Economic and Social Council

Dist.
GENERAL

TRADE/2004/4/Add.2
2 March 2004

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT
Eighth session, 10, 13 and 14 May 2004
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK, 2004-2007
Trade Development Subprogramme
Work Items

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DOCUMENT FOR APPROVAL

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The Bureau of the Committee is submitting this draft 2004 - 2007 programme of work to the Committee for approval. The draft programme is set out in three parts. The first part (document TRADE/2004/4) introduces the programme of work and the strategic directions for the two subprogrammes under the Committee's responsibility: namely Trade Development, and Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development. The second part can be found in document TRADE/2004/4/Add.1, this document and document TRADE/2004/4/Add.3, which describe, in detail, the specific activities to be undertaken. The third part consists of summary tables of these specific activities and can be found in documents TRADE/2004/4/Add.4 and TRADE/2004/4/Add.5.

Because the 2004 session of the Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) will be held after the Committee session, the parts of this work programme that relate to the work of UN/CEFACT are presented for **information only** and will be re-submitted to the Committee, with any subsequent changes, through the intersessional approval process.

Information on the work under the Committee can be found on its website: http://www.unece.org/trade.

Previous, related documentation: TRADE/2003/11/Add.1 (Draft Programme of Work 2003-2005: Work Items)

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INTRODUCTION

The 2004 – 2007 programme of work for the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) is set out in three parts. The first part, contained in document TRADE/2004/4, introduces the programme of work and the strategic directions for the two subprogrammes under the Committee's responsibility: namely Trade Development, and Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development. The second part describes the specific activities to be undertaken and can be found in document TRADE/2004/4/Add.1 and in this document (for the Trade Development Subprogramme) and document TRADE/2004/4/Add.3 (for the Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development Subprogramme). The third part consists of summary tables of these specific activities and can be found in documents TRADE/2004/4/Add.2 (for the Trade Development Subprogramme) and TRADE/2004/4/Add.4 (for the Industrial Restructuring and Enterprise Development Subprogramme).

1.3   POLICY

Facilitating trade policy development through the provision of an open international platform for the exchange of views, particularly for the benefit of countries with economies in transition

Developing and contributing to trade and economic policy is a major activity of UNECE's Trade Development and Timber Division. This work includes initiatives on information and communication technologies for development, contributions to sustainable development, work related to EU enlargement, and important policy developments in standardization and trade facilitation. The major activities that will be carried out in the planning period are outlined below.

1.3.1   ICT/WSIS

1.3.1.1   Contribution to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) for development

The Trade Development and Timber Division acts as the secretariat for the UNECE Information Society Team. The Division provides support to special UN ICT initiatives, including acting as the focal point for the United Nations ICT Task Force, and provides input to the UN-wide process for the 2005 World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

Specific activities will include: participation in the High-Level Organizing Committee (HLSOC); participation in the three PrepCom meetings for the Summit; liaison with the WSIS Executive Secretariat regarding the possible organization of preparatory meetings and side events at the Tunis Summit; helping to organize one or two sub-regional meetings; possible work on a joint project with the other regional commissions; liaison with other regional commissions; and preparation of contributions by the UNECE Executive Secretary and senior management to the WSIS debate.

Target Audience: All UNECE public/private sector
Target Date for Completion: WSIS, December 2005, and ongoing for ICT Task Force

1.3.2   Sustainable Development

1.3.2.1 Contributions to Sustainable Development

Trade and Sustainable Development is an important element of UNECE's Trade Development Strategic Action Plan for 2004-05. In this area, UNECE will work closely with UNCTAD and the WTO Committee on Trade and Environment and the Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade. The Strategic Action Plan will primarily support the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) plan of implementation in the areas of certification, conformity assessment and technical harmonization as well as logistics and facilitation sustainable trade in woody biomass.

UNECE's work in trade facilitation helps to promote sustainable economic and social development by encouraging more efficient use of resources at any given level of trade transactions, primarily in the areas of transport and paper use. This work also enhances the sustainable participation of SMEs in trade by reducing procedural and cost barriers. Therefore, the work contributes to the WSSD goals of enhancing the capacities of developing countries to benefit from liberalized trade opportunities and narrowing the digital divide.

