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STATISTICS DIRECTORATE

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

**WORKING PARTY ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS AND TRADE IN SERVICES
STATISTICS (WPTGS)**

SUMMARY RECORD

**Held at the OECD Headquarters
on 16-18 November 2009**

Delegates will find attached the draft summary record of the 2nd meeting of the Working Party on International Trade in Goods and Trade in Services Statistics (WPTGS).

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**WORKING PARTY ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN GOODS AND TRADE
IN SERVICES STATISTICS (WPTGS) – DETAILED MINUTES OF THE 2ND MEETING**

16-18 November 2009, Paris, OECD Headquarters, Room CC10

Monday, 16th November, starting at 10.00 a.m.

Subject

Documents

Part I: Merchandise trade and trade in services

1. Welcome, adoption of the Agenda, and opening

The Chair, Craig Kuntz, opened the 2nd WPTGS meeting, stating how important trade is in the G20 Pittsburgh context. Trade feeds directly into the government agendas. He also referred to the Progress of Societies International Conference held in Busan, Korea, and related important initiatives, such as the Stiglitz Commission report and “GDP and beyond”.

The acting Chief Statistician of OECD, Paul Schreyer, welcomed WPTGS participants, stressing the important methodological steps achieved with respect to the new, revised, IMTS Rev 3 and MSITS 2010. He mentioned the importance of implementation issues in pursuing this work, and the important role WPTGS plays in this respect. He briefly outlined the key modules of this meeting, namely OECD the accession countries’ progress, the good inter-agency co-operation and coordination, quality aspects of ITS, the encouraging results obtained in countries when linking trade to business statistics, new developments in TIS, and Trade and Globalisation work presented. He invited delegates to the WPTGS cocktail OECD hosts the next evening and wished a fruitful and enriching discussion.

The Chair briefly mentioned the new organisation of the WPTGS agenda which integrated merchandise trade and services trade in one two-day block, followed by the trade and globalisation issues. Before, trade was separated by one day devoted to globalisation.

The agenda was adopted.

2. New developments at OECD

For information

Considerable work has been carried out by OECD and the accession countries to OECD to gauge the degree of suitability and conformity with international standards of these countries with respect to statistics.

1 Integrating the OECD Accession countries into OECDs Statistical databases

1. Overall coordination of statistical activities (OECD)

Tim Davis, Accession coordinator of STD, OECD

OECD presented the rationale for the accession process, the range of statistics covered, the increased role of statistics and the review process carried out. The reviews of 4 countries will finish end 2009 and the OECD Council decision is expected for early 2010. The accession of the Russian Federation has been delayed.

2. Summary update of TAGS databases (OECD)

Andreas Lindner, Head of TAGS, OECD/STD

OECD provided a short update on the review process and first results concerning the different databases TAGS is responsible for. The overall outcome was quite positive with several accession countries committing to adhere more to the UN-OECD methodological standards. Deficiencies were identified and will be dealt with bilaterally. All in all, the accession process to OECD provided new impetus, sometimes also more resources, and generally a greater visibility of statistics in accession countries.

3. Inter-Agency Co-operation and coordination in trade statistics *For information and discussion*

The revision process of the manual MSITS 2010 and the 3rd revision of concepts and definitions for merchandise trade, IMTS Rev.3, have been completed and both frameworks will be submitted to the UNSC in February 2010 for endorsement. This agenda item updated delegates on main findings and changes. Delegates were invited to express their opinion.

1 Inter-Agency Merchandise Trade Statistics Task Force TFIMTS report (WTO) STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)1

Andreas Maurer, WTO

WTO reported on the March 2009 meeting in Bangkok, highlighting the impact of decisions of other bodies on merchandise trade statistics. He briefly commented on the different databases on international trade, the key concepts and definitions and the importance of analysis focused on value added of merchandise flows. Trade analysis has to adapt to new realities, namely the international fragmentation of production, the need to link production to trade and also the need for more tariff information.

2 Inter-Agency Task Force on Statistics in trade in Services TFSITS report (OECD) STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)3

Bettina Wistrom, OECD/STD

OECD reported on the trade in services meeting, held in parallel

to the merchandise trade meeting in Bangkok. She announced the need for a compilation guide and for even greater involvement of national experts. The final round of discussions on the MSITS 2010 will take place at the TFSITS meeting back-to-back with WPTGS. WTO and OECD have hired a consultant to ensure consistency of MSITS 2010 across chapters. A separate user guide was proposed as well. She informed WPTGS delegates of concern in the TF on consistency of TIS data across International Organisation. At present, these differences can be very significant and confuse users. As part of a response to this problem, the OECD proposal for a common framework for TIS was welcomed by the TF. SDMX data transmission will be tested by OECD for TIS in co-operation with selected pilot countries. She also mentioned overlap issues BOP-FATS which need to be addressed.

In the margins of the meeting, Iceland noted the interest of the complementary grouping “trade related transactions” where merchandising could still be grouped with distribution services and other trade related services.

3 Report of the Joint Session TFIMTS and TFSITS (WTO and OECD)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)2

Andreas Lindner, OECD/STD

OECD presented the outcome of the Joint Session of both Task Forces. There was consensus that substantive work by compilers will be needed to ensure the proper recording of goods for processing, including the proper identification of data sources and intra-firm trade. IO's are called upon to provide operational guidance on compilation issues. Increasing differences with trade aggregates reported by SNA or BOP are to be expected leading to confusion of users. These issues will have to be addressed by the WPTGS, including value added chains analysis.

He also highlighted the work in progress at OECD to develop an alternative presentation of trade by product (both goods and services). The rationale behind is to relate trade to supply-utilisation tables and I-O tables, hence creating an integrated view of trade statistics by product and by activity. Such an approach could improve analytical linkage to production, employment, enterprise statistics, FDI and multinationals. This project had received strong support from the TFs.

Recommendation of the Joint Session on future work include: priority given to cross-cutting issues, identification of data sources to collect trade in goods shipped for processing, intra-firm trade, and related transactions, trade by enterprise characteristic, and globalisation and trade statistics as “glue” holding both TFs together in a non-contradictory way. Progress according to a roadmap and to be reported to future WPTGS meetings.

4 IMTS Rev. 3 and MSITS 2010: which issues will need to be addressed for compilers? (International Organisations and country delegates)

1. IMTS Concepts and Definition, Revision 3: summary of worldwide consultation and implications for the future (UNSD)

STD/SES/WPYGS(2009)20

Karoly Kovacs, UNSD

The UNSD report on the results of the second round of world-wide consultations on IMTS 2010 was distributed at the meeting. Countries were in general agreement and supportive with the revised recommendations. General support was also expressed to follow the recommended General Trade System, and a separate identification of the nature of transactions, besides re-exports and re-imports. Wide agreement to record imports on a CIF as well as FOB basis. An overwhelming majority of countries welcomed the new chapters on mode of transport and data compilation strategies .

2. MSITS 2010: summary of worldwide consultation and implications for the future (UNSD/OECD)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)21

A summary of the 3rd world-wide consultations and implications for the future was presented by UNSD and OECD. The process of revision, including the forthcoming endorsement by the TFSITS and UNSC, was highlighted and the phased implementation process outlined. The Manual lists four elements as recommended core elements, namely (1)BPM6, (2)EBOPS with more partner country detail, (3) FDI by ISIC Rev.4, and (4) FATS basic variables and other recommended elements as EBOPS. On compilation guidance, the upcoming revision of the IMF compilation guide is seen a vital resource.

