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CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

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STATISTICAL OFFICE OF THE  
EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES  
(EUROSTAT)**

**ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC  
COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
(OECD)  
STATISTICS DIRECTORATE**

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Topic (i): Functions of metadata in statistical production

## **FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS AND RELATED METADATA**

### **Contributed Paper**

Submitted by National Institute of Statistics, Romania<sup>1</sup>

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

In the frame of Romanian National Institute of Statistics the foreign trade databases occupy an important part. These are included in administrative databases ensemble. The foreign trade databases contain all the information regarding the commercial flows between Romania and the other countries of the world. The management of foreign trade data flow is developed strictly under the nomenclatures and classifications constraints. These nomenclatures and classifications represent an important part of Romanian NIS metadata configuration, according to European statistics rules in this field of activity.

#### **II. THE PRESENTATION OF FOREIGN TRADE DATA FLOW, ACCORDING TO RELATED METADATA**

Monthly the foreign trade data are received from Romanian National Authority of Customs in a DBF format. Each record is checked according with many nomenclatures, as following:

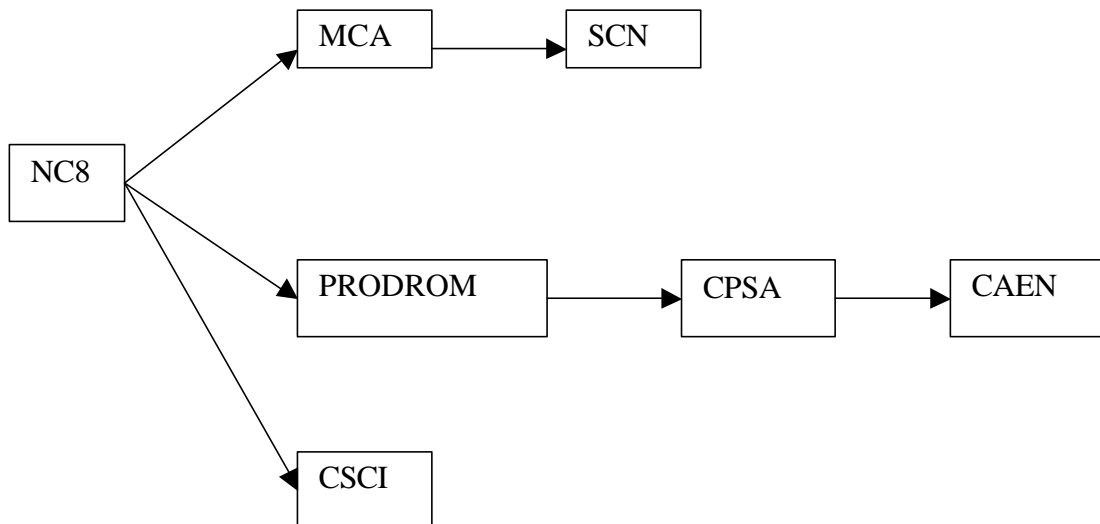
- The product code (8 digits) – according to Romanian Import Customs Tariff, in which there is a codes list. In fact this list is the Romanian version of Combined Nomenclature, full harmonized at eight-digit level;
- The code of destination/origin country (3 digits) – according to Country Nomenclature for the External Trade Statistics of the Community and Statistics of Trade between Member States (GEONOM), full harmonized at three-digit;
- The code of transportation modality at Romanian frontiers (one digit) – according to an internal classification (road, maritime, river, fixedly means, a.s.o.);
- The code of vehicle nationality (3 digits) – according to Country Nomenclature for the External Trade Statistics of the Community and Statistics of Trade between Member States (GEONOM), full harmonized at three-digit;
- The code of ownership type (2 digits) – according to an internal nomenclature;
- The code of customs procedure (4 digits) – according to Romanian National Authority of Customs rules.
- The code of measuring unit (3 digits) – according to an internal nomenclature.

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### III. THE ROLE OF METADATA IN DATA DISSEMINATION AND PUBLICATION

Depending on the necessities of data users and the requests of our statistical publications, the foreign trade data are presented under various nomenclatures. The relationship among the national interest classifications and nomenclatures is presented below:



The significance of the symbols (in the left of table are the Romanian equivalents):

ROMANIA	EUROPEAN UNION
NC8	Combined Nomenclature at eight-digit level
MCA	Broad Economic Categories
SCN	System of National Account
PRODROM	PRODCOM
CPSA	Statistical Classification of Products by Activity
CAEN	NACE
CSCI	SITC

The statistical products which contains foreign trade data use these classifications and nomenclatures at different levels and purposes, as following, according to *The Inventory of International Statistical Classification*, released by Eurostat:

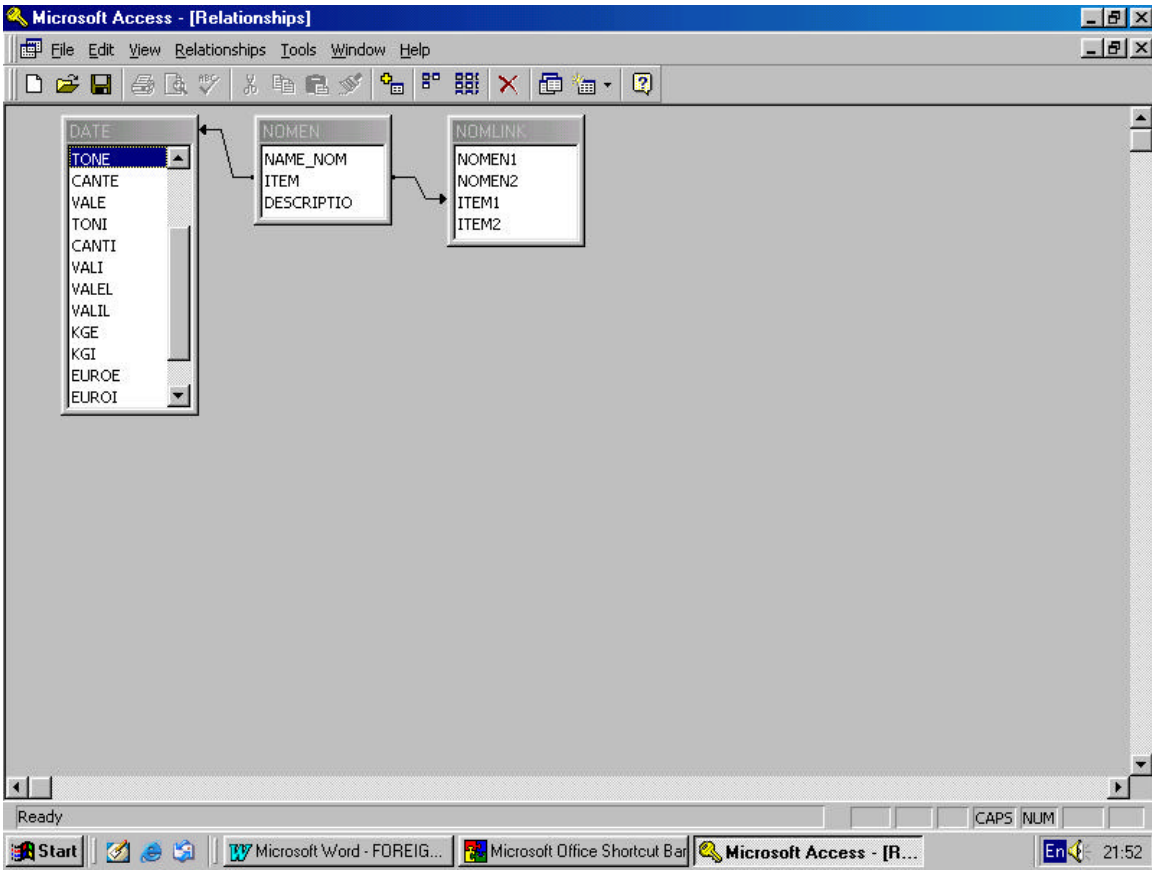
- Combined Nomenclature – is very useful because it is the most detailed.

There are many users, such as importers or/and exporters, journalists, academic people, which request foreign trade data at eight-digit on NC. In the statistical publications, as Statistical Yearbook, Foreign Trade Yearbook, Monthly Statistical Bulletin, Foreign Trade Statistics, the specific data are accessible on main sections and chapters (two-digit) and by a selection of very requested goods (four-, six- and eight-digit). In Foreign Trade Statistics Monthly Bulletin there is a set of tables on European Union countries at two-digit on NC.

- BEC was designed to serve as a means for converting external trade data compiled on the Standard International Trade Classification into end-use categories that are meaningful within the framework of the System of National Accounts. In Foreign Trade Statistics Monthly Bulletin there is a set of tables on BEC on one-digit (7 main categories), two-digit (14 categories) and three-digit (8 sub-categories).
- Another set of tables contains foreign trade data organised by basic classes from the System of National Accounts (SNA). These classes are: capital goods, intermediate goods, consumer goods and goods not included in three classes.
- Standard International Trade Classification (SITC Rev.3) occupies still an important place in the user preferences. Since 2002, in the main statistical publications that contain foreign trade figures there are import/export tables with data on SITC at one-digit (10 sections) and two-digit (67 divisions) levels.
- A special attention is done to tables based on the Classification of Activities in the National Economy. This classification used by the Romanian National Institute of Statistics is harmonised with that used within the European Union and at international level, the activities being classified by homogeneity, by sections, divisions, groups and classes. A set of tables with foreign trade data presented on NACE appears both in foreign trade dedicated publications and in Statistical Industry Bulletin.
- For internal studies is used a converter table between customs regimes (four-digit) and statistical customs procedures (one-level). In this case the focus consists in the presentation of balance among definitive, temporary or outward processing imports/exports.
- The majority of foreign data users need the figures regarding the origin/destination countries. The presentations of these data are based on GEONOM and other classifications related, such as geographical position of countries (continents, parts of continents), regional customs unions or economic situation.

## IV. THE SCHEMES OF IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

### A. THE RELATIONSHIP AMONG TABLES



## B. THE STRUCTURE OF QUERY OPERATION

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DATE NOMEN NOMLINK

R  
UM  
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CANTE  
VALE

\*  
NAME\_NOM  
ITEM  
DESCRIPTIO

\*  
NOMEN1  
NOMEN2  
ITEM1  
ITEM2

Field:	TONE	CANTE	VALE	ITEM2	NOMEN2		
Table:	DATE	DATE	DATE	NOMLINK	NOMLINK		
Total:	Sum	Sum	Sum	Group By	Group By		
Sort:							
Show:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Criteria:					'NACE'		
or:							

Ready

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### C. THE STRUCTURE OF RESULTED FILE

In the follow report ITEM2 represents NACE code.

Microsoft Access - [Query2 : Select Query]

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SumOfTONE	SumOfCANTE	SumOfVALE	ITEM2
490	0	30613,34	0111
31	0	16535,63	0112
3	0	1212,37	0113
33	120	57370,32	0121
			0122
			0123
			0124
0	0	0	0125
26	0	1973,61	0201
0	0	670,95	0501
			1010
			1020
			1030
			1110
			1200
			1310
			1320
			1411
			1412
			1413
			1421
			1422
			1430
			1440

Record: 1 of 254

Datasheet View

Microsoft Access - [Q...]