In environmental/hazardous goods control, trade facilitation makes possible improved tracking and handling as well as reduced border-crossing delays, thus contributing to the WSSD goal of preventing damage resulting from the trans-boundary movement of such goods.

In support of sustainable consumption and production patterns, the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards will be reviewing its standards to see if and how they may need to be adapted for organically grown products (see section 1.1.3). In addition, the implementation of such standards in the agricultural export sectors of less developed transition economies will help these countries open markets in the rest of Europe, thus contributing to economically sustainable development and the WSSD goal of enhancing access to existing markets and developing new markets for value-added agricultural products.

UNECE's Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (WP.6) will be exploring the applicability of its work in environmentally sensitive areas, particularly in the area of timber certification. Specific work includes the implementation of the Working Party's recommended International Model for Technical Harmonization based on good regulatory practice and its recommendations, guidelines and regularly organized exchanges of information on certification and conformity assessment practices (see section 1.2.3).

The Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED) also contributes actively to policy dialogue on how to develop the trade sectors of transition economies and increase these countries' integration into regional and global trade networks, taking into account environmentally sensitive products, the growth of environmental services, and the growing demand by consumers for socially responsible enterprises.

In the areas of technical cooperation, this subprogramme also has a project to support the financing and facilitating of trade in biomass (work item 1.2.1.5), which directly supports the WSSD implementation goal of improving access to fuel wood sources and supplies and commercialising biomass operations, as well as implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Target Audience: Governments and trade
Target Date for Completion: Ongoing, 2004-07

1.3.3   Economic integration in a wider Europe

1.3.3.1 EU Enlargement: Economic Integration in a Wider Europe

As the UNECE Focal Point for EU matters and EU liaison, the Trade Development and Timber Division will consider the implications for the UNECE region of economic integration. Brief studies will provide analyses of the potential impact of the greater integration of States not acceding to the EU, into the European and global economy and the opportunity for using UNECE instruments to facilitate this process, particularly in the field of trade and transport.

The UNECE has supported European economic cooperation for more than 50 years. UNECE instruments have proved important in facilitating trade, transit and customs matters as well as in promoting common legal instruments for transport and cross-border cooperation Among those countries not acceding to the EU, the active use of these instruments and UNECE experience and expertise could greatly facilitate their further integration into the European and global economy. UNECE instruments

provide the basis for EU activities and legislation in a number of areas. In order to strengthen trade, business and investment in the UNECE region, there will be a need for countries not acceding to the EU to adopt and implement legislation that is compatible with and converges on international legislation, norms and standards, including those of the EU. The EU and its member states provide technical and financial assistance for this purpose. The UNECE will make available its instruments to support the process of convergence.

Based on a positive response from the UNECE member Sates of previously organized workshops on trade, energy, environment, transport and regulatory convergence, the UNECE will continue in organizing workshops, which allow looking beyond enlargement and assessing the impacts of EU enlargement on non-acceding transition countries. The main purpose is to provide a neutral platform to discuss related issues targeted to assist those countries to integrate them into the global economy and to avoid new divisions in the UNECE region.

Over the planning period, UNECE will continue in promoting a closer cooperation in economic and trade links in the wider Europe through a variety of activities and programmes. Most importantly, UNECE will work towards the implementation and coordination of norms and standards supporting trade in the region by helping to build a common framework for technical harmonization and standardization and building bridges for prosperity and peace.

The UNECE will, jointly with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), organize a workshop early in 2004 to consider the economic dimension of security in a changing environment within the region and its economic implications.

The UNECE will prepare an evaluation report of the wider Europe project workshops, which will evaluate the outcomes and usefulness of the workshops and suggest future directions for the UNECE's work regarding assistance to the less advanced transition economies in its region.

