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## Economic Commission for Europe

### Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards

#### Fifth session

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Item 8 (c) of the provisional agenda

#### Programme of work

## Cooperation with other organizations and Economic Commission for Europe bodies

### Submitted by the Secretariat

#### I. Introduction

1. This document maps cooperation arrangements under the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) sub-programme on trade during 2018. The first part provides an overview of collaborative efforts with development partners, while the second features a detailed account of the areas and cooperation mechanisms underpinning these efforts.
2. Sections implemented by the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) are for information only.

#### II. Agricultural Quality Standards

3. ECE continues to pool efforts with the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in implementing the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project for increased policy coherence and sustainability of national production and consumption patterns in North-South and South-South agriculture trade.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The project was launched in February 2018 to strengthen national capacities for using international best practices, tools and instruments as well as developing integrated strategies for sustainable agricultural trade and food loss prevention.

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4. ECE continued to work closely with the European Commission to maintain the complete harmonization of marketing standards with ECE standards. It also cooperated with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables to facilitate the common interpretation of ECE standards and their application in international trade. It also cooperates with the Codex Alimentarius Committees on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables and on Processed Fruits and Vegetables in developing commercial quality standards and maintaining existing standards.
5. ECE is working closely with UN countries teams in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. It has organized jointly with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and donor agencies a workshop on the sustainable trade of fruit, vegetables and nuts in Tashkent (Uzbekistan). The country teams were vital in disseminating, promoting and helping with the implementation of UNECE's work in this area to substantiate their work on the ground. ECE also organized several joint activities with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on the sustainable trade of nuts and dried fruit (June 2018) as well as on Food Loss Prevention and Reduction (November 2018) and worked with the FAO country offices in Central Asia. ECE also cooperated with UNCTAD on sustainable trade of agricultural produce and training activities.
6. Cooperation is on-going with ITC on the dissemination and development of training material for sustainable trade of agricultural produce as well as with the FAO-WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission.
7. Cooperation has also started with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on the cross-regional use of methodologies for the analysis of documentary and procedural gaps in their agricultural trade with ECE countries and among themselves, the development of domestic and export market built on safe and quality food and the use of the WP.7's work in this area.

### **III. Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies**

#### **A. Cooperation with the International Organizations**

8. Through the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6), ECE is a permanent observer at the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT). ECE participated in all the meetings and provides the Committee with updates on its activities. The WTO Secretariat has also taken part in several of the annual sessions and events of the Working Party.
9. ECE, through WP.6 co-hosted, together with ISO and IEC, the 5th Meeting of International Organisations under the aegis of the OECD "Partnership for effective international rule-making" at the Palais des Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting discussed the variety of international instruments of regulatory cooperation developed by international rulemaking institutions; the practices to promote evidence-based, inclusive international norms and standards; and the opportunities and challenges of greater coordination across international organisations. WP.6 collaborated with International Trade Centre (ITC) on several initiatives, particularly in the area of gender-responsive standards initiative and voluntary sustainability standards.
10. ECE works closely with United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) to promote the implementation of international standards for supporting the reduction of disaster risks. The secretary of the Working Party acts as the focal point for Disaster Risk Reduction and advocates the use of ECE best practice guidelines and

recommendations to support the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

11. ECE is also cooperating with United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). The secretariat of SCTCS took part in the NTM Week 2018, which focussed on the topic of “Shaping Sustainable Trade amid Protectionism”. ECE also participated in the meetings of the UNCTAD Consultative Group on Enterprise Reporting and the Sustainable Development Goals (ISAR) on core indicators for enterprise reporting on the SDGs. The deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD opened the event on “Standards for the SDGs”, co-organized by UNECE and ISO and participated in one of the panel discussions.

12. The UNECE partnered with the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) and the Fisheries department of FAO for the organization of the ICES/UNECE Working Meeting on “Tools and standards in support of Sustainable Development Goal 14 “Life below water”, held in October 2018, in Reykjavik, Iceland. The meeting progressed the development of guidelines for the implementation of UNECE Recommendation T in the context of SDG 14, with support from the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems and ECE Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries.

13. The European Commission (EC) participated in WP.6 meetings and activities, particularly in support of market surveillance and gender-responsive standards.

