



FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS BULLETIN - 2011

**ECONOMIC STATISTICS DIVISION
STATISTICS SIERRA LEONE**

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GLOSSARY

BSL	Bank of Sierra Leone
CET	Common External Tariff
CIF	Cost Insurance and Freight
FOB	Free on Board
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GGDO	Government Gold and Diamond Office
HS	Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System
IMTS	International Merchandise Trade Statistics
NRA	National Revenue Authority
NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics

FOREWORD

This Bulletin is part of the effort of Statistics Sierra Leone (SSL) to provide credible macro-economic indicators of the Sierra Leone's economy that are handy in the assessment of the economy. The objective of this publication is to make available a range of foreign trade statistics to a wide range of users including policy-makers, business executives, researchers and the general public so as to guide policies bordering external trade transactions. The publication has relied mainly on data obtained from Customs declarations as well as on data obtained from other institutions especially Government Gold and Diamond office (GGDO) and Bank of Sierra Leone (BSL) for major domestic exports such as agricultural and mineral exports. At Statistics Sierra Leone, the data obtained from Customs is processed and compiled using the EUROTRACE (windows-based) Software. The data presented in this bulletin provides a wide range of statistics at various levels of disaggregation of trade flow such as direction of trade by country of destination and origin, imports by Standard International Trade Classification (SITC) and the harmonized system (HS) of classifying foreign trade transactions between Sierra Leone and the rest of the world. Therefore, the data presented in this Bulletin does not include statistics on services, which are a more specialized area that is best handled by the central bank (the Bank of Sierra Leone) for the purpose of compiling the balance of payments (BOP).

Within the framework of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) in Sierra Leone, Statistics Sierra Leone (SSL) is in close collaboration with the National Revenue Authority (NRA), the Bank of Sierra Leone (BSL) and the Ministry of Trade Industries (MTI) so as to harmonize foreign trade data compilation and processing in the country. The publication of this bulletin is an effort towards fostering this close collaboration as well as to provide a channel for reaching out to a wider audience of users and to stimulate discussions among stakeholders, ways of improving foreign trade statistics compilation and reporting in the country.

It is our fervent hope that the data provided in this bulletin will meet the needs of users and that it will contribute to improving the landscape of foreign trade statistics compilation, reporting and dissemination of this country.

Mohamed King Koroma

**Acting Statistician General
Statistics Sierra Leone**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This maiden Bulletin of Foreign Trade Statistics is another landmark in the effort of Statistics Sierra Leone to provide quality and timely information to various users for the effective assessment and management of the Sierra Leone economy. It contains useful information for policy-makers, investors and the general public required to guide policy-formation geared towards regulating foreign trade activities in the country.

Under the supervision of the Officer in charge of Economic Statistics Division, Abubakarra Turay, a team of hardworking and dedicated staff of SSL put this Bulletin together; SSL Management therefore acknowledges the immense contribution which the following staff made towards the compilation of this Bulletin: Francis N. Brewah Head, Foreign Trade Statistics Section, Isata M. Allieu-Keikura (Mrs), Statistician, Foreign Trade Statistics Section.

We also acknowledge the great work of the Statistical Clerks of the Foreign Trade Statistics Section, Staff of Data processing Division, especially the Director, who immensely contributed to the successful compilation of this bulletin through coding data entry, listing and verification exercises.

In addition, we wish to thank all our valuable stakeholders such as NRA, BSL, MTI, Sierra Leone Chamber of Commerce, GDDO, and many others whose officials participated in our various validation workshops organized to review the draft Bulletin.

Furthermore, we are very much appreciative of SSL Management team, for facilitating the printing and dissemination of this bulletin.

Finally, we are very grateful to the Government of Sierra Leone for funding the exercise.