Target Audience: All UNECE public/ private sector
Target Date for Completion: 2004

1.3.3.3 Regional economic integration

UNECE will intensify its cooperation in the regions of Southeast Europe, Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia that are still in transition. It will offer its norms and standards to facilitate and promote the integration of these regions into the European and global economy, including through intra-regional and regional cooperation in a multilateral environment.

As part of its analytical and technical assistance activities, UNECE will examine some existing trade arrangements between the EU and non-acceding countries and arrangements between the non-acceding countries themselves and to make proposals for possible initiatives where UNECE could assist further integration efforts.

Target Audience: Business, local, national and regional authorities, Governments of transition countries
Target Date for Completion: Ongoing, but subject to available resources

1.3.4 Trade Facilitation Policy

1.3.4.1 Development of Trade Facilitation Policy and Undertaking Relevant Research

UNECE's Trade Development and Timber Division prepares policy papers on key trade topics for discussion at high-level meetings throughout the planning period. For example, papers on trade security and the income distribution impact of Trade Facilitation were prepared for the May 2003 International Forum on trade facilitation. Possible other areas for research and policy development include:

> ➢ Strategies and approaches for implementing trade facilitation in transition economies
> ➢ Facilitating trade in services
> ➢ Implementing trade facilitation within the WTO
> ➢ 20 years of trade facilitation PRO organizations – current practices, lessons learned and future requirements
> ➢ Measuring trade facilitation implementation
> ➢ Trade facilitation strategies for landlocked countries
> ➢ Public/private sector models for implementing trade facilitation
> ➢ Options for funding trade facilitation implementation
> ➢ Regional versus global approaches to trade facilitation implementation
> ➢ Benefits and costs of trade facilitation
> ➢ Trade facilitation and development
> ➢ Trade facilitation case studies in transition and developing economies – lessons learned and recommendations for the future

As this is a large agenda, UNECE will necessarily be highly selective in its approach to these topics.

Target Audience: Various
Target Date for Completion: Ongoing, 2004-07

1.3.5   Standardization Policy

1.3.5.1 Standardization Policy: Eliminating Technical Barriers to Trade

Differences in standards, technical regulations and conformity assessment rules create major obstacles to trade. With the liberalization of international trade, it is becoming increasingly important to reduce or eliminate technical barriers to trade. Therefore, further work towards harmonization and convergence in this area is needed.

UNECE contributes to the implementation of relevant WTO rules and provisions by offering advice on possible forms and approaches for the transformation of national legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks, as well as by suggesting mechanisms for the practical implementation of WTO requirements.. This work will continue over the planning period through organization of fora and technical assistance projects.

Target Audience: Governments
Target Date for Completion: Ongoing

1.4   PROMOTION
Promoting the value and effectiveness of trade facilitation instruments and standards in trade and economic development

There is a pressing need for greater awareness and understanding of the benefits, implications and available resources for trade facilitation and e-business implementation. Clearly, more must be done to sensitise policy makers to the core issues involved, as well as to the strategies and approaches for implementation. UNECE plans to undertake the following projects to address this need:

1.4.1   Fora

1.4.1.1 International Fora on Trade Facilitation

Building on its expertise in trade facilitation in organizing such events and on the created network of contacts, UNECE will host trade facilitation fora in 2005 and 07. They will focus on the opportunity for

policy debate and formulating solutions for cooperation between countries on different level of development, between the public and private sectors, between the business community and civil society.

Target Audience:	Governments, business organizations, trade practitioners, trade-related international organizations, and trade negotiators
Target Date for Completion:	2005 and 07

1.4.1.2 International Forum on, "Beyond Enlargement: Challenges for Trade and Enterprise Development in a Changing Europe"

The Forum – which will take place just two weeks after EU enlargement - will be an occasion for all countries in the Euro-Asian region, their enterprises and NGOs to gain a better understanding of the changes that will ensue; and to take stock of the new opportunities for enhancing economic cooperation and integration in the UNECE region.

