

DIRECT INVESTMENT TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP (DITEG)

OUTCOME PAPER (DITEG) #13

December 23, 2004

1. **Topic:** Round Tripping
2. **Issues:** See DITEG Issue Paper #13 by Hong Kong, China
3. **Recommendations:**
 - (i) The group expressed a high level of interest in the concept of round tripping and agreed that it is an interesting dimension of FDI.
 - (ii) The group expressed some concerns about the methodology presently being used by Hong Kong China, as well as concerns about the difficulty of effectively identifying and covering all round tripping FDI flows. It also recognized the need for more work to be done on developing the methodology and concepts.
 - (iii) The group agreed that it would be useful to extend the analysis of round tripping to cover additional situations, such as where the two ends of the chain of round tripping flows are not in the same country but rather in the same geographical region or economic zone.
 - (iv) The group recognized that many of the issues discussed under round tripping are connected to other FDI conceptual issues, such as Ultimate Beneficial Owners (UBOs), and that it would be necessary to consider these issues in a coherent manner in the new standards.
 - (v) The group agreed that, if it is decided that data on round tripping is to be included in the balance of payments (BOP)/international investment position (IIP) framework in the new manual, the data should be treated as supplemental BOP/IIP presentations rather than as mandatory, standard components.
4. **Rejected Alternatives:**

None.
5. **Questions for the IMF Committee on Balance of Payments (the Committee) and the OECD Workshop in International Investment Statistics (WIIS)**
 - (i) Do the Committee and the WIIS consider that data on round tripping should be included in the framework of the BOP/IIP statistics at this stage, given the experimental nature of the data?
 - (ii) If the answer to (i) is “Yes”, do the Committee and the WIIS consider that any presentation of data on round tripping in the BOP/IIP statistics should be supplemental rather than a standard or mandatory reporting requirement?