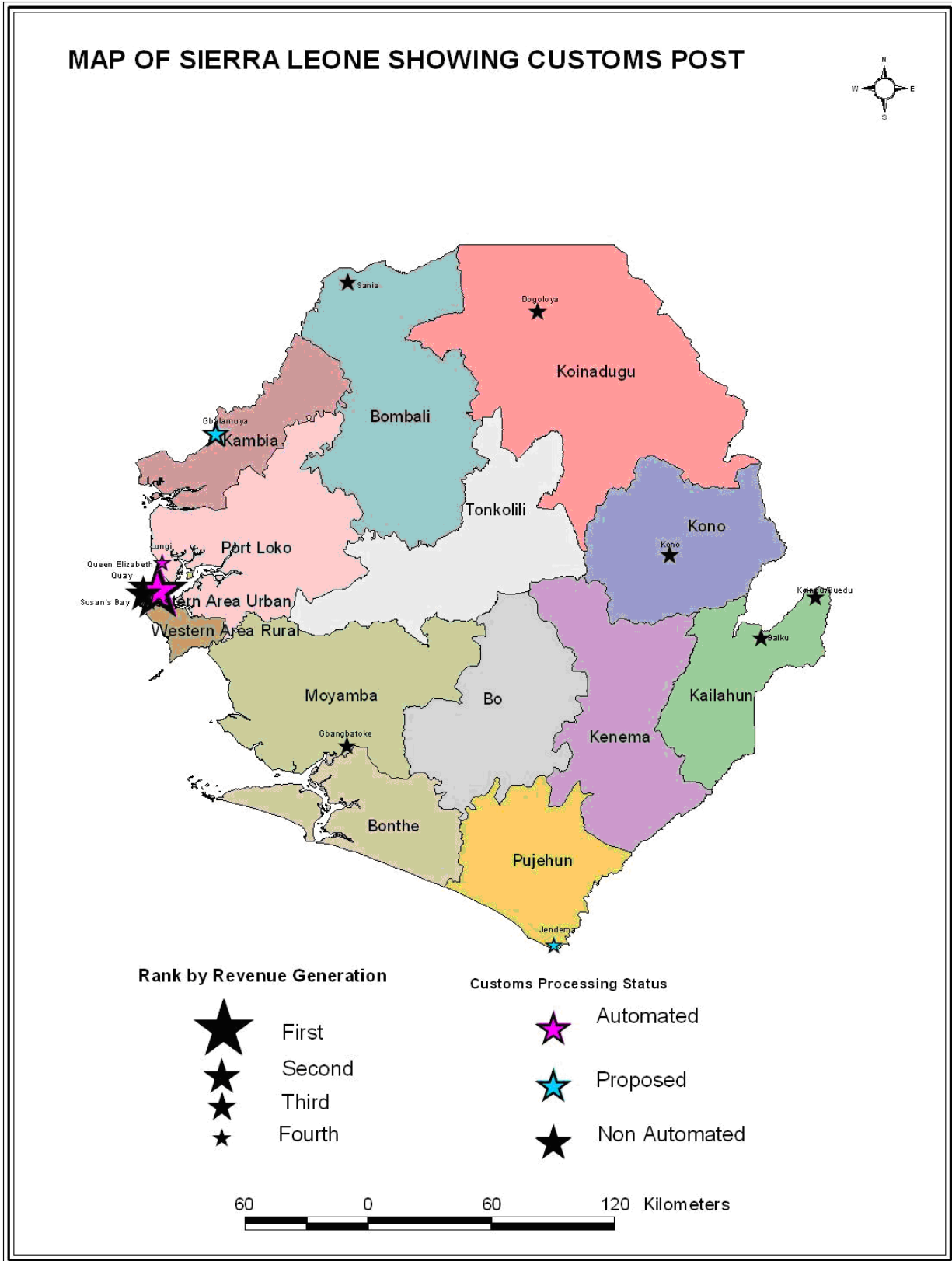
1.0 GEOGRAPHICAL CONCEPTUAL ISSUES

This section provides basic information about the geographical location and Customs posts of the country as well as defining relevant foreign trade concepts used in the compilation of foreign trade statistics.

1.1 Geographical Description of Sierra Leone and Customs Posts

Sierra Leone is located on the West Coast of Africa between latitudes $6^{\circ} 55'$ and 10° North; and longitudes $10^{\circ} 16'$ and $13^{\circ} 18'$ West. Sierra Leone is bordered by Republic of Liberia on the South and South-East, Guinea on the North and North-East and the Atlantic Ocean on the West. There are about 210 miles of Atlantic coastline on the south-west. The total land area is approximately 72,000 square kilometers (27, 925 square miles). For administrative purposes, the country is divided into four regions: three provinces (Northern, Southern and Eastern) and Western Area. The country is further subdivided into 14 Administrative districts, 19 local councils and made up 149 chiefdoms. Figure 1.0 below shows the administrative map of Sierra Leone with Customs operation areas (outstations and Head quarter of Customs operations). There are eleven (11) Customs outstations in the country, ranked by a feel of revenue generated and Customs Processing status. The Head quarter: Queen Elizabeth II Quay represents 80 to 90 percent of all trade transactions and hence, generating relatively the highest revenue, next to Lungi International Airport followed by Susan's Bay and Gbalamuya in the Kambia district and others not taking informal trade activities into account. In terms of Customs Processing status, Queen Elizabeth Quay and Lungi International Airport are said to be automated, the rest of the Customs are said to be non-automated with the exception of Gbalamuya and Jendema as proposed to be automated. The mode of transportation of goods is either by sea, land and air. For mode of transportation by sea, the Queen Elizabeth II Quay is the main point of entry where most international trade transaction takes place. The Freetown International Airport at Lungi is the main point of entry for mode of transportation by air. Transportation by land mostly involves movement between Sierra Leone and the neighboring countries of Guinea and Liberia, and this is much more difficult to monitor given the porous borders. Trade by land has resulted to making a number of porous entries points porous thereby increasing the volume of informal trade activities.

Figure 1.0: Administrative Map of Sierra Leone showing Customs Posts



2.0 CONCEPTUAL ISSUES

2.1 Background Information

The figures reported in this Bulletin are based on the general system of trade as defined in the International Merchandise Trade Statistics Compilers Manual (IMTS, Rev.2). Under the general trade system, imports include **all goods** entering the economic territory of the compiling country and exports include **all goods** leaving the economic territory of a compiling country. Imported goods valued at c.i.f.-type (that is including transportation and insurance costs up to the border of the compiling country) comprise all goods brought into the Customs territory for home use. Exports valued at f.o.b.-type (that is excluding transport and insurance costs beyond the border of compiling country) are a combination of domestic exports and re-exports. Major domestic exports are agricultural exports which include coffee, cocoa, piassava, timber and tobacco; mineral exports: diamonds, bauxite, rutile, gold and ilmenite; and marine exports including fish and shrimps. Manufacturing export which includes goods of foreign origin which have been assembled or transformed in the country and goods manufactured in the country. Re-exports are exports of goods of foreign origin which have not been materially transformed while in Sierra Leone.

2.2 The Relevance of Trade Statistics

Different users need different sets of data, ranging from data sets by country and by commodity to aggregated figures. Reliable and timely trade statistics can be used for the following:

- For national and regional policy formulation and planning (example, construction of harbors, airports, roads etc) and transportation statistics
- It is used in the compilation of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), a key measure of the economic growth and national wellbeing.
- As an input to the compilation of Balance of Payments Statistics (Current account) that measure the level of the country's international trade and investment positions.
- As a gauge in the formulation of trade and trade liberalization related policies as well as regional integration
- It is used to monitor commodity markets, particularly in areas such as agriculture, energy and food processing.
- For market analysis to find supply sources or foreign markets and, in combination with structural business statistics, to determine economic characteristics of traders;

2.2.1 SSL Foreign Trade Compilation Processes

Before the computerization of Customs operations for the production of Customs Trade Statistics, Sierra Leone compiled and processed trade statistics from bills of entry/declaration received from Customs on weekly basis which were then subjected to coding to ensure data capture using the Eurotrace Editor designed Form that had the fields needed for trade data compilation and processing. Captured data are then printed for quality check. This most of the times involves checking for double records, missing codes and wrong entry. The clean data will then be imported into the Eurotrace Domain, after which further quality checks are made by managing the errors created. Validation rules are then apply to the dataset to ensure that the data files are of quality and ready for dissemination using the Comext Standalone module. With the advent of ASYCUDA++, data are then captured using Automated System for Customs Data Management (ASYCUDA) at the entry points. Electronic copies are given to Statistics Sierra Leone which is then processed using EUROTRACE system to produce necessary statistical tables for the country's foreign trade statistics. At the moment, different institutions involve in trade data compilation come up with trade figures. These figures are not in harmony as they cannot be reconciled thus making them questionable. However, modalities are been put in place to establish tri-partite technical committee that include Statistics Sierra Leone, National Revenue Authority-Customs, Bank of Sierra Leone and the Ministry of Trade and Industry to harmonized the methodologies and to determine exclusively the sources of data.