The expected outcomes from the Forum are: a clearer understanding of the business and economic consequences of EU enlargement; an increased awareness of the benefits and opportunities that it creates for enterprises and traders; a roadmap of where the different actors can get the support they need in responding to the changing trading environment in Europe and a guideline for future actions by UNECE and other international organizations

Target Audience:	Governments, business organizations, international organizations, and trade negotiators
Target Date for Completion:	May 2004

1.4.1.3 Fora on Regulatory and Conformity Assessment Issues

Working Party 6 will continue its practice of organizing fora in conjunction with its annual sessions that are devoted to subjects proposed by delegations or the WP.6 Bureau. In 2004 this forum will be on market surveillance.

Target Audience:	Governments, business organizations, and international organizations
Target Date for Completion:	May 06

1.4.2   Multiplier Point Network

1.4.2.1 Development and Maintenance of the Multiplier Point Network

The Trade Development and Timber Division has set up a network of Multiplier Points in 27 transition economies. The organizations in the network promote, distribute and translate into national languages UNECE reports, recommendations, standards, documents, publications, guidelines and other information. The programme aims at reaching as many potential beneficiaries of the UNECE work in member States as is possible, including: business, trade associations, Governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society and other groups. Since April 2001, 59 organizations from 27 transition economies in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as the Commonwealth of Independent States have joined the network and now participate in its activities.

Target audience:	Business community, including start-up entrepreneurs, local, regional and national authorities in charge of business and trade, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), Governments, missions, delegations, international organizations, and civil society groups
Target Date for Completion:	Ongoing, 2004-07

1.4.3   Information Dissemination

1.4.3.1 Promotional Material on Agricultural Quality Standards

The Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7) will work on promotional material (e.g. a booklet on UNECE Standards) for the use of the secretariat and delegations in promoting knowledge and application of UNECE Standards.

Target Audience: Governments and trade
Target Date for Completion: 2004, 2007

1.4.3.2 Information Brochure on UNECE's Trade-Related Work

An informative brochure outlining specific Recommendations, norms and standards and tools developed under the CTIED.

Target Audience: Governments, permanent missions, business community, international organizations
Target Date for Completion: One each in 2004 and 2006

1.4.3.3 Maintenance and Further Development of UNECE Trade-Related Web sites

Over the last two years, the Trade Development and Timber Division has developed several web portals providing trade facilitation information and tools to specific user groups. These sites contain over 10,000 web pages of information. The sites are much appreciated by the user community; access to the web portals of the Division accounts for about one third of all UNECE web access. During this biennium and the next, the site will be extended with web-based trade facilitation services for trade and governments.

Target Audience: Governments, permanent missions, business community, international organizations
Target Date for Completion: Ongoing, 2004-07

1.4.3.4 Information Dissemination Programme

UNECE will continue a proactive information dissemination programme (including regular briefings, press releases, liaison).

Target Audience: Governments, permanent missions, delegations, trade missions, business community, and international organizations
Target Date for Completion: Ongoing, 2006-07

1.4.4   Promoting UN/CEFACT's Work

1.4.4.1 UN/CEFACT Promotion and Communications Group

At its Plenary meeting in May 2002, UN/CEFACT established a Promotion and Communication Group (PCG) to develop policy guidelines for promotional and communication activities, as well as promotional material focusing on the benefits of trade facilitation and UN/CEFACT's work. The PCG may develop publications and guidelines on specific issues, as well as take initiatives for seminars and events. The secretariat supports the PCG in the preparation of policy guidelines and promotional material, and generally in promoting UN/CEFACT work, in association with the PCG.

Target Audience: Governments, permanent missions, delegations, business community, international organizations
Target Date for Completion: Ongoing, 2004-07

1.4.5   Trade Promotion

1.4.5.1 Development and Maintenance of the Trade Directory

The Trade Directory for the UNECE region is a reference guide developed to assist in bridging existing information gaps and to stimulate trade and investment within the region. It offers a "one-stop shop" for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) looking for institutional information in support of their export or investment activities, and increased transparency in regulations and trading requirements at both national and international level. The Directory consists of two sections: the first section lists international organizations supporting trade and the second, national organizations supporting trade in each UNECE member State. It will be made available on the Internet and regularly updated.