14. The International Model on Regulatory Harmonization, as contained in the UNECE WP.6 Recommendation L, continued to be used by the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Interstate Council for Standardization, Metrology and Certification (EASC) as a basis for regulatory harmonization. Additionally, the Eurasian Economic Commission built its approach to risk-based inspections on “Recommendation S” on “Applying Predictive Risk Management Tools for Targeted Market Surveillance.

15. UNECE took part in the meetings of the SADC TBT Cooperation Structures held in Windhoek, Namibia, in March 2019, to discuss cooperation with the SADC regional standards bodies in the initiative on “Gender Responsive Standards”.

## **B. Cooperation with standard setting and quality infrastructure organizations**

### **(i) Standardization policies**

16. ECE co-organized with ISO a high-profile event as part of the ISO General Assembly to raise awareness about standards contribute to the realization of the SDGs. The event brought together over 800 representatives of the standards community, UN agencies, corporate entities, diplomats and national policymakers. Several regional and international standards bodies also contributed to the event (including ASTM International, IEEE, IEC, ITU, IRENA, ARSO, IUCN and the Gold Standard Foundation).

17. The event was part of the “Standards for the SDGs” technical cooperation project, aimed at enhancing the usage and uptake by policymakers of standards, developed both by UNECE and other standards bodies, as a vital tool to support the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Another outcome of the project was the development of a database mapping standards from 11 different standards organizations to the Goals and targets of Agenda 2030.

18. A number of standardization organizations take part in the activities of the WP.6 and in its Annual Session, including among others, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), ASTM International, European Committee for Standardization (CEN), European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC), Global Standards One (GS1),

International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), ISO, International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling Alliance (ISEAL), ITU and World Wildlife Fund (WWF).

19. WP.6 sectoral initiative on “equipment used in environments with an explosive atmosphere” benefits from partnerships with IEC and its System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmosphere (IECEX) with the support of the German government through the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB). The WP. 6 Secretary took part in the UNECE-IECEX International Conference held in April 2018 in Split, Croatia and in the International Conference of IECEX in Jakarta, Indonesia, in August 2018.

20. The WP.6 Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (GRM) is also built on a partnership with standard-setting bodies with the ISO Technical Committee (TC) 262 on Risk Management.

21. IEC and ISO are also close partners for the Working Party’s activities in conformity assessment and accreditation, specifically, through the IEC Conformity Assessment Board, the IEC Conformity Assessment Systems and the ISO Committee on Conformity Assessment (ISO/CASCO). In addition, WP.6 is a member of the Strategic Alliance and Regulatory Group (STAR), which provides strategic advice to the CASCO Committee of ISO. A new sectoral initiative on cybersecurity was approved at the 27th Plenary Session of WP.6 in cooperation with IEC in November 2017.

**(ii) Metrology and other areas of the national and international system of quality infrastructure**

22. WP.6 works in partnership with national, regional and international institutions including: the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), International Committee of Weights and Measures (CIPM), International Accreditation Forum (IAF), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC), International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML), International Committee for Legal Metrology (CIML), ISO, ITU and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

23. Since 2010, the Working Party has been a member of the "International Network on Quality Infrastructure" (previously Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries (DCMAS)), which includes: BIPM, CIPM, International Accreditation Forum (IAF), IEC, ILAC, OIML, International Committee for Legal Metrology (CIML), ISO, ITU and UNIDO. The Secretary of the WP. 6 attended the annual meeting of the Network in December 2018. At the meeting, the network welcome as new members the WTO and the World Bank, approved its new name and terms of reference, and an agreed definition of the term “Quality Infrastructure”.

24. During the period under review, the WP. 6 Secretary also established cooperation with national accreditation bodies, the Italian Accreditation body, Accredia, in view of enhancing their contribution to the implementation of the recommendations of the studies on “Regulatory and administrative barriers to trade”.

### **C. Cooperation with Academia**

25. WP. 6 continued its close partnership with several academic partners during the period under review in the context of the UNECE “STARTed” initiative on education on Standards and standards related issues.

26. Russia's Academy for Standardization, Metrology and Certification, the Centre for Technical Regulation, Standardization and Metrology, the Higher School of Economics in Moscow, and the Jiliang University of China participated in the WP. 6 Annual Session and reported on activities aimed at enhancing awareness of the role of standards in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Jiliang University will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with UNECE in April 2019 to further progress the goals of the STARTed initiative.

