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Capacity-building and technical assistance activities

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Submitted by the Secretariat

Summary

This document provides an overview of capacity-building and technical assistance activities carried out under the ECE sub programme on Trade during the period September 2015 – March 2016. It includes activities carried out by under the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards (SCTCS); the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6); the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7); the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) and the Regional Adviser

Sections implemented by the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) are for information only



I. Introduction

1. The Trade sub programme support inter and intra-regional trade and economic cooperation among ECE member States and facilitate the region's integration into global value chains. Activities are geared to consolidate an open, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory trading system in the region, and support the trade development efforts in the less economically developed and landlocked countries of the ECE region. Drawing on the work of its intergovernmental bodies and expert groups, the sub programme develops and promotes:

(a) A predictable, transparent and harmonized regulatory environment for commerce and business through strengthening of the convergence of regulations, as well as through the promotion of international standards and best practices in areas of regulatory cooperation, conformity assessment and market surveillance;

(b) Trade in agricultural produce through the development of agricultural quality standards for supporting regulatory purposes and the private sector as well as explanatory brochures. These are developed in cooperation with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables, and the Codex Alimentarius Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables;

(c) Simple, transparent and effective processes for global commerce through the development and maintenance of international trade facilitation instruments including global standards and best practices for moving from paper-based to automated electronic environments and for the harmonization and simplification of the business processes underpinning export and import activities.

2. Technical assistance and capacity building activities seek to support ECE member States, especially less economically developed and landlocked countries, in their efforts to implement ECE trade-related standards and recommendations, including their integration into national and regional strategies, and regulatory regimes. Activities also seek to support the removal of regulatory and procedural barriers to trade caused by capacity shortfalls as well as by differences in trade-related procedures, regulatory approaches, and standards for manufactured and agricultural products.

3. Technical assistance and capacity building activities are delivered in close cooperation with development partners, including: other United Nations organizations such as the United Nations Regional Commissions; Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), sub regional groupings and organizations such as the European Commission, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Eurasian Economic Commission; and a wide variety of private sector organizations, including industry associations.

4. The next section provides an overview of the Trade Sub programme's capacity building and technical assistance activities for the period September 2015 – March 2016, highlighting the main objectives, achieved results, and development partners. Section three lists activities carried out by the Regional Adviser during the same period. Section four informs the delegations of future capacity building and technical assistance activities. A more detailed account of these activities, including updates and associated expenditures, is available at

<http://www.ECE.org/info/open-ECE/pmt.html>

II. Capacity –building activities for the period September 2015- March 2016

<i>No.</i>	<i>Title, Venue, Dates</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Results</i>	<i>Partners</i>
1.	Training “Public meets/meets private - Private sector - food safety verification programs and Public sector - international standards” 28 September 2015	Enhance capacity of national experts from Central Asian and Balkan countries in food safety regulations and practices in international meat trade.	Improved the knowledge of the participants about cross-border supply chains, the international instruments available to facilitate them; and Established linkages between public and private participants in informal networks.	UNDA (project funder), UNESCAP, UNDP, FAO, Codex- Alimentarius- Commission, International Trade Centre (ITC) and bilateral donor agencies (with in kind contributions).
2.	Stakeholder Platforms for Collaboration in Cross Border Trade: Trends in building the Single Window Environment in Shanghai - Shanghai, China 23 October 2015	Promote ECE Recommendations on Single Window and Trade Facilitation; Support China to implement important provisions of the WTO TFA; and Facilitate Europe-Asia trade collaboration.	China revised its Single Window Approach; China participated in the work of UN/CEFACT; and The Chinese Prime Minister has defined trade facilitation and China Single Window in the top 10 trade policy priorities in 2016.	Co-organized with ESCAP Hosted by the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) Supported by UNNExT
3.	UN70 Anniversary: Promoting SDGs for All 27-29 October 2015	To adopt the Action Plan for the Implementation of SDGs in Belarus with representation from Government, UN organizations, and a wide range of stakeholders including civil society, private sector partners, youth, artists and representatives of vulnerable groups.	Increased awareness by the civil society in Belarus of the work of the UN and how it directly impacts their lives; and Direct contact of international agencies with stakeholders through film screenings and workshops concerts, exhibitions, talk shows, theatre performances, hackathons and cooking demonstrations. Over 250 activities took place in the eight cities where the train stopped along the route. (See more at http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2	UNDP Belarus