Target Audience: Governments, permanent missions, delegations, business community, international organizations
Target Date for Completion: Ongoing, 2004-07

1.5   INTEGRATION
Integrating UNECE's trade activities with those of other UN and international trade-related bodies

UNECE enjoys well-structured cooperation and coordination with United Nations Headquarters, as well as with trade-related organizations within and outside the United Nations system, especially:

- United Nations regional commissions
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)
- World Customs Organization (WCO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
- The World Bank
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
- International Maritime Organization (IMO)
- International Trade Centre (ITC) UNCTAD/WTO
- Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

During the planning period, particular attention will be given to strengthening cooperation with the other UN regional commissions, UNCTAD and the WTO to support an open and accessible forum for intergovernmental policy deliberations regarding trade in goods and services. At the regional level, studies and capacity-building activities (seminars, workshops, advisory services) will contribute to further economic integration in Europe and the development of a possible common European economic space. In addition, work will be undertaken to strengthen transition economies in their policies and institutions to implement the sustainable development of trade. The business community and non-governmental organizations will be encouraged to participate in all aspects of the subprogramme.

UNECE cooperates closely with the other regional commissions on specific projects, such as the Mediterranean Project and the Regional Commissions Project on Trade Facilitation and e-business (detailed in sections 1.2.1.1 and 1.2.1.7 respectively), and exchanges information on a regular basis.

UNECE also works with a range of subregional groupings, such as the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) secretariat, and specialized agencies such as the CIS Interstate Council for Standardization. In all cases, its work is well coordinated with the other secretariats and adds value to inter-governmental trade cooperation. It also works closely with the EU.

The specific cooperation undertaken with each of these organizations is summarized in the table below. This work will continue and will be strengthened over the planning period.

Organization	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current concrete UNECE cooperation
FAO Codex Alimentarius (Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme)	Meeting schedules are set up in coordination between secretariats Secretariats actively participate in relevant meetings	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
ICC	Participation in meetings and seminars Exchange of information	Participation in the UN/CEFACT Working Group meetings Many Chambers of Commerce host UNECE Multiplier Points Joint organization of the elections of the special committee under the 1961 European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration Discussions on standardization of the documentary credit form
IEC, ITU and ISO (See also ISO Technical Committee 154 and ISO)	Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE, IEC, ISO and ITU	Cooperation and coordination between the secretariats Each organization acts as secretary to the MoU Management Group on a rotating basis Management meetings twice a year between the secretariats, the expert groups and international user groups Summit meetings by the Memorandum of Understanding Management group on coordination and standardization issues
ISO (See also ISO Technical Committee 154 and IEC, ITU and ISO)	Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE, IEC, ISO and ITU	ISO attends all WP.6 meetings and annual seminars Participation in the MoU
ISO Technical Committee 154 (See also ISO and IEC, ITU and ISO)	Regular Working Group meetings Plenary meetings once a year	UNECE is the Secretary to the Technical Committee 154 UNECE is the maintenance agency of the ISO 7372 Standard (Trade Data Element Directory) The MoU for UNECE to be the secretary of an ISO Technical Committee is unique and demonstrates the excellent cooperation between the two organizations
ITC	Active participation in and contribution to each other's programmes Member of the informal inter-agency group for trade facilitation (ITC, WTO, UNCTAD, UNECE)	An informal agency group on trade facilitation Presentations on trade facilitation to ITC seminars ITC has arranged parallel workshops during CTIED Fora Exploring ITC's participation in the Mediterranean project on supply chain management Exploring ITC's contribution to training on trade facilitation

