

**Decisions submitted to silence procedure following formal meeting with remote participation  
of the sixth session of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards, 21 and 22 June 2021**

Agenda item	Document (LINK)	Decisions
1	<a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/ECE_CTCS_2021_1E_0.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/ECE_CTCS_2021_1E_0.pdf</a>	<p><b>Item 1. Adoption of the agenda</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-01</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee adopted the agenda.</p>
2		<p><b>Item 2. Election of officers</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-02</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee elected Ms. Damegul Kabiyeva (Kazakhstan) Chair of the Steering Committee, and Ms. Mariam Gabunia (Georgia) and Mr. Dmitry Doroshevich (Belarus) – Vice Chairs, for the period 2021–2023.</p>
3		<p><b>Item 3. Matters arising</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-03</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee took note of the secretariat’s report on Matters arising.</p>
4	<a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_03E_1.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_03E_1.pdf</a>	<p><b>Item 4. Supporting the removal of regulatory and procedural barriers to trade: Serbia</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-04</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee congratulated the Government of Serbia for a successful study on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade in the country and for reporting on the adopted recommendations and plans on their implementation. It invited the Government to further report on their implementation in 2022. The Steering Committee also expressed its gratitude to the Government for the COVID-19 impact assessment “The impact of COVID-19 on trade and structural transformation in Serbia: Evidence from UNECE’s survey of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs)” that it had undertaken in cooperation with ECE.</p>
5	<a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_4E_0.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_4E_0.pdf</a>	<p><b>Item 5. Findings and recommendations emerging from the COVID-19 impact assessments targeting MSMEs in selected countries</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-05</u></p>

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		<p>The Steering Committee took note of the five demand-driven assessments of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on trade and structural transformation in Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Serbia, pursuant to the General Assembly's Resolution on Global Solidarity to Fight the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (A/RES/74/270) of 2 April 2020. It congratulated the Governments and invited them to report on the implementation of the recommendations at the 2022 session.</p>
6		<p><b>Item 6. Country follow-up to Economic Commission for Europe studies on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-06</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee took note of the updates on the implementation of the recommendations made following the previous ECE studies on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade and congratulated the countries for their achievements. It invited the countries to continue reporting to the Steering Committee in 2022.</p>
7 a	<p><a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/ECE_CTCS_WP6_2020_2EN.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/ECE_CTCS_WP6_2020_2EN.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://unece.org/DAM/trade/wp6/documents/2020/ECE_CTCS_WP.6_2020_10E.pdf">https://unece.org/DAM/trade/wp6/documents/2020/ECE_CTCS_WP.6_2020_10E.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/WP7_2020_2E%5B1%5D.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/WP7_2020_2E%5B1%5D.pdf</a></p>	<p><b>Item 7. Programme of work</b> <b>(a) Updates from subsidiary bodies</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-07-01</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee expressed its satisfaction with the work undertaken by the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) and endorsed the Chair's Note on the Informal Virtual Consultations of the Working Party in document ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2020/2 and the programme of work of WP.6 in document ECE/CTCS/WP.6/2020/10. It invited WP.6 to continue implementing its programme of work and report to the 2022 session.</p> <p><u>Decision 2021-07-02</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee congratulated the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7) for its results and endorsed the Chair's Note on the Informal Virtual Consultations of the Working Party in document ECE/CTCS/WP.7/2020/2. It invited the Working Party to implement the decisions made and prepare a biennial programme of work for adoption for the Steering Committee's session in 2022.</p>
7 b	<p><a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_5E_0.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_5E_0.pdf</a></p>	<p><b>Item 7. Programme of work</b> <b>(b) Capacity-building and technical assistance activities</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-07-03</u></p>

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		<p>The Steering Committee took note of the Report on capacity-building and technical assistance activities implemented since 2019 in document ECE/CTCS/2021/5. It congratulated the secretariat for the results achieved and requested the secretariat to report again at the 2022 session. The Steering Committee thanked the secretariat for the completion of the United Nations Development Account financed project on “Strengthening the National Capacities of Selected UNECE Countries for Evidence-Based Regulatory and Procedural Trade Policies to Achieve SDGs”. The Steering Committee requested the secretariat to submit a new report on capacity-building in 2022.</p>
7 c	<p><a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_6E.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_6E.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/ECE_TRADE_C_CEFACT_2021_02E-Report.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/ECE_TRADE_C_CEFACT_2021_02E-Report.pdf</a></p>	<p><b>Item 7. Programme of work</b> <b>(c) Cooperation with other organizations and Economic Commission for Europe bodies</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-07-04</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee took note of the report on cooperation with other organizations and ECE bodies in document ECE/CTCS/2021/6. It thanked the secretariat for the information and requested it to continue reporting in 2022. The Steering Committee noted the report of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business on its twenty-seventh Plenary session in document ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2021/2 and requested the Centre to keep the Steering Committee informed of its activities at the 2022 session.</p>
7 d		<p><b>Item 7. Programme of work</b> <b>(d) Stakeholder needs and priorities</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-07-05</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee noted the needs and priorities expressed by member States and invited the Bureau to review them and decide how these could be addressed.</p>
7 e		<p><b>Item 7. Programme of work</b> <b>(e) Status of implementation of the Trade subprogramme 2021 programme of work</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-07-06</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee noted the good level of implementation of the programme of work that was under way and commended the secretariat’s contribution to the United Nations COVID-19 surge effort.</p>

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7 f	<a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/ECE_CTCS_2021_7E_0.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-05/ECE_CTCS_2021_7E_0.pdf</a>  <a href="https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_INF_01.pdf">https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2021-06/ECE_CTCS_2021_INF_01.pdf</a>	<p><b>Item 7. Programme of work</b>  <b>(f) Trade subprogramme's programme of work for 2022 and Outline of key components of the programme of work for 2023</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-07-07</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee endorsed the Trade subprogramme's programme of work for 2022 (ECE/CTCS/2021/7) and the Outline of key components of the Trade subprogramme's programme of work for 2023 (ECE/CTCS/2021/INF.1). It requested the secretariat to prepare the programme of work for 2023, together with an outline for 2024, for review and endorsement at the 2022 session.</p>
8		<p><b>Item 8. Other business</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-08</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee decided to hold its seventh session in June 2022.</p>
9		<p><b>Item 9. Adoption of the report</b></p> <p><u>Decision 2021-09</u></p> <p>The Steering Committee decided, as part of the special procedures established by the ECE Executive Committee for the COVID-19 pandemic period (paragraph 3 of document ECE/EX/2020/L.12), to circulate the decisions agreed at the session through all Geneva Permanent Representations for approval by Silence Procedure by the participating delegations of the session.</p> <p>The Steering Committee further requested the secretariat to prepare a draft report of the session and distribute it to all Geneva Permanent Representations, the Bureau and Steering Committee delegations for subsequent approval by Silence Procedure in accordance with paragraph 21 of Appendix III of document E/ECE/1464 (Guidelines on procedures and practices for ECE bodies). Once the draft report is adopted, it will be published in English, French and Russian.</p>