3. Open discussion

Country delegates were invited to express their views on the two summaries provided and flag their opinion from a data producer perspective.

Mexico stated that the main issue regarding IMTS is a practical one. The recommended collection by trade data by mode of transport is welcome and goods for processing remain an allocation challenge. An effort is underway in Mexico to improve data quality. Mexico also confirmed that institutional arrangements are indeed an issue.

The chair underlined the communication challenge ahead of all statisticians (Customs, BOP, etc.) and noted the need for each delegate to brief their representatives for the upcoming UNSC in February 2010.

5 International Organisations' co-operation and its impact on data consistency in dissemination: where should users look for what? (OECD)

Andreas Lindner, OECD

Given the wealth of information disseminated by International Organisations on trade and trade-related indicators, users may be confused where to look for which data. This OECD presentation intended to shed some light on the specific advantages or drawbacks of what IOs present.

OECD reported on the wealth of available international databases (reference to the WTO "Data Day" in May 2009), stating that a "compendium" is available of what IO's offer for what type of analytical question. But the question remains how could users more easily find what they are looking for? And across IO's. How could data consistency across IO's be further improved? How could data access be further rationalised and facilitated?

He pointed out that IO's co-operation does not necessarily have to mean data consistency. The only truly harmonised data set across IO's is detailed merchandise trade (COMTRADE-type), because through a MoU, OECD feeds all OECD countries into COMTRADE (70% of world trade), both UNSD and OECD have agreed on detailed processing routines, both organisations share the same, jointly developed, computer system

- *Sequence: OECD=> UNSD => WTO*
- *The data "vintage" is the same and highly aligned, consistent statistics are re-disseminated world-wide*
- *A similar, concerted approach is the "CDS=Common Data Set" hosted by WTO, in which adjusted, reconciled merchandise trade totals are made available to the public. The CDS is fed by UNSD, OECD, FAO, Eurostat, and WTO and contains original and adjusted aggregates*

Considerable data discrepancies across IO's persist for Trade in services

Despite efforts of reconciliation and data sharing, the outcomes still are to be better aligned.

The present data sharing model: Eurostat => OECD & UNSD, OECD adds Non-EU OECD => UNSD & Eurostat. The most likely cause for discrepancies are "vintage" differences in IO's, but also slightly different details. Framework not 100% aligned (as with merchandise trade). OECD and UNSD have agreed to study scope for extending their MoU on Merchandise Trade also to Trade in Services

- *The Task Force on TIS has been asked to look into this question across IO'*

and to propose solutions.

The WTO background document (compendium) provides an excellent starting point for a more integrated and “easy to understand” presentation of international trade and trade-related indicators databases for users world-wide

- It could be envisaged to transform it into a **standard reference and query tool for users** by
 - Using a standard thematic structure for all IO’s
 - Advise for which type of needs a database would be appropriate
 - Live links to databases, possibility of multiple choice per theme across IO’s
- Such a tool could be included in each participating organisations’ trade statistics main website and result in a “all at your fingertips” data access, including all other IO’s willing to participate.

Q&A:

The Chair welcomed the envisaged extension of the OECD-UNSD MoU to services.

WTO noted the availability of a brochure related to the two ‘data days’ organised earlier this year.

UNSD noted the interest of presenting the WTO brochure on the TFSITS website and pointed out that the UN service trade database is still not available through the TF website.

Brazil noted the importance of understanding the limitation of the data, stressing the importance of metadata. (Some databases are used for different purposes and user’s definitions can sometime depart from mainstream definitions. So different stories can be told depending on the way the databases are used. Compilers also can use different definitions). Another point was that the 2 Manuals set a global framework, but each country has indeed specific needs so there could be some interest in developing specific satellite accounts like for call centers that are of specific interest for Mercosur.

Eurostat noted the interest of reflecting a bit more on data sharing.

France: ECB is working on an inventory to better organise data provision.

4. **Improving the data quality of merchandise trade statistics**

For discussion

Delegates were invited to comment on the four presentations.

1 **ITCS: allocating data from HS 6 digit to HS 2 digit (OECD)**

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)14

· Blandine Serve, OECD/STD

OECD reported on the effects of confidential trade and “memoranda items (MI)” on aggregating data from HS 6 digit to HS 2 digit. Definition of MI: special codes to process as accurately as possible special transactions (confidential items and Eurostat specific codes). Member countries submit MI following their own methodology MI are harmonised in the OECD/UNSD trade database :In the reported classification (e.g. in HS 2007), MI are allocated to the specific chapter where they are belonging to. In the older classifications, MI are not converted, but allocated to the chapter 99 (999999 codes).

- *Non-conversion would lead to significant breaks in time series and inconsistencies, such as very different values, depending on the HS classification used and OECD observes an “inflation” of confidential trade as well: from HS02 to HS07, there is an increase of 27% in 99 codes for the OECD total, 94% in the UK, 56% in Italy, for instance. OECD proposed a solution, which consists of converting MI into specific chapters in older HS classifications rather than generating 999999 codes. A complementary method proposed is to convert 6-digits codes and totals on 2-digits level, and compute, by chapter, the confidential codes being **(2-digits total) – Σ(6-digits)**,*

Q&A:

Australia: As user, and not a compiler, of merchandise trade statistics Australian data confidentiality is a problem, resulting in some 25% of data loss. Confidentiality can negatively affect policy; in particular for chapter 26 for exports and chapter 29 for imports. It would be appreciated if the OECD could help in dealing with this confidentiality problem.

UK: First, data are also published in SITC. The problem is military goods suppression, although one could find the information by mirror statistics: the information is available in the partner country. Consequently the ONS advises military department to de-confidentialise their data since this information is available through others sources. The UK delegate suggested then a number of desirable improvements in COMTRADE and expressed the desire of longer time series of RM/RX.

The Chair suggested the use of mirror statistics and the application of passive confidentiality.

- 2 Eurostat report on data quality (Eurostat) [postponed to WPTGS 2010 or 2011]

- 3 **Re-Exports and re-imports in UN COMTRADE (CEPII)**

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)13

- *Alix de Saint-Vaulry, CEPII, France*

The CEPII provided an analysis of re-exports (RX) and re-

imports(RM) using COMTRADE; despite the limitation to goods in the same state, different criteria may apply in countries and identification also depends on the trade system (general, relaxed special, strict special). From over 160 reporting countries, only between 20 – 40 report RM and RX. The part of RM/RX in world trade is above 4% for RX and below 1% for RM. Over 80% of world RM are reported by China, mostly coming from Hong Kong.

O&A:

Canada: 7 sources of Exports are identified in Canada and, in 2004, data concerning re-imports since 2002 were provided directly to the OECD. RM are part of Canadian M.

Eurostat pointed out that RM and RX within the EU cannot be picked up in Intrastat since the abolishment of customs controls. Country of origin detection is a considerable problem and RM and RX require further analysis. .

CEPII answered that the flows from country of origin to country of destination matter, and that triangular movements (origin-consignment, consignment-last destination) add to confusion. Knowing a movement from a country to another is interesting, but this is another debate requiring further analysis.