Organization	Mechanisms for Cooperation	Current concrete UNECE cooperation
OECD Scheme for the application of international standards for fruit and vegetables	Meeting schedules are set up in coordination between secretaries and secretariats actively participate in each other's relevant meetings	UNECE Standards are adopted by OECD The UNECE meetings, the OECD Plenary meeting and both secretariats work closely on updating and interpreting the standards
Regional Commissions	Meetings Joint projects	Mediterranean project (ESCWA and ECA)
UNCTAD	Participation in each other's meetings, seminars and fora Mutual contribution to projects: experts, publications - Member of the informal inter-agency group for trade facilitation (ITC, WTO, UNCTAD, UNECE)	Joint publications: Compendium of Trade Facilitation Recommendations and the Brochure on Trade Facilitation for the Forum on Trade Facilitation in May 2002 UNCTAD participates actively in the UN/CEFACT Working Group meetings UNECE supports the Czech technical assistance cooperation managed by UNCTAD UNCTAD provides assistance to the UNECE Russian timber project
WCO	Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and WCO	WCO participates actively in UN/CEFACT meetings and expert groups Possible participation with UNECE in an e-learning project Possible participation in the G7 customs dataset
WTO	Member of the informal inter-agency group for trade facilitation (ITC, WTO, UNCTAD, UNECE) Trade Division & WTO staff meet regularly beyond the inter-agency group	WTO was a partner in organizing the UNECE Forum on Trade Facilitation in 2002 and 2003 WTO representatives attend regularly meetings of CTIED subsidiary bodies UNECE Trade Division attends some WTO committee sessions UNECE has observer status at the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade
World Bank		World Bank participates actively in UN/CEFACT Working Group meetings World Bank participation with UNECE in the Mediterranean project World Bank Supports International Forum on Trade Facilitation World Bank Supports SECI project

1.6   SUPPORT FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES AND WORKING GROUPS

One of the major tasks of the secretariat is to support the subsidiary bodies in preparing and implementing their programmes of work, which are, in turn, based on needs and priorities that have been established through a dialogue among Governments, and between Governments and users from both the private and the public sector. The support services include research, preparation and distribution of documentation in the three working languages (English, French and Russian), the maintenance of databases and websites, as well as the general distribution and promotion of the work done. The secretariat manages resources and assists the groups in their work, providing detailed documentation and background studies to develop trade policy, standards and trade facilitation recommendations.

The main intergovernmental bodies supported by and providing input to the Trade Development Branches are:

- Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED);
- United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT);
- Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (WP.6);
- Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7).

Participation in these intergovernmental bodies is open to Governments and various elements of civil society such as the private sector, non-governmental organizations, academic communities and other interested groups.

1.6.1   Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED)

The Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED) is the intergovernmental body responsible for all UNECE activities related to trade, industry and enterprise development. It reviews and approves a programme of work (Plan) that includes the work of all its subsidiary bodies (including those that are not serviced by the Trade Development branches) and monitors the implementation of this programme of work.

The objectives for the work of the Committee, as set out in the UNECE 1997 Plan of Action, are to:

- Support the UNECE objective of facilitating and strengthening the involvement of all member countries in harmonious economic relations;
- Assist in the integration of all countries, in particular countries in transition, into the European and global economy, and work to prevent the development of new barriers to trade within the region;
- Contribute to the creation of a clear, predictable and supportive environment for industrial and enterprise development activities.

The Committee accomplishes the above by:

(a) Assisting in reducing technical barriers to trade and market access;
(b) Developing and promoting standards, common procedures and best practices for trade;
(c) Developing regional/international contact networks for national ministries and business communities;
(d) Encouraging the adoption of international or regional standards and norms related to trade and business;
(e) Identifying ways of developing trade and investment finance possibilities;
(f) Promoting the development of new economic sectors based upon innovation and new technologies;
(g) Facilitating the restructuring and development of industry and enterprises.

This encompasses more than just the work done by the Trade Development branches since the Committee is responsible for two subprogrammes. The Trade Development branches, however, are responsible for most of activities a) through e).

1.6.2   United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) was created to improve the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transition economies, to exchange products and relevant services effectively and thus contribute to the growth of global commerce. The Centre focuses on the worldwide facilitation of international transactions through simplifying and harmonizing procedures and information flows.

UN/CEFACT Plenary is open to participation from UN member States, intergovernmental organizations, and sectoral and industry associations recognized by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). The Centre's objective is to be "inclusive". It actively encourages organizations to contribute and help develop its recommendations and standards.

