United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

37th UN/CEFACT Forum
Virtual meetings, 4 to 15 October 2021

CLOSING SESSION, 15 October 2021
Welcome

Ms. Sue Probert
• Chair UN/CEFACT

Mr. Lance Thompson
• Secretary UN/CEFACT
ITP-PDA, Trade Procedures Facilitation

Vice Chair:
• Ms. Estelle Igwe

Domain Coordinators:
• Ms. Birgit Viohl
• Mr. Jake Schostag

Active project:
• Encouraging Private Sector Participation in NTFB
• Revision of Recommendation 2
Revision of Recommendation 2: Semantic information and codes in international trade data exchange

• Draft development text finalized.
• To be presented to the Bureau next week to request to go to Public Review

Encouraging Private Sector Participation in National Trade Facilitation Bodies

• Reviewed the current text and the direction of the guidance
• Requesting all experts to consult the text and provide any final comments
• Next project team meeting planned on 19 October
Private Sector and NTFB Webinar

• 6 panellists from Canada, Ecuador, Madagascar, Paraguay, Turkey

• Key takeaways
  • Trade facilitation is of key importance for private sector involved in international trade.
  • Private sector representatives are carefully optimistic by recent evolutions and efforts of NTFB.
  • Positive impact on private sector engagement
    • Setting of clear objectives and measuring of results
    • Empowering private sector (agenda setting, voting, co-chairing of working groups)
    • Inclusion into the formulation of strategy
    • Sharing responsibilities
    • Private sector needs to coordinate and prioritize actions
    • Focus on common interests (areas where private and public sector share interests)
  • Negative impact on private sector engagement
    • NTFB that only serve to « inform »
    • NTFB that only perform checkbox activities
  • Private sector needs to coordinate amongst themselves and prioritize on activities

ITP-PDA, Trade Procedures Facilitation During this Forum
Encouraging Private Sector Participation in National Trade Facilitation Bodies

• Finalization of the text by the end of the year

Identified new topics for projects in the near future:

• Non-preferential Certificate of Origin (perhaps in partnership with SCMP Domain? And with the International Chamber of Commerce)

• Paperless exchanges through transit countries (perhaps in partnership with the AGRI and T+L Domains?)

• Growing need to revise Recommendation 8 on Unique Identification Code Methodology (UNIC)
ITP-PDA, Single Window

Vice Chair:
• Mr. Aleksei Bondarenko

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. Jalal Benhayoun

Active project:
• BRS for Trade Information Portals
• Single Window Assessment Methodology (SWAM)
ITP-PDA, Single Window
During this Forum

Trade Information Portals (TIP) project
• Presentation of the deliverables
• Finalization of the project
• Technical artefacts will be prepared for D.22A

Single Window Assessment Methodology project
• Current draft and methodology presented
• Plans for next meetings scheduled
Risk Management and Single Window

- Comprehensive presentation on the work of the GRM
- Identified points of convergence where the two groups could work together
- Plans to further enhance joint collaboration and a potential future project on the topic
Vice Chair:
• Mr. Ian Watt

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. Edmund Gray

Active projects:
• Automotive project
• eNegotiation
• Transfer of MLETR-compliant titles
• Cross Industry Supply Chain Track and Trace
MLETR project

- Reviewed parts of the White Paper; understanding of UNCITRAL Model Law complete; Focus not on technology

eNegotiation project

- BRS in Public Review; Implementation guide out for comments

Integrated Supply Chain Track and Trace project

- White Paper presented; BRS continuing; identifiers between trade and transport to move forward
Automotive project
- Public review completed; presented to the Bureau for publication
- Example of Odette use of APIs based on UN/CEFACT MMT RDM presented

Discussion on Cross Industry Invoice within the EU
- EN 16931 amendments discussed – no new requirements

Idea for a project on a Light version of CII
- Will be proposed to the Bureau shortly
ISC-PDA, Transport & Logistics

Vice Chair:
• Ms. Hanane Becha

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. David Roff

Active projects:
• IFTDGN Dangerous Goods
• IMO FAL mapping
• **Highlighted the Call to Action** and have received positive responses from a number of organisations to support this.

• Closed off 3 projects in the domain and await publication of these plus 1 from last Forum: MMT RDM user guide proposal

• **IMO FAL project** outlined the extension of the project to include maritime declaration of health and there are some decisions to be made around if UN/CEFACT will continue to support all data set extensions of the IMO FAL Compendium Reference Model mapped to MMT.

• **IFTDGN Project** is now adapted to UN/CEFACT D21.B and mapping is around 80% complete. Workshops planned and Multimodal cooperation ongoing.

• **Updates by external organisations** which are using MMT RDM within their work, and promoting its use. Notably for Bills of Lading and industry API’s as well as in a Danube corridor pilot

• Living lab showed eCMR in context of EU projects

• Demonstration about how standards compliant data can be verified and signed for use in the supply chain.
ISC-PDA, Transport & Logistics
Future plans

• Follow up with organisations that expressed interest in the call to action and engage with those who would like further information to move this initiative forward.

