

# **ECTD Regional Advisor's Report**

## **Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards, 22 June 2021**

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## Regional Advisor's Report, Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards, 22.06.2021

- Work on trade facilitation focused on ECE mandate; aims at improving integration in ECE region and achieving the SDGs;
- Coordination of the UN Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA)
- In 2020-2021 (COVID-19): 13 transition economies received assistance to implement TF to improve efficiency and deal with the risks of the pandemic.
  - boosted the implementation of UN/CEFACT semantic standards and reference data models to limit the effects of the pandemic on trade;
  - fostered implementation of TF and TFA in the four areas of CEFACT comparative advantage: NTFCs (art.23.2); streamlining documentary procedures (art. 10.1); implementing international standards (art.10.3); and Single Window (art.10.4)





# Assistance to transition economies to implement TF and the TFA (SDG 17.10)

- Two major developments in 2020 to which the RA had contributed:
  - Turkmenistan obtained observer status with the WTO;
  - 28.10.2020, the European Commissioners agreed on a new SW legislation
- Implementation of the SPECA TF Strategy and Principles of Sustainable Trade
- Capacity building:
  - Two CB events with GIZ and other partners for the SPECA countries (Central Asia) on the four items of TFA and the functioning and regional cooperation of NTFCs;
  - Two working papers of the SPECA WG on Trade drafted and published in 2020 on:
    - harmonizing border-crossing procedures in SPECA (with recommendations for action); and
    - the impact of COVID-19-induced non-tariff measures (NTMs), and how countries should prevent NTMs imposed by the pandemic from becoming barriers to trade. This study followed the UNECE evaluation methodology and was developed by the ECTD Market Access Section (Ms. Hana Daoudi)
  - Assessment of Uzbekistan's readiness to implement the WTO TFA
  - Now work on national TF strategy; how to create an enquiry point, use of standards to digitalize data and document exchange.
  - Guide for NTFCs on how to use international (UN/CEFACT) TF standards published.

# On data sharing

- New tasks/ rapid response to COVID-19 challenges (interagency UNDA project)
  - Package of standards for electronic equivalents of documents accompanying goods in multimodal transport developed.
    - Eight logistics documents;
    - Key documents accompanying goods transported by various modes of transport: rail, road, maritime, inland water.
    - **New work started on documents for air cargo: airwaybill; dangerous goods declaration; consignment security declaration.**
    - MSs can use the products of the project in real world business practices.
    - Dangerous goods declarations can be combined in the same data set / data model
    - Moving from exchange of documents to exchange of data using the UN/CEFACT Multimodal Transport Reference Data Model.
    - Modal standards and legal acts (conventions) do not change. The objective is interoperability
- Implementation projects:
  - Electronic FIATA Bill of Lading; possible further FIATA documents.
  - Exports of wood and cellulose from Belarus to Serbia via rail, road, sea and inland transport.
  - Possible further pilots: Eurasian Economic Union; Ukraine-Georgia-Azerbaijan
  - Some outcomes from the pilots: recommendations on the update of the MMT RDM.
- Capacity-building:
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Western Balkan seminar on the Single Window and data sharing (Oct. 2020)
  - 11<sup>th</sup> UNECE Odessa seminar on trade facilitation and digitalization of multimodal corridors 26-28 May 2021, coorganized with the UN/CEFACT partners in Ukraine.
  - Brainstorming with the Eurasian Economic Commission (7 June) on the further use of U/CEFACT standards

# UNDA multiagency project in response to COVID-19. UNECE segment: multimodal data exchange using UN (UN/CEFACT) standards and reference data models