#### IV. Trade Facilitation

27. ECE is part of the United Nations Inter-Agency cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity. The cluster, which is led by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), was established in 2007 to create synergies between productive capacity-building and trade development under the United Nations "Delivering as One" initiative.

28. ECE also participates in the Joint United Nations Regional Commissions (UNRCs) Approach on Trade Facilitation, launched in January 2010 by the five UN Regional Commissions. In 2017, the ECE and its sister regional commissions launched the second Global Survey conducted, which covered 120 countries. The results were presented at UNRCs joint events during the World Trade Organization (WTO) Aid for Trade Global Review, held in Geneva (July 2017), and the 11th WTO Ministerial in Buenos Aires, Argentina (December 2017).

29. As a member of the Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade (GFP)<sup>2</sup> ECE contributed to the organisation of GFP Steering Committee meeting, held in Geneva, Switzerland on 19-20 January 2017.

30. In 2017, ECE joined UNCTAD's multi-stakeholder initiative "eTrade for All", which now brings together 22 international organizations to support the developing countries trade development efforts. Events in 2017 include the "E-Commerce and Trade Logistics: New Challenges, Opportunities and Solutions for International Transport and Trade Facilitation" that was jointly organized with UNCTAD, the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

31. ECE remains dedicated to assist member states with their obligations under the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. During 2017, ECE supported UNCTAD Empowerment Programme for National Trade Facilitation Committees (NTFCs) in Cameroon, Gabon and Benin (May and August 2017).

32. ECE has also signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) in April 2017. It is currently working on a joint project with ITC and the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) to develop a traceability framework in the garment sector.

33. ECE has been cooperating with several European Commission Directorate Generals (DGs) over the past years. In 2017, ECE participated in the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG-MOVE) Digital Transport and Logistics Forum (DTLF) sub-group workshops, which investigated the documentary requirements in transport and logistics and

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<sup>2</sup> GFP is an alliance of national and international organizations involved in supporting trade and transport facilitation. Its members include the World Bank, International Chambers of Commerce (ICC), International Trade Centre (ITC), OECD, UNCTAD, UNECE, UNESCAP, UNIDO and the World Customs Organization (WCO). Further details are available at <http://www.gfpt.org/partners> for the full list.

their dematerialization. DG-MOVE was invited to present their work at the fourth UNECE Single Window Conference. Moreover, the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG-MARE) has been actively engaging with the work of the ECE Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries.

34. ECE cooperated with the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) and organized several joint events such as the conference on Single Window implementation in Moscow in December 2017, and a series of workshops for training trade agencies on supply chain management, simplification of import and exports procedures.

35. The Parties to the Electronic Business Memorandum of Understanding (ebMoU) signed between the UNECE, the International Standards Organization (ISO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) Committee have met in November 2017, December 2017 and January 2018.

36. ECE supported ISO Technical Committees (TCs) Category-A liaisons, including ISO TC 154 (Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration), ISO TC 204 (Intelligent Transport Systems), ISO TC 307 (Blockchain) and ISO TC 308 (Chain of Custody). This completes the Category-A liaison already established with ISO PC 295 (Audit data collection) and the Category-B liaison with ISO TC 68 (Financial services). ECE also worked with ISO TC 154 on UN/EDIFACT syntax and the United Nations Trade Data Element Dictionary (UNTDDED).

#### **A. United Nations Regional Commissions joint approach to trade facilitation**

37. The United Nations Regional Commissions have taken a joint approach to trade facilitation, which was decided in Beirut in January 2010 by the Executive Secretaries of the five Regional Commissions, and subsequently endorsed by all five Regional Commissions. In 2015 they launched a Survey on Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade. In 2017, the UNECE, jointly with the other Regional Commissions, conducted the second Global Survey, which covered 120 countries from the five regions of the world and whose preliminary results were presented at a joint event during the WTO Aid for Trade Global Review, held in Geneva in July 2017. The Global Report and the five Regional Reports were released in November 2017 and were officially launched at the eleventh WTO Ministerial Conference, during a side event on 9 December 2017.

38. The third Global Survey was launched in January 2019 and is now named the United Nations Regional Commissions Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation, to better feature global trade trends and the link to the 2030 Agenda. Like the second edition, the third Global Survey countries' implementation rates are calculated based on thirty-eight indicators for general trade facilitation measures that are part of the WTO TFA provisions, along with additional measures on automation and cross-border paperless trade transaction, and measures attempting to gauge the inclusiveness of trade facilitation reforms. The latter ones focus on trade facilitation for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), agriculture, women in trade, and trade financing.

