

## Technical Workshop on International Merchandise Trade Statistics: *Focusing on goods traded under the preferential trade agreements*

26 February to 3 March 2018

Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Suva

### Evaluation of the Workshop

SPC together with PIFS, OCO and MSG appreciate the feedback from the participants, thank you. Such feedbacks are useful in making workshops and trainings to be held in future better. We appreciate and thank the participants for their active participation.

Of the 25 participants, 5 did not submit their evaluation forms. Questions not answered were taken as “Invalid”.

#### A. Overall Assessment

85 per cent of the participants gained knowledge on PTAs and acquired techniques to identify commodities traded under them. 80 per cent of the participants acquired techniques on producing data on PTAs, one did not. Refer to Table 1.

Table 1: Overall assessment

1) Did you acquire at this workshop:	In %			
	Yes	No	Invalid	Sum
a. knowledge on “preferential trade agreements” (PTA)?	85	0	15	100
b. techniques on how to identify commodities traded under PTA?	85	0	15	100
c. techniques on how to produce statistical data on PTA?	80	5	15	100

#### B. Content and conduct of the workshop

57 percent of the participants thought the content and conduct of the workshop were excellent, 34 per cent thought they were good and 7 per cent thought they were adequate. Refer to Table 2.

Table 2: Content and conduct of the workshop

	In %								
	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Poor	Very Poor	Not applicable	Invalid	Sum	
2) Quality of materials	50	45	0	0	0	0	5	100	
3) Quality of presentations	50	40	5	0	0	0	5	100	
4) Sufficient time for discussion and participation	55	25	20	0	0	0	0	100	
5) Balance between topics	50	40	10	0	0	0	0	100	

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		In %							
		Excellent	Good	Adequate	Poor	Very Poor	Not applicable	Invalid	Sum
6) Usefulness of each session:	Session 1 – Purpose of the workshop and expected outcomes	65	30	5	0	0	0	0	100
	Session 2 – Preferential trade agreements	65	30	5	0	0	0	0	100
	Session 3 – Identifying goods traded under PTAs	55	40	5	0	0	0	0	100
	Session 4 – What do the numbers say?	60	30	10	0	0	0	0	100
	Session 5 – Compilation of data on goods traded under MSG	60	25	15	0	0	0	0	100
	Session 6 – The way forward	60	30	5	0	0	0	5	100
7) Clarity of conclusions reached after each session		60	35	0	0	0	0	5	100
8) Extent to which workshop objectives were achieved		60	30	5	0	0	0	5	100
9) Overall value of the workshop		50	45	0	0	0	0	5	100

10) What was the most useful element of the workshop?

Common views of the participants are summarised below:

- a. The workshop was an eye opener.
- b. Learnt about the linkages between Customs and Stats and the need for effective collaboration between the two organisations.
- c. It was good to know about the techniques of compiling IMTS, learn about the different PTAs, identifying goods under PTAs and update of HS.
- d. Panel discussion with the Private Sector.
- e. Group work to compile MSG Trade Agreement table.
- f. Networking, sharing common issues and Group discussions.
- g. Workshop was conducted professionally.
- h. All sessions were useful.
- i. Excellent content and conduct of the workshop.

11) What was the least useful element of the workshop?

Three of the participants said:

- a. Compilation of data and HS as we do not have knowledge of them.

12) Comments or suggestions to improve the content and conduct of the workshop:

Common views were:

- a. Presenters should stick to their allocated presentation time.
- b. Presentations were hard to see.

### C. Organization of the workshop

57 per cent said the organisation of the workshop was excellent, 30 per cent said it was good, 8 per cent said it was adequate and 1 per cent said it was poor. Refer to Table 3.

Table 3: Organisation of the workshop

	In %							
	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Poor	Very Poor	Not applicable	Invalid	Sum
13) Timeliness of distribution of invitation/agenda/materials	65	30	5	0	0	0	0	100
14) Satisfaction and timeliness of travel/DSA arrangements	40	35	5	0	0	0	20	100
15) Duration of workshop	35	40	20	5	0	0	0	100
16) Quality of workshop facilities	70	25	5	0	0	0	0	100
17) Overall planning and organization of the workshop	75	20	5	0	0	0	0	100

#### 18) Comments or suggestions to improve the organization of the workshop:

Common views were:

- a. The overall organisation of the workshop was excellent.
- b. Transport to and from the hotel to the venue of the workshop should be organised.
- c. Duration of the workshop was a short.
- d. Participants should leave after the workshop and not be booked to depart early.
- e. Participants should be given per diems and be allowed to choose their own accommodation.