No.	Title, Venue, Dates	Objective(s)	Results	Partners
			015/10/express-for-sdgs-train-departs-on-tour-through-belarus/).	
4.	IEC-ISO-ECE event on "Using and referencing International Standards to support public policy" 2-3 November 2015	To exchange best practice on how standards can help implement policy commitments taken at the global level (e.g. sustainability, resilience and development goals); To showcase ways how international standards support public policy goals at national level; and To share the benefits of referencing standards in regulations.	Improved participants' knowledge of the benefit of using international standards in policymaking and regulatory actions, especially in the areas of food production; energy efficiency and sustainability and resilience.	IEC, ISO
5.	World Standards Cooperation (WSC) Conformity Assessment Workshop 1-2 December 2015	The event aimed at: discussing challenges related to establishing proof of compliance with standards and regulations, which may result in technical barriers to international trade and the unnecessary exposure of consumers, workers and communities hazards; and Showcasing possible solutions, including globally harmonized approaches to conformity assessment within a risk management perspective.	Increased awareness of and trust in available means of establishing conformity to standards and technical regulations, including those developed under the umbrella of international standards organizations; Increased understanding of the challenges related to counterfeit products & certificates and possible regulatory solutions.	ISO, IEC, ITU
6.	Workshop on "Delivering on the trade facilitation agreement: the role of standards and regulatory frameworks" 14 December 2015	To develop and make available standards, recommendations and guidelines that support the reduction of border delays and/or the exchange trade information electronically between countries.	A stronger political will and a coordinated effort by the public and private sectors to fully implement standards, recommendations and guidelines that support the reduction of border delays and/or the exchange trade information electronically between countries.	WTO, ECE
7.	E15 Initiative Regulatory Convergence Through the WTO 17 December 2015	To examine key challenges posed by differences in regulations, and review the approaches pursued by countries to cooperate internationally to address such challenges.	Concrete policy recommendations to improve regulatory outcomes were presented to an audience of regulatory agencies and trade negotiators (http://tds.ictsd.org/content/regulatory-convergence-through-wto-0 Event website)	International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), World Economic Forum (WEF), E15

<i>No.</i>	<i>Title, Venue, Dates</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Results</i>	<i>Partners</i>
				Initiative, WTO
8.	Improved capacity of governmental trade control agencies in Albania to implement Single Window May 2015 – Jun 2016	To strengthen the capacity of governmental trade control agencies and the business community in Albania to simplify, harmonize, and automate trade information gathering and customs operations through the SW.	The project is under implementation.	Albanian Government (Customs Authority, Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Entrepreneurship; Ministry of Finance); representatives of the business community; UNDP and UNCTAD
9.	Maintenance and update of the UN Trade Facilitation and Implementation Guide (TFIG) 1 Sep 2015 -31 Jan 2016	To maintain and update the Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide based on the international tools, standards and best practices.	TFIG updated; New content developed, including two new itineraries; The updates and new content translated and available on line in Spanish, Arabic, Russian and French; A training kit for trainers on the new itineraries in English, Spanish, French and Russian; and New cases studies on good trade facilitation practices in the five regions of the world prepared.	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden
10.	Lecture at University of Milano at the League of European Research Universities (LERU) event 1-2 February 2016	To promote the WP.6 recommendation I “Education on standards-related issues” and proposing ways of further cooperation between ECE and LERU at the Vice-Rectors Learning & Teaching meeting in Milan.(http://www.leru.org/index.php/public/calendar/vice-rectors-learning-teaching-meeting-in-milan/).	Proposed concrete cooperation activity with LERU on education on standards: Joint studies and research projects; Joint development of online or offline teaching modules; Internships Regular/ad hoc interventions in classes or courses	LERU, University of Milano

