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Report of the 37th Meeting of Intersecretariat Working Group on Forest Sector Statistics
Meeting hosted by UNECE, Geneva, Switzerland
7 and 8 February 2024

1. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted following an agreement to begin the meeting with a review of Annex 1.

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) was represented by Mr. Jean-Christophe Claudon, Eurostat by Ms. Melinda Verebelyine Dosa, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) by Mr. Arvydas Lebedys, and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) by Mr. Florian Steierer and Mr. Daniel Griswold (notetaker).

2. Review of the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire activities and process in 2023

a) Number and quality of replies

- ITTO: received 23 questionnaires/42 (55% answer rate; 19 non-submitted questionnaires) so far. Only 4 questionnaires were received before the deadline (30-Sept) and after sending a reminder. Data collection and analysis is therefore hampered by late submission. The answer rate has declined from 2022 when 25 questionnaires were received. Nevertheless, more and more countries complete the production sheet which contains the most valuable data as there are not many alternative sources of information for production. Overall, it is often the same countries which send us the questionnaire from year to year.
- FAO: 17 questionnaires (of 97) were returned in 2023 (an increase of 1 compared to 2022); the quality is unchanged from previous years. This was the fourth year FAO sent the questionnaire to FAO representatives without support of protocol unit and the second year requesting countries to nominate official correspondents. Currently 26 countries have nominated a national correspondent, this means that not all countries that have nominated the correspondent responded to the questionnaire. There were 2 follow up in July and September. The deadline remained the same as last year (3 July, early deadline).
- Eurostat: 23 countries submitted questionnaires (out of 31) until September 2023, 3 countries submitted late. Their data will be validated and published in the next data collection round. Somewhat less than last year (25 countries), due to the earlier deadline. Last submission of a corrected questionnaire 1 October 2023. 20 countries submit 80-100% of the datapoints, 1 country 76%, 4 countries 40-60%. Data quality is overall good, Eurostat had to suppress some datapoints for two countries due to inconsistency issues.

- UNECE: received 18 replies from non-Eurostat countries (out of 22), and 26 replies from Eurostat countries (out of 31). In total, ECE received 44 replies, which was an increase from 42 replies in 2022.

b) Successes/problems

- ITTO: received Dem Rep of Congo after 10 years absence, Cote d'Ivoire, Angola.

We have now 10 ITTO submitting countries which have not submitted the questionnaire more than 2 years in the row. We will send reminder letters as per the International Tropical Timber Agreement 2006 article 27 par. 5. signed by the Executive Director to these countries. We did not do it last year.

Last year of questionnaire submission:

<u>2021</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Fiji, Guyana	Benin, Mozambique, Venezuela	Liberia, Madagascar, PNG	Brazil, Cambodia

ITTO will also send reminders letters to ITTO consumers in the same situation (Denmark, Greece, Malta).

- FAO: Chile, Zimbabwe provided data after a while.
- Eurostat: Still no news from CZ, DK, MT, LI. No data from EL, NL. Two new flags introduced ('break in series' and 'definition differs'). Flags for "definition differs" (reported by national correspondents) were checked retrospectively for most countries. The reason for the usage of these flags is explained in the metadata sheet. The practice for revising historical data often led to problems due to the 2-year structure of the Questionnaire. Some of these instances were identified, the countries contacted. Eurostat will make it possible to send revised data only for 1 year.
- UNECE: Continued for second year to send countries a log of changes after review by ECE. This increases transparency and improves quality, although it increases ECE burden and time need for processing. ECE to follow up with Denmark Focal point in addition to ITTO letter. ECE to send CZ to Eurostat. ECE is receiving more and more partial datasets, followed by resubmissions with additional data that was not in the first dataset. This is making data checking more time consuming.