2.2.2 Limitation of the Data Provided

Data coverage and quality remains a major challenge even with the advent of ASYCUDA system for Customs data and EUROTRACE system for the production of external trade statistics. Given that there are ten Customs outstations/posts at the moment, only the Head Office is fully automated, although steps are being taken to roll over to other Customs post such as Gbalamuya in the Kambia district. This is compounded by informal trade activities especially at the land border posts. The last visit at Customs posts shows that there is little or no arrangement in place for trade data compilation in majority of the Customs outstations.. Data presented in this publication especially on imports represent data received from Customs' single administrative records (bill of entry) and exports figures are gotten from Bank of Sierra Leone(cross checked with relevant innstitutions) since exports data is poorly reported and in some cases not subject to Customs operation areas.

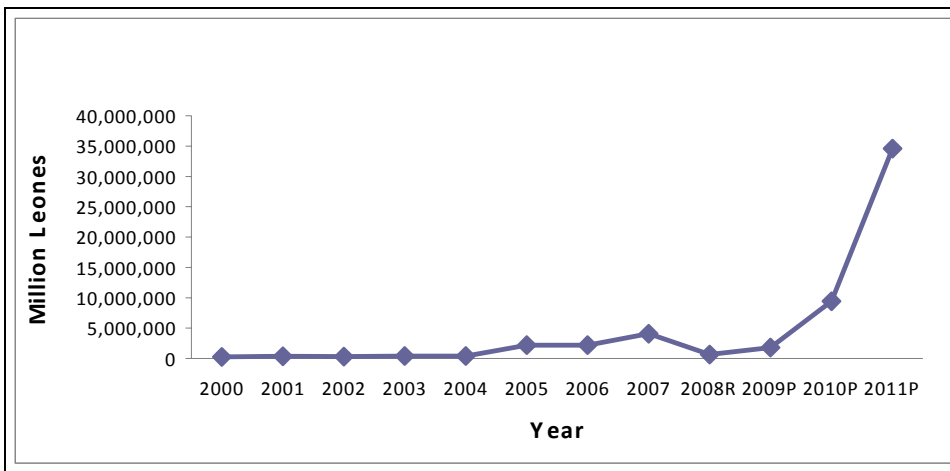
2.3 Presentation and Analysis of Data

This section presents the data in the form of charts, line graphs and tables that provides an analysis to explain the trend in imports and exports flow.

2.3.1 Trend in imports statistics and imports by SITC categories in Million Leones

Figure 1.1 below shows trend in imports over the period 2000-2011 while Figure 1.2 shows imports by SITC categories. The trend indicates a slow increased in imports over the period 2000-2004 and continued to reach the maximum in 2007 but decline from 2007 to 2008 and further increased from 2008 to 2011.

Figure 1.1: Trend in import Values in Million Leones: 2000-2011

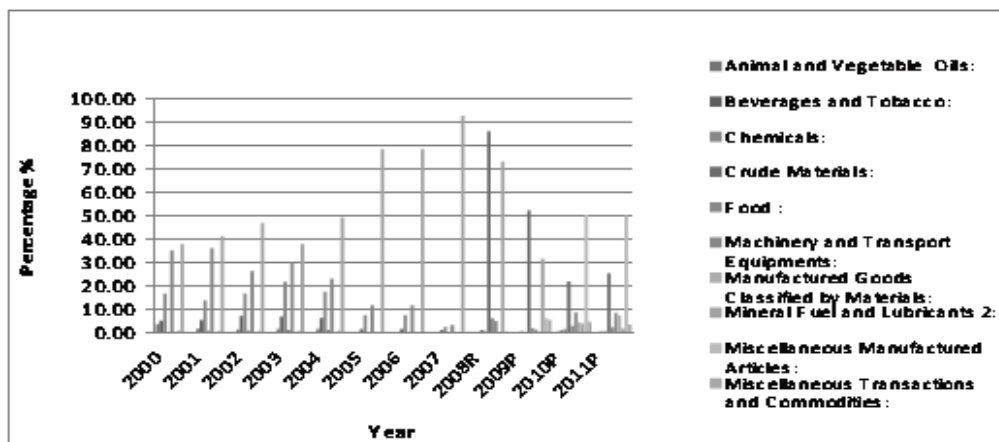


Source: Customs and Statistics Sierra Leone

Figure 1.2 below shows imports by SITC categories. The periods 2005 and 2006 registered about the same percentages (about 10.10 percent 78.60 percent) for food and mineral fuel and lubricants respectively.

The period 2007 registered a relatively high (38.67 percent) percentage imports and by SITC categories, mineral fuel and lubricant alone registered the highest about 92.72 percent next to crude materials 86.13 percent in 2008 followed by Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles (50.41 percent) in 2010 and 49.97 percent in 2011 followed by crude materials: 21.94 percent. The period 2009-2011(provisional) is observed to record increased in imports from 3.91 percent in 2009 to 16.69 percent in 2010 to 54.90 percent in 2011 with import of crude materials recoding relatively the highest (52.32 percent in 2009), 21.95 percent in 2010 and 5.43 percent in 2011, followed by mineral fuel and lubricant. See Figure 1.2 below.

