

**Workshop for African countries on the
Implementation of International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics
in African context: challenges and good practices**

Jointly organized by:

United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD)
African Centre for Statistics of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ACS)

27-30 May, 2008, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Provisional Agenda

Tuesday, 27 May 2008

9:00-9:30 Registration

9:30-10:00 Opening ceremony

ACS/UNECA
UNSD

10:00-10:30 Objectives and organization of the meeting
Administrative matters and introduction of participants
Adoption of the agenda

10:40-11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00-12:30 Role and importance of distributive trade statistics, recent trends, users,
challenges of compiling distributive trade statistics and UNSD work programme
in this area

UNSD presentation

International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics 2008 – reasons
for revision, revision process, recommendations of the 39th session of the
Statistical Commission on their implementation

UNSD presentation

12:30-14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00-15:30 *International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics 2008*

- Overview of the main changes
- Scope of distributive trade statistics
- Statistical units and their characteristics

UNSD presentations

General discussion

15:30-15:50 *Coffee break*

15:50-17:00 *International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics 2008* (continued)

- Data items and their definitions

UNSD presentations

General discussion

Wednesday, 28 May 2008

9:00-10:40 *International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics 2008* (continued)

- Performance indicators
- Data sources – statistical surveys and frames for them, administrative data sources

UNSD presentations

General discussion

10:40-11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00-12:30 *International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics 2008* (continued)

- Data compilation methods
- Data collection strategy

UNSD presentations

General discussion

12:30-14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00-15:30 *International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics 2008* (continued)

- Short-term distributive trade statistics – indices of distributive trade, necessity of seasonal adjustments and reconciliation of short-term with annual data
UNSD presentation

General discussion

15:30-15:50 *Coffee break*

15:50-17:00 *International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics 2008* (continued)

- Enhancing data quality of distributive trade statistics
- Dissemination – recommended list of data items for international reporting

UNSD presentation

Round table discussion

Thursday, 29 May 2008

9:00-10:40 Compilation of distributive trade statistics in African context: challenges and good practices in the system of data collection, periodicity, coverage of units, data items and level of details, dissemination, policy relevance, etc.

UNSD overview of distributive trade statistics in African countries

ACS experience in collection of distributive trade data

Country presentations

10:40-11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00-12:30 Compilation of distributive trade statistics in African context: challenges and good practices (continued)

Country presentations

General discussion

12:30-14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00-15:30 Challenges in surveying the informal sector enterprises engaged with distributive trade – approaches, coverage, quality of data

Country presentations

General discussion

15:30-15:50 *Coffee break*

15:50-17:00 Compilation of distributive trade indices by African countries – national experiences and issues for the future

Country presentations

General discussion

Friday, 30 May 2008

9:00-10:40 Main problems and possible ways to advance the compilation of distributive trade statistics in African countries

A round table discussion

Conclusions and recommendations

10:40-11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00-12:30 Towards improved compilation of distributive trade statistics and implementation of International Recommendations for Distributive Trade Statistics 2008 in African countries: follow up-actions

UNSD presentation on the follow-up manuals

A round table discussion

Conclusions and recommendations

12:30-14:00 *Lunch break*

14:00-16:00 Conclusion of the workshop

Evaluation of the workshop