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English - Or. English

STATISTICS DIRECTORATE

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

UN EXPERT GROUP ON STATISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN SERVICES (EG-SITS)

7-9 November 2011, OECD Headquarters, Paris

This contribution, available as a power point only is for information under item 10.2 of the agenda.

This document is available in pdf format only.

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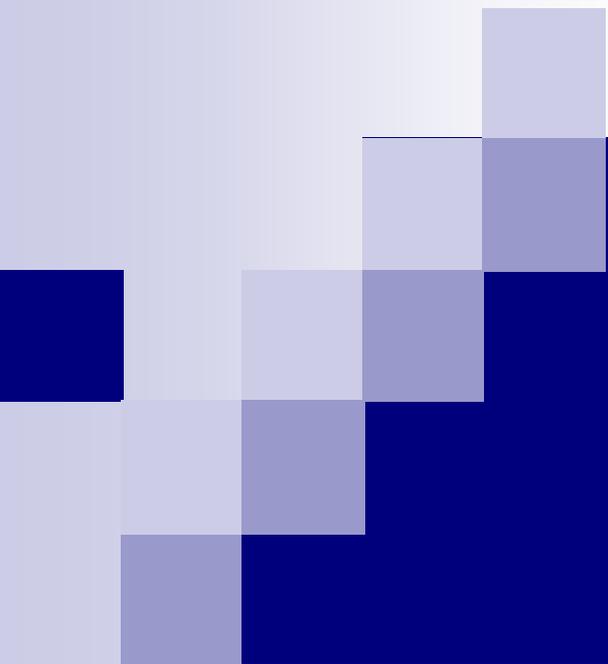
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UN Expert Group on Statistics of International Trade in Services (EG-SITS)

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UN Statistical Commission request to Task Force on SITS

Requested the Task Force to take note of the following:

- (i) **The importance of the compilation guidance,**
- (ii) The significance of trade in services in globalization and links to other frameworks,
- (iii) The emphasis on linking the Manual to the revised Balance of Payments Manual, the revised System of National Accounts and the linkage to commodity trade;

Urged the Task Force to further pay attention to:

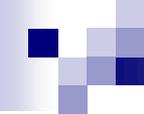
- (i) FATS
- (ii) Tourism statistics
- (iii) Valuation and Pricing
- (iv) Research and Development

UN Statistical Commission requested further that...

- The Task Force sets a time frame for the implementation plan
- The national implementation programme be carried out as a coordinated effort of national statistical offices, central banks and other relevant Government agencies
- All members of the Task Force contribute to the implementation of MSITS 2010
- Training is particularly important in trade in services statistics because of its methodological complexity

Development of SITS Compilers Manual

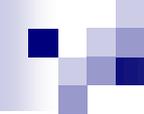
- (a) By December 2011 the United Nations Expert Group on Statistics of International Trade in Services (EG-SITS) will be established to assist in the process of developing the Compilers Manual for MSITS 2010;
- (b) First meeting of EG-SITS is scheduled to be held from 29 to 31 March 2012 in New York back to back with the meeting of the Task Force on SITS. The main objective of this meeting will be to review the annotated outlines of all chapters of the Compilers Manual and to provide guidance on its scope and the content of each of the individual chapters;



Development of SITS Compilers Manual (cont.)

- (c) By the end of May 2012, an updated annotated outline of the Compilers Manual with input from the EG-SITS will be prepared and will be circulated for world-wide consultation.

- (d) The first draft chapters of the Compilers Manual will be discussed in a virtual meeting of EG-SITS in the fall of 2012, and a second virtual meeting on further draft chapters in the spring of 2013;



Development of SITS Compilers Manual (cont.)

- (e) The second face to face meeting of EG-SITS is tentatively scheduled for June 2013 to finalize the Compilers Manual for MSITS 2010.
- (f) Capacity development activities to build up statistical capacity to compile and disseminate statistics of in compliance with MSITS 2010 would start already in 2012. These activities are tailored to the needs of developing countries

Terms of Reference of EG-SITS

1. The United Nations Expert Group on Statistics of International Trade in Services (EG-SITS) has been established to:
 - a) Ensure active country involvement in the development of the Compilers Manual for MSITS 2010;
 - b) Review and endorse the draft Compilers Manual by 2013;
 - c) Provide guidance on promoting the use of the Compilers Manual for the purpose of implementing the recommendations included in MSITS 2010 in the national statistical systems
2. The EG-SITS will be convened by the United Nations Statistics Division.
3. The Task Force on SITS will submit to the Statistical Commission a progress reports on the work of EG-SITS at its 45th session in 2014.