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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**COMMITTEE ON TRADE**

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**ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY UNDER THE COMMITTEE**

**REPORT ON COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

Note by the secretariat

*Summary*

This document describes the areas of cooperation between the UNECE and other organizations regarding trade issues in 2006. The descriptions are based on several sub-programmes of the Committee on Trade. A list of partner organizations and brief explanations of joint activities are included in the text.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The Bureau of the Committee on Trade, at its meeting on 27 April 2007, requested the secretariat to prepare a note on cooperation with other organizations.
2. This document consists of two parts. The first part highlights cooperation activities during the past year and future challenges for cooperation. The second presents a comprehensive list of organizations with which the Committee and its subsidiary bodies cooperate.

## **II. COOPERATION WITH THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION**

3. The UNECE secretariat has observer status at the World Trade Organization's Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (WTO CTBT) and participates regularly at WTO CTBT meetings.
4. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and UNECE jointly organized a capacity-building workshop on the WTO Trade Facilitation Negotiations for WTO Members from Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus in Chisinau, Moldova 12 - 13 June 2006.

## **III. COOPERATION WITH OTHER REGIONAL COMMISSIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT**

5. Cooperation has been enhanced under the so-called "Trade Cluster", a working group under the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (EC-ESA). This group was created to facilitate strategic planning and decision-making among the United Nations agencies dealing with trade, and especially to foster joint activities between UNCTAD and the regional commissions.
6. As part of their cooperation under the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA) Programme, UNECE and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) collaborated on the establishment of the Central Asian Working Group on Trade.
7. UNECE, in collaboration with all other regional commissions, prepared a project on "Enhancing the capacity of developing countries to implement international standards for commercial agricultural products to improve their trade competitiveness" for financing by the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) in 2008-2009.

## **IV. COOPERATION UNDER THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON TRADE FACILITATION AND ELECTRONIC BUSINESS**

8. The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) actively collaborates with other regional commissions in implementing UNDA projects:

**A. “Interregional partnership for promoting trade as an engine of growth through knowledge management and taking advantage of information and communication technology”**

9. This project was launched in January 2005 and involves all five regional commissions, with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UNECLAC) as the lead agency. The UNECE has already organized the following joint activities under this project:

- (a) A workshop for WTO negotiators from countries with economies in transition to discuss trade facilitation in the WTO context in June 2006 in Chisinau, Moldova.
- (b) A regional seminar on trade facilitation, data requirement harmonization and integrated border management, co-organized with EurAsEC, OSCE and UNESCAP in October 2006 in Moscow, Russian Federation.

**B. “Project on capacity-building in support of trade integration with emphasis on integrated trade information flow management and trade facilitation in Central Asia”**

10. This project received funding in mid-2006 and the first activity, which was the inaugural meeting of the Central Asian Working Group on Trade, took place at the end of 2006. The project will be implemented by UNECE, in collaboration with ESCAP and UNCTAD, and will support the objectives of the SPECA programme. It will promote an integrated approach vis-à-vis information gathering and sharing; for example, through a harmonized set of trade and transport documents for the region. This will help Central Asian countries integrate into international supply chains, and will be instrumental to their development and growth. The opening training seminar is scheduled for 29-31 May 2007 in Tashkent, and the second meeting of the Working Group will be held on 12 to 13 November 2007 in Berlin.

**V. COOPERATION UNDER THE REGIONAL ADVISORY SERVICES**

11. Through the regional advisory services provided by the Trade and Timber Division, the UNECE launched two initiatives on trade facilitation and trade data element harmonization (a key step in building the environment for a Single Window and electronic document exchange):

- (a) In partnership with EurAsEC, and working with the World Customs Organization, US Customs and Border Protection, the European Commission, UNESCAP and OSCE: an initiative on trade facilitation implementation and data harmonization aligned with the international standards; the first meeting took place in October 2006 in Moscow, and
- (b) In partnership with USAID, the World Customs Organization, US Customs and Border Protection, the European Commission and others: an initiative on harmonizing data element requirements in South-eastern Europe. The first meeting took place in December 2006 in Ohrid, the fYR Macedonia.

