica now has a fully joined up system to

link international merchandise trade, the business register and tax records. This linking provides a large cross-selection of variables (e.g. sales, employment, wages, etc.), classifications (HS, CPC, ISIC, BEC, etc.), trade characteristics (e.g. enterprise size, partner country, export/import intensity), ownership, other (e.g. concentration of trade by activity and two-way traders) and allows the compilation of import matrixes (intermediate consumption, final consumption). First results, for example show that in 2015 the top 50 enterprises in Costa Rica accounted for 56% of exports (top 10 accounts for 27%). Next steps include the addition of services (by partner country), inventories and value added by company where available.

#### *9.e. The Canadian trade by enterprise characteristics programme*

87. Jennifer Withington (Statistics Canada) outlined and summarised Statistics Canada's trade by enterprise characteristics programme, including how Statistics Canada processed 5 years of data in a single compilation cycle, future work and details on what TEC data Statistics Canada compiles and disseminates. Two important points were: compilation of TEC in Canada, linking international trade to the business register, is becoming a two way street, in that TEC compilers provide feedback to the business register (i.e. a business register trade indicator); and there is a need to ensure that TEC compilation doesn't become 'person dependent' as this can become a consistency issue if changes occur (to overcome this a number of review methods have been introduced). Some dissemination highlights were that the top 50 enterprises accounted for half of export values in Canada (top 1000 account for 87%). 2015 versus 2010 data shows that although the number of Canadian exporters has marginally increased, the value (for SME and 'Large Exporters') has increased by 24%.

88. During the discussion, UNSD commented on the need to have a common identifier and complimented Statistics Canada on their work in overcoming this obstacle. The United States asked Canada about its external funding sources for this work, and any advice they have on getting this type of funding. Statistics Canada replied that most of the funding has come from other government departments, regular meetings are held and Statistics Canada offers a number of extra services such as providing presentations for meetings/conferences where someone from these departments could attend.

## 10. Closing remarks

89. Paul Schreyer, Deputy Director OECD Statistics Directorate, started his closing remarks by reflecting on the feedback from participants that he had received, which indicated that we can look back on three days of very successful, intensive and productive discussions, with concrete ideas and action points reflected in the WPTGS Bureau conclusions. The bilateral trade asymmetry meetings, organised for the 3rd time, attracted more countries than ever, contributing to an innovative, country-driven approach to reducing inconsistencies.

90. Mr Schreyer emphasised that the trade and investment nexus is an increasingly important element in the discussions, as emphasised by the joint WPTGS-WGIIS meeting, which highlighted the complementarities between trade and FDI flows and the importance of integrated accounting frameworks.

91. Looking ahead, Mr Schreyer indicated that WPTGS will have a lot of work on its plate. Statistics on trade and GVCs are advancing rapidly, digital trade was introduced at this meeting as a new topic on the agenda – and more generally, measurement issues

where digitalisation meets globalisation, and e.g. when intellectual property products are shifted around internationally – what does this mean for our measurement and reading of productivity statistics.

92. But there is also a need to address the challenges of measuring inclusive globalisation, one of the central topics of the 2017 OECD Ministerial Meeting. Scepticism from parts of society is rising with regards to globalisation, especially from those who have not benefitted in the same way as others. Policy discussions – e.g. related to trade, investment, employment and migration – are focusing on how globalisation can be made more inclusive; and this debate requires data that is fit for purpose. WPTGS should play a pivotal role here and broaden the prism beyond trade data, by linking up with social statistics in areas such as wages, skills or the issue of job quality.

93. Finally, Mr Schreyer congratulated participants on a very successful meeting and thanked them for their active contributions to making WPTGS a forum of exchange of best practices and solutions to measurements challenges related to trade and globalisation. He also expressed his appreciation for the excellent chairing of WPTGS by Mr François Mouriaux. He wished participants a successful upcoming year in their endeavours, nationally and in collaboration with the OECD, to improve statistics.

## **11. Draft conclusions of the WPTGS meeting**

94. The Chair presented the Bureau conclusions (see beginning of this document).

## **12. Election of WPTGS Bureau Members and closing of the meeting**

95. Current WPTGS Bureau members are François Mouriaux (Chair, Banque de France), Denis Caron (Statistics Canada), Gerardo Durand (INEGI, Mexico), José Antonio Isanta Foncuberta (INE, Spain), and Osman Çağatay Mutlu (Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey). The OECD noted that this left one bureau position vacant and that interested delegates were invited to contact the Secretariat.

96. The Chair thanked all the presenters, participants, translators and the Secretariat, and closed the meeting.

**Participants list for Working Party on International Trade in Goods and Trade in Services Statistics (WPTGS)/Liste des participants pour Groupe de travail sur les statistiques de commerce des biens et des services (WPTGS)**

**22/3/2017 - 24/3/2017**

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