Regional Cooperation, Sustainable Trade Development and Facilitation.

The SPECA Programme
AF AZ KZ KG TJ TM UZ

Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser UNECE ECT Division
Deputy Coordinator of SPECA

mario.apostolov@unece.org
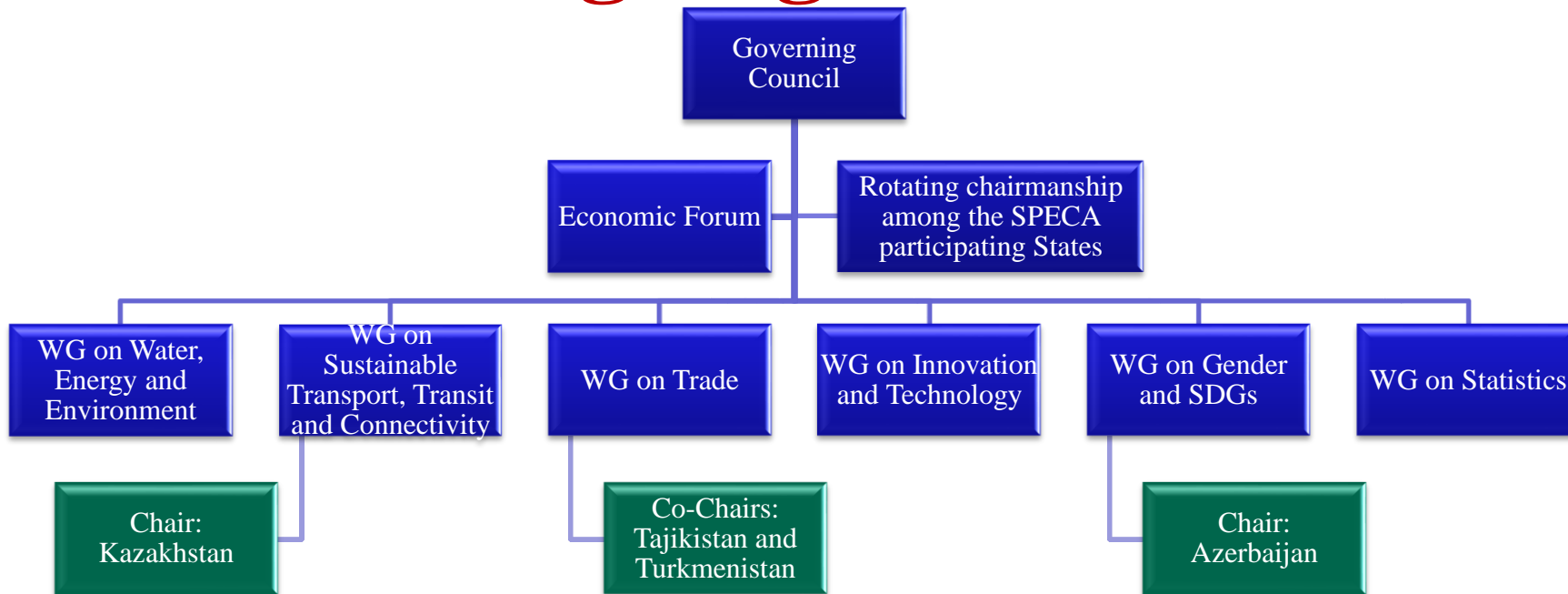
SPECA History and Mandate

- est. 1998 by the Tashkent Declaration signed by 4 Presidents, ECE & ESCAP. TM, AF and AZ joined later

  (UZ, KZ suggested. UN in NY decided on a Special Programme supported by ECE and ESCAP with no budget, no secretariat)

- Objective - support the countries' cooperation, economic development and integration with Europe and Asia. Implement SDGs

- SPECA bodies set up by Governing Council with rules, ToR, reporting procedures, etc.

