

SERVICES TRADE INFORMATION

Why is there are problem?

"During the course of the pre-WTO Uruguay Round it was **impossible for services negotiators to judge the value of the liberalisation offers** made by their trading partners either individually or collectively."

United Nations Expert Meeting on International Standards in Statistics on Trade in Services, November 2000;
Statement of Opinion by Mr. Alister Abercrombie, British Invisibles, U.K.

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WTO Secretariat Studies Report that:

"In the GATS context, ...we encounter a crucial problem: the framework of negotiated commitments **does not match the existing structure of trade statistics...**"

WTO (1995), SIC/W/5, paragraph 24.

...the problems relating to the availability and comparability of statistics were the **most serious and required urgent attention ...**

WTO (1995) SIC/M/2, paragraph 29.



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WTO SERVICES TRADE INFORMATION

What is Currently Available for Developing Countries?

SOURCE	GATS MODE 1 Cross-border supply	GATS MODE 2 Consumption abroad	GATS MODE 3		GATS MODE 4 Movement of Natural Persons
			FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT	FOREIGN AFFILIATE TRADE STATISTICS	
IMF	YES but sectoral disaggregation for developing countries is poor	NO	YES but FDI does not disaggregate services & goods; sectoral disaggregation poor	NO	NO
OECD	YES but only for OECD	NO	YES but only for OECD	YES but only for OECD	NO
UNCTAD	YES but SPARSE – based on IMF data and national sources	NO	YES but SPARSE	YES but SPARSE	NO
National accounts, after ISTIA Technical Assistance & Capacity Building	YES cross-border services trade statistics		YES COMPREHENSIVE FDI Statistics & Foreign Affiliate Trade Statistics (FATS)		YES cross-border services trade statistics

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