

Main Recommendations and Encouragements

(contained in IMTS 2010 and their relationship with IMTS, Rev.2)

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Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

A. General Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>1. As a general guideline, record all goods which add to or subtract from the stock of material resources of a country by entering (imports) or leaving (exports) its economic territory (para. 1.2)</p>	<p>Unchanged</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

A. General Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
2. Trade below customs and statistical thresholds: Estimate and include if economically significant (para. 1.3)	New encouragement

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

A. General Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>3. Change of ownership: Use as criteria for recording of certain goods only in exceptional cases when the general guideline is not applicable or not sufficient (para. 1.4)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

A. General Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>4. Time of recording: As a general guideline, record goods at the time when they enter or leave the economic territory of a country (para. 1.8). In the case of customs-based data-collection systems this time can be frequently approximated by the date of lodgement of the customs declaration (para. 2.22)</p>	<p>Unchanged</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

B. Specific Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>5. Specific guidelines: Include certain categories of goods, include and separately identify (code) some which are of special interest for users, and exclude others (paras.1.9-1.55)</p>	<p>Updated Recommendation</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

B. Specific Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>6. Exclude but record separately: Exclude certain categories of goods but record them separately for use in balance of payments and national accounts and other purposes (paras. 1.19 and 1.56-1.60)</p>	<p>Updated recommendation</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

B. Specific Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>7. Media, whether or not recorded: Include at its full transaction value, except for media used for carrying customized software or software written for a specific client or originals of any nature, which should be excluded (para. 1.18)</p>	<p>Updated recommendation</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

B. Specific Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
8. Goods for processing with or without change of ownership: Include at their full (gross) value (paras. 1.19-1.20)	Updated recommendation

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

B. Specific Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>9. Goods for processing as well as goods resulting from such processing where no change of ownership takes place: Include and explicitly identify (preferably by special coding) in your trade statistics (para. 1.21)</p>	<p>New encouragement</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

B. Specific Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>10. Goods which cross borders as a result of transactions between related parties: Include and separately identify (code) (para. 1.22)</p>	<p>New encouragement</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

B. Specific Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>11. Fish catch, minerals from the seabed and salvage; Bunkers, stores, ballast and dunnage: Include all transaction not only the ones taking place inside and but also the ones taking place outside the economic territory where economically or environmentally significant (paras. 1.31-1.32)</p>	<p>Updated recommendation</p>

Scope and Time of Recording (Chapter I)

B. Specific Guidelines

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>12. Goods simply being transported through a country and Goods temporarily admitted or dispatched: Exclude (paras.1.41-1.44)</p>	<p>Updated recommendation</p>

Trade System (Chapter II)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>13. Use of the Revised Kyoto Convention:16 Use, as far as possible, the definitions of the customs terms as contained in the annexes to the Revised Kyoto Convention (para. 2.3)</p>	<p>Unchanged</p>

Trade System (Chapter II)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
14. Elements of the statistical territory: Make clear which elements exist and are included in the statistical territory (para. 2.3)	New recommendation

Trade System (Chapter II)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
15. Reimports and re-exports: Include and identify (code) separately for analytical purposes (paras. 2.16 and 2.18)	New recommendation

Trade System (Chapter II)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
16. Customs procedure codes: Make information about the customs procedure applied to individual transactions part of the dataset for trade statistics (paras. 2.19 and 8.6)	New recommendation

Trade System (Chapter II)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>17. Trade system: Use the general trade system for compilation of both import and export statistics (para. 2.20); if the special trade system is used, compile or estimate, as applicable, goods imported into and exported from premises for customs warehousing, premises for inward processing, industrial free zones or commercial free zones to allow estimation of data on a general trade system basis (para. 2.28)</p>	<p>Unchanged</p>

Commodity Classifications (Chapter III)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
18. Harmonized System (HS): Use HS for the collection, compilation and dissemination of international merchandise trade statistics (para. 3.11)	Unchanged

Commodity Classifications (Chapter III)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>19. Standard International Trade Classification (SITC): Use SITC for the dissemination and the analysis of trade statistics according to user requirements (para. 3.19)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Valuation (Chapter IV)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
20. Statistical value: Record a statistical value for all goods covered in trade statistics, whether sold, exchanged or provided without payment (para. 4.1)	Updated recommendation

Valuation (Chapter IV)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
21. WTO Agreement on Valuation:17 Adopt the WTO Agreement on Customs Valuation as the basis for valuation of international merchandise trade for statistical purposes (para. 4.4).	Unchanged

Valuation (Chapter IV)

IMTS 2010

22. Statistical value of exported and imported goods: Use free on board (FOB-type) valuation for exports (border of the exporting country) and cost, insurance and freight (CIF-type) valuation for imports (border of the importing country); countries are encouraged to compile FOB-type value of imported goods as supplementary information (para. 4.8).

Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2

Updated recommendation

Valuation (Chapter IV)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>23. Compilation of data on freight and insurance: Countries which compile only CIF-type values of imports are encouraged to compile separately data for freight and insurance, at the most detailed commodity and partner level possible (para. 4.9)</p>	<p>Updated encouragement</p>

Valuation (Chapter IV)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
24. Valuation of special categories of goods: Follow additional recommendations (para. 4.15)	Updated recommendation

Valuation (Chapter IV)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>25. Exchange rate for conversion: Where conversion of currency is necessary, use the rate of exchange duly published by the competent national authorities of the country, reflecting the current value of such currency in commercial transactions in terms of the currency of the reporting country, and which is in effect at the time of importation or exportation (para. 4.19)</p>	Unchanged

Valuation (Chapter IV)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
26. Exchange rate for conversion: If a rate is not available for the time of exportation or importation, use the average rate for the shortest period applicable (para. 4.20)	Unchanged

Valuation (Chapter IV)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
27. Multiple official exchange rates: Where multiple official exchange rates are in effect, use the actual rate applicable to specific transactions (para. 4.21)	Unchanged

Quantity Measurement (Chapter V)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
28. Compilation and reporting of quantity information: Collect or estimate, validate and report quantity information in WCO standard units of quantity ¹⁸ and in net weight on all trade transactions (para. 5.5)	Updated recommendation

Quantity Measurement (Chapter V)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>29. Quantity conversion factors: Provide conversion factors to the recommended standard units in the metadata if units of quantity other than the WCO standard units are used or if units of quantity different from the one recommended for the specific commodity (HS six-digit subheading) are used (para. 5.5 (d))</p>	<p>Updated recommendation</p>

Partner Country (Chapter VI)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
30. Country of origin: Follow the relevant provisions of the Revised Kyoto Convention for determining country of origin (para. 6.7)	Unchanged

Partner Country (Chapter VI)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
31. Attribution of partner country: Record for imports the country of origin and for exports the country of last known destination (para. 6.25)	Unchanged

Partner Country (Chapter VI)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>32. Country of consignment: Record the country of consignment as the second partner country attribution for imports alongside with country of origin; for exports the additional compilation of the country of consignment is encouraged (para. 6.26)</p>	<p>Updated recommendation</p>

Partner Country (Chapter VI)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
33. Calculation of trade balances: Use imports by country of origin and exports by country of last known destination (para. 6.27)	New recommendation

Partner Country (Chapter VI)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
34. Economic territory of the trading partners: Use the economic territory of the trading partners as the basis upon which the statistics on trade by partner are compiled (para. 6.28)	Updated recommendation

Mode of Transport (Chapter VII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
35. Compilation of mode of transport: Compile and disseminate international merchandise trade statistics by mode of transport at the most detailed commodity level (as a new data dimension) (para. 7.1)	New recommendation

Mode of Transport (Chapter VII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
36. Recording of mode of transport: Record as mode of transport the means of transport used when goods enter or leave the economic territory (para. 7.1)	New recommendation

Mode of Transport (Chapter VII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>37. Classification: Clearly indicate the contents of the categories used; countries are encouraged to follow the suggested classification for the compilation and reporting of trade statistics by mode of transport (paras. 7.2-7.3)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data Compilation Strategies (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
38. Use of customs records: Use customs records as the main and normally preferred data source (para. 8.2)	New recommendation

Data Compilation Strategies (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>39. Allocation of customs procedures: Closely cooperate with customs experts in order to correctly allocate customs procedure codes and associated trade transactions according to the general or the special trade system (para. 8.4)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data Compilation Strategies (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>40. Use of non customs records: Supplement customs based data with information obtained from other sources, as necessary, to ensure full coverage of international merchandise trade statistics. Use non-customs sources as substitutes for available customs records only if they provide a cost effective way to improve quality of trade statistics (para. 8.9)</p>	<p>Updated recommendation</p>

