

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



29th Plenary
9-10 November 2023

UNECE Recommendation No. 48



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Recommendation No.48: Private Sector Participation in National Trade Facilitation Bodies



6. Recommendations, standards, and deliverables supporting implementation

(a) Recommendations

<i>Document title</i>	<i>Document symbol</i>	
<i>Summary of ECE Trade Facilitation Recommendations</i>	<i>ECE/TRADE/475</i>	For noting
<i>Recommendation No.48: Private Sector Participation in National Trade Facilitation Bodies</i>	<i>ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2023/7</i>	For decision

The Plenary will have before it the summary of ECE trade facilitation recommendations for noting and Recommendation No.48: Private Sector Participation in National Trade Facilitation Bodies, for approval.

Delegations will have an opportunity to clarify questions and provide comments on these documents.



Why a new Recommendation?

- Two concerns
 - Private sector's role in trade facilitation
 - NTFB effectiveness and sustainability
- Better private sector engagement a means to ensure legitimacy, relevance, and sustainability of NTFBs
- Recommendation 4 calls for NTFB and recommends private sector membership
- But engagement is more than formal membership
- Practical guidance in creating a trusted, permanent and effective environment for public-private sector dialogue within NTFBs

Drafting process



- Drafting was led by UN/CEFACT Trade procedures facilitation domain (TPF)
- 1-year white paper draft
- 1-year recommendation
- Expert team from TPF and NTFB members and secretaries from Canada, Ecuador, Madagascar, Nigeria, Norway, Rwanda, Türkiye, U.S
- World Bank and UNCTAD also contributed

Recommendation

- Ensure that the private sector is sufficiently represented as formal NTFB members and regularly assess their ability to freely contribute;
- Ensure inclusivity by offering flexible channels and processes for participation beyond formal membership;
- Provide opportunities for the private sector to shape the agenda, contribute to deliveries, voice their needs and interests;
- Ensure there is a strong secretariat to support the functioning of the NTFB;
- Ensure that the NTFB is recognized by both the public and private sectors as the go to body for expert advice on trade facilitation.

Guidelines to Recommendation No. 48



- Recognising drivers and barriers for private sector participation
- Private sector engagement is not a given, it needs to be developed and nourished.
- Three action areas:
 - ✓ Motivation – ensure that PS wants to participate
 - ✓ Access – ensure that PS can participate
 - ✓ Impact – ensure that PS sees the value of their contribution