

UNCTAD/STAT/CLASSIF/2024/1

CLASSIFICATION UPDATE – JUNE 2024

Introduction

This document outlines changes introduced in the June 2024 round of revisions to the country classification at UNCTADstat. It encompasses regular updates pertaining to changes in the names of economies, membership of economies in various groups of economies (e.g., in the group of Least Developed Countries – LDCs), but also any other changes pertaining to either economies list and their classification or membership in groups, and any changes in the groups of economies. These changes have been applied to the reports released from the 5th June 2024; the other reports will be progressively revised.

The current version of country classification, considering the Economies and Groups of economies, is available on the [UNCTADstat Classification Page](#).

Alignment to M49 classification

This round of revision introduces alignment of target economies to [Standard Country or Area Codes for Statistical Use \(M49\) classification](#).

The following changes are applied:



Table 1

Introduction and removal of target economies

- Drop France including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Monaco and Reunion (251).
- Add France (250), French Guiana (254), Guadeloupe (312), Martinique (474), Mayotte (175), Monaco (492), Réunion (638).

- Drop Norway including Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands (579).
- Add Norway (578), Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands (744).

- Drop Switzerland, Liechtenstein (757).
- Add Liechtenstein (438), Switzerland (756).

- Drop United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland including Channel Islands and Isle of Man (926).
- Add Guernsey (831), Jersey (832), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (826), Isle of Man (833).

- Drop United States of America including Puerto Rico and United States Virgin Islands (842).
- Add Puerto Rico (630), United States of America (840), United States Virgin Islands (850).

- Add Åland Islands (248), Kosovo (412).

This introduced changes to membership of groups of economies. For example, it means that economy ‘France including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Monaco and Reunion’ (251) is no longer considered as a target economy, hence it has been removed from any country groupings where it formerly belonged, e.g., the European Union. Instead, France (250) and other constituting M49 codes of former economy 251 (see [Table 1](#)) have been introduced and their membership aligned where relevant.

In a specific case, this is how the change of removing target economy 251 and its replacement with economies 250, 254, 312, 474, 175, 492, and 638 looks like for the groups of developing and developed economies, and the European Union:



Table 2

Excerpt from changes of removing economy 251 and introducing economies 250, 254, 312, 474, 175, 492, and 638 and implications on membership in selected groups of economies

Economy	Code	Developing economies 1400	Developed economies 1500	European Union (2020...) 3412
France including French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, Monaco and Reunion	251		Dropped	Dropped
France	250		Added	Added
French Guiana	254	Added		Added
Guadeloupe	312	Added		Added
Martinique	474	Added		Added
Mayotte	175	Added		Added
Monaco	492		Added	
Réunion	638	Added		Added

However, to facilitate the use of data through time for regular users, the removed target economies 251, 579, 757, 926 and 842 have been kept in a dedicated group 'Special economies' (0002), for which data are aggregated and available.

Change in geographical coverage

Cyprus (196) now refers to Cyprus as a total island, hence it has been reassigned from Southern Europe (5430) to Western Asia (5340). Its membership in European Union remains.

Change in composition

The following groups have been updated:

- LDCs (Least developed countries) (1610).
Drop: Bhutan (064).
- SIDS (Small island developing States) (UN-OHRLLS) (1640).
Drop: Bahrain (048), Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba (535).
- BioTrade countries (3384).
Drop: Belgium (056), Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (068), Czechoslovakia (200), Czechia (203), Ecuador (218), Iceland (352), Israel (376), Kyrgyzstan (417), Latvia (428), Malaysia (458), Moldova, Republic of (498), New Caledonia (540), Vanuatu (548), Pakistan (586), Romania (642), Russian Federation (643), Syrian Arab Republic (760), Tunisia (788), Uganda (800), North Macedonia (807), Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (810), Uzbekistan (860).
Add: Mayotte (175), Korea, Republic of (410), Nepal (524), Saudi Arabia (682), Uruguay (858). Zambia (894).

- G20 (Group of Twenty) (3916).

This group has been revised and is now composed of the following economies: Argentina (032), Australia (036), Brazil (076), Canada (124), China (156), France (250), Germany (276), India (356), Indonesia (360), Indonesia (...2002) (960), Italy (380), Japan (392), Korea, Republic of (410), Mexico (484), Russian Federation (643), Saudi Arabia (682), South Africa (710), Türkiye (792), Union of Soviet Republics (810), United Kingdom (826), United States (840).

Contact and further information

Documentation to support data users in their use of UNCTADstat Data Centre is available here:

<https://unctadstat.unctad.org/EN/Help.html>.

Further queries can be addressed to: statistics@unctad.org.