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**Appendix III.**

**STUDIES AND REPORTS ON  
STATISTICAL METHODS**  
No. 2

# **MINIMUM LIST OF COMMODITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS**

**REVISED EDITION**

**PREPARED BY THE**

**COMMITTEE OF STATISTICAL EXPERTS**

**LEAGUE OF NATIONS  
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II. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL

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Appendix IV.

# MINIMUM LIST OF COMMODITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS

## ADDENDUM AND CORRIGENDUM

to the REVISED EDITION prepared by the  
COMMITTEE OF STATISTICAL EXPERTS

and published in

STUDIES AND REPORTS ON STATISTICAL METHODS No. 2

(Official No.: C.226.M.128.1938.II.A, Appendix III)

LEAGUE OF NATIONS  
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Series of League of Nations Publications

II. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL  
1938. II.A. 14. Corrigendum.

**A. EXTRACT FROM PART IV OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF STATISTICAL EXPERTS ON THE WORK OF ITS EIGHTH SESSION**  
(document C.133.M.85.1939.II.A).

3. The results of the enquiry concerning the reasons why certain countries have not applied the classification by stage of production and use do not justify a change of the original grouping. The number of countries which apply or are in favour of the original grouping is much greater than the number of countries which have raised objections to it. The Committee therefore recommends that the original classification as shown in the "Minimum List" should be applied and that the abridged classification submitted by the Committee as a possible alternative<sup>1</sup> should be employed only where a condensed presentation is adequate.

4. Some countries have encountered difficulties in applying the classification by use on account of the fact that the actual use of a given commodity in the country concerned does not justify the allocation to the category by use indicated in the "Minimum List". When deciding upon the allocation of commodities to a given group by use, the Committee was guided in doubtful cases by the most important use to which each commodity is put. If one and the same commodity is used for different purposes, the "List" frequently offers alternative allocations. As it was obviously impossible to enumerate all special cases, the Committee wishes to state, as a general principle, that the allocation of commodities to specific groups, in accordance with the use to which they are actually put in the country concerned, is intended to apply even if that use is not indicated in the "Minimum List" as a possible alternative. No similar problem arises in connection with the grouping by stage of production.<sup>2</sup>

5. In the practical application of the "Minimum List", doubts have arisen as to the grouping of certain commodities not separately specified in the "Minimum List" or in the International Customs Nomenclature. The allocation of such commodities, and other points of detail, are dealt with in the Appendix.

**B. ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS**

to be made in the

"MINIMUM LIST OF COMMODITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS" (REVISED EDITION, 1938)

**I. Additions.**

Without prejudice to the classification for purposes of the Draft Customs Nomenclature, the Committee made the following decision for trade statistical purposes:

M. L. Item No.		Corresponding item of the Draft Customs Nomenclature (D.C.N.)	Classification by stage of production and use
329.	<i>To read:</i>		
	Scrap iron and steel, including ships for breaking up:		4b
	a. Scrap iron and steel.	698	•
	b. Ships for breaking up.	*	•
	<i>Footnote: * Not separately specified in the Customs Nomenclature.</i>		
401. } 402. }	<i>Add the footnote: "See item 329b, for ships for breaking up".</i>		

<sup>1</sup> See "Studies and Reports on Statistical Methods", No. 2, pages 6 and 7.

<sup>2</sup> For instance, item 26, wheat, which has at present a fixed allocation—namely, group 1a—might, if the country has the necessary data, be allocated partly to group 1a (when intended for human food) and partly to 2a (when intended for feeding-stuffs for animals), as is done at present in the case of items 30 and 32 (barley and maize—each of which has an alternative allocation, 1a or 2a). The allocation of an item to a lettered group (a, b, c) other than the one shown in list B would, however, not be acceptable.