4 Promoting the use of SDMX (OECD)

Marc Pollard, ONS, UK, OECD Consultant, Trevor Fletcher, OECD, STD

The Consultant stated that the ‘seed’ for this exercise was the recommendation from the Inter-Agency Task Force meeting in Bangkok in March 2009, that “a more integrated statistical view [of international transactions statistics] ... including joint dissemination” be developed. He formulated a project proposal to launch a pilot exercise to test the use of Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange (SDMX) for, initially, the exchange of TIS data and metadata to evaluate the suitability of SDMX for expansion to further IT collection and dissemination. He invited delegates support for this proposal, which is led by the TAGS team at the OECD, and invited expressions of interest among member countries of the partner organisations to join the project.

Anticipated benefits are: a tested standard format for the reporting of international transaction statistics, that can be re-used, an output that can be replicated for use in other data collection and deliveries, a format that can be further developed to share data nationally as well as internationally e.g. website dissemination, and a format that can be further developed as a tool for the collection of data from businesses by National Statistical Agencies. This all re-enforces international

comparability.

The proposed pilot includes several (voluntary) countries, respecting the current respective capability, progressing simultaneously and supported by OECD technical resources including training and support to participating countries. A full SDMX system documentation for TIS requirements will be developed with testing of data and metadata exchange and, hopefully feeding in to other pilot countries. Expected outcomes include to report within 15 months of the project. WPTGS will be informed with recommendations on the suitability of SDMX for collection, sharing and dissemination of, initially, Trade in Services data and ultimately International Transactions data. In addition, it is intended to produce, in partnership with the pilot Member Countries, the full suite of generic SDMX output files relating to TIS (data and metadata), to allow replication and customisation in member countries, and to derive recommendations for expanding toward full adoption across member countries. Lastly, recommendations for adoption across the full range of IT data requirements can be expected.

STD/SIMS made a strong case for the use of SDMX by providing explanations of what is SDMX, the NSI Perspective and ongoing OECD SDMX work, and how SDMX is used in information sharing and dissemination. He then presented the SDMX “Toolbox” www.sdmx.org, in which the creation, maintenance and associated tools were described. In support of Mark Pollard’s proposal he re-iterated the incitation to countries to participate in the pilot and assured participants of OECD technical assistance and training.

Q&A:

Several delegates were very supportive of this OECD initiative.

Mexico stated that this is a strategic issue, a way to change the dissemination process. SDMX helps the coordination of INEGI when working with OECD and this process has proven beneficial to Mexico as it is a better way of coordinating different data compilers (Central Bank, Ministry of Finance etc.) since it facilitates and structures information provision to international organizations. Using SDMX allows showing only “one face” of the country using several sources from the country.

USA: Support for this initiative. Since they are working with the IMF using a SDMX pilot for BOP, they can also test with TIS data, which is related.

WTO: SDMX is a benefit for data compilers but also a benefit for international organizations. In future, SDMX might be recommended by a commission.

Question: What will data validation look like and what kind of infrastructure and contents look like? OECD answered that dataset definitions determine the matching structure and data

contents are defined by an agreement on a list of standards.

Brazil asked if this proposal is a push system, where countries deliver data, similar to the OECD website concerning BOP and OECD confirmed.

Eurostat welcomed this initiative which is in line with Eurostat policy. For the next decade, a strategic approach to data transmission, collection, validation, harmonization of data is needed in order to build a data collection system using a data warehouse. Concerning Metadata, further analysis is required on how to compare and validate different methodologies.

Mark Pollard thanked Eurostat for the strong support and clarified that, for now, the proposed pilot only concerns data collection to avoid duplication..

OECD/TAGS invited WPTGS delegates to contact their IT colleagues to see what is currently happening on their side. This pilot is a great opportunity of using something from outside their work. Delegates are invited to voice interest in participating to OECD.

Tuesday, 17th November, starting at 9:30 a.m.

5. Linking trade with enterprise characteristics statistics (TEC)

For discussion

These agenda item 5 showcases very significant and promising developments in OECD countries and others. OECD continues to strongly promote this “linkage exercise”, which it began several years ago. Embedded in a OECD Steering Group, Eurostat covers the EU countries, while OECD covers the other OECD countries. Countries which do not yet participate are invited to flag their interest to join. This invitation extends also to OECD accession countries and Enhanced Engagement Countries.

1 Policy applications of linked trade data – The Canadian experience using the exporter/importer register databases (Canada)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)17

Philip Armstrong, Statistics Canada

Canada started with sketching the relationship of trade and business statistics and theory, policy and data before and after the linkage exercise. The difference is that both trade and business statistics are not considered sitting in separate “boxes”, but communicate with each other. After a short recap of the history of Canadian import and export registers, he analysed the current uses made of this exercise from a user perspective (Statistics Canada works on a cost recovery, contractual , model) , namely the needs from and for:

*Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada:
=> Assessment of the effectiveness of the current trade promotion strategy; Export Development Canada => Evaluation of Canada’s*

trade landscape and development of policies based on the results; Industry Canada=>Investigation of exporter diversification in terms of market and product offering; Institut de la statistique du Québec and the Québec ministry of development, innovation and exportation=>Increasing Québec's presence in the global market through the promotion of the province of Québec in foreign markets.

He then summarized possible policy applications of firm-level trade data: Demand for transportation infrastructure, the more analytical question of "Are import duties really a tax on exports?" How do exporters and importers respond to economic shocks? E.g. by Exchange rate fluctuations, Free Trade agreements, Port closures?

Moving to future possibilities, he stressed the considerable potential of this linking exercise, namely:

- *Broader linking opportunities create a data framework capable of responding to Canada's evolving policy needs;*
- *Better understanding of characteristics of exporting or Global Value Chain (GVC) participating firms;*
- *Evaluate and apply new policies relating to the model of integrative trade.*

Mr. Armstrong concluded in stressing that:

- *Relevant and accurate statistics are the foundation for policy makers to have a sound understanding of firms engaged in international trade.*
- *Linking trade and business data was a response to specific policy needs. The linked data now motivates further policy development.*
- *The new data framework could include information from a wider range of sources.*

Q&A:

Eurostat: The linkage between trade and business registers could be further expanded on two aspects: typical business characteristics and re-import / re-export. Does Statistics Canada have a mandate to create new datasets with other statistical domains, and how can researchers or institutions access the micro data? Canada: Firm's characteristics are analysed under several aspects: (i) through the identification of groups of exporters which have stopped to export, contact them to understand the reasons, and (ii) through the owner's profile, catch the growth intention of the owner or other type of information.

USA: very interesting work, move forward! A potential application of linking trade and business registers could be the implementation of the BPM6, especially regarding the issue of Goods for processing, the highest challenge being the adjustment of trade

data for goods with no change of ownership and their identification at commodity/ partner country level.

OECD: this work is part of the international effort, coordinated by OECD to develop linked trade and business statistics in a somewhat more standardized way (Reference: the OECD Steering Group on Business Enterprise Statistics and Trade (BEST)). Challenge is now to extend coverage, indeed, to services, look at transportation infrastructure, Business Registers (GVC and globalisation effects.)

Australia: A brilliant piece of work and Australia would like to join in. What type of policy researches are made regarding the impact of trade negotiations (WTO, or bilateral)? Canada: Regarding the question about free trade agreements impacts, Industry Canada analysed the link between diversifications and exports; as a result, small exporters are more able to switch to different markets.