c) Data dissemination

- ITTO: published the [Biennial Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation 2021-2022](#) in the summer 2023. Updated the [online database](#) in July 2023. The next update is scheduled in July 2024. Completed a long-term review of the consumption and trade of tropical primary and secondary wood products in the world over the period 1990-2020. It will be published in 2024.
- FAO: Yearbook of Forest Products discontinued. [Sustainability by numbers - Forest products at FAO](#) accompanied with FAOSTAT data snapshot was published in October 2023. Preliminary data in [FAOSTAT](#) were released in September, and final data in December 2023. Summary on the main wood products derived from wood were also published in the corporate Yearbook ([World Food and Agriculture – Statistical Yearbook 2023](#)) and included in the forthcoming State of the World's Forests 2024 publication.
- Eurostat: [Data](#), [metadata](#) and a 'Statistics Explained' article ([Wood products: production and trade](#)) were published October 2023.
- UNECE: Publication of the Forest Products Annual Market Review 2022-2023, Data Briefs (pulp and paper, wood energy, sawn softwood), and the Forecast of the Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry: Forest Products Production and Trade 2023-2024.

d) Data validation - discrepancies identified:

- Validation process: Diverging across organizations. Eurostat is now doing some imputation. FAO and ECE datasets are diverging.
- Misclassifications: Apparent misclassifications by customs. Problems at disaggregate level remain, e.g. Fibreboard.
- Apparent consumption

ITTO: There are no problems of apparent consumption during the period 1990-2022. Nevertheless, we will improve the reporting by implementing the conversion factors in our database of the [sawnwood](#) study that we released in 2021 and of veneer and plywood from the study we should release this year.

- Annual changes
 - FAO: Steep jump and decline in Viet Nam's veneer sheets production (export to China) needs investigation and confirmation. Repeating production and trade data for some key producers remains an issue. **FAO and ITTO to check, 2021 in particular.**
- Unit price
- Global checks
- f) Data exchanges among partner organizations
 - ITTO: the JQs are transmitted to FAO as soon we receive them from our member countries.
 - FAO: Sent all JFSQs to ITTO.
 - Eurostat: **To send** first and revised versions of JFSQ submissions to ECE, together with validation reports.
 - UNECE: JQs are shared with ITTO in batches. Processed data was provided to FAOSTAT in July and November for the August and December FAOSTAT uploads. There is divergence of data between ECE and FAO, notably Russian Federation and Belarus. **ECE to copy Eurostat on log of changes.**
 - IWG: There is need to improve data exchange to avoid overwriting data that has already been revised with old data.
- g) Ancillary statistical activities by individual organizations
 - FAO: Pulp and paper capacities survey 2022-2024 was published in September.
 - Eurostat: WG for Forestry held in March, 2023. European Forest Accounts data collection launched in June 2023, closed in December 2023. Data, metadata and SE article [Forests, forestry and logging](#) published in December 2023. JFSQ statistics, conversion factors and definitions are drawn upon for e.g. Eurostat Forest Accounts, EU Taxonomy, Draft regulation on forest inventory. There is a link between JFSQ and Forest accounts on supply of wood, which can be used for comparison during checking.
 - UNECE: The Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics (ToS FPWES) met in May 2023, and organized a number of activities over the course of the year. This included a [Survey on Removals Statistics](#) that evaluated the national methodology used for removals statistics, to identify differences among reporting countries. UNECE also began development of a modern central data platform to replace the current Access database, and consulted on the approach with the ToS FPWES and the ECE/FAO Joint Working Party on Forest Sector Statistics, Economics and Management. The ToS FPWES statistics also prepared two summaries of activities for the Joint session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry and the FAO European Forestry Commission. UNECE also organized a 3-module capacity building webinar on the Joint Wood Energy Enquiry in April 2023 and conducted JWEE data collection in 2023.
- h) Results of the 2022 JFSQ revision
 - FAO: New products added to the working system, plans to unveil new series in FAOSTAT depending on quality and availability of data.
 - Eurostat: Did not have major confidentiality issues with new products.
 - UNECE: No major issues in replies. UNECE organized a webinar for statistical correspondents to introduce the changes on 3 April 2023. The Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics had diverging views on the preferred way to integrate Engineered Wood Products into the JFSQ structure. Some would like a unified EWP subheading on JQ1 and JQ2, which is challenging given that I-Beams are reported

in metric tonnes. Some would like to split laminate veneer lumber from plywood, which is complicated because it would result in a break in series for the plywood subheading in the JFSQ.