- 6 Working Groups: Water-Energy-Environment; Transport; Trade; Innovation; Gender; Statistics

- **2023: very active Chair – Azerbaijan – suggesting creation of Council of Permanent Representatives, revision of ToR, more country-owned**

- **Creation of a Multi-Partner Trust Fund to support projects**

Organigramme

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                    Governing
                    Council
                       |
        Economic Forum --- Rotating chairmanship
                           among the SPECA
                           participating States
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| WG on Water, Energy and Environment | WG on Sustainable Transport, Transit and Connectivity | WG on Trade | WG on Innovation and Technology | WG on Gender and SDGs | WG on Statistics |

Chair: Kazakhstan

Co-Chairs: Tajikistan and Turkmenistan

Chair: Azerbaijan

Supporting officers:

Supporting organizations (rotation between UNECE and ESCAP)	UNECE	Coordinator (DES) Deputy coordinator Secretaries of the SPECA Working Groups
	UNESCAP	Coordinator (DES) Deputy coordinator Secretaries of the SPECA Working Groups
Each SPECA participating State		National Coordinator (ministerial level) Focal point Focal points for each Working Group

SPECA Baku Week
20-24 Nov.2023

	Monday 20 November 2023	Tuesday 21 November 2023	Wednesday 22 November 2023	Thursday 23 November 2023	Friday 24 November
10:00 – 13:00	11:00 – 17:00 18th session of the SPECA Trade Working Group, chaired by the Vice Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan & Session of the SPECA Working Group on Gender and SDGs (parallel events)	2023 SPECA Economic Forum: "Transforming the SPECA region into a connectivity hub with global outreach", chaired by a Vice Minister of Economy of Azerbaijan, opened by a Minister		10:00 – 13:00 18th session of the SPECA Governing Council	
		Opening session	Session 3: Energy connectivity		
		Session 1: Digital transformation of supply chain information exchange using UN standards	Session 4: The role of SPECA in harnessing support for sustainable and resilient development *Concluding session, adopting the conclusions and recommendations from the Forum*	15:00 – 16:00 (tbc) SPECA Ministerial	SPECA Summit
14:00 – 17:00		Session 2: Transport connectivity along the Eurasian transport links			

Planned approval of a roadmap for the digitalization of multimodal data and document exchange along the trans-Caspian corridor using the UN standards and legal norms.

Digitalization of multimodal data and document exchange in the supply chain
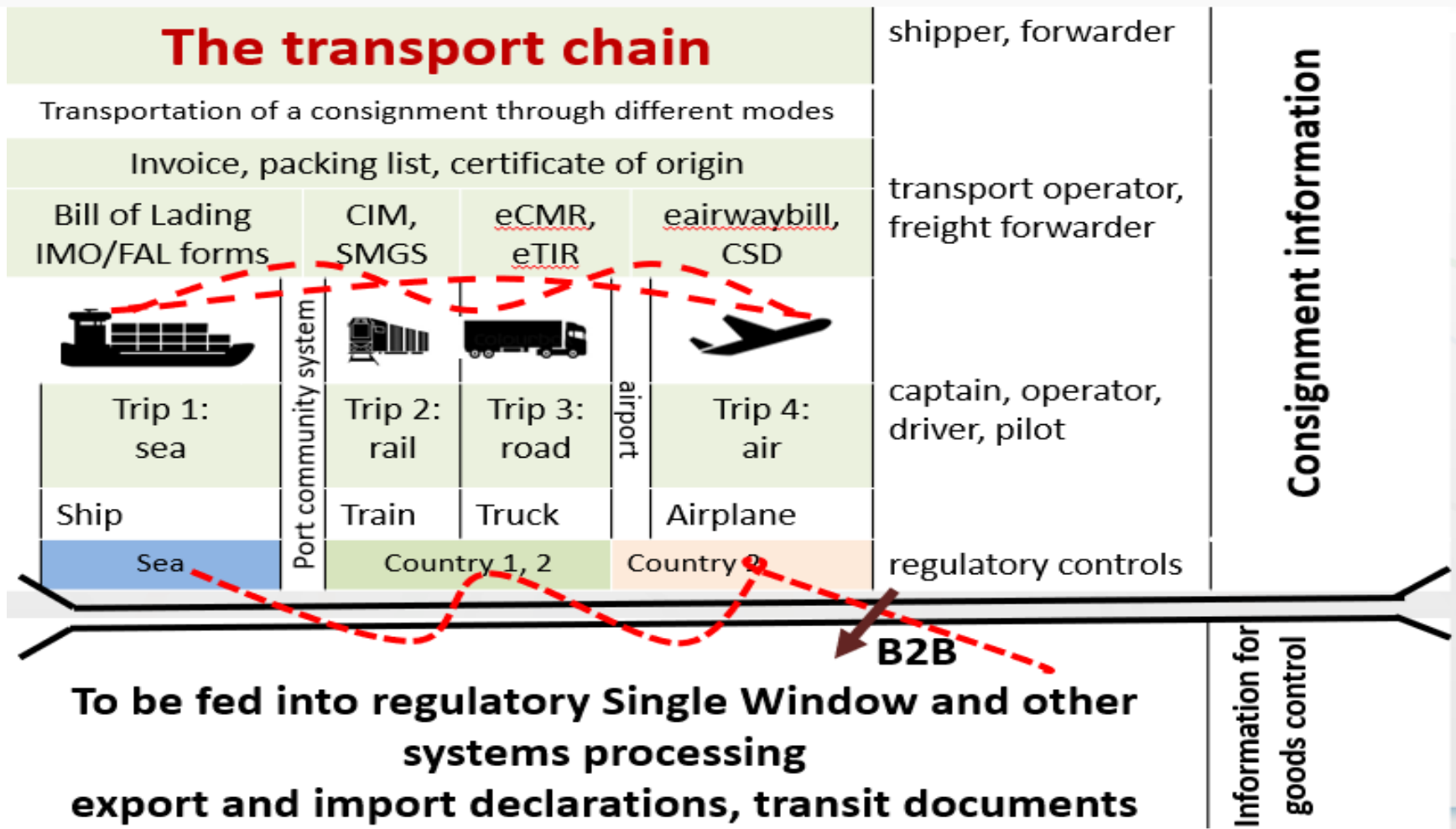
Problem: Fragmentation of digitalization efforts