Figure 1.2: Percentage distribution of imports by SITC for the period 2000-2011

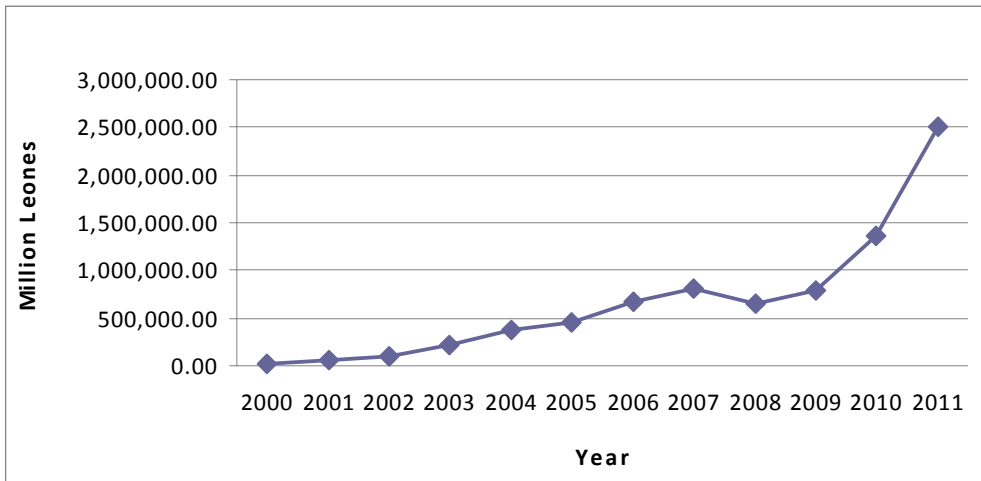


Source: Customs and Statistics Sierra Leone

2.3.2 Trend in exports statistics classified by major domestic products in (Le Million)

Figure 1.3 below shows trend in export statistics. As observed from the graph, exports also increases over the period 2000-2011 and continue increasing initially reaching the maximum in 2007 with a relative percentage of 24.16 percent and slightly decreases in 2008 with a relative percentage of 19.06 percent and picked up again over the periods 2009 to 2011. **Figure 1.4 & 1.5** showing percentage distribution of major domestic exports broadly classified into mineral and agricultural products, others and re-exports over the period 2011 respectively.

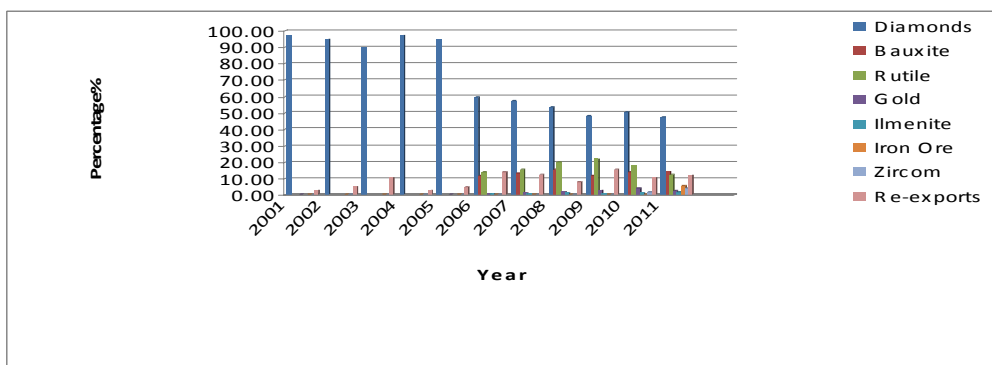
Figure 1.3: Trend in exports values in million Leones: 2000-2011



Source: Customs, BSL and Statistics Sierra Leone

In Figure 1.4 below, diamond is observed to register the highest 97.04 percent, in 2001, 96.18 percent in 2004 and 95.00 percent in 2005 but with a mixed result averaging to 52.69 percent from 2006 to 2011. Over the period 2006 to 2011, Rutile relatively increased averaging to 16.95 percent followed by Bauxite :13.24 percent In 2008, Diamond, recorded the highest 53.37 percent, next to Rutile 19.84 percent and Bauxite 15.20 percent. Diamond exports for the period 2004-2006 average 83.88 percent, 57.19 percent in 2007 and decreases to 53.37 percent in 2008. For the period 2009 to 2011, Diamond recorded relatively the highest(47.92 percent) followed by Rutile (21.80 percent) in 2009 and for the period 2010 and 2011, Diamond again registered the highest (50.58 percent and 47.39 percent respectively followed by Rutile (18.21 percent) in 2010 and Bauxite (14.20 percent) in 2011.

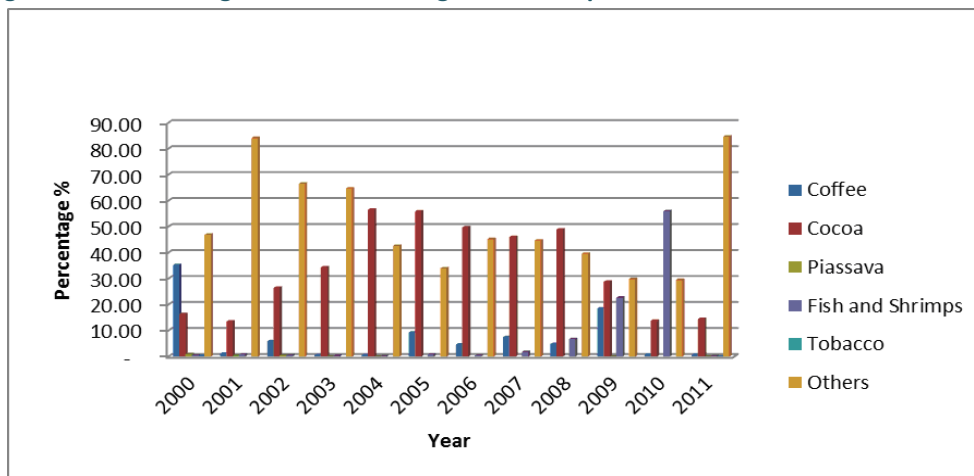
Figure 1.4: Percentage distribution of mineral exports and re-exports: 2000-2011



Customs, BSL and Statistics Sierra Leone

Figure 1.5 below shows agricultural exports. Cacao registered relatively high (56.54 percent) and slowly dropped to 55.90 percent, 49.71 percent and 46.02 percent in 2005, 2006 and 2007 respectively. Export of cacao gradually picked up in 2008 (48.90 percent) but drastically dropped over the years 2009 to 2011 averaging 19.03 percent. A fish and shrimps export is observed to increase in 2010.