39. The third Global Survey will be conducted in close collaboration with other global and regional bodies engaged in trade facilitation and digital trade like UNCTAD, the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The Survey will lead to the production of a Global Report and five Regional Reports, to be presented at the WTO 2019 Aid for Trade Review, in July in Geneva.

## **B. Cooperation with Other Regional Bodies**

40. The UNECE secretariat has been cooperating with several European Commission Directorate-Generals (DGs) over the past years. In 2018, UNECE participated regularly in The Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG-MOVE) Digital Transport and Logistics Forum (DTLF) subgroup workshops, studying the documentary requirements in transport and logistics and their dematerialization. The UNECE secretariat became a full member of the DTLF in November 2018. DG-MOVE was invited to present their work at the fourth UNECE Single Window Conference.

41. The European Union Directorate-General for Taxation and the Customs Union (TAXUD) has been very supportive of the UN/CEFACT work on recommendations. TAXUD and EU Member States have been active in the revision of Recommendation 33 on Single Window and how this will apply to a Regional European Single Window(s).

42. The Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG-MARE) has been actively engaging with the work of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries and has pledged a financial contribution to support the implementation of its programme of work in the biennium 2018-2019 (approximately US\$120,000).

43. The secretariat is also engaging with the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG-DEVCO) on work to advance the sustainability of value chains in the garment and footwear sector, in EU Member States, and other regions of the world.

44. The secretariat has been actively engaging with the EEC, with whom it has been jointly organizing a series of workshops to train trade agencies on supply chain management and simplification of import and exports procedures. The secretariat presented a workshop on Single Window implementation, in Kyrgyzstan in May 2018.

## **C. Electronic Business Memorandum of Understanding (ebMoU) and ISO Technical Committees**

45. The signatories to the Electronic Business Memorandum of Understanding (eB-MoU)—the UNECE, the International Standards Organization (ISO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC)—met several times in 2018 to discuss the future organization of the group. A new streamlined organization has been created to ensure better information sharing and to encourage joint work. The Management Group of the ebMoU met on 5 December 2018 and successfully deployed the new objectives with the participation of the four signatories, plus OAGi Alliance, OASIS and GS1.[1] The four signatories also planned to organize webinars on topics of mutual interest. The first of these took place on 12 September 2018 and allowed for effective information sharing on the work of each organization on the topic of the Internet of Things (IoT).

46. The UNECE secretariat has closely followed the official Category-A liaisons with ISO Technical Committees (TCs). These include ISO TC 154 (Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration), ISO TC 204 (Intelligent Transport Systems), ISO TC 307 (Blockchain) and ISO TC 308 (Chain of Custody).

47. The secretariat and UN/CEFACT Chair have been active with liaison ISO TC 154 both via conference call and at their Plenary on 8-12 October 2018. Several items have been advanced during this period such as the United Nations Trade Data Element Directory (UNTDED) and Electronic Data Interchange for Administrations, Commerce and Transport (EDIFACT) syntax. New joint work is being proposed on transport documentation standards,

which is still under discussion; UNECE proposes to align ISO business needs to the Multi Modal Transport Reference Data Model.

48. The UNECE secretariat has also been very active in the ISO TC 307 on blockchain and distributed ledger technologies and was represented at their plenary meetings in London (May 2018) and in Moscow (October 2018). The secretariat has submitted the work on its blockchain-related White Papers for their consideration. There has not been much reciprocal input.



