

13 FEBRUARY 2012

ENGLISH ONLY

**UNITED NATIONS CENTRE FOR TRADE FACILITATION AND  
ELECTRONIC BUSINESS (UN/CEFACT)**

**ISO/TC 154 Report to UN/CEFACT Plenary**

Informal Note submitted by the ISO/TC 154

ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2012/MISC.2

## ISO/TC 154 - Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration

<i>Title</i>	ISO/TC 154 Report to UN-CEFACT Plenary
<i>Source</i>	Secretariat
<i>Project(s)</i>	n/a
<i>Note(s)</i>	n/a

### REQUESTED ACTION

Circulated to P- and O-members, and to technical committees and organizations in liaison for:

☒ **information**      ☐ **discussion at**      ☐ **comments by**      ☐ **voting by**  
(P-members only)

(P-members of the technical committee have an obligation to vote)

*Our Goal: Open Data Interchange*

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## ISO/TC 154 Report to UN/CEFACT Plenary

**Summary:** *Since the successful plenary in September last year, ISO/TC 154 has become very active in progressing its work program and reconnecting with its membership and liaison organizations. ISO/TC 154 was looking forward to closer collaboration with UN/CEFACT's Core Component Business Document Assembly team, however the UN/CEFACT Bureau did not approve the team's request. ISO/TC 154 is hopeful, in spite of the slow start, that UN/CEFACT will support both organizations in their efforts to engage in closer collaboration.*

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Last September ISO/TC 154's working groups and plenary meetings were very successful, laying the groundwork for ISO/TC 154 to get back to its work program, starting with the review of current active work items and the identification of possible new work items. The result was the approval of four new work items that are now underway within the respected project teams. For details see <http://www.isotc154.org/projects>.

In an effort to be open and transparent not only to our membership but also to our user community, ISO/TC 154 has set up a public web site that not only provides detailed information about our working groups, their projects and our published standards and technical specifications, but also provides minutes and status reports about activities between our physical meetings. The web site is now online at <http://www.isotc154.org>.

Of special interest to UN/CEFACT should be the Resolution ISO/TC 154 - #320, which states:

"ISO/TC 154 resolves to support the two chairmen of TC 154 and UN/CEFACT in their effort to coordinate the activities of their organizations."

Regrettably, ISO/TC 154 notes that the UN/CEFACT Bureau failed to distribute to the UN/CEFACT HoDs important ISO/TC 154 documents, such as the minutes and resolutions of the TC 154 plenary, as well as the Calls for Experts regarding the new Work Items, all related to UN/CEFACT work, as well as other Liaison related documents. Unfortunately, because of the lack of notification to the UN/CEFACT community, the project teams for the new Work Items lack any official UN/CEFACT nominated members.

Regarding documents ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2012/8 (Explanatory note on draft Recommendation No 37) and ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2012/3 (Bureau overview of developments) as submitted by the UN/CEFACT Bureau to the Plenary, ISO/TC 154 notes some unfortunate wording stating "that there have been discussions between ISO/TC 154 and CEFACT under the guidance of the Memorandum of Understanding Meeting Group (MOUMG)" and that "a range of liaison initiatives are also under way" between our two organizations. ISO/TC 154 had hoped to address these misleading references, since no discussions and liaison initiatives have taken place, during the Bureau suggested teleconference to review the Draft Agenda and related documents, however that call never took place.

On a positive note, ISO/TC 154 and members of the UN/CEFACT Bureau have started talks this month to address how to achieve closer collaboration. ISO/TC 154 is looking forward to continuing the dialog and a positive solution that will be beneficial to both our stakeholders and user communities.

ISO/TC 154's next working group meetings and plenary are scheduled for 8-12 October 2012 in the San Francisco Bay area.