Figure 1.5: Percentage distribution of agricultural exports and others: 2000-2011

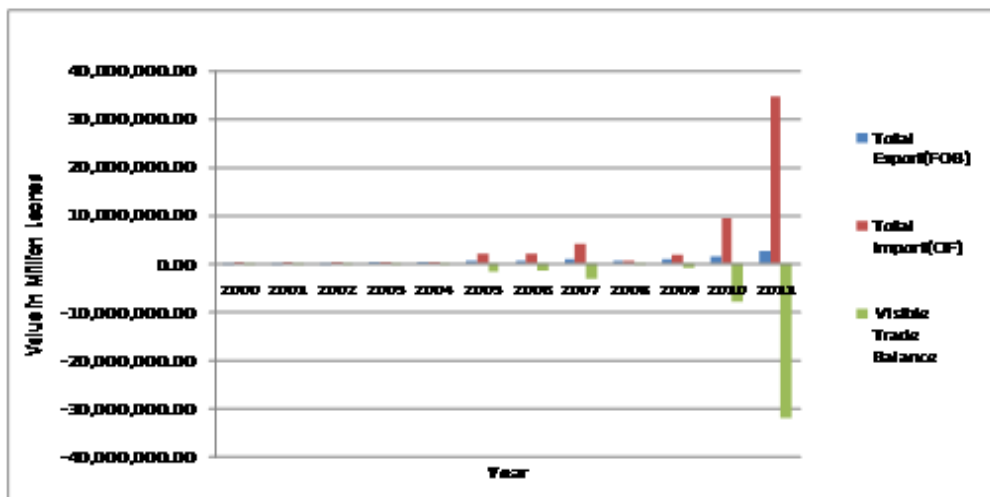


Source: Customs, BSL and Statistics Sierra Leo

2.4 Trade Balance

Trade balance is simply the net exports as it tells us how a country's trade departs from the benchmark of equal imports and exports. Figure 1.6 below shows total visible trade balance. It is observed to increase gradually over the period 2000-2006 reaching a high peak in 2007 and then decreases in 2008. Over the period 2000-2008, a negative net export (trade deficit) was recorded. This implies that the country's output falls short of domestic spending resulting to a gradual relatively increase in import to close the gap. Trade deficit widen by almost 20 percent with imports increasing from Le 985,482 million in 2005, to Le 1,590,338 in 2008. For the period 2009 to 2011 the deficit further increases by almost 35 percent with imports increasing from Le 791,931 million in 2009 to Le 34, 600,400 in 2011.

Figure 1.6: Imports and Exports Trade Balance: 2000-2011



Source: Customs, BSL and Statistics Sierra Leone

2.5 Direction of Trade by Country of origin: ECOWAS and European Countries

The data shows that within the ECOWAS member states, Senegal and Cote l’Vore are the two major trade partners, followed by Guinea Republic for imports. For the period 2000 to 2008, imports from Cote l’Vore average 40.34 percent, Senegal average 57.27 percent and Guinea Republic average 0.54 percent. Within European Union, major trade partners in terms of imports are Belgium and United States with an average percentage of 96.73 and 1.08 respectively over the period 2000-2008. The same pattern is observed for the period 2009 to 2011.*See Table 3 and Table 4 in Statistical Annex.*

3.0 STATISTICAL ANNEX

Table 1: Value (Million Leones) of Imports and Net Weight (M. Tons) by SITC: 2000-2011

YEAR		Animal and Vegetable Oils:	Beverages and Tobacco:	Chemicals:	Crude Materials:	Food :	Machinery and Transport Equipments:	Manufactured Goods Classified by Materials:	Mineral Fuel and Lubricants 2:	Miscellaneous Manufactured Articles:	Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities:	Total
2000	CUSTOMVAL	8,458	12,206	38,809	870	81,876	4	2,009	87,871	0	1	232,104
	NETWEIGHT	5,025	5,224	35,148	1,090	149,428	0	716	140,121	0	0	336,752
2001	CUSTOMVAL	6,056	18,163	46,256	2,590	121,615	46	2,157	138,700	298	2	335,883
	NETWEIGHT	19,685	12,070	126,680	4,611	445,764	2	10,111	760,765	96	1	1,379,785
2002	CUSTOMVAL	4,295	22,543	53,520	2,427	84,610	28	2,162	150,845	159	0	320,589
	NETWEIGHT	4,688	100,345	1,190,822	3,212	445,758	4	1,129	1,228,915	72	0	2,974,945
2003	CUSTOMVAL	5,601	28,255	89,014	4,289	124,432	112	3,121	155,176	290	117	410,407
	NETWEIGHT	46,867	143,629	456,457	2,115	317,621	0	1,872	9,637,807	507	24	10,606,899
2004	CUSTOMVAL	6,050	23,657	66,023	4,024	86,799	289	3,311	185,641	371	11	376,176
	NETWEIGHT	16,502	295,895	496,690	3,400	385,354	41	783	1,352,626	1,613	3	2,552,907
2005	CUSTOMVAL	6,092	35,295	160,608	2,751	255,932	1,405	5,090	1,707,504	384	106	2,175,167
	NETWEIGHT	3,687	434,112	492,144	3,624	194,221	55	639	229,368	80	102	1,358,032
2006	CUSTOMVAL	6,092	35,295	160,608	2,751	255,932	1,405	5,090	1,707,504	384	106	2,175,167
	NETWEIGHT	49,407	111,556	258,053	43,739	700,227	42	95,103	608,070	122	91	1,866,410
2007	CUSTOMVAL	7,942	46,055	101,377	3,624	132,058	204	4,340	3,776,295	608	73	4,072,576
	NETWEIGHT	56,631	61,697	216,593	44,690	1,052,455	939	33,876	8,640,522	265	25	10,107,693
2008R	CUSTOMVAL	860.93	6,996.12	3,447.73	555,852.74	39,994.40	32,076.31	332.55	471,439.32	3,654.28	2,143.89	645,359
	NETWEIGHT	70.19	3,804.05	716.08	515,133.22	27,137.46	783,984.37	117.76	246,173.69	547.63	358.41	1,578,043
2009P	CUSTOMVAL	5,399.47	8,034.79	1,345.21	937,540.37	34,953.26	23,007.07	8,055.92	565,561.52	111,299.03	96,734.46	1,791,931.09
	NETWEIGHT	1,780.94	6,066.97	361.46	362,937.77	34,147.04	608,490.22	8,055.92	117,987.98	27,052.79	5,726.56	1,172,607.65
2010P	CUSTOMVAL	54,059.25	82,311.92	151,316.13	2,072,049.63	277,642.14	821,870.83	416,593.51	365,042.58	4,759,098.60	440,069.20	9,440,053.77
	NETWEIGHT	531.31	9,985.40	3,044.86	230,546.56	11,236.73	25,946.61	18,151.88	5,002.38	31,432.96	4,949.90	340,828.59
2011P	CUSTOMVAL	117,545	177,236	184,959	8,797,183	780,992	2,925,752	2,536,272	620,154	17,290,344	1,169,964	34,600,401
	NETWEIGHT	1,331.39	36,236.99	2,497.17	329,317.18	516,541.32	59,493.48	62,720.08	11,647.20	283,530.90	13,916.12	1,317,231.83