Italy: Does Statistics Canada only provide studies following policy makers' needs or are they internal research agendas? Does Statistics Canada have a structured business register database on multinationals? Canada: The objective of Statistics Canada is to mainly exploit the existing data from administrative sources rather than produce new datasets. The importer register database is new and contains importers' profiles for the period 2002 to 2007, whereas on the exporter register database side, a profile of Canadian exporters is produced each year and contains information as from 1993. Multinationals are included in the business register, they can be flagged through the foreign control identifier. Researchers need to inform about the objective of their paper, and the type of data needed. After evaluation and approval of the request, the micro-data are anonymized with identifiers replaced by other codes without meaning but which still allow the differentiation. In addition, for specific policy researches, analysts are bound with the same confidentiality policy as an employee of statistics Canada with a formal process for taking out the data.

2 Linking business statistics to trade (Italy)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)12

· Carmela Pascucci, ISTAT, Italy

ISTAT, explained that the statistical unit of the business register is the enterprise, identified by a fiscal code. The statistical unit of the foreign trade operators register is the trader, identified by a specific VAT code. These two codes can be different; therefore a Tax Register file needs to link together the fiscal code and the VAT code. Data of different VAT codes in foreign trade statistics that correspond to a single fiscal code in the business register must be summed up. The linking procedures present some statistical

problems, due to the different domains of the two archives and to the presence of incomplete VAT codes. This results in the loss of coverage in terms of trade, both import and export values; however, the coverage of the final results in terms of trade values is very high - more or less 98% for both flows.

The current Italian strategy for linking trade and business registers has been carried out according to the recommendations of the Eurostat WG "Linking Trade and Business Statistics" (ex "Trade register and Globalization"). New developments include a new methodology to attribute exports to "local labour market areas" and to develop a short-term analytical capacity of BRs. The results obtained were encouraging in that data allowed analyzing the short-term trends of foreign trade flows according to structural data on enterprises. The possibility to use structural data in short-term analyses will be studied in more depth in the future.

The intensive use of linking procedures between foreign trade data and business register furthermore allows improving the quality of both data sources. On the one hand it allows picking up the economic characteristics of foreign trade using micro-data analysis, while on the other hand allowing improving the business register and SBS quality.

Concerning enterprises belonging to a group of enterprises, more efforts should be dedicated to analyse the behaviour of enterprises belonging to a group because of their growing importance. A common strategy is needed to manage these data and to ensure statistical consistency according to different statistical purposes (i.e. National Accounts, Foreign Trade data and SBS statistics).

O&A:

Canada: *The results on exporters by size, sector and employment size are similar to those obtained in Canada; this kind of results may have an international dimension rather than only being specific at country level. Do you have the intention to perform the analysis at monthly or sub-annual level, which is currently the goal in Canada? Italy: it is possible to use monthly data.*

France: *Have the data been decomposed in order to track the contributions of firms that are entering or exiting the market (business demography)?*

EC: *Is this analysis following the request of a specific user group? Can you comment on the issue about the complex structures of enterprises, in order to gain in consistency, since such analysis should be systematically compared with structural business statistics? Italy: The study is a regular foreign trade analysis, not a response to a specific request.*

FAO: *This linking is very important and could be completed with further connections with other statistics, such as trade versus production, value-added in trade, and food availability for which currently the FAO produces annual data, but, thanks to this*

presentation, monthly data seem conceivable now

Brazil: *How the analysis deals with holding companies? Is it the same business register for both trade in services and trade in goods? Italy:* *The Central Bank is responsible for the survey and the data collection on services, but additional information could be gathered, for example, from the Italian Chamber of Commerce business register, as well as for FDI with Bureau Van Dyck.*

Netherlands: *What is the share of the total firm's population of the 189392 exporting enterprises? How has the Enterprise group bias been corrected, and what is the share of the enterprise group's information in the total? Italy:* *Exporting enterprises have different shares depending on their employment size class; large enterprises have high shares (around 50%) and small enterprises have around 30%. There is no information to track if an enterprise belongs to a group or not.*

Israel: *flagged possible bias in allocation to industry through the role of wholesale companies.*

Ireland: *Since Statistics Canada and ISTAT seem to have the same results in this field, it would be interesting for the future use of this work, to do a presentation of the mathematical models in order to ensure that both approaches are comparable, and assess how robust the models are.*

3 Regional services exports and business registers (United Kingdom)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)9

Keith Brook, Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, UK

The UK Department of Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) demonstrated that a regional exports of services analysis can be undertaken by linking company data back to the Inter-departmental Business Register (IDBR) and apportioning exports to regions using local unit (LU) employment data.

The analysis is mainly limited to Business services and covers about 30 per cent of UK exports of services. Services such as Travel, Transportation, Insurance and Financial services are not available in a format that allows a regional analysis to be undertaken. Allocating some of these services to a region may be less meaningful since the geographic location of the sales transaction and of the service activity may differ.

Q&A:

USA (BEA): *The Bureau of Economic Analysis performed similar studies, they are still confidential, but they faced similar issues regarding the allocation of some services to Local Units.*

Germany: *In Germany, linking BoP items with Local Units has been tried but arrived at significant differences, since in many*

cases there is no one-to-one relationship.

UK: The next step will be to (i) extend the analysis to other services, notably Financial services, and (ii) building a relationship between the exports of services and profitability.

4 High-tech trade by enterprise characteristics (EU/JRC)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)7

Alexander Loschky, EC/JRC

The pilot study by Eurostat and the JRC presented in this paper linked for the first time detailed foreign trade data at the product level to business register data in order to analyse the “real” trade of the high-tech industries.

The analysis of the data showed that the “traditional” approach to calculate the trade value of the high-tech industries via correspondence tables represents relatively well the exports to third countries (Extratrade) but not so well the exports to other EU Member States (Intratrade). The analysis also showed that the “traditional” approach gives a better estimation of the values exported by high-tech industries than of the values imported by them. Therefore, calculating the trade value of high-tech industries via correspondence tables can lead to an overestimation of their trade, especially with respect to their imports. (...)

The first analyses of the data resulting from the joint pilot study by Eurostat and the JRC are encouraging and the data should be further exploited, especially with regards to a product-level analysis of the participation of high-tech industries in the trade with high-tech products and conversely of the shares of high-tech products in the trade of high-tech industries.

In addition to a in-depth analysis of the data, the data basis itself should be extended to a wider range of EU Member States and, if possible, to other OECD countries. It should also include the trade of other sectors of activity like the wholesale and retail sectors (ISIC/NACE 51 and 52) in order to analyse their share in high-tech trade.

Independently from the analysis of high-tech trade, it would also be interesting to link other enterprise-related data from statistics like e.g. production statistics via the business register to the foreign trade data. This could give inter alia new insights into the relation between production and trade of (high-tech) goods.

Comments:

WTO: A further development of this kind of research could be the goods and services related to environmental issues.

Israel: Stress the difficulty of making the distinction between high-tech and non high-tech services.

Germany: The concentration of the spacecraft’s industry makes it easier to measure exports, whereas for imports, the widespread distribution of high- tech services renders the capture of these data

much more difficult.

5 Trade in services – new evidence on linkages to business statistics and multinationals (Austria)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)5

Patricia Walter, Austrian National Bank OENB

Results of this analysis were highly welcomed in Austria, by both, politicians as well as researchers. As it were, it was a contribution for closing down a gap which had persisted so far within the country's statistical landscape regarding the determinants of trade in services. It would now be of high interest to analyze other, comparable, small and open economies for the purpose of comparing countries and come to common conclusions. Combining balance of payments with business and register data is a practicable way for doing so.