- i) Pending issues
 - ITTO: continuous verification of the domestic consumption and the roundwood availability.
 - FAO: To compare industrial roundwood production statistics with ITTO.
 - Eurostat: may publish sawdust data based on availability and quality
 - UNECE: see annex 1

3. The JFSQ cycle in 2024

- a) Possible future improvements to the questionnaire were discussed, as summarized below. Agreed changes are detailed in Annex 3:
 - Wood charcoal: added HS2022 code 4402.20 in wood charcoal.
 - JQ3 items 13 and 14 were reformatted so that no data is requested for these aggregates.
 - Item 15 (GLULAM + CLT) from the JFSQ for 2022 data was eliminated. Glulam, CLT and I-Beam numbering was changed from 15.1, 15.2 and 16, respectively, to 13.4.1, 13.4.2, and 13.4.3, respectively. The definition of item 13.4 was reverted to its definition from JFSQ 2021. The footnote for item 13.4 on JQ3 in the JFSQ for 2022 data was eliminated. The HS correspondence for 13.4 was updated to include 4418.81/82/83.
 - Changes in JFSQ will be presented to correspondents in a webinar by ECE. Eurostat will also present update at its March meeting.
 - Add CPC Ver.3 codes to JQ Suppl.1 sheet (the classification will be approved by UNSC in early March). The number of ex codes has been significantly reduced. **FAO will update JQ Annex 1.**
 - The **IWG agreed** to rename item 5 “Wood pellets and other agglomerates” as “Wood pellets, briquettes and other agglomerates”, and to rename item 5.2 “Other agglomerates” as “Wood briquettes and other agglomerates”.
 - Not possible to enter three dots (...) due to cell write protection. **IWG agreed** to remove the write protection and allow correspondents to put three dots (...).
 - **IWG agreed to ask the ToS** if laminate flooring should be considered a primary or secondary product, given information that it is being reported under 4411. **FAO to confirm if consultation with ToS is needed and provide presentation to Team.** Currently our export/import data for fibreboard include laminate flooring. This represents trade flows worth in billions USD.
 - Wood biochar is increasingly visible. **FAO to research** whether it could be mentioned in our definitions for IWG 2025.
 - **ITTO to update** JQ Annex 4 to include HS2022.
 - **Eurostat to survey** correspondents at March 2024 meeting to ask whether all JFSQ annexes are used, and if additional correspondence codes would be useful, and to bring recommendation to IWG 2025.
 - LVL definitions.
 - The definition of Laminated Veneer Lumber in the HS2022 explanatory notes, compared to the JFSQ definition, was presented to the Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics (ToS FPWES) in May 2023, noting a question about whether LVL is design to support structural loads. The Team was asked for guidance on whether the definition should be revised. The Team

agreed this topic deserves more attention and expressed interest in organizing a dedicated webinar with industry to discuss in more detail.

- HS explanatory notes can be updated at any time, with good justification. **ToS to consider** in 2024 and give proposal, to be validated by IWG 2025 and submitted as part of a comprehensive package on chapter 44 from the IWG. Other topics for HS explanatory notes include fibreboard, EWP, wood chips.
- Non tropical timber exported from tropical countries:
 - ITTO provided the following information on non-coniferous, non-tropical imports from Tropical countries (as defined by ITTO) to the 2023 ToS FPWES:
 - Industrial Roundwood: 215,000 m³
 - Sawnwood: 80,000 m³
 - Veneer Sheets: 10,000
 - Plywood: 1,473,000 m³
 - The JFSQ footnote on non-coniferous, non-tropical species was presented to the Team. It reads: *“Please include the non-coniferous non-tropical species exported by tropical countries or imported from tropical countries.”* This footnote applies to the items: 1.2.NC.T Tropical Non-Coniferous Industrial Roundwood and 6.NC.T Tropical Non-Coniferous Sawnwood. The Secretariat of the ToS, on behalf of the IWG, then asked the Team for guidance on whether this footnote should be applied to tropical non-coniferous codes under items 7 (Veneer Sheets) and 8 (Wood Based Panels).

The Team suggested that the footnote should be worded: *“correspondents are requested to check bilateral trade and include non-coniferous non-tropical species exported by tropical countries or imported from tropical countries if the wood is credibly sourced from the tropical country”* as a best practice guidance to correspondents, rather than a definitional requirement. As a “requested check”, national correspondents would be in a position to determine whether or not to report flows as tropical, after considering potential issues such as re-exports. In this case, the Team agreed the revised footnote could be applied to tropical non-coniferous codes under items 7 and 8 as well.