## Summary table: Cooperation with other organizations

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (BSEC)	UNECE-BSEC MoU	Assisted BSEC in developing a regional trade facilitation strategy. The strategy was submitted in October 2017 for the approval of BSEC Member States.
Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology (EAC) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)	Representatives of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology (EASC) participate regularly in WP.6 meetings.	- Participate in WP.6 meetings and use WP.6 International Model on Regulatory Harmonization
European Commission (EC)	<p>The EC participates in the ECE activities related to market surveillance, regulatory cooperation and risk management.</p> <p>The EC participates in the ECE activities on standardization of agricultural quality standards.</p> <p>The ECE contributes to Working Group on Single Window implementation, led by EC's DG TAXUD</p>	<p>The EC participates in all the annual sessions of WP.6, providing input into the work and updates on its own activities. The EC contributed to and expressed appreciation for the ECE work in the sector of equipment used in environments with an explosive atmosphere, which it regards as international best practice. The Commission also continues to participate in the ECE activities on market surveillance and inspections, where the ECE has become the platform for the exchange of expertise between the EU and other member states. The European Commission was an active partner in the work of Group of Experts on risk management in regulatory framework.</p> <p>The EC closely cooperates, harmonizes its legislation on marketing standards with ECE standards and attends the annual meetings of WP.7 and its Specialized Sections.</p> <p>The ECE participates as a contributor to the Working Group on Single Window implementation, led by EC's DG TAXUD</p>
European Union (EU) DG MOVE	ECE TFS is an observer in the DTLF, Digital Transport and Logistics Forum	ECE TFS has participated in three face to face meetings of the DTLF in 2017 and contributed to the development of their sub-group 1 paper on digital transport documents.
European Union (EU) DG TAXUD	DG TAXUD organizes regular meetings of the Member States' Single Window Implementation group	ECE supported Single Window Implementation Group and contributed directly to the debates and reflexions.
Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	FAO collaborates with ECE on activities and events related to sustainable agricultural trade and food loss prevention.	FAO has been joint organizer and convener of several conferences and events to disseminate knowledge and strengthen impact of measures related to sustainable agricultural trade

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
	FAO regional office and the country offices help disseminate ECE training material and best practice.	
	Blockchain project	FAO participated in the UN/CEFACT Conference on Blockchain, contributing to the directions that a future White Paper on the subject will take.
	Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fishery	FAO is active in the Team of Specialist on Sustainable Fisheries.
Codex Alimentarius Commission	Joint workshops and collaboration on standard development	ECE standards are circulated to Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables, the Codex Committee on Processed Fruits and Vegetables and the Codex Alimentarius Commission.
International Air Transport Association (IATA).	ECE signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen their support to developing countries seeking to implement the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement.	<p>Joint promotion of the use of international recommendations and standards and best practices in Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business;</p> <p>Joint outreach activities to support countries in their implementation of such recommendation and standards - subject to available resources.</p> <p>ECE TFS participated in meetings of the IATA group on location codes, further promoting the convergence of the IATA airport codes and UN Location Codes for Trade and Transport (UN/LOCODE) which is widely used by all other means of transport and administrations.</p>
International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	<p>Memorandum of Understanding between ECE and ICC</p> <p>Cooperation with ICC-Ukraine</p>	<p>Participation in the trade facilitation Working Group of UN/CEFACT.</p> <p>Support for trade facilitation in Ukraine, notably through the Interagency Working Group on Trade Facilitation and Logistics of Ukraine, chaired by ICC-Ukraine.</p>
International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), International Organization for Standardization (ISO)	Memorandum of Understanding between ECE, IEC, ISO and ITU.	<p>Ongoing cooperation and coordination between the secretariats.</p> <p>Each organization acts as secretary to the MoU Management Group on a rotating basis.</p> <p>Management meetings twice a year between the secretariats, the expert groups and international user groups.</p> <p>Summit meetings by the Memorandum of Understanding Management group on coordination and standardization issues.</p>