The analysis suggests that only a small group of Austrian companies exclusively exports or exclusively imports services. There is a strong correlation between trade in goods and services, which matches the corresponding content of goods and services, e.g. providing transport, assembly, repair and maintenance, planning and training services.

The analysis also provides evidence that the supply of services to Austria and the demand for services from abroad is very unevenly distributed and is concentrated on a small number of enterprises, above all service providers such as shipping companies and travel agencies, transport and trade companies, holding companies, management consultancies and advertising companies as well as computer and related companies.

Manufacturing companies – manufacturers of machinery and equipment and of radio, television and communication equipment and apparatus – also export and import services. Thus, outside of the inherent external trade orientation that applies to network industries, trade in services is dependent on a high degree of technical and knowledge content.

The strong concentration of trade in services on a small number of enterprises also relates to company size. Foremost export of construction, transport, communications, research and development and architectural and engineering services is a function of the number of employees. Conversely, external trade in knowledge-based services is concentrated in SMEs. Consequently, the company structure appears to be a key criterion for the degree of technical sophistication of service exports and for the country's positive or negative competitive position.

Companies with inward or outward FDI account for more than half of Austria's cross-border trade in services. In particular research and development services and cross-border payments of royalties and license fees are linked to group activities.

The analysis was also able to identify various regional specializations in Austria's service trade and shows that service trade relations are determined primarily by proximity.

Q&A:

Brazil: *Similar results have been experienced in Brazil: marketing services, consulting, recreational services, which are a kind of "personal services", show a low concentration. The more the service is specialised, the higher it's concentration.*

EC: *a) What is the proportion on the total trade on goods represents the trade in services?*

France: *The Banque de France is currently changing the system of data collection of exports and imports and therefore is very interested in exchanging the results.*

b) This analysis is based upon a representative sample, how the sample has been designed? Did you perform some retropolation to analyse the chocks experienced in the past on the flows?

Netherlands: *c) The sample of the firm population in this analysis is 4963 enterprises, how many enterprises would it represent if the whole economy would be the frame? How does the analysis deal with the potential overlap between goods and services enterprises?*

Untied Kingdom: *The United Kingdom experienced similar trends. What is the participation of exporters and exporters in manufacturing? In UK, around 10% of exported services are undertaken by manufacturing industries*

Italy: *There is also in Italy, a move to direct reporting system. There is currently the possibility to flag FDI, but not trade in services.*

WTO: *e) Is there any potential for breaking down the questions of the survey to capture the part of service provided?*

Answers: *a) Only a small part of the sample concern trading services.*

b) The selection has been made on the base of the Structural Business survey with a time span over 4 years (with the type of question as "do you trade services, how much,..."). The next step is to expend the coverage of the data sources (like Chamber of Commerce).

c) The real number of enterprises in ITS is 138,306 enterprises, of which 80% are not engaged in foreign trade.

d) Regarding the combination of goods and services trade, there is a 15% overlap in manufacturing industries, mainly high-tech industries (Radio, TV & Telecommunication) engaged in services like transportation, or R&D engineering.

e) It is not possible to add a question on the quarterly surveys, but there is a possibility to catch the information through the modes of

supply, and questioning directly the companies: “Are you mainly engaged on Mode 4 or in Mode 1?”

6. **Trade in services between enterprises of the same group (Brazil)**

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)11

Fernando Augusto Ferreira Lemos, Brazil

Data show that a very significant share of flows of services occurs between affiliated companies, somewhat challenging common sense of the operation of TNCs. Revenue data convey the idea that resident affiliates are rendering services mostly to their parent companies, which seems unlikely unless the resident affiliate is, for example, rendering a service on behalf of a parent company, a case in which a foreign direct investment may actually be the subjacent transaction.

Expense data are significantly high and require further analysis in order to verify if there are taxation or other administrative or cost-related purposes that are serving as an incentive for transactions. The assessment made so far only allowed for the identification of the flows. Information is insufficient at this stage to safely draw any conclusion. Further research, possibly by means of surveying selected companies, may be a necessary step in order to correctly determine the nature of these flows

There are questions about why affiliates have services revenue intra-group: are there any tax incentives or administrative purpose? This could be explained by the strong presence of trade in goods in most of the companies, the revenue therefore could be explained by the compensation from the mother company to the affiliate for the goods flow.

Q&A:

Australia: *From a trade policy development perspective, it would be important to have a consistent set of methodologies in order to be certain about the comparability of the data.*

OECD: *a) Does intra-group means being in a FDI relationship?*

USA: *Other business services can cover management fees, consultancy or overhead cost.*

Netherlands: *b) What is the position of other business services?*

Israel: *c) How to assess that the threshold of 100,000 US\$ is well based?*

Answers: *a) Yes, it means that there is necessarily a FDI relationship.*

b) They are not significant R&D centres or sectors dealing with advanced technology, but mainly services related to manufacturing (oil, mining sectors).

c) Data are all ITRS, and usually the transactions are related to major companies with strong participations.

6. Trade in services

For discussion

1 Software (OECD)

- *There is a **risk** that the BPM6 clarification on the treatment of non-perpetual licenses could introduce inconsistency. A decision should be made about the interpretation of BPM6.*

*The **treatment of all software and licenses** (except hardware bundled) as an access to a service, and accepting their combined value in a single services category, would improve quality. This was also a finding of the worldwide consultation on the IMTS. The implications, however, mean that this **is not feasible** (e.g. impact on tax revenues), although this change may occur naturally as electronic delivery becomes more frequently the preferred mode of software delivery.*

Q&A:

France: Should the software downloaded electronically with or without a perpetual licence be treated as a service (because immaterial)?

Reply: Electronically delivered software is always a services, but when the software is non-customized, delivered on physical media, with the right to perpetual use, it is a good, according to BPM6.

EUROSTAT: Software will be downloaded in the future more and more electronically, and this is not clearly a custom issue, because there is no physical crossing of borders. Eurostat agrees on the speaker's proposition that every software should be treated as services, regardless the way in which it is delivered (physically or electronically downloaded).

2 Remittances (OECD)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)15

- *This presentation shows the results of the ad-hoc questionnaire sent by OECD to member countries in December 2008, complementing work done by Eurostat in 2007, in order to obtain more direct information on main remittance corridors and to improve the understanding of the whole picture regarding remittances. Besides, it informs about international initiatives aimed at improving the measurement of remittances, in particular, the recent launch of the International Transactions in Remittances, Guide for Compilers and Users (RCG) authored by members of the Luxembourg group, coordinated by the World bank and the IMF, and published by the IMF.*

Mexico: Next year, bilateral data on remittances will be available, both for inflows and outflows, even if in the case of inflows they

can affirm that about 95% comes from USA.

EUROSTAT: In September 2009 the questionnaire was again sent to EU countries to collect bilateral data (Geographical breakdown level 3) on WR and CoE. Data will be published in January 2010.

WTO: Proposes for WPTGS 2010 to move Remittances from **Trade in Services to Trade and Globalization issues**.