In addition to the UN/CEFACT Steering Group, the Policy Group and the Promotion and Communications Group, which advise the Plenary, UN/CEFACT is comprised of the following five operational groups:

- Applied Technologies Group (ATG);
- Information Content Management Group (ICG);
- International Trade and Business Processes Group (TBG);
- Techniques and Methodologies Group (TMG);
- Legal Group (LG).

1.6.3   Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies (WP.6)

The UNECE Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies provides a unique forum for examining and debating issues related to norms, standards, technical regulations, conformity assessment and market surveillance. Participation includes Governments, international, regional and national organizations and the private sector.

The Working Party cooperates with the principal international standards-setting bodies and with regional and national regulatory, standards and conformity assessment organizations and agencies. Special attention is devoted to assisting countries with economies in transition.

Under WP.6, in addition to its Bureau and Rapporteurs, there are the following sub-groups:

- Ad hoc team of experts on STAndardization and Regulatory Techniques ("START" Team)
- Telecom Task Force
- Advisory group on MARket Surveillance ("MARS" Group)

1.6.4   Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7)

The Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards develops internationally harmonized, agricultural commercial quality standards for perishable produce on the basis of national standards or trade practices to:

- Facilitate fair international trade and prevent technical barriers to trade;
- Improve producers' profitability and encourage production of high quality produce;
- Protect consumers' interests by guaranteeing product quality.

The standards constitute a common trading language for buyer and seller, facilitating negotiations as well as the establishment of contracts and resolution of conflicts. The OECD not only adopts these standards but also develops explanatory material and guidelines for implementing them.

The agricultural quality standards work is organized in four thematic "specialized sections":

- Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (GE.1);
- Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (Fruit) (GE.2);
- Specialized Section on Standardization of Potatoes (GE.5 and GE.6);
- Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat (GE.11).

1.7. PUBLICATIONS

The Trade Development and Timber Division prepares a large range of publications, both non-recurrent and recurrent . These are sources of highly relevant information and also serve as reference guides to facilitate the implementation of standards, norms and recommendations in member States. A list of publications scheduled for 2004 – 2007 is given below:

Non-Recurrent Publications:

➢ Proceedings of annual CTIED fora, 1 issue each in 2004 and 2006
➢ Proceedings of International Trade Facilitation fora, 1 issue each in 2005 and 2007
➢ Guidelines on Standardization and Related Regulatory Policies, 1 issue in 2006
➢ Single Window Trade Facilitation Recommendation, 1 issue in 2004
➢ Guide on Trade Facilitation Benchmarking, 1 issue in 2005
➢ Formal Recommendation on Trade Facilitation Benchmarking, 1 issue in 2005
➢ Guide to Trade Facilitation Implementation, 1 issue in 2005
➢ Revised Recommendation 12 on measures to facilitate maritime transport documents, 1 issue in 2005
➢ Legal Aspects of Trade Facilitation, 1 issue in 2005
➢ Compendium of Trade Facilitation Recommendations (revised edition in 2005)
➢ UNECE Experience using the World Bank Trade Facilitation Audit Methodology, 1 issue in 2004
➢ Updated Trade Facilitation, UN/EDIFACT and e-business training material, 2004
➢ Guide on Market Surveillance in the UNECE Region, 1 issue in 2004
➢ Reports on Sustainable Development issues in the Russian Forest Sector (XB), 1 issue each year
➢ Brochure on UNECE Trade Development, Products and Services, two issues: one in 2004 and one in 2006
➢ Information brochure on the work of the Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development (CTIED), two issues: one in 2005 and one in 2007
➢ Trade Policy Briefings, 1 issue each year from 2004-07
➢ Report on the Operation and Structure of Trade Facilitation Promotion Organizations (PRO organizations) in Transition Economies, 2004
➢ Code lists and Web Services for trade data (Internet publications), different issues in each of the years from 2004 to 2007
➢ Book containing selected papers on trade facilitation in Russian, 2004
➢ Publications on trade-related topics – substantive papers prepared for the International Fora organized by the Trade Development and Timber Division, one each year from 2004 to 2007
➢ ECE Standardization List, 2007
➢ Information brochure on UNECE Standardization and Regulatory Activities, 2004
➢ UNECE Standard for Poultry Meat - Carcasses and Parts (paper and Internet): 1 issue in 2004, 1 in 2007
➢ Colour chart for dry and dried produce (paper-only publication): 1 issue in 2004 and 1 in 2006
➢ Information brochure about Agricultural Quality Standards (paper and Internet): 1 issue in 2004 and 1 in 2006
➢ Revised UNECE Standard for Bovine Meat - Carcasses and Cuts (paper and Internet): 1 issue in 2004 and 1 in 2007
➢ UNECE Standard for Ovine Meat - Carcasses and Cuts (paper and Internet): 1 issue in 2004 and 1 in 2007
➢ Revised UNECE Standard for Porcine Meat - Carcasses and Cuts (paper-only version): 1 issue in 2005
➢ UNECE Standard for Llama Meat - Carcasses and Cuts (paper and Internet): 1 issue in 2005
➢ UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes (revision), Paper publication: 1 issue in 2005
➢ UNECE Standard for Goat Meat - Carcasses and Cuts (paper and Internet): 1 issue in 2006

