



**Economic and Social
Council**

Distr.
GENERAL

TRADE/CEFACT/2000/1/Rev. 1
23 February 2000

Original : ENGLISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Centre for the Facilitation of Procedures and Practices
for Administration, Commerce and Transport

Sixth session, 27-30 March 2000

REVISED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

For the UN/CEFACT Conference (27-28 March 2000)
and the UN/CEFACT Plenary Session (29-30 March 2000),
to be held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 27 March 2000

The Conference will take place in rooms XX (UNCTAD building) and XI.
The Plenary will take place in room XX (UNCTAD building).

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Adoption of the revised provisional agenda | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/1/Rev.1 |
| 2. Confirmation of the report from the March 1999 session | TRADE/CEFACT/1999/19 |
| 3. UN/CEFACT Steering Group (CSG) reports | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/2
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/3
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/4
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/5 |

- | | |
|---|---|
| 4. Programme of work and progress reports from mandated groups | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/6
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/7
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/8
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/9
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/14
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/19
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/21
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/22
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/23
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/24
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/26
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/CRP.1 |
| 5. Approval of recommendations | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/10
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/11
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/12
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/25
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/28
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/29
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/30 |
| 6. Strategy for the promotion of UN/CEFACT objectives | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/13 |
| 7. Proposal for the revision of TRADE/R.650 | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/27
TRADE/R.650/Rev.1 |
| 8. Reports from UN/CEFACT rapporteurs and related matters | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/16
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/CRP.2 |
| 9. Reports from regional bodies and initiatives as well as regional advisors | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/17
TRADE/CEFACT/2000/18 |
| 10. Progress and cooperation with the International Electrotechnical Commission, the International Organization for Standardization, the International Telecommunication Union, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization and the World Customs Organization | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/31 |
| 11. Other business | TRADE/CEFACT/2000/CRP.3 |
| 12. Adoption of the report | |

ANNOTATIONS

Introduction

The provisional agenda for the sixth session of the Centre for the Facilitation of Procedures and Practices for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/CEFACT) was prepared in accordance with decisions taken by the UN/CEFACT officers and the secretariat. The provisional timetable is being proposed by the secretariat after consultations with the Chairman of the UN/CEFACT Steering Group for the sixth session of UN/CEFACT. The timetable is indicative only.

	(a.m.)	(p.m.)
Monday, 27 March	Conference	Conference
Tuesday, 28 March	Conference	Conference
Wednesday, 29 March	UN/CEFACT	UN/CEFACT
Thursday, 30 March	UN/CEFACT	UN/CEFACT

The session will begin at 10:00 on Monday.

The CSG proposes that, in conjunction with the UN/CEFACT Plenary, a conference be held during the first two days of the meeting. The objective of the conference would be to show delegates to the Plenary and invited guests the range of UN/CEFACT activities and the impact of UN/CEFACT's work on government, commerce and industry. A detailed programme of the conference will be issued in early March.

Item 1 - Adoption of the provisional agenda

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE), the first item on the revised provisional agenda is the **adoption of the agenda** (document TRADE/CEFACT/2000/1/Rev.1).

Item 2 - Confirmation of the report from the UN/CEFACT March 1999 Plenary session

The **report** TRADE/CEFACT/1999/19, approved at the UN/CEFACT March 1999 Plenary session, is **to be confirmed**.

Item 3 - UN/CEFACT Steering Group (CSG) reports

The Chairman of the UN/CEFACT Steering Group will present a report, summarizing the results of the Group's work during the last twelve months (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/2). The report will include **issues for approval**.

The Chairman will also present, **for information and noting**, the reports covering the CSG meetings of March 1999, June 1999 and November 1999, as contained in documents TRADE/CEFACT/2000/3, TRADE/CEFACT/2000/4 and TRADE/CEFACT/2000/5.

Item 4 - Programme of work and progress reports from mandated groups

Written and oral reports, **for discussion and noting**, will be received from the following UN/CEFACT permanent working groups: Business Process Analysis Working Group (BPAWG) (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/14); Codes Working Group (CDWG); UN/EDIFACT Working Group (EWG) (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/7), International Trade Procedures Working Group (ITPWG) (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/6); Legal Working Group (LWG) (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/19); and Techniques and Methodologies Working Group (TMWG).

A report will also be received, **for information and noting**, from the Electronic Commerce ad hoc Working Group (ECAWG) entitled Electronic commerce and the simplification of administrative constraints (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/9).