3 SISCOSEV and NBS – The Brazilian Effort in Measuring its Foreign Trade in Services (Brazil)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)6

Jane Alcanfor de Pinho, Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade, Brazil

This presentation reported on new developments in Brazil to better measure service activities. New initiatives in 2008 have been carried out: the Brazilian Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade, through its Secretariat of Commerce and Services (SCS), has created the SISCOSEV, an integrated web system in which the transactions between residents and non-residents involving the provision of services (Services, Intangibles and other operations that produce variation in the capital of the entities) will be registered. This will thus integrate the actions of the Secretariat of Commerce and Services (SCS), the Central Bank and the Federal Revenue of Brazil with respect to the monitoring and overseeing of the country's foreign trade in services. The focus is rather on commerce and business rather than on BOP compilation. The second initiative is the NBS, the Brazilian nomenclature of Services, Intangibles and other operations that produce variation in the capital of the entities. The NBS, built starting from CPC 2.0, will work not only as an important and necessary tool of the SISCOSEV but also as a national classification for services, with concrete application for commercial and tax policies.

Q&A:

UNSD: How are you prepared to manage possible differences between SISCOSEV data and BOP data produced by CB?

Reply: SISCOSEV was considered necessary because the common idea of the Ministry of Trade was that in general exports of services in Brazil had been under-evaluated. Anyway, the NBS developed in parallel with SISCOSEV is considered even more important than the tool in itself. The methodology behind the SISCOSEV is different from the methodology used from the CB for BOP compilation. Notwithstanding, the Ministry of Trade recognizes the importance of BOP, and works in close contact with CB colleagues.

BCB states that BOP is limited in what can be delivered, and it is a tool more suitable to manage the crisis at macro level.

4 International transactions of services and origin of merchandise exports (Argentina)

Mr. Juan Padin, INDEC, Argentina

This presentation reported on INDEC collection and dissemination of export data by province of origin. Initially, the INDEC began providing data on export origin by provinces based solely on exporters' customs declared, but there were product for which the source did not allow the proper identification of provincial origin (e.g. cereals, oilseeds and other agricultural products, crude oil). Using additional sources of data, the percentage of exports without certain provincial origin moved from 38% to 1.8%. Examples were provided on the improvement achieved (e.g. soybeans and corn grain).

Q&A

EUROSTAT: *What is the share of Re-Export not originating from Argentina?*

Reply: *It is about 5%.*

5 The Intrastat Services initiative (Italy)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)8

Paola Anitori, ISTAT, Italy

This presentation reported on the main characteristics of the new survey on intra-community services and the potential improvement that could be brought to Italian statistics on services. Following the new Directive 2008/8/EC, the Italian Revenue Agency decided to link the data collection on services to the well established survey on goods so to benefit of possible synergies between the two and to take advantage of the experience and know-how of both Customs and the National Statistical Institute (ISTAT), the bodies responsible for Intrastat from 1993 in the management of the wide and quite complex survey. From a statistical point of view, the "extended" Intrastat data collection can be seen as a potential source to improve statistics on the trade of services through the use of administrative data. For a country like Italy where information on services is traditionally based on sample surveys led by different bodies, the data collection led by the Revenue Agency opens new perspectives in several fields (FTS, National Accounts, FATS and BOP statistics). At the same time it is also a challenge in many respects, the main being the strong impact on Intrastat-goods, the need of joint work with the potential users of the data in order to reconcile definitions and methodologies and to cope with international manuals, the coverage limited to intra-EU trade mostly between businesses.

Q&A:

Finland: *How did you manage to go through this heavier reporting burden on the enterprises?*

Reply: *when aware of this decision by the Ministry of Revenue,*

ISTAT realized that many of the current declarants were already monthly declarants. Maybe most of the reporters will be firms not obliged to report before because not submitted to VAT Regulation, who are now forced to emerge. This is enforced by an EU Regulation and by a consequent decision of the Ministry of Revenue.

EUROSTAT: This Italian initiative, very welcome by EUROSTAT, will increase the quality of available data, thanks to a better integration between goods and services, and will improve the picture, capturing companies hidden before.

Italy: Even if maybe the reporting burden on enterprises will increase, ISTAT tried to make things easier introducing only one threshold from which companies should comply.

Austria: How are you planning to integrate this data sources into the existing statistical framework?

Reply: First, ISTAT will try to get the data, to understand the actual coverage, and only after that a decision will be taken on how these data could be integrated into the current statistical framework. No more than that could be said at this stage, this is a kind of experiment, and more precise replies could be given only when data will be validated, hopefully at next WPTGS.

FAO: Are you going on in parallel with the existing statistical framework, or are you planning to replace it in such a way?

Reply: For now, we are going on in parallel. Nothing will be replaced without having seen the data.

7. Implementing IMTS Rev.3, MSITS2010, 2008 SNA, BPM6, EBOPS

Roundtable discussion

*This agenda item is intended to allow for **an open roundtable discussion on both the key issues and the process of implementing the various new frameworks**. Particular attention should be paid to how to concretely facilitate and – if possible – co-ordinate implementation in countries with the help of the International Organisations involved.*

- 1 Discussion on which cross-cutting issues need to be addressed and list of priorities
- 2 Discussion on the process of compilation guidance

Countries have been invited to comment on issues and process to be addressed following a “tour de table”:

DEN	No comment
FIN	Good for processing, other issues may come up with the implementation

FRA	<i>Merchanting, Good for processing (especially if referred to triangular trade), Intra-firm trade.</i>
GER	<i>Good for processing, Insurance, Intra-firm trade</i>
GRC	<i>Merchanting through ITRS</i>
HUN	<i>Good for processing, Insurance, Merchanting, SPEs, estimation methods to reduce administrative burden</i>
ISL	<i>Good for processing, Merchanting</i>
IRL	<i>Merchanting, Insurance (especially the effect of reinsurance), SPEs</i>
ITA	<i>Good for processing</i>
JPN	<i>FISIM, dealer margin, how to make the reporters understand to introduce precise to use standard format reports</i>
KOR	<i>No comment</i>
MEX	<i>Good for processing</i>
NLD	<i>Good for processing (especially if referred to triangular trade), Merchanting, possible inconsistencies b Trade in Services, based on physical movement of goods, and BOP data, based on change of ownership</i>
NOR	<i>Good for processing, Merchanting, list of differences between previous and current version of manuals</i>
POL	<i>Good for processing, Merchanting, FISIM</i>
PRT	<i>Merchanting, SPEs, Insurance, FISIM, a common platform with countries to exchange views could be really useful</i>
ESP	<i>Insurance, Merchanting, estimation of merchandise transport services, difficult to get from survey</i>
SWE	<i>No comment</i>
CHE	<i>Clarification on: differences between recommended and suggested; Transport, especially Postal transport; classification to be used</i>
SVK	<i>No comment</i>

TUR	<i>No comment</i>
UK	<i>Same issues raised by others</i>
USA	<i>How to implement in a coordinate manner BPM6 and SNA08, Goods for processing, FISIM, Merchanting (which kind of solution could be used, especially as a second best alternative?)</i>
EST	<i>Higher reporting burden with the ITRS</i>
ISR	<i>Good for processing, Merchanting, Manufacturing services on physical inputs owned by others, importance of sharing experiences with other countries and have recommendations from IOs</i>
SVN	<i>Same issues raised by others</i>

18h – 20h : Cocktail offered by OECD

Wednesday, 18th November, starting at 9:30 a.m.