12. Through the regional advisory services, the UNECE has also continued its collaboration with and assistance to various working groups of the Stability Pact for South-eastern Europe, and

in particular, the Working Group on Trade Liberalization and Facilitation (which will hand over its work to the new CEFTA group of countries at the end of 2007), the SECIPRO network of national trade facilitation bodies, and the eSEE group on the information society.

13. The UNECE is a core partner in the Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade (GFP) together with the World Bank (WB), UNCTAD and the World Customs Organization (WCO). The GFP is being put to effective use, especially to:

- (a) Exchange information about on-going activities;
- (b) Organize thematic meetings that include substantive discussions about trade facilitation issues;
- (c) Manage joint projects such as the “Trade and Transport Facilitation in Southeast Europe” project, coordinated by the World Bank;
- (d) The UNECE organized the biannual meeting of the partnership in February 2006. The meeting offered GFP partners an opportunity to jointly assess the implications for trade and transport facilitation of the WTO Ministerial Conference in Hong Kong. Participants took part in moderated discussion sessions on such issues as Customs Formalities and Fees, Transparency and Availability of Information, Goods in Transit and Institutional Cooperation Mechanism for Technical Assistance and Trade and Security. The concluding open discussion addressed the issue of an institutional cooperation mechanism for technical assistance and capacity-building.

14. UNECE is one of the signatories to a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Electronic Business Standards, which includes as signatories the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the International Electro-technical Commission (IEC), and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The MoU was originally signed in 1995 to coordinate cooperation in support of UN/EDIFACT, the most largely used electronic business standard outside the Internet.

15. In 1998 the MoU was enlarged to cover cooperation in new electronic business standards and it has since become an important tool for cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the four signatories and numerous participating expert groups and international user groups. The objective is to enhance interoperability, avoid duplication and ensure intersectoral coherence. Each of the four MoU signatory organizations acts as secretary to the MoU Management Group on a rotating basis.

16. The UNECE is also the maintenance agency for the ISO 7372 Standard (Trade Data Element Directory) and, in addition, the UNECE has a unique arrangement with the ISO where the UNECE is the secretary of the ISO Technical Committee on Process, Data Elements and Documents in Commerce, Industry and Administration, TC 154.

## **VI. COOPERATION UNDER THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND STANDARDIZATION POLICIES**

17. Representatives of the European Commission and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology (EASC) participate regularly in Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) meetings. The agenda of the CIS Interstate Council's annual session in Tajikistan in June 2007 foresees discussion and follow-up to matters raised at the June 2006 UNECE International Forum on "Common Regulatory Language for Global Trade".

18. The "International Model" comprises a set of voluntary mechanisms and principles for good regulatory practices. It has already been used as the basis of an agreement, signed in 2005, among the members of the Eurasian Economic Commonwealth (Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) for harmonizing their technical regulations. The Working Party is working closely with the EurAsEC secretariat on technical harmonization matters.

19. Contacts have been established with the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and with the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Eurasian Economic Community (EEC). The WP.6 work on recommendation "L" and related sectoral projects and on draft recommendation "M" (use of market surveillance against counterfeits) was presented in April 2006 at the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (IPA) Permanent Commission on Economy and Finance, where it was decided to recommend that the CIS national parliamentary committees use recommendations "L" and "M" in drafting national legislation. On this occasion, it was also suggested that a seminar be organized on national experiences in market surveillance. A joint seminar on the subject will be held in Geneva in November 2007.

20. The Working Party participates in the activities of the International Task Force (ITF) on harmonization and equivalence in organic agriculture, a joint activity between UNCTAD, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements (IFOAM) to promote the possibility of using, for organic agricultural products, regulations based on the principles set out in the UNECE "International Model for Technical Harmonization".

