



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
15 April 2011

Original: English

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### Economic Commission for Europe

Committee on Trade

Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

Seventeenth session

Geneva, 7 and 8 July 2011

Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**New and revised recommendations and standards**

### **Recommendation No. 23: Freight Cost Code – FCC Harmonization of the Description of Freight Costs and Other Charges**

**Submitted by the Information Content Management Group (ICG)**

#### *Summary*

At its fifth session, in 1999, the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) approved the recommendation of its Steering Group to delegate the authority for maintenance of the code lists associated with UN/CEFACT Recommendations to the Code Working Group. This authorization was transferred to the Information Content Management Group (ICG) in the reorganisation of UN/CEFACT's structure in 2003.

The ICG approved the latest code list (Revision 8) in March 2011 and is submitting this updated list to the Plenary for information<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> This information can be downloaded from the UN/CEFACT website at [http://www.unece.org/cefact/recommendations/rec\\_index.htm](http://www.unece.org/cefact/recommendations/rec_index.htm).

## I. Preamble

1. UN/CEFACT, a subsidiary intergovernmental body of the UNECE Committee on Trade, is mandated to develop a programme of work of global relevance to achieve improved worldwide coordination and cooperation in the areas of trade facilitation and electronic business, covering both commercial and government business processes that can foster growth in international trade and related services. It encourages close collaboration between governments and private business to secure the interoperability for the exchange of information between the public and private sector<sup>2</sup>.

2. The UN/CEFACT work programme emphasizes the need for developing recommendations which simplify and harmonize the current practices and procedures used in international transactions. The role of the UN/CEFACT Information Content Management Group (ICG) is to secure the quality, relevance and availability of code sets and code structures to support the objectives of UN/CEFACT, including managing the maintenance of UN/ECE Recommendations related to codes. The ICG prepared this latest revision of the code list for Recommendation 23.

3. The revision supersedes and replaces the code list released with the seventh revision of Recommendation 23 (CEFACT/ICG/2010/IC005) approved by the ICG, in May 2010.

## II. Code list presentation

4. The code list is presented with the following columns:

### **Change indicator (CI)**

a plus sign (+)	for an addition
a hash sign (#)	for changes to the code description
a letter X (X)	for marked for deletion in this edition (will not appear in the next edition)

### **Group**

Level 1 code. 1 digit designation of the main cost heading category.

### **Subgroup**

Level 2 code. 2 digit designation of the general cost description within a cost heading category.

### **Detail**

Level 3 code. 3 digit designation of the detailed cost description within a general cost description.

### **Description**

Cost code description.

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<sup>2</sup> From the mandate and terms of reference of UN/CEFACT.

#### **Mode/Site Indicator**

2 character indication of a specific mode of transport or a type of handling site:

- 10 Maritime transport
- 11 Maritime transport deep sea
- 12 Maritime transport feeder service
- 13 Maritime transport ro/ro service
- 14 Maritime transport short sea
- 20 Rail transport
- 30 Road transport
- 40 Air transport
- 50 Mail
- 60 Multimodal/Combined transport
- 70 Fixed transport installations
- 80 Inland water transport
- BB Handling Site: Terminal operation
- DD Handling Site: Ship's agent
- FF Handling Site: Freight forwarder/forwarding agent

#### **Duplicate Indicator**

5. In order to uniquely identify each code entry in the code list, the following values may be combined to provide the unique key:

- Level 1 Code
- Level 2 Code
- Level 3 Code
- Duplicate Indicator

6. The Duplicate Indicator is a combination of the letter "D" and a sequence number, starting at 1 and incremented by 1 for each subsequent duplicate entry. Duplication occurs when there are multiple entries with identical Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3 code values.

7. Reference should be made to the body text of Recommendation 23 (ECE/TRADE/170) for further information and examples concerning the structure and utilization of the code list.

### **III. Maintenance and updating**

8. Recommendation 23 is maintained on behalf of UN/CEFACT by the UN/CEFACT Information Content Management Group (ICG).

9. Proposals for updating this Recommendation should be addressed to the Trade Facilitation Section, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland or by email to:

**cefact@unece.org.**

10. Draft revisions to the body text and/or code list of this Recommendation shall be issued by the ICG when required and shall be made available on the ICG website listed at:

**[www.uncefactforum.org/ICG](http://www.uncefactforum.org/ICG)**

11. Draft revisions shall be subject to a public comment period of at least two months. UN/CEFACT heads of delegation shall be notified of the availability of a draft revision and the period for comment. Following the conclusion of the comment period, the ICG shall address all comments received. Depending on the comments received, the ICG shall issue a new draft edition for comment or shall prepare a final edition for approval.

12. Final revisions to the body text of this Recommendation shall be approved by the UN/CEFACT Plenary and shall be made available on the UN/CEFACT website:

**[www.unece.org/cefact](http://www.unece.org/cefact)**

13. Final revisions to the code lists of this Recommendation shall be approved by the ICG Plenary and notified to the UN/CEFACT Plenary. These revisions shall also be made available on the UN/CEFACT website.

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