Part II: Trade and Globalisation issues

8. Trade and the crisis

For discussion

Statistics and the crisis, broad implications – presentation of an issue paper presented to CSTAT – for information

Marco Mira d'Ercole, Counsellor, STD

This presentation dealt with statistical implications of the crisis as driver to assess structural weaknesses, asset valuation and performance monitoring. The Statistics Directorate is undertaking several initiatives to better integrate different strands of quantitative and analytical work. Starting from developed countries and in the housing and financial sectors, the crises spread rapidly to other countries and became global, highlighting the increased vulnerabilities of globalisation. While focusing on financial and social statistics implications, the crisis over proportionally affected trade flows and reflected global imbalances. Statistical implications are numerous and cross-cutting in nature.

Q&A

FAQ: Welcomed the presentation for spelling out the links between trade and social statistics but more work needs to be done in this area. Stressed that globalisation changed food availability at the country level, generating a move from domestic production to import dependency. Informed that FAO is undertaking work to link more FAO statistics to social statistics and analyse the contribution of trade to the social life of people. Also, FAO is

currently preparing a study on how globalisation affects hunger people.

United Kingdom: *Mentioned the reluctance of statisticians to speak out and construct storytelling, which in his view is partly due to the personal profiles of statisticians. Asked about the usefulness of developing risk or vulnerability indicators for the economy, even if controversial and time consuming.*

Germany: *Reacting to UK's intervention, informed that the IMF BoP Committee already provided a lot of additional information and recommendations and that there are many initiatives currently taking place. For instance, the European System Risk Board will create new information on the financial crisis. Stressed that we are now overloaded with several initiatives from several organisations that, in fact, need to be coordinated. In what regards storytelling, the speaker mentioned the difficulty of looking into the data in detail.*

Answer OECD: *Informed that the SGE is active on measuring the vulnerability to economic crisis and that there is a project in this respect, which is going to be sponsored by voluntary contributions.*

- 1 The Great Synchronization: What do high-frequency statistics tell us about the trade collapse? (OECD)

Oral presentation, Sonia Araujo STD

This presentation analyzed the impact of the crisis on high frequency trade flows and concluded a synchronized, unique drop in OECD trade flows. Identified data development needs include the need for comparable data on volumes, disaggregation by product and partner country, bilateral trade matrices by product categories and need for more detail on trade in services.

Q&A

Italy: *Asked whether the impact of the crisis on trade in intermediate goods has been analysed and also if the drop in trade flows was disaggregated by economic destinations.*

United Kingdom: *Asked if the impact in FDI had been analysed.*

Belgium: *Noticed that imports have dropped more than exports and asked if analysis had been undertaken to detect the countries that are accumulating deficits.*

FAO: *Stressed once more the need to study the impact of trade in social life. Suggested to juxtapose the data on the synchronisation of trade growth rates with the unemployment rate and assumed that the same shape would be found.*

Portugal: *Asked whether evidence was found regarding the impact of the crisis on trade in intermediate goods and on the fragmentation of production processes.*

WTO: Asked whether disaggregated data on services was used. Pointed out that transportation and other components of services related to trade in goods have also been affected, although with a time lag. Asked whether exchange rate movements were analysed. Informed that the WTO has recently released monthly trade statistics for about 70 countries, which are updated on a daily basis.

Answer OECD: Informed that the impact of the crisis on trade in intermediate goods, FDI flows and vertical chains had not been analysed, since the purpose of the exercise was to use high frequency trade data to get insights about how the crisis is affecting trade flows. Disaggregated data on services was not used since they are unavailable on a quarterly basis. Vertical chains and trade in intermediate goods would be the subject of specific presentations later in the afternoon. Disaggregated trade flows by economic destination was analysed and, although the difference in trends between exports and imports was acknowledged, analysis was not carried further.

- 2 Impact of the financial crisis in Canada and the aftermath in the Canadian BOP Statistics (Canada)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)4

Craig Kuntz, Statistics Canada

The presentation focused on an analysis of cross-border financial activities, which has been increasing in recent years. Higher demand for foreign securities has led to increased exposure to global financial markets and, consequently, increased exposure to markets' volatility, currency fluctuations and financial shocks. There was an immediate, marked and sustained reaction of Canadian institutional investors in mid-2007 with respect to their holdings of foreign securities. Their current reluctance to rebuild holdings of foreign securities may be interpreted as a perception of perceived fragility of global financial markets.

Q&A

Brazil: Who issues maple bonds?

Answer: maple bonds are issued in Canada by foreign financial entities.

- 3 Technology exports and imports of Japanese enterprises and the impact of the financial crisis (Japan)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)19

Toshie Kori, Bank of Japan

The presentation described the features of technology trade in Japan, highlighting the role the car sector and dominance of intra-firm transactions. This sector was particularly affected by

the crisis (significant decrease in royalties).

Q&A: no questions/comments.

4 Future Infrastructures: Recent developments and outlook for traffic flows and capacities (OECD/SGE/AU)

Oral presentation, Barrie Stevens, Advisory Unit to the Secretary General OECD

This presentation gave an update on recent developments and outlook of global infrastructure needs. Post-crisis recovery is likely to add pressures to infrastructure capacities. Projections include a doubling of air passenger traffic in the next 15 years, a tripling of air freight in 20 years, very large increases in port container handling and increased demand for oil and gas. The Asian/Pacific region will show the largest increases.

Q&A:

The United Kingdom stressed that the work had mainly focused on new infrastructures and asked whether the cost aspects were taken into account, how oil price changes had been used in forecasting, and whether the cost of the stimulus packages had been accounted for and included in the study of how new infrastructure projects would be financed.

The United States mentioned that, to some extent, the discussion in the WP has centred on how the behaviour of trade in certain types of services mirrors the behaviour of trade in certain types of goods. Reacting to Japan's presentation, which showed how the automobile sector had been affected by the economic crisis, impacting both on trade in goods and trade in services, and asked whether the study by the SGE/AU recognised the close connection between certain types of goods and services.

Answer SGE/AU: The study did not focus entirely on new infrastructures. Specifically, estimations regarding service transportation, power and rail include maintenance and upgrading costs. The study made use of IEA oil price forecasts. Concerning cost aspects, there are new sources of financing under analysis (e.g. user charges) and new models of funding. For instance, some OECD countries are considering creating one-term infrastructure funds, which is a way of insulating infrastructure spending.

In response to the United States intervention: the movements of ships and containers dropped as a reaction to the drop in demand.

However, the same did not happen in the aviation industry, as prices have not been falling as much as they did in the 2001 crisis, this time as a reaction to increased competition in a downward market.

9. Trade & Globalisation

For discussion

- 1 The forthcoming Economic Globalisation Indicators 2009 and related work (OECD STI, DAF and STD)

Oral presentations

OECD reported on key aspects of the forthcoming OECD publication "Economic Globalisation Indicators". This publication is scheduled for release in 2010.

Q&A: There were no comments or questions

- 2 MEETS, the Modernisation of European Enterprise and Trade statistics (Eurostat)

Axel Behrens, Michaela Grell, Eurostat

Eurostat presented the objectives and key components of the MEETS programme, which integrates statistics from different statistical subject areas, into a set of clusters. Key components are economic globalization indicators (OECD handbook EGI is reference), indicators for enterprise groups, the EuroGroups Register, linking business and trade statistics, and new statistical data on the impact of international sourcing.

Q&A:

OECD: Would not MNEs be the primary statistical unit of interest in the MEETS' projects?

Answer: The MEETS' project on enterprise groups registers may fulfil this goal, but methodological studies need to be undertaken.