21. WP.6 and the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) agreed to undertake joint activities to support regional organizations in Africa that wish to align their regulatory regimes in specific sectors or product areas (a project for extra-budgetary funding has been prepared and submitted to potential donors). These activities will be based on the UNECE International Model for Technical Harmonization (Recommendation "L"), developed by the Working Party.

22. The Working Party works closely with the ISO and the following committees: Committee on Developing Country Matters (DEVCO), Committee on Consumer Policy (COPOLCO) and Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO). ISO participates in all WP.6 sessions providing an update on its activities. Discussions are currently underway for the two organizations to join forces in preparing recommendations for governments on the use of standards in technical regulations.

## **VII. COOPERATION UNDER THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON AGRICULTURAL QUALITY STANDARDS**

23. The Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7) cooperates with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables to facilitate the common interpretation of UNECE standards and their application in international trade. In 2006, the UNECE secretariat organized:

- (a) A Joint OECD/UNECE/EC Capacity-building Workshop on Commercial Standards for Fruit and Vegetables in July 2006 in Tbilisi, Georgia;
- (b) An international training course (sponsored by OECD) on harmonization of fruit and vegetable quality assessment, in June 2006 in Mojmirovce, Slovakia.

24. To implement the UNECE reform plan the secretariat has initiated consultations with the OECD “in order to concentrate the activities [on agricultural quality standards] of the two organizations within the UNECE.” A draft transition plan was drawn up and is now under discussion by the two organizations.

25. The Working Party works closely with the Joint FAO/WHO (World Health Organization) Food Standards Programme. There is a general agreement with Codex Alimentarius that whenever they start work on a new phyto-sanitary standard, they base it on an existing UNECE standard, if one exists.

26. WP.7 works closely with the European Community to maintain complete harmonization of the 36 EU marketing standards with UNECE standards.

## **VIII. FUTURE CHALLENGES FOR COOPERATION**

27. The Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade (GFP) has been successful in exchanging information on the work of its member organizations and has recently defined new challenges for itself in terms of developing closer cooperation and common positions with member organizations on selected issues. In particular, UN/CEFACT is developing a guide on trade facilitation in cooperation with CFP core partners, which will support trade facilitation implementation, especially in the context of the WTO Doha Development Round.

28. The implementation of projects under the UNDA will help the Committee on Trade to strengthen relationship with the other four United Nations regional commissions. None of the other regional commissions develops standards in the areas of trade facilitation, electronic business, regulatory cooperation or agricultural quality. On the other hand, because standards are essential for global trade, it is in everyone’s interest that as many United Nations member States as possible from outside of the UNECE region contribute to the development of standards and their implementation. In this context, the Committee on Trade sees the development of an effective framework as an important challenge for (i) assisting the regional commissions to effectively contribute to the development of standards developed under the Committee, (ii) to

promote the standards outside of the region and (iii) to assist with their implementation when requested.

29. In the “Work Plan on ECE Reform”, adopted on 2 December 2005, member States decided that UNECE work in agricultural quality standards should be strengthened and that “Consultations should be initiated with the OECD in order to concentrate the activities of the two organizations within the ECE.” In response to this decision, the secretariat developed a *Draft transition plan* (document ECE/TRADE/2006/18/Add.1), which was discussed and approved by the Committee and then forwarded to the OECD for discussion. Following the 2006 session (30 November and 1 December) of the OECD Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables (the “OECD Scheme”), where a number of issues were raised by different OECD countries, the Director of the TDD is currently in discussion with OECD members States to resolve outstanding issues.

