

EXPLANATORY NOTE ON TRADE STATISTICS

User Note drafted by the Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in preparation of the AfCFTA 8th Technical Working Group Meeting on Rules of Origin

Introduction

The enclosed trade statistics are extracted from UN COMTRADE database, as notified by UN Member States, for the years 2015 to 2017¹.

Database content

The content of the dataset is organized in different columns as defined below:

Column 1 : Reporting region (Africa – AU Member States)

Column 2: HS Chapter and Headings Codes of the Product

Column 3: HS Chapter and Headings Description of the Product

Column 4 : Trade year

Column 5: Value of total African imports from the world (in million of USD)

Column 6: Value of total Intra-Regional African imports (in million of USD)

Column 7: Value of total African imports from the world excluding Africa (in million of USD)

Column 8: Value of total African exports to the world (in million of USD)

Column 9: Value of total African exports to Africa (in million of USD)

Column 10: Value of total African exports to the world excluding Africa (in million of USD)

Column 11: Value of total intra-regional trade among AU Member States (in million of USD) defined as the sum of import and export values within Africa.

Column 12: Value of total trade between Africa and the World (in million of USD) defined as the sum of all import and export values between AU Member States and the World.

Tailored Trade Database Request

Upon written request to the AUC with copy to UNCTAD Division for Africa, Least Developed Countries and Special Programmes, UNCTAD may provide tailored more disaggregated trade statistics by reporting and partner country, based on UN COMTRADE. Such tailored request may include upon availability data on utilization rates of trade preferences and rules of origin.

¹ The availability of the data varies across countries depending on notifications by AU Member States to the United Nations.