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Economic Commission for Europe

UNECE Executive Committee

Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries

Second session

Geneva, 31 January – 1 February 2019

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

Decisions from the 2nd Session of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries

I. Introduction and attendance

II. Opening

III. Adoption of the Agenda (Agenda Item 1)

1. The Agenda of the meeting was approved as proposed (Decision 1)

IV. Overview of recent relevant developments (Agenda Item 2)

V. Progress on Programme of work (Agenda Item 3)

VI. Implementation and documentation (Agenda Item 4)

2. The Secretariat presented a template for the collection of case studies on the implementation of UN/FLUX in UN Member States, to facilitate the share of experiences and lessons learned on the use of the standard. Some proposals for amendments were put forward. The secretariat will finalise it accordingly, and circulate it to the Team of Specialists (ToS) on Sustainable Fisheries by 31 March 2019, in preparation of the next meeting at the UN/CEFACT Forum in April 2019 (Decision 2).

VII. Reports from experts (Agenda Item 5)

3. The draft briefing note on the benefits of implementing UN/FLUX, addressing frequently asked questions, was presented (ToSSF/2019/INF.4). The briefing note was discussed, and it was agreed to further develop the frequently asked questions by 31 March 2019 in preparation of the next meeting at the UN/CEFACT Forum in April 2019 (Decision 3).

4. A briefing note on the use of UN/FLUX in combatting illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and the relationship between UN/FLUX and fisheries subsidies (ToSSF/2019/INF.5) was discussed, and will be updated to reflect the developments of the negotiations at the WTO Negotiating Group on Rules, and to highlight the work of FAO and RFMOs, by 31 March 2019 in preparation of the next meeting at the UN/CEFACT Forum in April 2019 (Decision 4).
5. The first draft template for a UN/FLUX implementation document (ToSSF/2019/INF.6) was discussed and approved. Delegates and experts were invited to send comments by 28 February 2019, for an updated version of the template to be presented at the ToS meeting on 2 April 2019 (Decision 5).
6. A proposal for the interaction between UN/FLUX and FOCUS (ToSSF/2019/INF.7), submitted by the FOCUS Community Manager, who is also a member of the ToS was discussed, and it was requested that the secretariat would explore possible synergies and feasibility (Decision 6).
7. The report on the development of communication materials was noted (ToSSF/2019/INF.8), and the secretariat will circulate a questionnaire to collect input for materials under development, by 8 March 2019 in preparation of the next meeting at the UN/CEFACT Forum in April 2019 (Decision 7).
8. The ToS agreed on an update of UN/FLUX data items and requested the UN/CEFACT domain experts on fisheries to submit the update for the CCL19A library, at the earliest possible (Decision 8).

VIII. Planning future activities (Agenda Item 6)

9. The Team of Specialists of Sustainable Fisheries has a mandate until June 2019. The achievement of the objectives set in the current programme of work (ECE/Trade/C/CEFACT/2018/22) requires an extension of its mandate. The chair presented proposals for activities of the Team of Specialists in the coming years, and to extend its mandate through 2021. The proposal to request an extension of the ToS mandate through 2021 was discussed and approved (Decision 9).

IX. Other business (Agenda Item 7)

10. The ToS decided to meet during the UN/CEFACT Forum on 2 April 2019, and agreed on the list of key international fora during 2019 where to participate and present UN/FLUX (Decision 10).

X. Adoption of decisions and the report of the second session (Agenda Item 8)

11. Delegates and participants agreed on the decisions 1 to 10, and will receive the complete session report (ToSSF/2019/INF.9) for comments by 18 February; submission of comments to the secretariat is requested by 28 February (Decision 11).

XI. Workshop on future activities (Agenda Item 9)