Solution: UN/CEFACT semantic standards and reference data models

A family of RDMs, including UN/CEFACT Multimodal Transport Reference Data Model (MMT RDM) used as key semantic reference, including for the EU eFTI Regulation, multimodal data and document exchange in the trans-Caspian corridor, etc.

Foresight: World moves from (paper & digital) document exchange to exchange of datasets

Innovation: new product – UN package of standards and artefacts to provide interoperability between modes of transport, sectors, etc., and new process: enabling harmonized interoperable data exchange

Seamless multimodal supply chain

The transport chain

Transportation of a consignment through different modes — shipper, forwarder

Invoice, packing list, certificate of origin

| Bill of Lading IMO/FAL forms | CIM, SMGS | eCMR, eTIR | eairwaybill, CSD | transport operator, freight forwarder |

| Trip 1: sea | Port community system | Trip 2: rail | Trip 3: road | airport | Trip 4: air | captain, operator, driver, pilot |

| Ship | Train | Truck | Airplane |

| Sea | Country 1, 2 | Country 2 | regulatory controls |

B2B

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

Consignment information

Information for goods control

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)

Roadmap for information exchange digitalization in the Trans-Caspian Corridor using UN standards: background

SPECA countries DEMAND: process launched by the International High-level Conference on Digital Transformation of Information Exchange in Supply Chains Using United Nations Standards, Baku, 31 Oct. 2022. recommended to:

- Strengthen training and CB for experts in the region on UN/CEFACT standards,
- Develop and implement pilot projects, e.g., in the trans-Caspian corridor,

SPECA Ministerial Meeting 17 April 2023 requested "UNECE to develop a Roadmap for digitalization of multimodal data and document exchange along the trans-Caspian transport corridor using relevant United Nations standards, including through realizing a regional pilot project for SPECA participating States"

13th International UNECE "Odessa" seminar, 22 Dec.2022, recommended aligning data exchange with the UN/CEFACT Multimodal Transport Reference Data Model and the EU Electronic Freight Transport Information Regulation (eFTI)

In November 2023, Baku will host the SPECA Summit and Forum on turning SPECA into a connectivity hub with global outreach, using UN standards to adopt the Roadmap.

Recommendations for:

- Roadmap for digitalization of multimodal data and document exchange along the trans-Caspian transport corridor using relevant United Nations standards, and
- Pilot implementation projects, notably testing a digital CIM/SMGS CN

Pilot testing
e.g., the railway consignment note (CIM/SMGS) betw Europe & Asia
Interoperability of multimodal data exchange East Asia – Europe:

- **Regulatory framework: agreement**
- **EU eFTI Regulation uses UN/CEFACT MTM RDM for interoperability**
- **Technological neutrality: for EDI, XML, JSON API, blockchain**
- **All parties are invited to cooperate and use the standards**
- **Move from document exchange to data sharing (as in eFTI)**
- **Link to normative: eFTI & EU Customs Single Window Regulations:**
  https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32020R1056;
  https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2399/oj