

Adaption of Data Collection and Analysis to Capture the Economic Activities of Multi-National Enterprises in the National Accounts of Israel

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As part of the increasing economic globalization, economic activities of multi-national enterprises have had a growing impact on the national economies in recent decades. But the measurement of this impact in national accounts and balance of payments has been difficult, and the impression is that important parts of the economic activities have not been captured in a satisfactory way. In the recent updates of the System of National Accounts (SNA 2008) and the Balance of Payments Manual (BPM6), the growing globalization has been recognized, and recommendations have been changed in order to account for activities such as international merchanting, international outsourcing and manufacturing spread over a number of countries. However, the implementation of the new recommendations may not be straight forward, and new kinds of information and statistical methods may be needed. In addition, while the new recommendations may improve the analysis of some of the international transactions, other types of analysis such as the analysis of the structure of production may be impaired. Various solutions to these new problems of measurement and analysis have been sought within the national accounts and balance of payments of Israel, since the activities of multinational companies have a sizable impact on the economy. On the basis of this experience, suggestions for new information sources or link and enhancement of existing data sources will be given, as well as suggestions for analysis of economic activities of multinational enterprises. The suggestions will be illustrated with examples from the national accounts of Israel.