



Official Launch of the "UNECE Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide"

Thursday 25 October 2012, 10:00 hs to 11:00 hs.

Room VIII, Palais des Nations

- Opening: Mr. Sven Alkalaj, Executive Secretary, UNECE
Ambassador Joakim Reiter, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the WTO
- Presentation: Mr. Tom Butterly, Deputy Director, UNECE
Trade & Sustainable Land Management Division
Ms. Maria Teresa Pisani, Economic Policy Officer, UNECE
Trade & Sustainable Land Management Division

A welcome coffee will be made available at 9:30 hs. next to Room VIII.

Registration is **mandatory** for this presentation. If you wish to attend, please send an email to tfig@unece.org at the latest on Tuesday 23 October. Participants without UN accreditation will need to stop at the Pregny Gate and bring a passport or ID card along with the registration form duly filled in.

The Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide is a tool for simplifying cross border trade. It has been developed by UNECE with the support of UN/CEFACT and with funds from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida). This Guide is available in English, and will be translated into French and Russian.

A web-based tool

The Guide is a web-based and interactive tool, that is accessible free of charge. Through multiple entry points and cross-links it is possible to explore different areas and instruments — ranging from customs and transport to consultation and cooperation for trade facilitation. Navigation paths help to look at linkages and dependencies between issues and solutions.

Available at: <http://www.unece.org/trade/tfig>

Why this Guide?

If you are implementing trade-facilitation reform, whether you come from the public or private sector, the Guide will help you identify, examine and select available solutions and possible options for your policy objectives. For example, if you are dealing with border management, you will be introduced to a variety of concepts, standards and recommendations that can help you reduce delays at border crossings. The instruments for applying facilitation measures under discussion at the World Trade Organization are also presented.

The capacity building initiative

The Guide will be disseminated through a series of Train the Trainers workshops that the UNECE will organise and conduct in the five regions of the world, starting from January 2013.