## IX. SUMMARY OF COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Organization <sup>1</sup>	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current Cooperation
AITIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization of joint seminars and workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A joint Workshop on WTO Accession and Trade and Transit Facilitation, held in Belgrade, Serbia and Herzegovina, 19-20 October 2005</li> </ul>
FAO Codex Alimentarius (Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting schedules are set in coordination between secretariats</li> <li>• Secretariats participate in relevant meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE standards are circulated to the members of the Codex Committee for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables whenever a Codex Standard for the same or similar produce is developed</li> </ul>
FITPRO (Czech national trade facilitation body)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement between UNECE and the Czech Republic on a joint technical assistance project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Czech Republic supports and finances a joint Czech-UNECE project for technical assistance to third countries in the implementation of the UNECE standards and tools. Activities (seminars and training courses) organized in 2006 for the Republic of Moldova</li> </ul>
ICC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding between the UNECE and the ICC</li> <li>• Participation in meetings and seminars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in the Legal Group and the trade facilitation Working group of UN/CEFACT.</li> <li>• Many Chambers of Commerce in the member States host UNECE</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> A list of abbreviations is given at the end of the table.

Organization <sup>1</sup>	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current Cooperation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in Groups of Experts</li> <li>• Exchange of information</li> <li>• Maintenance of the European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration</li> </ul>	<p>Multiplier Points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint organization of the elections of the special committee under the 1961 European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration</li> <li>• Discussions on standardization of the documentary credit form</li> </ul>
<p>IEC, ITU and ISO</p> <p>(See also ISO and ISO Technical Committee 127 on Earth Moving Machinery and 154 on Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE, IEC, ISO and ITU</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperation and coordination between the secretariats</li> <li>• Each organization acts as secretary to the MoU Management Group on a rotating basis.</li> <li>• Management meetings twice a year between the secretariats, the expert groups and international user groups</li> <li>• Summit meetings by the Memorandum of Understanding Management group on coordination and standardization issues</li> </ul>
<p>ISO</p> <p>(See also ISO Technical Committees 127, 154, and IEC, ITU and ISO)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding between IEC, ISO, ITU and UNECE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISO contributes to all WP.6 meetings and participates in its annual seminars</li> </ul>
<p>ISO Technical Committee 127 on Earth Moving Machinery (TC 127)</p>	<p>Participation in project meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TC 127 contributes to the WP.6 sectoral regulatory project “Earth-Moving Machinery Initiative”</li> </ul>
<p>ISO Technical Committee 154 on processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular Working Group Meetings</li> <li>• Plenary meetings once a year</li> <li>• The MoU for UNECE to be Secretary of an ISO Technical Committee is unique of its kind</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE provides the secretariat to ISO Technical Committee 154</li> <li>• UNECE is the maintenance agency of the ISO 7372 Standard (Trade Data Element Directory)</li> </ul>
<p>OECD (1)</p> <p>Scheme for the application of international standards for fruit and vegetables</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting schedules are set up in coordination between secretaries and secretariats actively participate in each other’s relevant meetings. Joint organization of capacity-building events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OECD adopts UNECE standards</li> <li>• The UNECE meetings, the OECD Plenary meeting and both secretariats work closely on updating and interpreting the standards</li> <li>• Organization of a joint training course in Georgia and in Slovakia</li> </ul>



Organization <sup>1</sup>	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current Cooperation
		in 2006
OECD (2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in the meetings organized by the UNECE WP.6</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The OECD participated in the June 2006 WP.6 Regulatory Forum</li> </ul>
OSCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint seminars and workshops</li> <li>• Contributions to analytical work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE contributes to trade-related parts of reviews and activities under the OSCE economic dimension</li> <li>• OSCE participated in the organization of the UNECE-EurAsEC seminar on trade facilitation, data harmonization and integrated border management (Moscow, October 2006)</li> </ul>
Regional Commissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings</li> <li>• Joint projects</li> <li>• WSIS</li> <li>• SPECA</li> <li>• Trade clusters under EC-ESA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The UNDA interregional project on the implementation of international standards for commercial agricultural products</li> <li>• Coordination meetings with all four regional commissions on trade and on trade facilitation</li> <li>• UNECE and UNESCAP have a joint UN Development Account project for Central Asia for 2006-2007 on trade facilitation and development</li> <li>• UNECE and UNESCAP jointly support actively the UN activities within the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)</li> <li>• UNECE coordinates liaison between all five UN regional commissions and WSIS Executive Secretariat, Geneva, and cooperates with the other regional commissions in ICT and WSIS projects</li> <li>• UNECE and UNESCAP, in cooperation with EurAsEC organized an international conference on trade facilitation in Moscow, 16 - 17 October 2006</li> </ul>
Stability Pact for SEE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support to joint activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regional Adviser on Trade Facilitation cooperates regularly</li> </ul>