The IWG agreed to update the footnote to read: *“correspondents are requested to check bilateral trade and include non-coniferous non-tropical species exported by tropical countries or imported from tropical countries or areas (see list in JQ Annex 5) if the wood is credibly sourced from the tropical country or area”* And to include the footnote for tropical items under Veneer and Wood Based Panels on JQ2 and ITTO1.

- At least two correspondents (Sweden and Netherlands) wanted to see “stemwood” as an item on JQ removals. This may be too hard for many countries but a special questionnaire might be useful, perhaps as part of a larger exercise on removals data practices in countries.
 - The ToS FPWES (May 2023) noted that national profiles of removals statistics definitions, based on the findings of the Survey on Removals (https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2023-11/ECE_TIM_2023_Inf.6-FAO_EFC_2023_Inf.6_0.pdf) could be useful, and noted that the continued work of the ToS FPWES Ad Hoc Task Group on Removals Statistics may help facilitate comparability of removals statistics across countries.
 - The IWG thanked the ToS for its work. The IWG does not have sufficient information to assess whether it would be feasible to introduce this to the JFSQ

at this time. **Eurostat** to check historical data collection efforts on this topic and consult with countries in March 2024 to assess whether reporting is feasible.

- The IWG agreed not to merge JQ2 and JQ3.
- The IWG agreed that FAO will finalize the JFSQ questionnaire by March 22.

b) Deadlines and data exchanges

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Eurostat</i>	<i>UNECE</i>	<i>ITTO</i>	<i>FAO</i>
Send out JFSQ to countries (as per Annex 4)	April 8	April 8	June 3	June 3
Deadline for countries responses	June 10	June 10	September 30	July 10
Internal deadline (last day for new data additions)	July 10	July 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mar 2025 (for the Biennial Review revised 2023 estimated 2024) 	Nov 1
Basic validation	July 31	Subject to resource availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oct 1st 2024 for JQ 2023 • Mar 2025 (for the Biennial Review) 	Nov 11
Analytical validation (last day for data changes)	Sept 15	Subject to resource availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mar 2025 (for the Biennial Review) 	Nov 18
Dispatch to ECE	JQ as received			
Dispatch to FAO (for checking and final)		JQ as received	JQ as received	
Dispatch JQ to ITTO	JQ originals for ITTO countries as received, eliminating any confidential elements	JQ as received		JQ as received
Database upload	25 Sept	Subject to resource availability	Not decided	Nov 29

c) **Future: Ideas for JFSQ updates linked to the HS2028 revisions.**

- The IWG will consult as needed with the ToS on questions and recommendations for updates to the JFSQ.

4. Global classifications:

a) HS2028 round.

- Current progress and next steps. FAO submitted many proposed changes which are currently within the HS review mechanism and pending formal approval.
- b) Combined Nomenclature
 - **Eurostat** will look into options to submit a CN code for recovered post-consumer wood.
 - c) Conversion factors in ITTO/COMTRADE: ITTO will release conversion factors on tropical veneer and plywood in 2024. Released logs and sawnwood in 2023. **IWG agreed** to include a link to the conversion factors publication in the JFSQ conversion factors tab.
 - d) Annex to chapter 44 “Appellation of certain tropical woods” **In progress**. ITTO and FAO participated in the work of the restricted working group set up by WCO with the task of revising the Annex to the Explanatory Notes to HS Chapter 44, entitled “Appellation of certain tropical woods”. The group consists of WCO Secretariat, FAO, ITTO, the International Tropical Timber Technical Association (ATIBT), the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD). The working group met several times from July 2023 to January 2024 and will present its report at the next HS Committee meeting in March 2024.
 - e) Standard international energy product classification (SIEC) revision:
 - The revision process is ongoing, it is planned to have new version of SIEC by March 2025. FAO is regularly attending meetings and providing inputs. UNECE previously provided inputs via the InterEnerStat group on wood fuel.
 - f) Update from CPC ver.3. **FAO** will include CPC ver.3 in JQ Annex 1.
 - g) UNCTAD Informal Working Group on Trade and Biodiversity Statistics: this is a new working group. ECE provided information on the existing forest products statistics, and the draft classification in the working group is largely aligned with the JFSQ. **ECE** will request UNCTAD to include all IWG members in the working group mailing list.
 - h) **Eurostat** will prepare a PRODCOM-JFSQ correspondence table.