Data Compilation Strategies (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>41. Integrated approach to data collection: In the case of the use of non-customs data sources such as enterprise surveys, use an integrated approach to data collection and make use of business registers and enterprise identification numbers in order to obtain the required information with minimal costs and burden on enterprises (para. 8.11)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data Compilation Strategies (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
42. Institutional arrangements: Consider the establishment of the institutional arrangements necessary to ensure the compilation of high quality trade statistics as a matter of high priority and periodically review their effectiveness (para. 8.17)	New recommendation

Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>43. Systematic approach to data quality: Follow a systematic approach to data quality and develop standards and related good practices covering the institutional arrangements, the statistical processes and outputs (the entire trade statistics program) (para. 9.4)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>44. Standard for quality reports: Develop a standard for regular quality reports which cover the full range of statistical processes and outputs and are based on principles and standards (para. 9.5)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
45. Frequency of quality reports: Complete or update quality reports of international merchandise trade statistics at least every five years or more frequently if significant methodological changes or changes in the data sources occur (para. 9.6)	New recommendation

Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>46. Contents of quality reports: Base quality reports on a set of quantitative and qualitative indicators for international merchandise trade statistics and on a checklist covering data collection, processing and dissemination to allow for an assessment of strengths and weaknesses in the statistical process and to identify possible quality improvement actions (para 9.7)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>
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Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>47. Dimensions of data quality: Take the following dimensions into account when developing a quality assessment framework: prerequisites of quality, relevance, credibility, accuracy, timeliness, methodological soundness, coherence and accessibility (para. 9.10)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>48. Quality indicators: Ensure that the defined quality indicators satisfy the following criteria: (a) they cover all dimensions of quality; (b) are based on the consistent application of a sound methodology; and (c) the indicators are easy to interpret both by internal and external users (para. 9.15)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
49. Cross-country data comparability: Countries are encouraged to periodically conduct bilateral and multilateral reconciliation studies or implement data exchanges (para. 9.18)	New encouragement

Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
50. Metadata categories: Cover at least the categories of metadata provided in para. 9.23 (para. 9.23)	New recommendation

Data Quality and Metadata (Chapter IX)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
51. Metadata as high priority: View the development of metadata as a high priority and consider their dissemination an integral part of the dissemination of international merchandise trade statistics (para. 9.25)	New recommendation

Dissemination (Chapter X)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>52. Confidentiality rules: Use passive confidentiality as much as possible, unless the use of active confidentiality is already the established, desired and accepted practice (para. 10.3)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data quality and metadata (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
53. Reporting of confidential information: Report information deemed confidential in full detail at the next higher level of commodity and/or partner aggregation that adequately protects confidentiality (para. 10.3)	Unchanged

Data quality and metadata (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
54. Data dissemination timetable: Announce in advance the precise dates at which the statistics will be released and revised (para. 10.5)	Updated recommendation

Data quality and metadata (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
55. Publication of provisional estimates: Explore the possibility of publishing provisional estimates soon after the end of the reference period (para. 10.8)	New encouragement

Data quality and metadata (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
56. Revision policy: Develop a revision policy which is synchronized with the release calendar (para. 10.11)	Updated encouragement

Data quality and metadata (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>57. Data dissemination: Treat all users equally and disseminate data without preference to any national or international user group. Choose the dissemination format that best suits the users' needs (para. 10.13)</p>	<p>New recommendation</p>

Data quality and metadata (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>58. External trade indices: Produce and publish volume (quantum) indices and either price or unit value indices for total imports and exports on a monthly, quarterly and annual basis. Calculate and publish such indices for commodity groups of particular importance to countries at least quarterly and annually (para. 11.1)</p>	Unchanged

Data quality and metadata (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
59. Seasonally adjusted data: Compile and publish, where appropriate, seasonally adjusted monthly and quarterly international merchandise trade data on a regular basis; provide information on the adjustment methods, data quality etc. in the metadata (paras. 11.3-11.4)	Updated encouragement

Data quality and metadata (Chapter VIII)

<i>IMTS 2010</i>	<i>Relationship with IMTS, Rev.2</i>
<p>60. Linking business and trade statistics: Integrate the trade register with the business register and take steps towards an integrated system of economics statistics for data compilation and analysis (para. 11.6)</p>	<p>New encouragement</p>

Thank you for your attention!