Organization <sup>1</sup>	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current Cooperation
		<p>with the Working Group on Trade Liberalization and Facilitation, the new CEFTA 2006, the regional network of national trade facilitation bodies (SECIPRO), and the e-South Eastern Europe Initiative (eSEE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WP.6 cooperates with the Stability Pact Working Group on Trade Liberalization and Facilitation under the joint UNECE/Swedish International Development Agency Project</li><li>• The SP and UNECE are looking into co-organizing the next Ministerial Meeting on the Information Society in SEE in Sarajevo in October 2007</li></ul>

Organization <sup>1</sup>	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current Cooperation
UNCTAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE signed a MoU with GFP in March 2005. UNECE is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), OECD and the International Road Transport Union (IRU)</li> <li>• Participation in each other's meetings, seminars and forums               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings of trade clusters</li> <li>• Occasional joint organization of seminars</li> <li>• Mutual contribution to projects: experts, publications</li> <li>• The United Nations Trade Facilitation Network is an inter-agency group comprising World Bank, ITC, WTO, UNCTAD and UNECE</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE and UNCTAD cooperate closely on providing support to countries in trade facilitation implementation and preparation for negotiations at the WTO. This includes participation in each other's workshops on the topic</li> <li>• UNCTAD participates in the trade facilitation working group of UN/CEFACT</li> <li>• UNECE has provided support to the UNCTAD secretariat for relevant work with the Trade Point programme</li> <li>• UNECE participates in the work of the UNCTAD/FAO/IFOAM International Task Force on Harmonization (in organic agriculture)</li> <li>• UNCTAD participates in WP.6 sessions</li> <li>• UNCTAD and UNECE organized a joint capacity-building workshop on the WTO Trade Facilitation Negotiations for WTO Members from Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the Caucasus in Chisinau, Moldova, 12 - 13 June 2006</li> </ul>
Universal Postal Union (UPU)	Participation in project meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application of Electronic Postmark (EPM) signatures in United Nations electronic Trade Documents (UNeDocs). Development of a Web Service demonstrating automated validation of a trade document and UPU electronic signature. UNeDocs will test the integration of EPM into UNeDocs pilots using standard office software</li> </ul>
UNIDO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE signed a MoU with GFP in March 2005. UNECE is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in joint meetings on trade facilitation implementation with other organizations</li> <li>• UNIDO participates in WP.6 sessions</li> </ul>

Organization <sup>1</sup>	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current Cooperation
	UNCTAD, UNIDO, OECD and the IRU	
WCO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE-WCO MoU, signed in 2001</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCO participates in UN/CEFACT meetings and expert groups</li> <li>• WCO contributes to UNECE work on the Supply Chain Model</li> <li>• UNECE participates in the WCO Task Force on Trade Facilitation and Security as well as in related follow-up activities</li> <li>• WCO collaborated with UNECE in two practical activities on the implementation of international standards for trade data harmonization in the EurAsEC and SEE countries.</li> </ul>
World Bank	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The United Nations Trade Facilitation Network is an informal inter-agency group comprising WB, ITC, WTO, UNCTAD and UNECE</li> <li>• UNECE signed a MoU with the Global Facilitation Partnership for Trade and Transport (GFP) in March 2005. UNECE is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, OECD and the IRU</li> <li>• Support by the World Bank to a variety of UNECE capacity-building activities and reciprocal support from the UNECE to World Bank goals and objectives, particularly in the area of trade and transport facilitation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE participates actively in and contributes substantial materials to the GFP Website.</li> <li>• WB participates actively in the trade facilitation group of UN/CEFACT.</li> <li>• WB has selected the UNECE Single Window Recommendation as the basis for their projects in this area</li> <li>• WB participated in the UNECE/UNESCWA Mediterranean project</li> <li>• The Trade and Transport Facilitation in South-eastern Europe (TTFSE) programme of the World Bank promotes the implementation of United Nations standards on trade facilitation, particularly standardized trade documents</li> <li>• The Regional Adviser organizes jointly with the WB trade facilitation events in the transition economies</li> </ul>