No.	Title, Venue, Dates	Objective(s)	Results	Partners
			by ECE staff: and Advice/contributions for the development of courses/curricula on standards-related issues by ECE staff.	
11.	Removing Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade in the Republic of Moldova 1 August 2015-31 July 2016	To support the removal of regulatory and procedural barriers to trade in the Republic of Moldova in a manner that contributes to the successful implementation of national trade development and regional integration efforts, taking into account the needs and economic realities in all the country and the challenges stemming from its landlocked status.	Improved policies in the area of trade facilitation, standardization, technical regulations and quality assurance in the Republic of Moldova; and Improved exchange of experience and best practices in the areas of trade facilitation, standardization policies, technical regulations and quality assurance among ECE member States.	The Republic of Moldova and the Swiss Government (project funder)
12.	Strengthening national capacities of the CIS countries to implement ECE agricultural quality standards (Phase II of project E160) October 2014-August 2016	To strengthen the capacity of the CIS countries to produce quality agricultural products, strengthen the implementation of ECE quality standards in the region, and support the broader UN-wide goal of ensuring food security and nutrition for all.	No activities were carried out in 2015. The project entered its final phase in 2016 with the procurement of laboratory equipment for a laboratory in Leningrad Region. The project will be completed in August 2016.	The Leningrad Oblast Branch of the Federal State Institution "Russian Agricultural Centre", Switzerland; and the Russian Federation (project funder).
13.	Capacity Building Workshop on Cross-border Paperless Trade Facilitation Bangkok, Thailand 25 March 2016	Capacity building in implementation of UN/CEFACT Agriculture messages; Presentation of regional case studies; and Exchange of lessons learned.	Several countries have started preparation for the implementation of UN/CEFACT electronic phytosanitary documents.	ESCAP
14.	Strengthening the capacity of transition and developing economies to participate in cross-border agricultural food supply	To strengthen national capacities for using international best practices, tools and instruments as well as developing integrated strategies for facilitating cross-border agri-food trade.	-A capacity building event for the Western Balkan countries on integration into cross-border meat supply chains in Geneva (2015) and another on Agri-Food Supply Chains in Cross-Border Trade of Nuts and Dried Fruit for Central Asian countries (including practical training) in Izmir,	ESCAP

<i>No.</i>	<i>Title, Venue, Dates</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Results</i>	<i>Partners</i>
	chains (the project was launched in September 2014)		Turkey (June/July 2015). In addition, one case study (business process analysis of the export of dried apricots from Tajikistan) was prepared and reviewed at the capacity-building event on nuts and dried fruit in Turkey.	

III. Regional Adviser's capacity-building and technical assistance activities during the period September 2015 – March 2016

<i>No.</i>	<i>Title, Venue, Dates</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Results</i>	<i>Partners</i>
1.	Business Process Analysis in International Trade, Moscow, 21-26 September 2015	To train trainers from the Eurasian Economic Union countries to carry out BPAs for SW implementation and train other experts to do BPA.	A total of 75 experts completed the course, passed the tests, and demonstrated their newly acquired skills to carry out BPAs, using the ECE/ESCAP methodology and their professional knowledge of business processes and procedures in the EAEU countries.	Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), UNESCAP
2.	Validation seminar of the Report on the Assessment of the Readiness of Ukraine to Implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), Kiev, 30 September-2 September 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To validate the report on the readiness of Ukraine to implement the WTO TFA; - To draft recommendations for action by the Government; and for the notification of the various measures in the TFA; and - To prepare the ground for technical assistance on the implementation of the measures in the WTO TFA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - participation of the key regulatory agencies in Ukraine; - Definition of possible categorization of the B and C category measures; - Recommendations for the first concrete steps (on prompt action to implement measures notified as A, which Ukraine should complete by the entry into force of the TFA); - Prepare for a donor conference on the platform of the Interagency Working Group on Trade Facilitation and Logistics (IWG); 	Commercial Law Development Programme (CLDP) of the Ministry of Justice of the United States, the Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Trade Facilitation and Logistics of Ukraine, and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) – Ukraine
3.	Opening seminar on assessing the readiness of Kazakhstan to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To organize the opening seminar for the assessment of the readiness of Kazakhstan to implement the WTO TFA. Present and discuss the readiness of the country for each measure in the Agreement and the possible categorization of the measures; - To teach the consultant of ECE and GIZ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The assessment of the readiness of Kazakhstan to implement the WTO TFA launched in a seminar with key regulatory bodies and the business community. This project is a direct ECE contribution to SDG 17.10: Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable 	UNCTAD