Source: Customs and Statistics Sierra Leone
P:provisional

Table 2: Major Domestic Exports Value (Million Leones) and Volume/Net Weight (in Tons) 2000-2011

Period	Indicator	MINERAL EXPORTS							AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS					Others	Domestic Exports	Re-Exports	Total
		Diamonds (000' carats)	Bauxite (M. Tons)	Rutile (M. Tons)	Gold (Ounces)	Ilmenite (M. Tons)	Iron Ore (M. Tons)	Zircon (M. Tons)	Coffee (M. Tons)	Cocoa (M. Tons)	Piassava (M. Tons)	Fish and Shrimps (M. Tons)	Tobacco (M. Tons)				
2000	CUSTOMVAL	20,600.60	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,464.20	679.7	40	18.7	7.5	1,949.80	24,760.50	2,010.30	26,770.80
	NETWEIGHT	77.50							1,980.90	1,412.40	112						3,582.80
2001	CUSTOMVAL	52073	-	-	2	-	-	-	48.2	573.3	14.4	34	-	3565.2	56,310.10	1,587.90	57,898.00
	NETWEIGHT	224.4			5.8				74.9	641	47.7						993.80
2002	CUSTOMVAL	87,390.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	577.3	2,577.00	54.8	47.7	-	6,480.30	97,127.30	4,884.60	102,011.90
	NETWEIGHT	351.70							947.2	1,177.60	58						2,534.50
2003	CUSTOMVAL	180,007.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	96.8	5,852.00	6.5	53.4	-	11,014.80	197,030.60	20,711.90	217,742.50
	NETWEIGHT	506.80							113	2,733.40	34.8						3,388.00
2004	CUSTOMVAL	341,352.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	145.8	14,451.00	5.6	61.7	-	10,895.00	366,911.10	10,634.50	377,545.60
	NETWEIGHT	691.80							118	6,187.50	25						7,022.30
2005	CUSTOMVAL	409,526.00	-	-	760	-	-	-	2,511.20	15,077.00	-	220.7	-	9,163.80	437,258.60	20,796.40	458,055.00
	NETWEIGHT	668.80			751.2				1,532.00	6,634.50							9,586.50
2006	CUSTOMVAL	362,180.60	69,951.80	84,654.00	3,144.60	3,166.10	-	-	3,230.00	34,408.50	-	288.9	-	31,287.40	592,311.90	83,913.20	676,225.10
	NETWEIGHT	582.30	970,654.60	70,361.30	2,642.10	8,561.00			1,475.20	13,939.70							1,068,216.20
2007	CUSTOMVAL	423,942.70	97,597.00	113,846.20	9,097.60	3,580.40	-	-	5,538.80	33,926.00	-	1,324.70	-	32,927.10	721,780.50	93,235.80	815,016.30
	NETWEIGHT	604.70	1,154,223.50	86,505.40		12,006.00			2,483.20	13,721.60							1,269,544.40
2008	CUSTOMVAL	293,651.40	83,647.30	109,127.40	12,190.50	7,652.80	-	-	4,419.00	44,806.60	-	6,128.30	-	36,267.90	597,891.20	43,905.94	641,797.14
	NETWEIGHT	371.30	815,371.30	69,163.60	5,623.40	22,597.00			1,958.20	17,892.10							932,976.90
2009	CUSTOMVAL	267,509.00	64,257.60	121,704.30	16,081.30	3,038.70	-	-	42,726.70	66,385.10	17.5	52,267.20	-	68,955.50	702,942.90	85,620.80	788,563.70
	NETWEIGHT	400.50	680,219.70	66,666.00	5,361.50	10,230.00			8,144.60	16,937.10	16						787,975.40
2010	CUSTOMVAL	450,740.18	122,984.20	162,235.45	36,975.61	10,638.40	-	13,784.33	7,863.07	145,657.13	-	591.40	-	312,141.96	1,263,611.72	93,677.40	1,357,289.12
	NETWEIGHT	437.50	1,254,742.60	70,131.20	9,362.40	21,193.20	-	7,875.70	2,704.20	16,070.60	NA	NA	NA				1,382,517.40
2011	CUSTOMVAL	566,118.67	169,602.87	150,140.20	31,687.68	19,383.606	67,367.64	45,584.206	8,695.087	190,187.96	42.722	3,269.224	-	1,110,691.117	2362770.987	144,625.503	2,507,396.49
	NETWEIGHT						137,883										137,883.00

Source: Customs and Statistics Sierra Leone
P: Provisional

Table 3: Imports Value (Million Leones) by Country of Origin: ECOWAS

Partner/Indicator	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009P	2010P	2011P
	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value	Customs Value
CAPE VERDE ISLANDS	-	4	-	-	960	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,506
BENIN	-	-	10	-	-	60	216	407	41	-	340	411,345
GAMBIA	986	1,898	938	346	1,099	965	636	6,622	221	206	-	-
GHANA	944	2,087	1,827	2,639	3,027	3,791	2,320	4,037	1,588	2,286	105,606	743,839
GUINEA REPUBLIC	865	1,576	2,917	4,926	3,186	4,857	2,975	12,421	3,738	6,738	16,798	29,564
COTE D'IVOIRE	62,468	127,195	136,999	142,818	134,127	173,280	1,517,986	306,417	172,259	730,770	8,480	27,237
LIBERIA	163	3,652	429	1,752	3,753	675	370	258	712	1,526	402	-
MALI	128	47	-	-	-	99	40	-	-	-	619	10,883
NIGER	-	0	218	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,741	4,356
NIGERIA	1,174	2,084	10,857	2,233	2,761	1,899	2,195	8,800	1,997	382	48,514	166,112
GUINEA BISSAU	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SENEGAL	10,563	25,086	12,600	21,104	47,114	56,344	319,663	3,410,548	65,916	112,385	452,098	2,176,343
TOGO	-	-	31	108	607	564	9,982	30	445	-	446	34,026
BURKINA FASSO	-	-	-	-	52	178	0	148	-	-	-	2,506