- 3 Effects of globalisation on Singapore's trade (Singapore)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)10

Meng Chung Lee, International Enterprise, Singapore

This presentation outlined the crucial importance and dynamics of trade for Singapore, 2/3 of which take place with emerging Asian countries. While globalisation has been a key driver for trade, this high degree of openness and dependence on export demand increased its vulnerability to external shocks.

Q&A:

United Kingdom: Singapore is a small country. As it moves to new markets there needs to be a pressure on land. Is information available regarding land prices and immigration?

Chair: Why are there no statistics on trade with Indonesia before

2003?

Answer: Singapore does monitor land prices, but this task is undertaken by another agency (and not by International Enterprise). Further informed that land prices had been going down due to the downturn. Also noted that data on bilateral trade flows with Indonesia are not publicly available since they are confidential for years prior to 2003.

4 Trade, processing and value added chains

1. Trade in intermediate goods (OECD/TAD)

TAD/TC/WP(2009)1/FINAL

Sebastien Miroudot, Rainer Lanz, TAD

The study presented had 3 objectives, namely 1. to assess trade flows of intermediated goods and services, 2. to analyze the determinants of trade in intermediate inputs, and 3. to study the relationship between productivity and trade in intermediates at industry level. Using OECD trade data, the study concluded that 1. Trade in intermediates is more sensitive to trade barriers, 2. Trade in intermediates has an important regional dimension, and 3. Trade in intermediates depends less on the size of the market and on the “home bias” of consumers.

Q&A:

Eurostat: Asked whether intra-European trade flows were excluded from the analysis.

Brazil: Asked whether the study undertaken on the determinants of trade in intermediates constitutes correlation analysis or causality tests.

Answer: Acknowledged that there may be some inconsistency in the analysis since intra-European flows were excluded from the analysis while intra-Asian trade flows were not. As for the work on the determinants of trade in intermediates, although panel data techniques were employed, it is acknowledged that it is more prudent to interpret the results as correlations rather than causal relationships.

2. Vertical specialisation and global value chains (OECD)

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)16

Sonia Araujo, STD

The presentation focused on identifying trends and patterns across industries and countries. It identified wide variation of VS across countries with smaller economies having a higher VS share. Similarly, there was wide variation of VS across industries with higher VS shares in manufacturing than in services. Growth in VS tended to slow down after 2000.

Q&A:

Brazil asked on the usefulness of using VS as a measure of openness and whether VS would be lower if country 1 and country 2 are the same in the figure of an example of a simplified vertical supply chain.

Italy: Agree with the way forward regarding the work on measuring VS. Informed that the results found in the study by the Secretariat are in line with the studies for the Italian economy, for which the growth of VS has slowed down between 2000 and 2005. This slowdown is attributed to changes in Italy's production structure, which is moving towards a more service-based economy.

United Kingdom: Asked whether a sensitivity analysis had been carried out regarding the definition of VS.

Canada: Asked if the Secretariat had explored possible reasons for the negative growth in VS found in some OECD countries.

Answer OECD: Regarding trade openness, there exists already a standard definition and VS constitutes one channel of openness, but a country can still be open to trade by engaging in other forms of trade. If country 1 and 2 are the same, then the country is using as inputs domestically produced goods. Then, by definition, VS will be lower, as can be attested by the VS values found for large economies with respect to small ones. Sensitivity analysis will be undertaken by analysing the effect of oil prices on VS shares. The reasons for negative growth in VS shares have not been explored, but a possible way forward would be to investigate changes in countries' production structures.

3. Goods for processing, intra-firm trade and value added value added chain (WTO)

Andreas Maurer, WTO

WTO presented an analysis of the effects of globalisation on the decomposition of trade flows and related measurement challenges. A major problem remains the proper way of measuring the fragmentation of value chains (import content of exports) and I-O tables offer considerable potential for depicting inter-industry relations. The new BPM6 recommendations may lead to significant divergences in trade aggregates and loss of necessary merchandise trade data. Also, the valuation principles and allocation to frameworks differs amongst 2008 SNA, BPM6, and IMTS 2010. More research is needed on intermediate goods, I-O, and trade and business links.

Q&A: No questions were asked.

4. OECD Input-Output tables and related analytical work

(OECD/STI)

Colin Webb, Norihiko Yamano, STI

OECD/STI presented an update on their I-O related work, stressing the need for better estimates of intermediates and necessary improvements/adjustments to collected trade data. More systematically reported re-export data is necessary, as well as more information on unallocated (confidential) trade. More bilateral trade in services data is needed and BOP trade in goods by product groups (cf. Australia's BOP BEC data) would be welcome. Trade statisticians should work with national I-O compilers to estimate imported intermediates matrices.

Q&A:

Germany: *What is the reason for breaking down trade in goods by product goods?*

Chair: *Are you interested in both dimensions: partner countries and products?*

Answers: *In this work, customs data (reported in CIF values) needs to be linked to BoP trade data. This is a difficult exercise and the disaggregation (in product goods and broken down by partner countries and products), although sensitive due to confidentiality issues, helps understanding how CIF adjustments are made.*

- 5 World Input-Output Database (WIOD) (OECD/University of Groningen)

Robert Stehrer, WIIW, Austria

This collaborative international effort constructs intercountry supply-use and input-output tables for some 40 countries with data for over 10 years. This work necessitates considerable estimation and adjustment routines to compensate for missing and inconsistent data. In particular, trade in services data posed considerable consistency and availability problems.

Q&A: *No interventions.*

- 6 FDI, external financing and globalisation- a supplemental presentation

STD/SES/WPTGS(2009)18

Simon Arieli, CBS, Israel

This presentation was dropped due to time constraints.

10. **Draft conclusion of the 2nd WPTGS meeting and future work programme, date of next meeting**

The Chair, WPTGS Bureau and OECD briefly discussed the outcome of the meeting and identified key components of the future work programme.

- *There was consensus that the 3 days WPTGS meeting provides a rich and diverse forum for discussion amongst producers and users of trade and globalisation statistics. In particular, the development work dealt with was considered an important element. This forum may even become more important in helping to implement the new trade statistics guidelines through the direct producer – user interface and related analysis.*
- *Structure: Information items should be further reduced for the benefit of discussion items. All in all, there were perhaps too many presentations, leading to a “rush” on the 3rd day. Generally, more time for discussion was thought to be a goal worth pursuing.*
- *General agreement that compilation guidance and (b) cross-cutting issues will become more important over the next few years. This should be reflected in future WPTGS agendas.*
- *More particularly, future WPTGS work should include:*
 - *Trade by Enterprise Characteristics developments and extension to more countries*
 - *Firm-level data compilation and analysis*
 - *Goods for processing, intra-firm trade, multinationals, trading tasks*
 - *Country experiences in identified statistical development fields*
 - *New data developments in response to identified needs*
- *Concerning governance issues: given that at OECD there are other bodies dealing with similar topics for their respective Committee work, the WPTGS Steering group felt that a clearer division of labour across WPs would be desirable. To this end, a discussion between the different Chairs and Bureaus seems necessary to avoid overlap, time clashes, and redundancies. OECD will follow up on this in 2010.*

11. Closing

The chair thanked participants for their valuable contribution, thanked the interpreters for their work, and the Secretariat for organising this meeting, 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 du commerce des biens et des services (WPTGS)

16/11/2009 - 18/11/2009

Australia/Australie

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