## II. Changes and Corrections.

M. L. Item No.		Corresponding Item of the Draft Customs Nomenclature (D.C.N.)	Classification by stage of production and use	
	(a) In both the English and the French texts :			
22.	} <i>To add:</i>	}		
23.			(39)	
25b.			(39)	
60.	} In the D.C.N. column, <i>allocate</i> the whole of 124 to M.L.62.	}		
62.			(39)	
73a.	} In the D.C.N. column, <i>transfer</i> part of 143 to M.L.73a.	}		
73b.				
397b.	<i>To read:</i> Parts of motor-cycles (except motors, rubber tyres and electric parts); parts of side-cars, except rubber tyres.			
399.	<i>Omit</i> " and pieces ", and <i>add</i> " of such vehicles ".			
401.	} <i>In the last column, read:</i>	}	7c or 10c	
a.			"	
b.			"	
	c.	"	"	
	<i>(Note: This entails consequential changes on pp. 47, 51, 52, 53.)</i>			
401c.	In the D.C.N. column, <i>for</i> " 905b, c ", <i>read:</i>	(905b, c)		
408e.	In the D.C.N. column, <i>for</i> " 39 ", <i>read:</i>	(39)		
449.	<i>To read:</i> Other printed matter, on paper or cardboard.			
452b.	<i>For</i> " admitted ", <i>read</i> " imported or exported ".			
	<i>Delete the asterisks against the following:</i> 122, 124a, 124b, 172, 281, 282.			
	<i>Insert asterisks against the following:</i> 56, 56c; the a and b of 73; 80; the b and c of 112; 171; the a and b of 197; 221; 221b; 222a, b; the a and b of 262; 363, 363a, 412, 439, 444.			
	<i>To correct the following pages:</i>			
	Page	Group	Item	Correction
	43	3c	444.	<i>To read</i> " (444) ".
	50	9c	444.	<i>To read</i> " (444) ".
	45	6a, b	(273).	<i>To make cross-references.</i>
	50	10c	(354).	<i>For</i> " 7c ", <i>read</i> " 4c ".
	(b) In the French text only:			
85a.	<i>To read:</i> a. feuilles, écôtées ou non.			
112.	<i>Replace</i> the colon by a comma.			
124a.	<i>For</i> " le collodion ", <i>read</i> " les collodions ".			
207.	<i>For</i> " brut ", <i>read</i> " bruts ".			
255.	<i>In the last column, read:</i>			
302b.	In the D.C.N. column, <i>for</i> " 656, 659 ", <i>read:</i>	656-659	9c ou 3c	
393.	In the D.C.N. column, <i>for</i> " 890b-c ", <i>read:</i>	890b-e		
450.	<i>Delete</i> " sur papier ou carton ".			
	<i>To correct the following pages:</i>			
	Page	Correction.		
	3.	<i>In the last column, for</i> " 66 ", <i>read</i> " 60 ".		
	8.	<i>In line 9, for</i> " groupes ", <i>read</i> " chapitres ".		
	53.	<i>In group 9, for</i> " 222 ", <i>read</i> " (222) ".		

## II. Changes and Corrections (*continued*).

M. L. Item No.		Corresponding item of the Draft Customs Nomenclature (D.C.N.)	Classification by stage of production and use
	<i>(c) In the English text only:</i>		
47a.	In the D.C.N. column, for "54a", read:		(54a)
176.	To read: Chemical pulp, of wood, of straw, of fibre and of rags.		
214b.	For "henneguen", read "hennequen".		
250a.	Replace the colon by a comma.		
363b.	To read: Chains.		
369b.	In the D.C.N. column, for "801", read:		(801)
400c.	Delete "bodies".		

To correct the following pages:

Page	Group	Item	Correction
40	3a	(212).	To delete the brackets.
44	4c	304.	For "304a, c", read "304a-c".
46	7c	381.	For "381a", read "381 (a)".
52	7c	258.	For "258", read "358".
53	9	234.	For "234b", read "134b".
53	9	235.	For "235", read "135".