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
		<p>Management meetings twice a year between the secretariats, the expert groups and international user groups.</p> <p>Several meetings between the signatory organizations to study how best to optimize this MoU.</p>
International Trade Centre (ITC)	ECE, UNCTAD and ITC signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 22 April 2005 for delivering coordinated outreach and support activities to help the developing countries implement the WTO ATF	<p>ITC collaborates with ECE on the dissemination and development of training material on trade facilitation, ITC works with ECE on the dissemination of ECE agricultural quality standards and capacity-building activities.</p> <p>Cooperation in the organization of joint events</p> <p>Several joint projects underway.</p>
International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) TC 31, the IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmosphere (IECEX); and Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)	Partnership for preparing and implementing a common regulatory framework in the sector of “equipment used in environments with an explosive atmosphere”	<p>IECEX organises yearly international conferences in collaboration of UNECE. IECEX and PTB participate in Plenary Sessions of WP.6</p> <p>WP.6 is working on a new initiative on cybersecurity in cooperation with IEC.</p>
International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (See also ISO Technical Committees 127, 154, 262, 292 and IEC, ITU and ISO)	Memorandum of Understanding between IEC, ISO, ITU and ECE.	<p>ISO attends all WP.6 meetings and annual seminars as well as UN/CEFACT sessions</p> <p>TC 127 contributes to the WP.6 sectoral regulatory project “Earth-Moving Machinery Initiative”.</p>
	Electronic Business Memorandum of Understanding between IEC, ISO, ITU and ECE	<p>ECE TFS is the representing ECE within the eB-MoU</p> <p>ISO attends all UN/CEFACT sessions</p> <p>ECE TFS is a voting member in the ISO 3166 Maintenance Agency (alpha-2 country code)</p>
ISO Technical Committee 154 (See also ISO and IEC, ITU and ISO)	<p>Regular Working Group Meetings</p> <p>Annual Plenary meetings</p> <p>The MoU for ECE to be Secretary of an ISO Technical Committee is unique of its kind.</p>	ECE is member of the joint maintenance agency of the ISO 7372 Standard (Trade Data Element Directory).
ISO Technical Committee 68 on Financial Services	Category B liaison	<p>ECE TFS maintains a Category B liaison with ISO TC 68, sharing information on ongoing work and avoiding unnecessary overlaps.</p> <p>Active participation in ISO TC 68 meetings.</p>

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
ISO Technical Committee 154 on Processes, data elements and documents in commerce, industry and administration	Category A liaison	<p>ECE TFS maintains a Category A liaison with ISO TC 154, ensuring compatibility of standards and avoiding unnecessary overlaps.</p> <p>ECE is member of the joint maintenance agency of the ISO 7372 Standard (Trade Data Element Directory).</p> <p>ECE is a member of the joint working group for ISO 9735 Standard (EDIFACT application level syntax rules)</p> <p>Active participation in ISO TC 154 meetings.</p>
ISO Technical Committee 204 on Intelligent Transport Systems	Category A liaison	<p>ECE TFS maintains a Category A liaison with ISO TC 204, aiming to ensure compatibility of standards and avoiding unnecessary overlaps.</p> <p>Participation in each other's meetings.</p>
ISO Project Committee 295 on Audit data collection	Category A liaison	<p>ECE TFS maintains a Category A liaison with ISO PC 295, aiming to ensure compatibility of standards and avoiding unnecessary overlaps.</p> <p>Encouraging this newly founded group to reuse the base standards which have already been developed in this field instead of creating new ones.</p> <p>Active participation in ISO PC 295 meetings.</p>
ISO TC 307 on Blockchain technologies	Category A liaison	<p>ECE TFS maintains a Category A liaison with ISO TC 307, aiming to ensure compatibility of standards and avoiding unnecessary overlaps.</p> <p>Provided a good deal of background information and technical examples to the development of ISO TC 307 work.</p> <p>Active participation in ISO TC 307 meetings.</p>
ISO Technical Committee 262 on Risk Management	The Chairperson of the ISO/TC 262 in 2016 is also chairing the Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Cooperation (GRM) of WP.6	Regular coordination, information exchange and activities in risk management with substantial support to GRM.
ISO Technical Committee 292 on Security and Resilience	The Head of Regulatory Cooperation Unit of UNECE is co-Convener of the UN Task Force of TC 292. This Task Force has been established to explore opportunities within the area of disaster risk reduction and supporting implementation of various of frameworks and programs developed by the United Nations.	Regular coordination of information exchange and activities within the area of disaster risk reduction and supporting implementation of various of frameworks and programs developed by the United Nations by the Head of Regulatory Cooperation Unit of ECE.
The Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), International Committee of Weights and	All these organizations attend the meetings of the "International Network on	WP.6 is part of the "International Network on Quality Infrastructure"