Organization <sup>1</sup>	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current Cooperation
WTO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The United Nations Trade Facilitation Network is an inter-agency group comprising WB, ITC, WTO, UNCTAD and UNECE</li> <li>• The GFP is seen by the WTO as the core mechanism for coordinating the delivery of capacity-building support to countries in trade facilitation.</li> <li>• Trade Division and WTO staff meets regularly outside the inter-agency group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WTO representatives regularly attend meetings of CT subsidiary bodies</li> <li>• UNECE Secretariat attends some WTO committee sessions (on behalf of the United Nations regional commissions).</li> <li>• UNECE will assist WTO with training seminars and conferences in transition economies</li> <li>• UNECE works with WTO on the implementation of Trade Facilitation in transition countries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WTO attends the UN/CEFACT trade facilitation group meetings</li> <li>• WTO will participate in the WP.6 seminar on product safety and counterfeits to be held in Geneva in November 2007</li> <li>• UNECE organized a capacity-building seminar on implications from the WTO negotiations on trade facilitation for the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asian WTO members in Chisinau, June 2006.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
World Trade Point Federation (WTPF)	Participation in project meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNECE and WTPF cooperate in promoting each other's activities, to encourage regular contacts between the WTPF and the relevant UNECE subsidiary bodies and to share contacts in order to develop further their networks</li> </ul>
UNDP	Participation in project meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNDP and UNECE are planning collaboration on a planned project for a Single Window in the Vnukovo airport in Moscow</li> </ul>
WIPO	Participation in project meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WIPO will participate in the WP.6 seminar on product safety and counterfeits to be held in Geneva in November 2007</li> </ul>

**ABBREVIATIONS**

AITIC	Agency for International Trade Information and Cooperation
ARSO	African Organization for Standardization
CEI	Central European Initiative
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
EASC	Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology
EC-ESA	Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs
EEC	Eurasian Economic Community
EPM	Electronic Postmark
eSEE	e-South Eastern Europe Initiative (eSEE) of the Stability Pact for Southeast Europe
EurAsEC	Eurasian Economic Community
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FITPRO	Facilitation of International Trade Procedures
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GFP	Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce
ICT	Information and communication technology
IEC	International Electro-technical Commission
IFOAM	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
IRU	International Road Transport Union
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ISO Technical Committee 154	ISO Technical Committee on Process, Data Elements and Documents in Commerce, Industry and Administration
ISO TC 127	ISO Technical Committee 127 on Earth Moving Machinery
ITC	International Trade Centre (UNCTAD/WTO)
ITF	International Task Force
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council (in South-eastern Europe)
SECI	Southeast European Cooperation Initiative
SECIPRO	Association of National PRO Committees in Southeast Europe
SEE	Southeast Europe
SP	Stability pact
SPECA	Special Programme for Central Asia
TTFSE	Trade and Transport Facilitation in Southeastern Europe
UN/CEFACT	United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDA	United Nations Development Account
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

UNeDOCS	United Nations electronic Trade Documents
UN/EDIFACT	United Nations Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WB	World Bank
WCO	World Customs Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WP.6	UNECE Trade and Timber Division Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies
WP.7	UNECE Trade and Timber Division Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WTO	World Trade Organization
WTO CTBT	World Trade Organization Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade
WTPF	World Trade Point Federation

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