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COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
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Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

Eleventh session, 22 – 23 June 2005

Item 10 of the provisional agenda

Plan for an Implementation Study

Note by the secretariat

This document is **for approval**.

The secretariat undertakes once in a biennium (the United Nations budgeting period) a study to monitor the level of implementation of UNECE trade facilitation recommendations.

Previous documentation:

TRADE/CEFACT/2004/31 UN/CEFACT Baseline Study

TRADE/CEFACT/2004/32 Secretariat Review of UN/LOCODE

TRADE/CEFACT/2004/33 Secretariat Review of UN/EDIFACT

TRADE/CEFACT/2003/12 Questionnaire for the baseline study

1. As part of its ongoing efforts to improve its technical assistance and related work, the secretariat periodically evaluates the level of implementation of the UNECE recommendations.
2. The secretariat carried out the first baseline study in 2003 in the following member States: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States.
3. For various reasons, the following member States were not in a position to respond: Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Luxembourg, Monaco, San Marino, as well as Serbia and Montenegro.
4. The following member States did not reply at all: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan.
5. The results of the first baseline study can be found in the following documents presented at the 10th UN/CEFACT Plenary session in 2004: UN/CEFACT Baseline Study (TRADE/CEFACT/2004/31), Secretariat review of UN/LOCODE (TRADE/CEFACT/2004/32), and Secretariat Review of UN/EDIFACT (TRADE/CEFACT/2004/33).
6. In order to improve the member States' contribution, the secretariat proposes to focus the forthcoming baseline studies on a reduced sample of recommendations representing the most important categories of recommendations: global standards for businesses, and country oriented recommendations for governments.
7. The future baseline studies are proposed to be conducted in a smaller number of countries than in the first study carried out in 2003 – 2004 representing the different groups of member States (11 member States): EU members and advanced economies in the UNECE region (Canada, the Czech Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom), EU accession members (Bulgaria), CIS member countries (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation) as well as non-UNECE member States (the Republic of Korea, Thailand).

Global standards for electronic businesses

8. The global standards of electronic businesses will be represented in the study by two UN/CEFACT recommendations:
9. Recommendation N°. 16 - LOCODE – The UNECE Code for Trade and Transport Locations in international trade. The level of implementation of UN/LOCODE will be analyzed through the number of downloads of the code set from the UN/CEFACT web site.
10. Recommendation N°. 25 - Use of the UN Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport Standard (UN/EDIFACT) is the international standard for electronic data interchange and e-business outside the Internet. The level of implementation of UN/EDIFACT will be verified by the number of countries in the sample having implemented the standard for Customs and/or Statistics data interchange

Trade Facilitation recommendations for member States

11. The study will be carried out based on individual interviews with the most important stakeholders, such as the customs, the national trade facilitation organs, trade organizations and the UN/CEFACT Heads of Delegation. The interviews will be made between May and September 2005 and the final results will be published at the 12th UN/CEFACT Plenary in 2006.
12. Recommendation 1: The UN Layout Key is the international standard for aligned trade documents. Its use will be verified by the number of countries in the sample having implemented the standard for trade documents.
13. Recommendation 4: National Trade Facilitation Organs is a recommendation that specified the arrangements at the National Level to coordinate work on facilitation of trade procedures. The implementation study will be verified by the number of countries in the sample having implemented the recommendation.
14. Recommendation 33: "Single Window" is the newest UN/CEFACT recommendation issued in 2004. The implementation will be verified by the number of countries in the sample having implemented the recommendation.

Recommendation	Title	Indicator	Objective
1	UN Layout Key	Number of countries in the sample having implemented the standard (1 - 11)	Trade Facilitation
4	National Trade Facilitation Organs	Number of countries in the sample having implemented the standard (1- 11)	Trade Facilitation
16	UN/LOCODE	Number of downloads	Electronic Business
25	UN/EDIFACT	Number of countries in the sample having implemented the standard (1 - 11)	Electronic Business
33	Single Window	Number of countries in the sample having implemented the standard (1 - 11)	Trade Facilitation

Reviews outside the UNECE region

15. In order to increase information on the use of UN/CEFACT recommendations outside the UNECE region, the secretariat suggest including into the 2005 study two additional countries.
16. The Head of Delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran is carrying out a simultaneous study on the use of UN/CEFACT Recommendations 1, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18, 22, 27 and 33 in 2005. Consequently, the questions related to recommendations 1, 4 and 33 will be coordinated with the Head of Delegation in a manner allowing comparison and reporting to the Plenary.
17. The secretariat will also liaise with the Asian Rapporteur for information on the level of implementation in the Republic of Korea for comparison with the baseline data in the UNECE region.

Baseline study on the implementation of UNECE trade facilitation recommendations and instruments

1. The United Nations Layout Key (UNLK)

Who is responsible for:

- a. The preparation of documents used in trade and transport in your country?
- b. Is there a standards institute responsible for these forms?
- c. Who is using the information: customs, businesses?
- d. Are the documents aligned with the UNLK?
 - i. In CIS – are they aligned with GOST?
 - ii. Are they aligned with related documents – SAD, FFI?
- e. Are there any changes to these documents that have occurred during the last year?
- f. Has your country signed / ratified / implemented the Revised Kyoto Convention?

2. Is there a PRO committee in your country (a national trade facilitation body)?

- a. A body with similar functions as the PRO committees described in Recommendation 4?
- b. Two or more such organizations?

3. UNLOCODE

- a. Study the list of LOCODE codes in the country and compare them with the codes in use in the country. Are there differences? Has the use of the codes increased in the past year?

4. Rec. 21 Codes for Passengers, Types of Cargo, Packages and Packaging Materials (with Complementary Codes for Package Names)

- a. Are you using this list of codes?
- b. Is there another code in use in your country?

5. EDIFACT

- a. Are SWIFT messages used in bank transfers in the country? Is the use growing?
- b. What is the general level of EDIFACT use in the country?
- c. Are Customs using EDIFACT? If not, why?

6. Recommendation 33 Single Window

- a. Do you have a Single Window in the country?
- b. Is it country-wide or local?
- c. Is it public or private?
- d. Do you know/use UNECE/UNCEFACT Recommendation 33?
- e. Have you considered using this Recommendation?
 - i. If not, why?
 - ii. If considered but decided not to use it, why?

Please fill in:

Your name:

Organization:

Address:

Phone: Fax:

Email:

Please return the form to the UNECE secretariat

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