- ➢ UNECE Standard for Turkey Meat - Carcasses and Cuts (paper and Internet): 1 in 2006
- ➢ UNECE Standard for Veal - Carcasses and Cuts (paper and Internet): 1 issue in 2007

Recurrent Publications:

- ➢ United Nations Trade Data Interchange Directory (UNTDID – also known as the UN/EDIFACT Directories), Internet publication, 2 issues each year
- ➢ United Nations Trade Data Elements Directory (UNTDED – also known as ISO 7372), Internet publication, 1 issue in 2004
- ➢ UNECE Standards and Recommendations for Trade and Electronic Business, Internet publication, 1 each year
- ➢ United Nations Code for Trade and Transport Locations (UN/LOCODE), Internet publication, 2 each year
- ➢ Compendium of Norms, Standards and Best Practices for International Trade and Business, CD Rom publication, two issues: one in 2005 and one in 2007
- ➢ Trade Development Directory, Internet publication, 1 update each year
- ➢ UNECE Standards for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (revision), Internet publication: 1 update each year
- ➢ UNECE Standards for Dry and Dried Produce (revision), Internet publication: 1 update each year
- ➢ UNECE Standard for Seed Potatoes (revision), Internet publication: 1 update each year

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List of Abbreviations

BSEC	Black Sea Economic Cooperation
CTIED	Committee for Trade, Industry and Enterprise Development
ebXML	Electronic Business using eXtensible Markup Language
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOSOC	United Nations Economic and Social Council
EDI	Electronic Data Interchange
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
EU	European Union
EUROPRO	Organization of European national trade facilitation committees
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GE.1	Specialized Section on Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables
GE.2	Specialized Section on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce (Fruit)
GE.5	Specialized Section on Standardization of Early and Ware Potatoes
GE.6	Specialized Section on Standardization of Seed Potatoes
GE.11	Specialized Section on Standardization of Meat
ICC	International Chamber of Commerce
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITC	International Trade Centre
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
OASIS	Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PCG	UN/CEFACT Promotion and Communication Group
PRO	National trade facilitation committee
SAD	Single Administrative Document
SECI	Southeast European Cooperative Initiative
SECIPRO	Organization of national trade facilitation committees located in SECI countries
SEE	South East Europe
SMEs	Small and medium-sized enterprises
SP	Stability Pact
START	WP.6 Team of Specialists on Standardization and Regulatory Techniques
TTFSE	Trade and Transport Facilitation in Southeast Europe
UN	United Nations
UN/CEFACT	United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNeDocs	United Nations electronic trade documents
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNTDED	United Nations Trade Data Element Directory
UNTDID	United Nations Trade Data Interchange Directory
WCO	World Customs Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
WP.6	Working Party on Technical Harmonization and Standardization Policies
WP.7	Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO	World Trade Organization