The CSG has revised its former aide-mémoire outlining UN/CEFACT's Strategy for Electronic Business (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/21). This document is intended **for approval** by the Plenary.

Following comments by the UN/EDIFACT community, the CSG also identified the need for the development of a common technical framework for XML business specifications that would allow the inter-operability of XML information exchanges in electronic business. To this end, a joint project was launched with OASIS described in TRADE/CEFACT/2000/2 and TRADE/CEFACT/2000/CRP.1. The meeting is requested to **note** the document TRADE/CEFACT/2000/CRP.1 **and to approve** the direction of the joint project with OASIS.

The Delegation of the United Kingdom will submit a document on Simple Electronic Business Standards (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/24), **for discussion and approval** of the directions indicated.

The meeting will be presented, **for noting**, the guidelines to Recommendation No.4 entitled Creating an efficient environment for Trade and Transport (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/8). This document was prepared by UNCTAD and circulated as a conference room paper to the UN/CEFACT March 1999 Plenary.

The Delegation of the Netherlands will present, **for information**, the Model Code of Conduct for Electronic Commerce (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/26).

In order to facilitate and speed up the work of UN/CEFACT and to take full advantage of electronic means of communication, the CSG submits, **for approval by the Plenary**, proposals for a new standards development process in working groups (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/22), and for the intersessional approval of documents (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/23).

Item 5 - Approval of recommendations

Revisions of the following recommendations will be submitted **for approval** to the Plenary: Recommendation No. 5, Abbreviations of INCOTERMS (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/10) and Recommendation No. 24, Harmonization of Transport Status Codes (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/11). New draft Recommendations No. 30 Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System for the Coding of Goods and Commodities (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/12) and No. 31 Electronic Commerce Agreement (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/25) will also be submitted **for approval**.

The Codes Working Group will also submit to the meeting, **for information**, draft revised Recommendations No. 19, Codes for Modes of Transport (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/28) and No. 21, Codes for Types of Cargo, Packages and Packaging Materials (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/30), as well as a draft of a new Recommendation, No. 28, Codes for Types of Means of Transport (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/29).

Item 6 - Strategy for the promotion of UN/CEFACT objectives

The Chairman of the UN/CEFACT Steering group will introduce, **for discussion and approval**, a paper defining the main lines of the new UN/CEFACT promotion strategy, as well as proposals to change the name of UN/CEFACT into the Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business and to consider the creation of a Business Advisory Board for UN/CEFACT (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/13).

Item 7 - Proposal for the revision of TRADE/R.650

The Chairman of the UN/CEFACT Steering Group will present, **for approval**, a revised version of TRADE/R.650 (Recommendations for the establishment of UN/CEFACT), entitled "The Mandate, Terms of Reference and Procedures for UN/CEFACT" (TRADE/R.650/Rev.1). This document is accompanied by a note highlighting amended parts of TRADE/R.650 (Proposed changes to TRADE/R.650 - TRADE/CEFACT/2000/27).

Item 8 - Reports from UN/CEFACT rapporteurs, and related matters

The Plenary will receive, **for information and noting**, reports from the UN/CEFACT Rapporteur for Asia (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/16), the UN/CEFACT Standards Liaison Rapporteur and the UN/CEFACT Legal Liaison Rapporteurs (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/CRP.2).

The meeting will also be requested **to elect a new Standards Liaison Rapporteur** since the current one will step down at the March 2000 UN/CEFACT Plenary.

Item 9 - Reports from regional bodies and initiatives, as well as regional advisors

Written or oral reports will be received, **for information and noting**, from regional bodies and initiatives, as well as regional advisors covering projects or activities related to UN/CEFACT's work. Among the documents submitted are: Technical assistance provided by the Czech Republic in the area of trade facilitation (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/17) and Report from the Fifth Meeting of SECIPRO, Budapest, 13 December 1999 (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/18).

Item 10 - Cooperation with the International Electrotechnical Commission, the International Organization for Standardization, the International Telecommunication Union, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization and the World Customs Organization

The Chairman of the UN/CEFACT Steering Group will report, **for information and noting**, on developments relating to the Memorandum of Understanding between the IEC, the ISO, the ITU and the UN/ECE (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/31). The secretariat will report on cooperation with OECD, UNCTAD, WTO and WCO.

Item 11 - Other business

A member of the EFTA Group of Experts on Efficient Trade Procedures will give an up-date, **for information**, on the EFTA CD-ROM on trade facilitation (TRADE/CEFACT/2000/CRP.3).

Item 12 - Adoption of the report

The report of the sixth session shall be approved according to the agreed procedures.