5. Other Business

- a) Inclusion of engineered wood products as a JQ4 in the future. IWG decided not to do this.
- b) EPF wood construction survey request.
 - At the 2023 ToS meeting a representative from the European Organization of the Sawmill Industry, presented a proposal to work with the team to develop statistics to track the market share of wood-based buildings in the ECE region. The Team agreed that the ToS Leadership would consider this request and potential steps in further detail.
 - The IWG noted this and supported the ToS to decide how to proceed.
- c) Organizational and staff changes
 - ITTO: Mr. Stephen Johnson retired and was replaced by Mr. Nurudeen Mohammed Iddisu.
 - FAO: Mr. Arvydas Lebedys returned from secondment at IRENA. Mr. Roberto Bargigia left in November 2023, recruitment ongoing.
 - UNECE: Undergoing Structural staff changes. Ms. Subashini Narasimhan completed her time with the section at the end of Dec 2023.
 - UNECE provided an update on plans for a new database.
- d) National correspondents:
 - FAO has received official nominations for correspondents from 9 additional countries, bringing the total to 26 countries that have nominated a correspondent: Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational state of), Brunei Darussalam, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Jordan, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Lesotho, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Pakistan, Singapore, South Africa, Uruguay, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
 - ECE and Eurostat agreed to exchange lists of focal points for Eurostat members.

- e) The 38th IWG meeting will be held in Rome, hosted by FAO, tentatively from 8-10 January 2025.

6. Meetings of Interest to IWG

- *14–15 March 2024*: Eurostat Working Group on Forestry Statistics and Accounts, Luxembourg
- *19–21 March 2024*: ITTO–FAO Meso-American workshop on Forest Products Statistics, Zapopan, Mexico
- *20 - 21 May 2024*: [3rd Meeting of the Joint ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics](#), Geneva Switzerland
- *22 - 24 May 2024*: [45th session of the joint FAO/UNECE Working Party on Forest Statistics, Economics and Management](#), Geneva Switzerland
- *13 - 15 November 2024*: [Eighty-second session of the ECE Committee on Forests and the Forest Industry](#), Geneva Switzerland

ANNEX 1 - PENDING ISSUES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

	Pending issue/action point	Status
	FAO to remove the write protection and allow correspondents to put three dots (...).	Pending, to implement for JFSQ for 2023 data
	ITTO is currently (2023 IWG) in communication with the WCO for the revision of the annex and explore the possibility to replace the Annex by the most recent ATIBT nomenclature (7 th edition).	From July 2023 there have been 3 meetings with WCO to provide input. Nomenclature of Tropical Timber will be used as an annex to HS. Done, closed.
	Conversion factors in ITTO/COMTRADE: Code estimated in COMTRADE are: 0-2-4-6. 0 is no estimation, 2 is weight estimated, 4 is volume estimated and 6 is weight and volume estimated. Value is never estimated.	FAO to follow up with COMTRADE to know if they have updated the conversion factors to the latest ones. Room for improvement for these conversion factors as their scope seems limited. Still pending.
	Code for post-consumer recovered wood in CN. Definitions of post-consumer recovered wood. IWG 2023 agreed it will be submitted in 2024. Needs to be submitted by end March 2024 or else will not be in time for this HS cycle.	The ECE/FAO Team of Specialists on Forest Products and Wood Energy Statistics at its second meeting (May 2023) supported including more detailed codes in the Combined Nomenclature covering wood waste, to further reduce overlap between item 3.2 and item 4. This would make it possible to gather trade data that could be used to develop a proposed code to include in the HS2032 revision. FAO will provide background information to Eurostat to support a proposal to create a CN code. In Progress
	ECE will send questionnaire and data from 2018 EWP.	Done.
	Future developments of the JFSQ: merging JQ2 and JQ3 but no mirror with JQ1. <u>Geneva to discuss with ToS meeting for feedback.</u>	Was not discussed at 2023 ToS meeting
	<u>ITTO to check the non-coniferous non tropical timber exported from tropical countries.</u> To be reported in the future to the IWG 2024 and, also to the Team of Specialist in 29-30 May 2023. This would give an idea about how much non-coniferous non-tropical timber is exported from tropical countries for sawnwood, veneer and plywood. <u>ITTO to come with an example to be included in the footnotes of JQ2.</u>	Resolved. ITTO provided example for 2023 ToS FPWES