• Reach out to the domain members to identify new projects of interest, there is a growing urgency and desire to work on API and JSON-LD vocabulary related topics using MMT RDM, requires domain members to cross work with other domains to achieve this in the correct way for UN/CEFACT.

• IMO FAL project to explore decision options and if a requirement for UN/CEFACT to support all data set extensions of the IMO FAL Compendium Reference Model. Encourage more volunteers to actively participate in this work.

• IFTDGN Project will engage with other stakeholders from different modes to progress the DG work.
UN/LOCODE

During this Forum and future plans

- **DMR validation** for key stakeholders (such as Hapag-Lloyd, DB Schenker, Bollore and Volvo)

- DMRs Validated by the UN/LOCODE National Focal Points (such as Brazil, China, France, Germany, Japan and Spain)

- Possibility of expanding the UN/LOCODE Focal Point Network

- **Upcoming event**: the fifth annual meeting of the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group (8-9 November 2021, online)
ISC-PDA, Finance & Payment

Vice Chair:
• Ms. Liliana Fratini Passi

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. Fabio Sorrentino

Active project:
• Open Finance for Trade Facilitation
White Paper on Open Finance for Trade Facilitation

• Domain has finalized the project and submits the text to the Bureau to move to Public Review

Related topics
• Open Banking and Open Finance
• Fintech
• Open Finance use cases for trade facilitation
• Conclusions and suggestions for policymakers.
Vice Chair:
• Ms. Liliana Fratini Passi

Domain Coordinator:
• Ms. Anita Patel

Active project:
• Accounting and Audit Reference Data Model
Accounting and Audit Reference Data Model project

- Review of the A+A RDM standards mapping activities performed so far
- Analysis of the current status of other A+A RDM deliverables, including Business Requirements Specification (BRS)

- Probably looking at prolonging the project slightly to accommodate for absent experts
ISC-PDA, Insurance & Health

Vice Chair:
• Ms. Hanane Becha

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. Michel Bormans
Talks with
- Chair of CEN/TC 445 “Digital Information Interchange in the Insurance Industry”
- And with our Vice Chair Hanane Becha

Main results:
- The feeling that our material persisting in the UN/EDIFACT Message library and in the CCL, is valid and sufficiently complete
- The apparent confirmation of such, by the fact that from T&L for example, no new demands seem to arise
- The strong feeling that the “API Project Roadmap” Stage 1 should be focused upon, and made real, all our standards being re-published in such additional syntax
- White papers about the potential of our material, or a response to the ongoing call to action; such things depend on the availability of people/persons to do such work
ISC-PDA, Travel & Tourism

Vice Chair:
• Mr. Ian Watt

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. Sachin Mehta

Active projects:
• Business Standards for Sustainable Tourism
• Experience Programs Technical Artefacts
ISC-PDA, Travel & Tourism
During this Forum and future plans

Experience Program Technical Artefacts project
• Project near completion, positively received by experts

Discussion on gender inclusive code list
• An initial way forward discussed
• Secretariat requested to put this on hold in order to verify with Working Party 6 Gender Responsive Standards Initiative

Travel and Tourism Reference Data Model
• Discussion on a possible project to develop

Sustainable Tourism project
• On hold due to COVID-19 impact
Vice Chair:
• Mr. Tahseen Khan

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. Kaushik Srinivasan

Active projects:
• Cross border inter-ledger exchange for Pref CoO using blockchain
• Digital ID for Trade Facilitation
• Internet of Things for Trade Facilitation
• UN/CEFACT Chain project
• Use of AI in Trade Facilitation
Internet of Things for Trade Facilitation project

- Standards Whitepaper in Public Review,
- Use of IoT in Trade Facilitation Whitepaper final draft submitted to Bureau to move to Public Review

Cross border Inter-ledger exchange for Preferential Certificates of Origin using Blockchain

- Drafts of BRS shown by Steve, pilot implementation also in progress

UN/CEFACT Chain project

- Draft white paper document is under finalisation, Interoperability aspects highlighted in the context of Blockchain adoption

Digital ID for Trade Facilitation project

- Requested working group for their interest in driving the project, discussions ongoing with GS1 and others

Artificial Intelligence for Trade Facilitation project

- First working group session held as part of domain discussions with input of draft topic outline, project lead will start holding regular conference calls
Potential new project on Data Governance for Cross Border Trade

• Discussed aspects of data localization and need for data governance framework, ongoing discussions to take this forward as a project

Potential new project on Electronic notarization and Trusted Third Party

• Discussed importance of these topics and mutual recognition in the context of trusted third party services and need for framework for mutual recognition, ongoing discussions to take this forward as a project
Vice Chair:
• Mr. Tahseen Khan

Domain Coordinators:
• Mr. Aananth Rathakrishnan
• Mr. Amar More

Active project:
• Cross Border Management Reference Data Model
• Digital Corridors for regulatory related movements
REG-PDA, Cross Border Management
During the Forum and future plans

