

**DISSEMINATION OF THE INTEGRATED DATA BASE (IDB) AND
THE CONSOLIDATED TARIFF SCHEDULES (CTS) DATABASE**

Communication from UNESCAP

Addendum

The following communication, dated 16 June 2004, was received from the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) in response to a letter by the Chairperson and is being circulated at her request.

Thank you for your letter dated 27 May 2004, informing that the Committee on Market Access approved UNESCAP's request for access to the WTO's Integrated Database and Consolidated Tariff Schedules (CTS) database. We look forward to putting these databases to good use, paying close attention to the conditions for use and publication of IDB and CTS information as set out in document G/MA/115.

Your letter also inquired what data UNESCAP may have that it could share with WTO. In this regard, UNESCAP serves as the secretariat to the Bangkok Agreement, a preferential trade agreement between Asian developing countries. The concessions that have been agreed upon between Bangkok Agreement member countries can be found at the website <http://www.unescap.org/tid/Bkkagr.asp>. Of particular use may be the preferential tariff data that are to be found in the Bangkok Agreement members' national list of concessions. A new round of negotiations under the Bangkok Agreement has recently been completed, and the list of concessions agreed upon during the round will soon be placed on the above-mentioned website.

I would also like to inform you that the website www.unescap.org/stat/data provides links to the main statistical data holdings of UNESCAP. In addition, the Statistics Division of UNESCAP is compiling, from national and international sources, core socio-economic indicators for the 58 regional members and associate members of ESCAP. They are published in the 'Statistical Yearbook for Asia and Pacific' (annual), 'Asia-Pacific in Figures' (annual) and 'Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific' (quarterly). The intention is to create dynamic delivery systems for all three in the next few months. The 'Asia-Pacific in Figures' website <http://www.unescap.org/stat/data/apif> is already in a database format, in English, Chinese and Russian languages. 'Statistical Indicators for Asia and the Pacific' is available for download through <http://www.unescap.org/stat/data/statind> as a PDF printout. The Yearbook can be delivered by e-mail in the same format.
