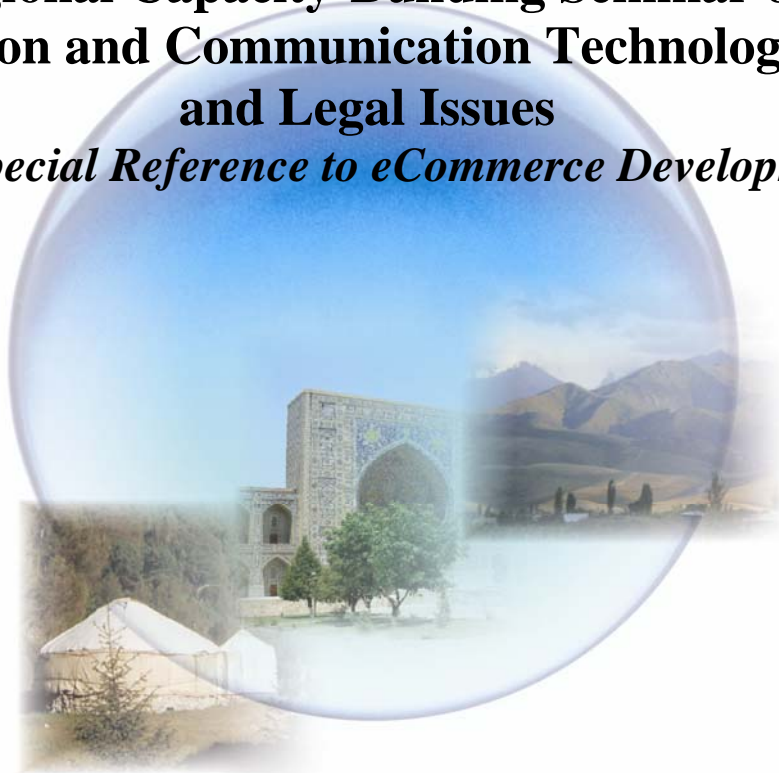




**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
(UNECE)**

Programme

**Regional Capacity-Building Seminar on
Information and Communication Technology Policy
and Legal Issues**
with Special Reference to eCommerce Development



Baku, Azerbaijan
13-14 November 2008

With the support from

**The Ministry of Communication and Information Technologies (MCIT)
of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

**The Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Azerbaijan**

Objectives of the Seminar

The development of information and communications technologies (ICTs) enables businesses and individuals to communicate and engage in transactions with other parties electronically, instantaneously and internationally. This gives rise to a variety of legal and regulatory issues for policymakers, from the validity of electronic methods of contracting and the security risks associated with them, to concerns over cybercrime and the ability to protect intellectual property rights (IPR) online. ICT policymakers are constantly facing challenges in dealing with these issues. The promotion of harmonized law reforms, which would facilitate the sound development of eCommerce and related activities, ensuring that citizens have appropriate protection against harmful behavior, is a way to address these challenges.

The Regional Seminar will cover legal issues in five distinct areas relevant for the sound development of eCommerce and related activities of the SPECA member countries, namely: legal infrastructure, legal certainty, legal security, legal protection and legal deterrence. It highlights and discusses relevant related developments, best practice initiatives at an international level for the reference of ICT policymakers of the SPECA member countries.

PROGRAMME

13 November 2008

09.30-10.00 Registration of the Participants

10.00-10.20 Opening Session of the Seminar

Welcoming Statement by the senior representative from the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Opening Statement by **Mr. Andrey Vasilyev**, Director, Economic Cooperation and Integration Division, UNECE

Statement by a representative from other SPECA member countries.

10.20-10.50 Introduction and Overview of Key Legal Issues on eCommerce Development

eCommerce and Legal Issues for SPECA member countries – key regulatory issues for ICT policymakers – an overview by **Professor Ian Walden**, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London

10.50-11.30 Presentations on Current Status of eCommerce Development and Related Legal Issues - Country Presentations

- Afghanistan
- Azerbaijan
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan

11.30-11.50 *Coffee Break*

11.50-13.00 Continuation of the country presentations

13.00-14.00 *Lunch Break*

14.00-15.50 Session 1 - Legal Infrastructure for eCommerce

Instructor: Professor Ian Walden, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London

Issues to be covered: legal principles, regulatory structures for eCommerce, ICT stakeholders, sector liberalization, and harmonizing ICT laws.

15.50-16.10 *Coffee Break*

16.10-17.40 Session 2 - Legal Certainty

Instructor: Professor Ian Walden, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London

Issues to be covered: legal recognition of electronic messages, requirements of form, retention of data messages, recognition of foreign electronic documents and signatures, admissibility of electronic evidence, formation and validity of electronic contracts, and recognition by parties of data messages.

17.40-18.00 Questions and answers

14 November 2008

10.00-11.30 Session 3 - Legal ICT Security

Instructor: Professor Ian Walden, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London

Issues to be covered: managing ICT security risks, digital signatures, and data protection.

11.30-11.50 *Coffee break*

11.50-13.20 Session 4 - Legal Protection in ICT

Instructor: Professor Ian Walden, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London

Issues to be covered: trademarks, copyright, consumer protection.

13.20-14.20 *Lunch break*

14.20-15.50 Session 5 - Legal Deterrents in ICT

Instructor: Professor Ian Walden, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London

Issues to be covered: ICT crimes, regulating ICT crime, international cooperation.

15.50-17.10 *Coffee break*

17.10-17.40 Session 6 - eCommerce Development in SPECA member countries

Instructor: Professor Ian Walden, Centre for Commercial Law Studies, Queen Mary University of London

This is a session to provide special feed-backs on the issues specially addressed by SPECA member countries during the country presentations and other sessions. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss specific issues related to the topics.

17.40-17.50 Questionnaire

17.50-18.00 Closing session of the Seminar