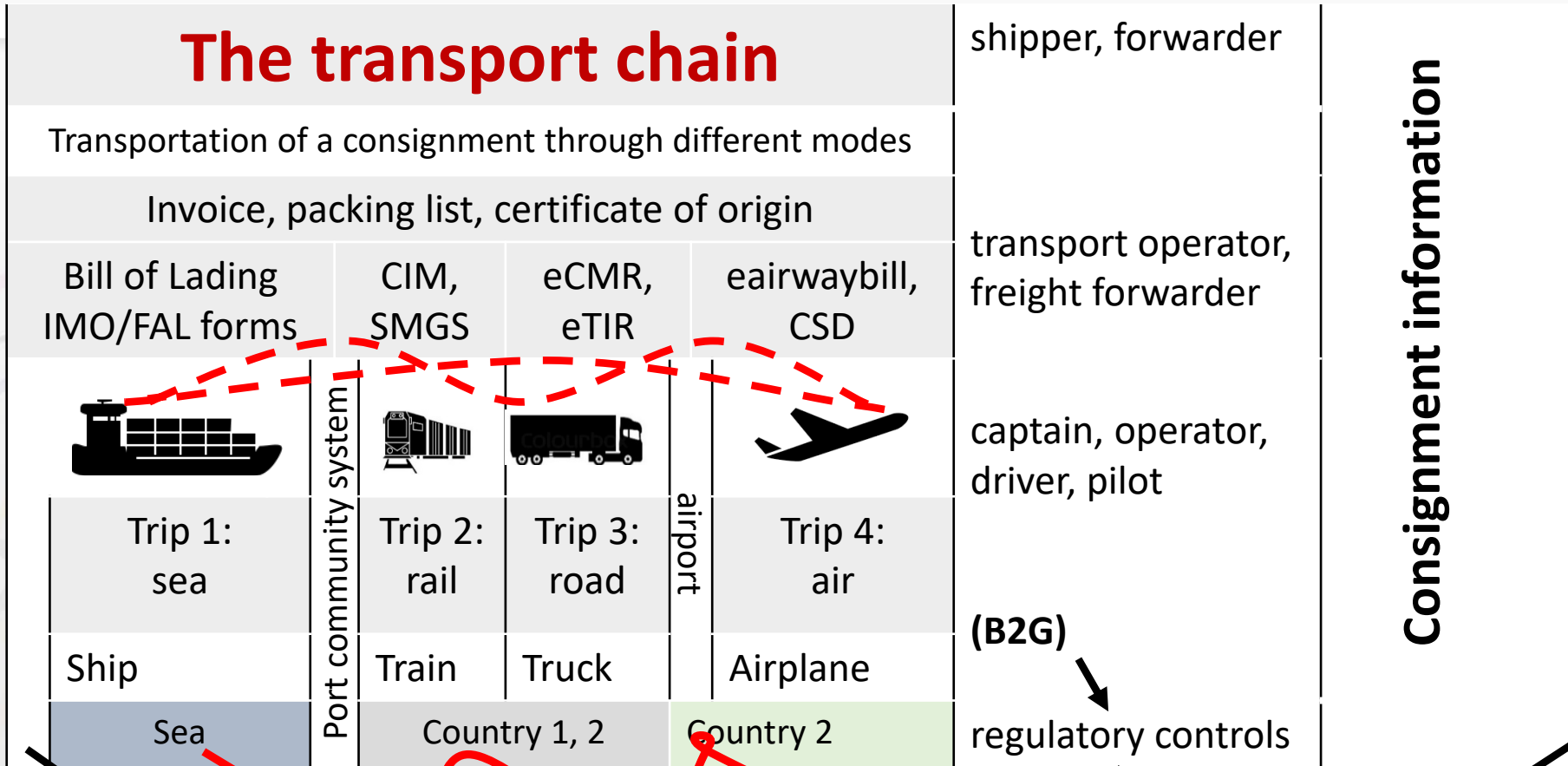
Upgrading existing and developing data exchange standards for key documents accompanying cargo in different modes of transport

Based on UN/CEFACT Multimodal Transport Reference Data Model

Pilot applications: e.g. in a digital multimodal transport corridor or documents (FIATA B/L, air cargo, IWT)

**Key partners: UN organizations custodians of transport documents: UNECE, ICAO, IMO, etc., and work with key non-UN partners.**

# Seamless multimodal supply chain



**To be fed into regulatory Single Window and other systems processing export and import declarations, transit documents**

**Information for goods control**



### Working together to better respond to pandemics through resilient supply chains, trade and trade.



#### Contactless solutions

It aims at minimizing physical contact among people in cross-border supply chains by facilitating the flow of goods without spreading the virus.