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
Measures (CIPM), International Accreditation Forum (IAF), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC), International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML), International Committee for Legal Metrology (CIML), ISO, ITU and UNIDO	<p>Quality Infrastructure" (previously</p> <p>"Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries" (DCMAS)).</p> <p>The Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM) participates actively in the meetings of the WP. 6.</p> <p>Several standards-making bodies, including CEN, CENELEC, GS1, IEC, ISO and ITU, take part regularly in the annual session of WP. 6 and provide updates on their activities and contribute throughout the year to the progress of these activities.</p> <p>The secretariat also is invited to attend meetings of national, regional and international standards-making bodies.</p>	<p>BIPM is evaluating a possible use of the Recommendation L in the field of legal metrology.</p> <p>WP. 6 works closely with IEC, its Conformity Assessment Board and its three Conformity Assessment Systems (IECEE, IECEX and IECQ) and its TC 31 on the project "Equipment for explosive atmospheres.</p> <p>The IECEE attended several ECE meetings and participates in the work of the Group of Experts on Risk Management.</p> <p>The ECE secretariat attends and gives presentations or updates on the WP. 6 activities in the context of ISO/CASCO</p> <p>A partnership has been established with the ISO Committee on Consumer Policies (COPOLCO).</p>
Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC) and the CIS Inter-State Council on Standardization, Metrology and Certification (EASC)	<p>Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC) is a coordinating body of the ministries of communications of 12 CIS states, with a secretariat in Moscow.</p> <p>CIS Inter-State Council on Standardization, Metrology and Certification is one of the effective, functioning inter-regional CIS organizations/bodies that unites standardization bodies from all 12 CIS member states.</p>	<p>RCC participates in UN/CEFACT Plenaries and Forums. RCC's representatives are leading the UN/CEFACT project for the preparation of a Recommendation for ensuring legally significant trusted transboundary electronic interaction.</p>
The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC)	<p>The Vice-Chairman of the WP.6 is also the Minister of Technical Regulations of EEC</p> <p>UNECE-EEC MoU with attached Programme of Action</p>	<p>There are regular contacts and information exchange between WP.6 and EEC on best practices in regulatory cooperation.</p> <p>Following up on a long-standing cooperation on trade facilitation and the Single Window with the Customs law department of the EEC we carried out capacity-building on Single Window in the digital economy.</p>
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	<p>The two organizations regularly exchange information through their secretariats and attend each other's meetings when possible.</p>	<p>WP. 6 secretariat prepared a case study based on the OECD methodology to review International Regulatory Cooperation activities carried out under the umbrella of the ECE. The study was published in November 2016 as an OECD booklet and was presented to the OECD member states.</p>

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
	Joint meetings	UNECE cooperates with OECD in organising Annual Meetings of International Organisations: A partnership for effective international rule-making.  Active participation in OECD conferences and meetings (e.g. OECD Due Diligence Forum 2018)
OECD Scheme for the application of international standards for fruit and vegetables	Meeting schedules are set up in coordination between secretaries and secretariats actively participate in each other's relevant meetings. Joint organization of capacity-building events.	OECD adopts ECE standards.  The ECE and the OECD work closely on updating and interpreting the standards.
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)	Contributions to analytical work  Joint activity	ECE contributes to trade-related parts of reviews and activities under the OSCE economic dimension, drawing on the recommendations emerging from the studies on Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade and the work of the Trade Sub-Programme.  ECE has worked with OSCE on training courses in Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Belarus.
Regional Commissions of the United Nations	Meetings  Joint projects   Collaboration on trade facilitation in common member States and joint support for the SPECA Programme	Coordination meetings with all four regional commissions on trade and on trade facilitation  UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in implementing the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project for increased policy coherence and sustainability of national production and consumption patterns in North-South and South-South agriculture trade.  ECE and UNESCAP support actively the UN activities with the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA).  ECE Regional Adviser collaborated in the preparation and will collaborate on the future implementation of the United Nations Development Account (UNDA) 11 <sup>th</sup> tranche and a Russian financed project for trade facilitation in the transition economies.
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	ECE, UNCTAD and ITC have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for delivering coordinated outreach and support activities to help the developing countries implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).	ECE and UNCTAD cooperate closely on providing support to countries in the implementation of the WTO TFA. This includes participation in each other's workshops on the topic.  ECE is collaborating with UNCTAD in the delivery of training in sustainable agricultural trade.