	Added definitions of LVL and engineered wood products. 2023 IWG agreed to discuss LVL definitions with the ToS.	2023 ToS meeting requested further discussion. Pending
	<u>ITTO to find a list of what is considered tropical countries</u> so that non-coniferous material traded with tropical countries can be identified across agencies and for transparency with data users.	ITTO to include list of tropical countries and territories as Annex 5 in the JQ
	ECE will continue to work on improving the definition of chips and particles.	Transferred to Team of Specialists for further discussions. At 2023 meeting, team proposed a dedicated webinar. Date TBD
	[Canada chip production] Should be revised backward or fixed from 1998 onwards and wood residues production from 1993 onwards. Postponed to 2024.	Canada chip: drop from 70 to 24 million in one year. Prior to that drop, 10 years repeated data. ECE to request Canada to check and update the historical series.
	ECE will be trying to fix this [IRW data 1964-1989] and will share the correction file with FAO. In progress. Missing quantity, but value reported.	Cleaned in FAOSTAT from 1995 onward. Pending, postponed to 2025.
	Ex-codes problems in item 3.2 and 4 cause problems for countries. Since this will not be fixed in HS2022 we should consider other solutions at next IWG meeting	Closed, see above.
	FAO is discussing internally with FAOSTAT and will provide updated flags to partners. Issue: where countries report official aggregate totals, and ECE estimates disaggregates, it will be reaggregated in FAOSTAT and flagged as an estimate, not official.	Under internal discussion at FAO. Ongoing discussions at IWG and implication for missing values. ToS is interested (May 2023) in a webinar to discuss current status. Still in progress at FAO. Rule of 70% weight of official volume/value to make an aggregate flagged as official. Not yet implemented in FAOSTAT – planned 2024.
	Stemwood, roundwood, removals and wood fuel: broad definitions. ECE will pursue this in a Team of Specialist sub-group.	The ToS prioritized a review of Removals definitions. In 2023, it proposed fact sheets with an overview of national definitions. No proposal for updated standard definition. Closed, no action other than webinar.

Annex 2- Ex-codes and what to do with them

The most important point with the ex-codes is that we don't undercount data (by not including it) and we don't double count it (by including in each parent JQ item).

Tropical items (1.2.NC.T, 6.NC.T, 8.1.NC.T)

We managed, in HS2017, to put ALL the tropical items into single HS groups for each product. Before that they were in an "other" category that combined with non-tropical non-coniferous.

The codes that are left for 1.2.NC.T and 6.NC.T are pretty minor (4403.12, 4406.12)

For plywood it can still be significant. However this should be fixed in HS2022.

In any case, the "recommended" procedure for all tropical items is to look at the imports from tropical countries for the total non-coniferous category and not to rely on assuming the goods have been correctly classified as tropical/non-tropical. The countries should be those ITTO classifies as tropical producers (https://www.itto.int/about_itto/members/). This does imply pretty significant work.

Wood residues and recovered post-consumer wood (3.2 / 4)

This code can't be easily split. We tried to get recovered wood into HS2022 and were rejected because we could not provide a good enough distinction.

Ideally a country will have some study or analysis which would give a level for the amount of traded recovered wood. Also, if there is no sawmilling industry we could assume almost all the exports would be recovered wood.

Countries give data sometimes for only 1 item (typically 3.2). In this case we can just leave item 4 empty (not zero).

The secretariat could analyze data that seems correct and calculate a standard split. This can be tricky because the data from countries that are "correctly" reporting may not be typical of all countries with different industry structure.

Failing all else, we can just divide the data for 4401.40 equally across both JQ items. As we have different units (m3 /mt) the source data should be converted correctly.

Plywood coniferous and non-coniferous (8.1.C, 8.1.NC)

We can leave this alone for time being, the HS2022 codes will include a more comprehensive split of coniferous and non-coniferous.

