

Measuring Global Production Arrangements in the Dutch National Accounts

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Paper Abstract: 1. Starting with the year 2010 the Dutch national accounts are compiled according to the SNA 2008 concepts. One of the most important changes in the SNA compared with the previous edition is that the principle of economic ownership as the basis for measuring economic transactions is applied universally and without exceptions. This change was implemented to improve the description in the national accounts of the growing globalisation of economic processes, in which production processes are more and more fragmented over different countries.

2. The Netherlands is a small country with an open international oriented economy. This means that the consequences for the Dutch national accounts of the new accounting rules of the SNA2008 are significant. Important globalisation arrangements of which the registration is influenced strongly by the introduction of the new concepts are:

- Goods sent abroad for processing
- Merchanting
- Other types of arrangements, for example factoryless goods producers (FGP's)

3. These global production arrangements will be reviewed in more detail in section 2.

4. Determining the right value of the transactions involved is one difficult task we face; detecting these arrangements when they appear is another one.

5. The available statistical sources are not always suited to meet the demands of the new SNA, but do nevertheless provide useful information as will be described in section 3.