- eTIR International System application / Interagency multidisciplinary Advisory Group
- Electronic trade and transport documents and data
- Supporting the implementation of automated road and rail solutions
- Support to implementing best practices in TF in times of crisis and epidemic



#### Seamless connectivity

It focuses on eliminating obstacles to cross-border trade and transport operations arising from the COVID-19 crisis.

- UNCTAD/ ASYCUDA Guidelines
- Cross-border processes performance management – ASYPM
- Facilitate Humanitarian aid flows through efficient and managed coordination – ASYREC
- Key international commercial law implications
- National TF Committee coordination: general
- National TF Committees coordination: best practices in times of crisis and epidemic
- National TF Committees: ECE
- TRAINS online NTM portal & training
- Analysis of NTMs introduced as part of the broader COVID-19 containment effort



#### Collaborative solutions

It seeks to strengthen regional and cooperation to facilitate joint actions solutions in responding to the COVID-pandemic.

- Asia Pacific Region
- Africa Region
- West Asia Region
- Latin America and the Caribbean Region
- Europe and Central Asia Region
- Regional Trade Facilitation coordination
- Port resilience against invisible threats
- Maritime Supply Chain Resilience Tracker and KPIs

### Latest Documents

### Documents

#### Dnieper – Danube Corridor Pilot Dataset Alignment to International Standards and Data Models and Documents Implementation Prototypes for Use in Eastern Europe

Fulfilling the recommendations of the 2019 and 2020 UNECE "Odessa" seminars to support the development of digital multimodal transport corridors, with a view to increasing the harmonization and standardization of data exchange in international transport, trade and logistics to encourage electronic data exchange and thereby to reduce person-to-person contacts during the COVID-19 crisis and in the post-pandemic recovery, using relevant UN/CEFACT standards, a pilot project under the overall UN Development Account project "Transport and Trade Connectivity in the Age of Pandemic: United Nations solutions for contactless, seamless and collaborative transport and trade produced the following results:

- Analysis of data and documents transported via the Dnieper – Danube route (as a pilot implementation project);
- Development of electronic document equivalents for Inland Water Transport using the DAVID forms of the Danube Commission for inland waterways;
- Analysis of the feasibility of using API in this corridor;
- Test for interoperability.

The aim is to foster the harmonization of electronic data sharing using global (UN/CEFACT) standards for transport, trade and logistics, and to prepare standards for e-documents based on the UN/CEFACT semantic standards and reference data models. The focus will be on the development of electronic document equivalents for the documents mentioned above, using UN/CEFACT tools in the countries developing a digital multimodal transport corridor.



#### Phytosanitary Certificate Standard Package

The Phytosanitary Certificate Standard Package was developed as part of the United Nations response to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic under the United Nations multiagency project "Transport and Trade Connectivity in the Age of Pandemics: UN solutions for contactless, seamless and collaborative transport and trade".

This electronic document equivalent Standard Package consists of the following elements:

- UML Diagram
- XSD Schema
- Guideline Structure
- HTML



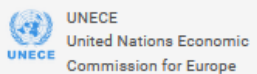
### Activities

#### Tenth International Seminar on Trade and Transport Facilitation: Multimodal Transport Data Exchange, Digital Transport Corridors, and Trade Facilitation

27 - 29 Apr 2020

#### Third Technical Cooperation Workshop for the Western Balkans: Single Window and Data Sharing in the Western Balkans

27 - 28 Oct 2020



### News

17 March 2021



Road freight in ASEAN: New COVID-19 Response and





SCTCS



**Thanks!**