Fibreboard (8.3.2, 8.3.3)

We assigned, in 2017, code 4411.14 to both of these items and asked countries to make the split as they could (see note on annex sheet in JFSQ). We don't need to change the note now and should review it in HS2022.

If the country has data (more detailed trade classification or perhaps on production), it can make its own expert judgement.

Failing all else, if we have to make a decision on splitting 4411.14, we currently say to put it all into 8.3.2 (MDF).

Wooden furniture (13.5)

We can leave this alone for time being, the HS2022 codes will include a split of these items into wooden and non-wooden furniture parts.

Printing and writing paper, ready for use (14.5.1)

This is quite unclear as to how much actual printing and writing paper winds up here. We don't have enough knowledge to propose anything.

ECE cover letter comments on handling “ex” codes

Changes to the HS classification introduce a number of “ex” codes, codes that only partially apply to a specific JFSQ item. The IWG suggests that HS “ex” codes be divided amongst JFSQ items by one of the following procedures (listed in order of preference):

- The preferred solution is to use a more-detailed national classification system (where this exists) to assign subcodes of the “ex” codes into the correct JFSQ item;
- Use expert judgement to assign the volume and value of trade in the “ex” codes to the correct JFSQ item;
- Divide the data for volume and value of trade of the “ex” codes amongst the JFSQ items to which they apply.
- Correspondents are requested, when completing JQ2, to cross-check the data classified by HS code in national trade statistics as "tropical" with the data classified by actual country of origin.

Annex 3 – Updates to JFSQ for 2023 Data

Updates agreed by IWG 2024 in February 2024

- Removed red font for updates made in JFSQ for 2022 data (except for ex codes)
- Renamed the following products in JQ1, JQ2, Annex 2, conversion factors, (Excel File) and definitions (Word doc) (added text in red font):
 - Item 5: Wood Pellets, **Briquettes** and Other Agglomerates
 - Item 5.2: **Wood Briquettes and** Other Agglomerates
- Deleted aggregate product code 15 (GLULAM and Cross-Laminated Timber) in JQ1, JQ2, Annex 2, conversion factors, (Excel File) and definitions (Word doc).
- Revised the following product codes in JQ1, JQ2, Annex 2, conversion factors, (Excel File) and definitions (Word doc):
 - 15.1 is now 13.4.1, GLULAM
 - 15.2 is now 13.4.2, Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT or X-LAM)
 - 16 is now 13.4.3, I-Beams (I-Joists)
- Updated Footnote for item 13.4 in JQ Annex 3
- Updated wording of footnote 1 in JQ1 Production
- Updated wording of footnote 1 in JQ2 Trade
 - Added footnote 1 to items 7.NC.T, 8.1.NC.T, and 8.1.1.NC.T
- Updated wording of footnote 2 in JQ2 Trade
- Updated wording of footnote 1 in ITTO-1 Estimates
 - Added footnote 1 to items 7.NC.T and 8.1.NC.T
- Added Conversion Factors Sheet
 - Added link to ITTO country specific conversion factors for products 1.2.NC.T and 6.NC.T
 - Added Footnote 1 for items 13.4.1, 13.4.2, and 13.4.3
- Updated Annex 2
 - HS2022 correspondence for product 2.
- Updated Annex 3
 - HS2022 correspondence for product 13.4
- Updated Annex 4 to include HS2022 correspondence
- Added List of Tropical Countries and Territories

Annex 4 - JSFQ distribution in 2024

AFRICA (54):

FAO (40): Algeria, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Chad, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

ITTO (14): Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Ghana, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Togo.

ASIA (47):

ECE (10): Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan.

Eurostat (1): Cyprus.

FAO(25): Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Rep.), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao PDR, Lebanon, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

ITTO (11): Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Viet Nam.

EUROPE (40):

ECE (10): Albania, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Serbia, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Eurostat (30): Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

NORTHERN AMERICA (2)

ECE (2): Canada, United States of America.

LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN (33)

FAO (20): Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational state of), Chile, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Uruguay.

ITTO (13): Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

OCEANIA (16)

FAO (12): Cook Islands, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federal States of), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu.

ITTO (4): Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea.

Total (192): ECE - 22, Eurostat - 31, FAO - 97, ITTO - 42