<i>No.</i>	<i>Title, Venue, Dates</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Results</i>	<i>Partners</i>
	Astana, 8-9 October 2015	to carry out interviews, and how to prepare the final readiness report; and - To draft recommendations for the Government.	multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization; - Recommendations to the Government of Kazakhstan for its position on the notification of its readiness to implement the WTO TFA prepared for presentation to the relevant authorities.	
4.	Advisory services at the OSCE seminar and validation of a report “Economic Connectivity of Ukraine” – report on our activities in trade facilitation, and look for further contacts and collaboration, Kiev, 5 November 2015.	To provide advisory services at OSCE seminar and validation of their report “Economic Connectivity of Ukraine”. Report on our activities in trade facilitation; establish contacts and collaboration with OSCE and the Swiss sponsors of the meeting and the report.	The results of the work of ECE on trade facilitation instruments, such as the Single Window, and the assessment of the readiness of Ukraine to implement the WTO TFA were presented and contacts with new key partners in support of trade facilitation in Ukraine established.	OSCE
5.	Advisory services at the CEFTA2006 – USAID seminar on National Trade Facilitation Committees in the CEFTA2006 countries, Belgrade, 3-4 November 2015	To provide advisory services at the CEFTA2006 – USAID seminar on trade facilitation and National Trade Facilitation Committees – report on ECE’s activities historically in Southeast Europe, notably, the collaboration with the national PRO committees, and current projects and tools in support of trade facilitation and the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).	- Keynote presentation for representatives of all CEFTA2006 countries; - Consensus with USAID, the CEFTA2006 secretariat, GIZ, the national committees and other partners on continued cooperation.	USAID, CEFTA
6.	SPECA Economic Forum and Governing Council, Dushanbe, 9-11 November 2015	To organize and moderate a trade session at the SPECA Economic Forum; present the Discussion Paper on trade barriers in the SPECA region – discuss with the participants the approaches and solutions, proposals for further studies, and recommendations for the elimination of trade barriers; review with the SPECA countries the reform of the SPECA PWGs into Thematic Working Groups; discuss with potential partners (both from the SPECA countries and development partners – GIZ, USAID – possible collaboration). Present a	A discussion paper on trade barriers in the SPECA countries, with a focus on trade in apricots, was discussed. The comments made by participants in the session will be added. The participants suggested going forward with a regional paper on barriers to trade and to establish a business advisory council as part of the Trade Working Group of SPECA. The suggested plan of work for the Thematic Working Group on Trade discussed by the participants. The Division Director made presentations on PPPs,	

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		number of areas of work in support of SPECA: PPP, transport, statistics.	transport and statistics.	
7.	Concluding seminar on the assessment of the readiness of Ukraine to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), Kiev, 17-20 November 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To organize a concluding seminar on the assessment of Ukraine's readiness to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement; - To present together to the donor community two reports (one by ECE and UNCTAD, the other by USAID on legal issues) and requests for technical assistance from various agencies, collected by MEDT; - To discuss the possible focus of assistance with the development partners participating in the meeting; - To draft recommendations for action; and for the notification of TFA measures as category B and C; and - To prepare the ground for technical assistance on the implementation of the measures in the WTO TFA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The assessment of the readiness of Ukraine to implement the WTO TFA was completed; - MEDT, ECE, and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) presented their reports to the donor community indicating good coordination; - First steps made towards distributing roles among the developing partners in their assistance for the implementation of the TFA; - A sample text drafted to be proposed to the Cabinet of Ministers for appointing MEDT as the focal point for implementing the TFA, and establishing a National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC), in compliance with TFA article 23.2 and using the existing Interagency Working Group for Trade Facilitation and Logistics (IWG); - ECE proposes capacity building on: the use of international standards (article 10.3), the Single Window (article 10.4), an action plan for the NTFC (art. 23.2) and developing a national strategy for trade facilitation. 	Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT), UNCTAD, the Commercial Law Development Programme (CLDP), and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) - Ukraine
8.	Follow-up seminar to the ECE-Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) project in support of trade facilitation and the Single Window in the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and oversight of the ECE-UNCTAD-GIZ project on the assessment of the readiness of Kazakhstan to implement the WT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide advisory services to the national seminar following up to the ECE-EEC project E217 on trade facilitation and the Single Window in the EEU, as ECE was the organization that started the E217 project; and - To organize a working meeting with the ECE consultant and GIZ on the assessment of the readiness of Kazakhstan to implement the WTO TFA, discuss the preliminary report and the organization of the validation seminar in Astana in 2016. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New directions for Kazakhstan set out to implement the "Main Directions" and methodology for implementation of Single Window and other trade facilitation instruments in the EEU (developed during the ECE E217 project), in light of the endorsement (in mid-December 2015) of these EEU documents by the presidents of the five EEU countries, and the forthcoming implementation of ASYCUDA World in Kazakhstan; - Preliminary version of the ECE report on the readiness of Kazakhstan to 	Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), UNCTAD and GIZ