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
	<p>ECE is also a signatory to a MoU with the Global Facilitation Partnership (GFP) since 2005. It is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), OECD and the International Road Transport Union (IRU).</p> <p>In compliance with an MoU among UNECE, UNCTAD and ITC on the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement we assist the countries assess their readiness and implement the TFA</p>	<p>Joint activities and participation in each other's meetings, seminars and forums, joint organization of seminars and mutual contribution to projects.</p> <p>UNCTAD high-level representative opened the 27<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of WP.6</p> <p>The ECE Regional Adviser in Trade collaborated with UNCTAD and GIZ in 2017 on an assessment of the readiness of Azerbaijan to implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement</p>
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	<p>Meeting schedules are set up in coordination between secretariats. Joint organization of capacity-building events.</p> <p>Work plans coordinated with the country UNDP offices, UN country teams and with the UNDP regional hub in Istanbul.</p>	<p>Joint training and capacity-building activities in Central Asia to improve the countries integration into international agricultural supply chains. This includes organization of workshops, conducting studies, consultations, development of training material and implementation measures.</p> <p>UNDP participates and provides support for trade facilitation capacity-building activities and for SPECA activities. UNDP participated with a keynote presentation on trade and the SDGs at the 2017 meeting of the SPECA Working Group on Trade.</p>
UNEP	Meetings	Active participation in UN/CEFACT conferences and meetings (e.g. Conference on Transparency in Sustainable Textile Value Chains June and October 2017)
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	<p>UNIDO is a member of the GFP</p> <p>UNIDO is a member of the "International Network on Quality Infrastructure" (previously DCMAS network)</p>	<p>Participation in joint meetings on trade facilitation implementation.</p> <p>UNIDO participates in WP.6 sessions.</p>
UN Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity (UNCTAD, UNIDO, FAO, ILO, UNCITRAL, ITC, WTO, UNDP, the five Regional Commissions, UNEP and UNOPS)	The members of the Cluster provide assistance in building the capacity in the areas of trade and productive policies, in supply side capacity; export capacity; capacity to implement trade and trade related rules; disputes settlement capacity;	The Cluster designs and implements joint programmes. ECE has been involved in activities undertaken in its member countries.

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
	negotiating capacity; as well as in research and analysis.	
United Nations United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)	The ECE Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems (GRM) participates in UNISDR activities  ECE works closely with UNISDR to promote the implementation of international standards as a tool for the reduction of disaster risks	GRM participated in coordinating UN contribution to the implementation of the “Sendai Framework for Action” as agreed at the Third WCDRR in ISO TC 292. ECE co-organised with UNISDR a round-table on SDG11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities” during the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for UNECE Region in March 2018.
World Customs Organization (WCO)	ECE-WCO MoU signed in 2001.  ECE signed a MoU with GFP in March 2005. ECE is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, OECD and the IRU.	WCO participates in UN/CEFACT meetings and expert groups.  WCO contributes to ECE work on the Supply Chain Model.  WCO contributes to ECE work on Single Window
World Bank (WB)	The United Nations Trade Facilitation Network is an informal inter-agency group comprising WB, ITC, WTO, UNCTAD and ECE.  ECE signed a MoU with the Global Facilitation Partnership for Trade and Transport (GFP) in March 2005. ECE is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, OECD and the IRU.  Support by WB to a variety of ECE capacity-building activities and reciprocal support from the ECE to WB goals and objectives, particularly in trade and transport facilitation.	ECE participates actively in and contributes substantial materials to the GFP website.  WB participates in the trade and transport facilitation PDA of UN/CEFACT meetings.  WB has selected the ECE Single Window Recommendation as the base for its projects in this area.
World Trade Organization (WTO)	The United Nations Trade Facilitation Network is an inter-agency group comprising WB, ITC, WTO, UNCTAD and ECE.	WTO representatives regularly attend meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards.  ECE works with WTO on the implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement in transition countries.  Through WP.6, ECE is a permanent observer at the WTO Committee on TBT.



<i>Organization</i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
	<p>ECE and WTO staff meet regularly outside the inter-agency group.</p> <p>Through WP.6, the ECE is a permanent observer at the WTO TBT. The WP. 6 participated in all the meetings of the WTO TBT and provided updates on each activity at each of them.</p>	<p>ECE Trade Division attends some WTO committee sessions (as representative of the regional commissions of the United Nations).</p> <p>WTO representatives regularly attend the trade facilitation group of UN/CEFACT meetings.</p> <p>ECE works with WTO on the implementation of Trade Facilitation Agreement in transition countries.</p> <p>ECE Trade Division attends some WTO committee sessions (as representative of the regional commissions of the United Nations).</p> <p>WTO attends the trade facilitation group of UN/CEFACT meetings.</p> <p>The WTO's Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) collaborates with ECE on the dissemination and development of training material for sustainable trade of agricultural products.</p>