Source: Customs and Statistics Sierra Leon, ; P: Provisional

Table 4: Imports Value (Million Leones) by Country of origin: European Union

Partner/Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
AUSTRIA	227	337	14	604	-	136	284	476	200	1014	6,932	8,283
BELGIUM	13,459	28,299	21,815	14,627	18,422	29,551	41,327	30,669,189	23,133	228,179	548,913	2,454,094
DENMARK	1,656	979	1,755	6,129	6,237	4,618	3,892	6,739	3,813	3,151	232,280	469,930
FINLAND	41	1	49	89	45	127	261	585	1,000	-	72,852	800,817
FRANCE	11,661	17,835	22,707	17,634	9,109	14,465	19,881	23,448	4,771	5,128	86,304	329,237
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	13,131	19,635	19,128	32,299	24,748	14,438	18,309	19,667	72,175	4,722	1,121	37,630
GREECE	513	1,191	1,001	656	108	-	39	67	0	622	85,022	371,386
ICELAND	-	-	-	-	126	-	-	-	-	-	2,827,832	4,470,085
ITALY	3,708	4,351	6,367	6,496	19,844	19,043	6,349	14,366	19,505	9,219	593	5,850
LUXEMBOURG	-	-	-	-	276	251	-	0	-	-	-	384
NETHERLANDS (HOLLAND)	13,160	19,891	19,394	29,460	14,161	26,071	35,459	22,675	14,838	10,858	93,261	440,297
PORTUGAL	9	77	94	78	111	239	174	2,280	133	1,475	681	697
SPAIN	3,258	7,546	6,342	11,755	3,609	6,223	23,009	15,186	6,083	13,384	286,911	920,920
SWEDEN	453	574	1,414	1,249	721	2,544	879	1,369	393	1,097	15,747	2,664
UNITED KINGDOM	18,314	33,920	93,282	52,810	50,594	43,609	34,181	43,659	17,950	17,463	21,162	113,690

Source: Customs and Statistics Sierra Leone, P: Provisional

Table 5: Total Imports and Exports Values (Million Leones) and Net Weight(M. Tons): 2000-2011

Period	Total Exports		Total Imports	
	Customs Val	Net Weight	Customs Val	Net Weight
2000	26,770.80	3,583	284,359	569,229
2001	57,898.00	994	495,595	1,710,272
2002	102,011.90	2,535	509,783	3,425,054
2003	217,742.50	3,388	626,371	10,735,480
2004	377,545.60	7,022	606,711	2,541,681
2005	458,055.00	9,587	679,984	1,280,163
2006	676,225.10	1,068,216	2,421,169	2,187,548
2007	815,016.30	1,269,544	4,407,239	10,714,887
2008	641,797.14	932,977	1,038,849	1,874,119
2009P	788,563.58	787,975	486,547	400,141
2010P	1,357,289.12	1,382,517	11,637,059	453,169
2011P	2507396.49	137,883	41,520,048	1,682,775

Source: Customs and Statistics Sierra Leone, P: Provisional figures for impor

Table 6: Imports of Essential Commodities to the Economy

Year	Indicator/Product	Cement:	Tile:	Iron Rod:	Diesel:	Petrol:	Rice:	Edible Oil
2000	CustomsVal	7,187.57	1,063.55	-	29,782.08	34,196.69	1,386.09	8,458.29
	Net Weight	89,182.44	1,385.09	-	56,300.26	46,876.16	1,101.32	5,024.59
2001	CustomsVal	5,746.75	1,545.24	-	52,931.64	49,319.05	6,163.32	6,056.46
	Net Weight	41,172.52	3,443.20	-	546,938.04	148,647.94	13,944.71	19,685.25
2002	CustomsVal	10,599.59	1,602.56	-	63,200.73	30,840.86	1,645.35	4,295.38
	Net Weight	15,580.69	110,177.72	-	303,473.71	747,426.65	2,303.04	4,687.51
2003	CustomsVal	16,332.39	4,872.56	88.9	55,196.42	53,702.28	15,577.14	5,601.34
	Net Weight	2,618.19	85,372.46	0.51	2,558,684.18	5,261,114.71	6,566.53	46,867.43
2004	CustomsVal	10,065.24	5,787.36	0.28	54,998.23	77,891.41	669.6	6,050.14
	Net Weight	40,315.69	8,588.38	1.16	531,370.28	129,447.05	22,126.69	16,502.01
2005	CustomsVal	4,753.07	3,423.16	1.81	77,181.29	105,169.23	300.77	4,067.32
	Net Weight	211,291.00	3,131.76	0.75	90,497.09	91,236.51	1,198.78	3,687.43
2006	CustomsVal	6,441.07	4,460.47	91.2	756,270.97	852,299.35	12,851.74	6,091.70
	Net Weight	33,387.11	9,096.24	90.18	204,322.32	189,749.68	40,686.77	49,406.95
2007	CustomsVal	12,374.24	5,481.10	-	260,616.00	3,423,943.49	20,147.78	7,941.66
	Net Weight	63,840.29		-	1,183,157.23	6,182,439.90	273,372.25	56,630.92
2008	CustomsVal	16,304.89	4,187.86	1.76	256,570.62	176,304.34	3,305.16	8,615.83
	Net Weight	45,719.20	21,769.12	1.94	150,713.74	81,432.63	3,872.98	3,772.87
2009P	CustomsVal	17,057.29	905.43	-	228,800.62	42,404.90	29.1	9,660.26
	Net Weight	55.78	1,491.99	-	26,806.15	25,403.27	23.2	2,112.20
2010P	CustomsVal	49,651.33	33,432.57	50.79	-	-	17,196.35	48,420.56
	Net Weight	106,593.68	6,744.62	0.71	-	-	7,126.47	4,627.06
2011 P	CustomsVal	102,881.04	60,000.45	0.12	-	-	6,254.08	76,410.63
	Net Weight	174,713.49	10,485.61	0.01	-	-	630.03	9,300.07

Source: Customs and Statistics Sierra Leone, P: Provisional

4.1 Technical Note

4.1.1 Data Source

From the view point of SSL, 90 percent of data is primarily obtained from customs documents (declarations): forms filled by exporters and importers and submitted to Customs. In principle, a customs declaration identifies:

- the duties paid,
- the country of origin or destination,
- the port of entry or exit,
- the mode of transportation,
- the cost of insurance and freight and cost of transport.