## III. Summary.

For the convenience of national compilers and others, three lists are given below, showing the numbers of the items affected by the changes—other than the changes in the D.C.N. reference column—due to the 1938 revision (and to this Addendum), as shown by comparing the Edition of 1938 (See "Studies and Reports on Statistical Methods", No. 2), as amended above, with the original edition of 1935 (January 1937 reprint).

*Note:* "F" means "French text only"; "E" means "English text only".

(a) *Changes in content* (including possible sources of error arising from the old edition):

47a (E)	112c	221	302a	381b	443a b
56	122 <sup>1</sup>	221b	302b	399	444
56c	161	222	341	401	447c
73a	162	222a b	363	401c	447d
73b	171	225a	363a	402	452b <sup>2</sup>
80	197a	225b	363d	412	
85a (F)	197b	262a	369b (E)	439	
112b	206 <sup>3</sup>	262b	381a	443	

(b) *Changes in title:*

42a (E)	116d h	195	263b	350	423
56 (F)	117a	197	265	352 (F)	424
56a (E)	122 <sup>1</sup>	206a b <sup>2</sup>	281	363b (E)	426
73a (F)	124a b	214b (E)	282	378	443
85a (F)	136	218	302a	381	449
86c	161	219b	307c	384 (E)	450 (F)
97b (E)	162	222	310	397b	452b
112 (F)	176 (E)	232 (E)	316a	399	
116	188c	250a (E)	329	400c (E)	

(c) *Changes in classification by stage of production and by use:*

Specifically: 222, 401, 444.

<sup>1</sup> Sub-items suppressed; content unchanged.

<sup>2</sup> Order of a and b reversed; respective contents unchanged.

<sup>3</sup> Content unchanged, but sub-item extended to cover exports.

## CONTENTS

	Page
PREFACE .....	4
REPORT ON THE APPLICATION AND REVISION OF THE MINIMUM LIST OF COMMODITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS .....	5
[Part III of the Report of the Committee of Statistical Experts on the Work of its Seventh Session (document C.226.M.128.1938.II.A).]	
<b>Appendix.</b>	
<b>MINIMUM LIST OF COMMODITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS :</b>	
Introductory Note .....	7
A. Classification of the Sections and Chapters .....	9
B. Classification by Sections, Chapters, Items and Sub-items .....	11
<b>Annex I. — CLASSIFICATION OF COMMODITIES BY STAGE OF PRODUCTION AND USE :</b>	
Introduction .....	34
A. List of Groups .....	34
B. Discussion of the Principles of Classification involved :	
I. Inter-relation of the Principles of State of Production and Use .....	36
II. The Segregation of Food .....	36
III. Classification by Stage of Production .....	36
IV. Classification by Use :	
(a) Distinction between Materials for Production, Producers' Equipment and Consumers' Goods .....	37
(b) Sub-groups of Materials for Production .....	37
V. Difficulties of Allocation of Commodities among the Groups .....	38
C. Classification by Stage of Production and Use .....	38
<b>Annex II. — STATEMENT REGARDING THE PRINCIPLES WHICH HAVE GUIDED THE COMMITTEE OF STATISTICAL EXPERTS IN THE PREPARATION OF THE MINIMUM LIST OF COMMODITIES FOR FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS :</b>	
Introduction .....	54
A. Individual Items in the List :	
I. Number of Items and Sub-items .....	54
II. Principles considered in determining the Length of the List .....	54
III. Relation of Individual Items to Items in the Project for Customs Nomenclature .....	55
B. Sections and Chapters of the Minimum List :	
I. Purpose of the Grouping by Chapters .....	56
II. General Principles of Commodity Classification .....	56
(1) Classification by Nature and Origin of Basic Material .....	57
(2) Classification by Stage of Production .....	57
(3) Classification by Use .....	58
III. Application of Principles of Classification in the Framework of the Minimum List .....	59
IV. Analysis of the Framework of the Minimum List .....	60