No.	Title, Venue, Dates	Objective(s)	Results	Partners
	Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), Astana, 26-27 November 2015		implement the WTO TFA completed; initiated discussions with GIZ that funds the consultant, and will help organize the validation seminar for mid-January 2016. This is an achievement in ECE's contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 17.10: Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization; - First recommendations to the Government of Kazakhstan for its position on the notification of its readiness to implement the measures in the WTO TFA as categories A (but also B and C) prepared.	
9.	Advisory mission and consultations with the European Commission and the World Customs Organization (WCO) on assistance to Ukraine and other transition economies in 2015, Brussels, 14 December 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To invite DG TAXUD to continue support for ECE activities in trade facilitation and the Single Window in Ukraine, the Eurasian Economic Union and South Caucasus countries; - To discuss with DG AIDCO support for the transition economies, notably on the basis of ECE's assessment of readiness to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement; and - To agree with WCO on the future cooperation in the transition economies, notably in Ukraine. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agreement by DG TAXUD (Mr Kermode) and WCO to continue supporting joint activities in Ukraine, the EEC and South Caucasus countries; - Agreement with DEVCO to coordinate further support to trade facilitation in the transition economies, notably in Ukraine. 	European Commission and the World Customs Organization (WCO)
10.	Validation seminar on the report on the assessment of the readiness of Kazakhstan to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), Astana, 14-15 January 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To organize a seminar for the validation of the report assessing the readiness of Kazakhstan to implement the WTO TFA. Discuss with representatives of all the regulatory agencies and the business community, who responded to the UN survey (in the basis of the assessment) the report measure-by-measure with a view to assess the proposed categorization of each measure and make suggestions to the author of the report for the final analysis and the conclusions; - To prepare a suggestion to the Government for the categorization of the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The seminar reviewed the report. Representatives of the key regulatory agencies and the business community, who had responded to the preparatory survey, participated in the seminar and suggested changes to the categorization of some TFA measures. They also provided advice on the final analysis and recommendations; - A list of TFA measures proposed as category A, which will be presented to the Government of Kazakhstan with a view to use it for Kazakhstan's notification to the WTO Secretariat; 	UNCTAD, GIZ

No.	Title, Venue, Dates	Objective(s)	Results	Partners
		<p>measures as A, B and C (in compliance with the TFA);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To start informing the donor community (GIZ, the World Bank, the EU) about the results of the survey; and - To identify areas for future work with Kazakhstan on the implementation of the WTO TFA and other TF activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The seminar achieved a significant step in the definition of the measures to be categorized as B and C; - ECE discussed with GIZ and the World Bank possible interaction, e.g. on helping Kazakhstan to establish a National Trade Facilitation Committee, and assess its readiness to implement the provisions of the TFA (e.g. on formalities). 	
11.	<p>Follow-up national Round Table to the ECE-Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) project in support of trade facilitation and the Single Window in the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU), Minsk, 20-23 January</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To provide advisory services to a national seminar in Belarus, following up on the results of the ECE-EEC project E217 on SW and TF in the EEU (ECE was the organization that initiated work on these issues under the E217 project); and - To advise stakeholders in Belarus and the EEC on the next steps. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalized one more stage (5 national seminars) in the overall work on TF and SW in the EEU countries, using international standards and best-practice recommendations. The 5 countries started implementing the political and technical decisions, plans and technical solutions adopted by EEC as a result of the ECE-EEC E217 project; - Belarus endorsed the implementation of the “Main Directions” and methodology for SW implementation and other TF instruments in the EEU; - A publication with all legal acts and decisions taken by the EEC on the basis of the results of the ECE E217 project was made public at the seminar. The latest legal acts had been endorsed in mid-December 2015 by the highest-level authority of the EEU. 	Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC)
12.	<p>Training seminar on the consolidation of the National Trade Facilitation Committee of Ukraine, Kiev, 25-26 February 2016</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To organize a training seminar on the consolidation and functioning of a National Trade Facilitation Body in Ukraine 25-26 Feb. - To cooperate with UK Customs on organizing a donor/delivery agency meeting, Kiev, 24 Feb. Discuss possible assistance to Ukraine; and - To prepare the ground for technical assistance on the implementation of the measures in the WTO TFA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training for the key stakeholders in the National TF Committee on the results and tasks stemming from the WTO TF Agreement readiness assessment carried out; - The key documents for the consolidation of the National TF Committee, in compliance with art.23.2 of the WTO TF Agreement and the ECE Recommendation no.4 discussed: a decree establishing the NTFC; including ToR and a work 	UK Customs , WCO, UNCTAD

<i>No.</i>	<i>Title, Venue, Dates</i>	<i>Objective(s)</i>	<i>Results</i>	<i>Partners</i>
			<p>programme;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (MEDT) and Ukrainian Customs (State Fiscal Service) reported on their efforts to implement the measures of the WTO TF Agreement;- Recommendations on the next steps presented. ECE would be willing to support the use of international standards (article 10.3), and Single Window implementation (article 10.4), as well as an action plan for the NTFC (art. 23.2) and developing a national strategy for trade facilitation.	