A total of fifteen (15) fields covering: Country, Product, Régime/ Procedure & Quantity codes; Net weight, Customs value, Taxation, Office, Transport type, Date, Trade flow, Trade type, Customs office, Form Number and Item Number are captured currently by Statistics Sierra Leone.

A. Coverage, Trade system and Valuation

The figures reported in this Bulletin represent trade data on the General System of trade as defined in the International Merchandise Trade Statistics Compilers Manual: Concepts and Definitions (IMTS, Rev.2).

- **Trade System:** two types (Special and General) and for SL, compilation is based on the General System of trade. Under the general trade system, imports include *all goods* entering the economic territory of the compiling country and exports include *all goods* leaving the economic territory of a compiling country.
- **Valuation:** Imported goods are valued at c.i.f.-type (that is including transportation and insurance costs up to the border of the compiling country) include all goods brought into the Customs territory for home use.
- Exports is valued at f.o.b.- type (that is excluding transport and insurance costs beyond the border of compiling country) are combination of domestic exports and re-exports
- Domestic exports include commodities grown in the country (coffee, cocoa, piassava and tobacco), extracted from its natural resources (Diamonds, Bauxite, Rutile, Gold and Ilemenite and Fish and Shrimps) or manufactured in the country (others). These include goods of foreign origin which have been assembled or transformed in the country.
- Re-exports are exports of goods of foreign origin which have not been materially transformed while in Sierra Leone.

- The general trade system provides a more comprehensive recording of the imports and exports flows than the special trade system. It also provides a better approximation of the change of ownership criterion required by Balance of payment and SNA 93.
- To promote the comparability of international merchandise trade statistics and taking into account the commercial and data reporting practices of the majority of countries and analytical needs, it is recommended that:

(a) *The statistical value of exported goods be an FOB-type value;*

(b) *The statistical value of imported goods be a CIF-type value; however, countries are encouraged to compile FOB-type value of imported goods as a supplementary information;*

- It is further recommended that countries which compile only CIF-type values of imports make efforts to collect separately data for freight and insurance, at the most detailed commodity/partner level possible.
- It is recognized that compilation of imports on the FOB-type basis and/or separate data for freight and insurance might entail a significant additional burden on respondents and merchandise trade compilers and should be undertaken based on the national situation and needs.
- However, countries are encouraged to explore additional methods which can facilitate the compilation of FOB-type values of imports and to provide a basis for a more systematic use of those values in future

B. All items on bills of entries are taken into consideration with the following exception:-

I. Imports

- Transshipment
- Re-warehousing
- Returned goods, postage stamps, bank notes and coins
- Empty containers
- Personal effects
- Goods imported by duty free shops
- Fish and other sea products landed in Mauritius from High Seas by Mauritian Vessels
- Goods returning after repairs abroad

II. Exports

- Returned goods
- Postage stamps, bank notes and coins
- Empty containers
- Goods sent for repairs abroad
- Personal effects
- Local sales and transfers

The Customs procedure Code (CPC) which indicates the status of a commodity with respect to the Customs and fiscal regulations help also to determine whether the transaction is to be included or not. Customized list of CPCs allow the production of tables by the General and Special Trade for the compilation of trade Statistics and National Accounts Statistics respectively. All goods in transit are recorded in Special Customs Procedure Code (CPC) and excluded.

C. Commodity Classification

- **Commodity Classification is based on:** The HS System at the eight digits level, SITC System, BEC System, and CPC System.

I. The HS System at the eight digits level:

HS07 contains 5,052 subheadings and 1,221 headings, grouped into 97 chapters and 21 sections. As a general rule, goods are arranged in order of their degree of manufacture: raw materials, unworked products, semi-finished products and finished products. For example, live animals fall under Chapter 1, animal hides and skins under Chapter 41 and leather footwear under Chapter 64. The same order also exists within the chapters and headings.

The general structure of HS is as follows:

- Sections I to IV: Agricultural products
- Sections V to VII: Minerals, chemical and related products, plastics, rubber and articles thereof
- Sections VIII to X: Animal products, such as hides, skins and furskins, as well as wood, cork, pulp, paper, and articles thereof
- Sections XI and XII: Textiles, footwear and headgear
- Sections XIII to XV: Articles of stone, plaster, cement, asbestos, mica and the like, ceramic products, glass, pearls, precious or semi-precious stones, precious metals, jewellery, base metals and articles thereof
- Section XVI: Machinery, mechanical appliances and electrical equipment

- Section XVII: Vehicles, aircraft, vessels and associated transport equipment
- Section XVIII: Optical, photographic, cinematographic, measuring, checking, precision, medical or surgical instruments and apparatus, clocks and watches, musical instruments
- Section XIX: Arms and ammunition
- Sections XX and XXI: Miscellaneous manufactured articles, such as furniture, lighting fittings, prefabricated buildings, sports requisites, works of art, collectors' pieces and antiques
- It is recommended that countries use HS for the collection, compilation and dissemination of international merchandise trade statistics. Countries are encouraged to use the most current version of the HS.

II. SITC System:

It contains 3,993 basic headings and subheadings, which are assembled in 262 groups, 67 divisions and 10 sections. The sections are listed as follows:

- 0 Food and live animals
- 1 Beverages and tobacco
- 2 Crude materials, inedible, except fuels
- 3 Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials
- 4 Animal and vegetable oils, fats and waxes
- 5 Chemicals and related products, not elsewhere specified
- 6 Manufactured goods classified chiefly by material
- 7 Machinery and transport equipment
- 8 Miscellaneous manufactured articles
- 9 Commodities and transactions not classified elsewhere in SITC

It is recommended that, in addition to HS, countries disseminate trade statistics also on SITC basis as needed to meet the user requirements.