**Current projects**
- Cross Border Management Reference Data Model
  - BRS is currently out for Public Review until 24 October
- Cross-border multimodal digital corridors for regulatory related movement of consignment data and consignment status information for trade facilitation
  - Project approved by the bureau
  - Had a formal kick off of the project with Project Lead Mr Charles Edwards

**Potential future plans**
- Best practices in facilitation of movement of goods at land borders/land locked countries/land authorities
  - Draft Project Proposal to be submitted to Bureau based on the discussions
REG-PDA, Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrifood

Acting Vice Chair:
• Mr. Harm Jan van Burg

Domain Coordinators:
• Ms. Gaelle Cheruy Pottiau
• Mr. Erik Bosker

Active projects:
• eQuality Certificate
REG-PDA, Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrifood
During this Forum

Current project
• eQuality certificate

Suggested projects
• Halal e-certificate
• Reference implementation of the UN/CEFACT API Technical Specification [when completed] applied to the Garment and Footwear Sector
REG-PDA, Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrifood
Future plans

Proposed work

• Drafting an UN/CEFACT project proposal for Halal e-certification

• Develop a Reference Implementation for Transparency and Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector

• Coordination with UNIDO on implementation of BSP eQuality to support the drafting of the implementation guide in the eQuality certificate project.

• Cooperation with TPF Domain on paperless document availability during transit for official controls of SPS goods
Acting Vice Chair:
• Mr. Harm Jan van Burg

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. Norbert Pfaffinger

Active project:
• Waste Management and Waste Analysis
REG-PDA, Environment
During this Forum and future plans

- UN/CEFACT eBasel Transboundary Movements of Waste implementation follow-up

- Developments since Spring Forum and upcoming activities, with a focus on
  - EU IMSOC (Information Management System for Official Controls)
  - EU eFTI (Electronic Freight Transport Information)
  - Future updates of the UN/CEFACT eBasel standard
Vice Chair:
• Mr. Marek Laskowski

Domain Coordinator:
• Mr. Hisanao Sugamata

Active projects:
• API Town Plan
• API Technical Specification

M+T-PDA, Specifications
M+T-PDA, Specifications
During this Forum and future plans

3 stages for adopting the new world of API proposed

• Stage 1: Business documents as APIs
  • => JSON Schema NDR

• Stage 2: A supply chain vocabulary for the web
  • => JSON-LD vocabulary

• Stage 3: API and VC semantic standards for the linked data trustworthy web
  • => API Design methodology

• We will start the stage 1 as a part of the project “API Technical Specification”.
  • Call for experts supporting the project

• We will define the project scope for the stage 2.
• We will continue to assess the feasibility and the risk of the stage 3.
M+T-PDA, Library & Validation

Vice Chair:
• Mr. Marek Laskowski

Focal Points:
• Ms. Mary Kay Blantz
• Mr. Hidekazu Enjo

Active projects:
• Library Maintenance
• Validation
Vice Chair:
• Mr. Marek Laskowski

Focal Point:
• Mr. Gait Boxman

Active projects:
• UN/EDIFACT DMRs
4 DMRs received – all for code lists
3 accepted
1 rejected because unclear
2 of the submitters were on the call; 2 were not

The 3 DMRs are being processed and entered into UN/EDIFACT for the release 21B which will be finalized and published in the coming weeks.
Next UN/CEFACT meetings:

- **38th UN/CEFACT Forum**
  - 16-20 May 2022, planned in Geneva (to be confirmed)

- **28th UN/CEFACT Plenary**
  - 12-13 May 2022, planned in Geneva (to be confirmed)

- Maybe some Domain meetings (F2F or virtual)…

- Project meetings

For information:

- eB-MoU Webinar on Blockchain
  - [https://www.iso.org/blockchain-ebusiness-webinar.html](https://www.iso.org/blockchain-ebusiness-webinar.html)
  - 22 October 2022, from 12:00 Geneva-time
Call to Action for Improved Digitalization Through the Use of UN/CEFACT Standards 1/2

• Goals of the Call to Action
  • To increase the interoperability in the sectors of trade facilitation and e-business
  • To provide visibility on the use of UN/CEFACT standards, and allow partners to find each other.
  • To enhance the relevance, impact and reputation of the work performed by UN/CEFACT

• Addressees
  • Member States’ governments
  • National public administrations
  • International organizations
  • The business community and economic operators engaged in the supply chain

• Functioning
  • Organization registers a commitment for the Call. This includes information about deliverables to be used, goals to be achieved, relation to SDGs, time frame
  • Commitments will be posted to the UN/CEFACT webpage and available publicly
  • Currently studying other communication possibilities such as a specialized logo
Call to Action for Improved Digitalization Through the Use of UN/CEFACT Standards 2/2

- Monitoring and impact assessment
  - On 2022 and every two years thereafter
  - Organizations joining the call to action are requested to report on their commitment to the UN/CEFACT secretariat

- Why is this important?
  - Building a user community / supporter community of UN/CEFACT standards
  - Allow organizations to declare their commitment to using intelligent standards for e-business
  - Help users of the standards identify potential partners using the same standards
  - Concrete tool to promote paperless trade, help participants to save time in data exchange and increase data quality
Thank you