



30th UN/CEFACT Plenary | 11-12 July 2024 | Preliminary Programme

Thursday | 11 July 2024 | Day 1

10:00 – 10:20

OPENING

- **Ms. Sue Probert**, Chair, UN/CEFACT
- **Ms. Elisabeth Türk**, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
- **Ms. Nadia Theodore**, Head of the Permanent Mission of Canada in Geneva, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the WTO, UNCTAD, ITC and WIPO

10:20 – 10:30

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

10:30 – 11:30

ELECTIONS

The mandate of the current Chair of the UN/CEFACT ends at the 30th Plenary on 11 July 2024 at which time the UN Member States will elect the Chair for the period 2024-2027.

Nomination received by the Secretariat

Canada — **Ms. Nancy Norris**, UN/CEFACT Vice Chair; Senior Director, ESG and Digital Trust, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

11:30 – 13:00

HIGH-LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE ON THE ROLE OF CLIMATE-SMART CONNECTIVITY AND DIGITAL TRADE AND TRANSPORT CORRIDORS IN SUPPORT OF REGIONAL AND GLOBAL INTEGRATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In recent years, climate-smart connectivity has become increasingly relevant for United Nations Member States, including UNECE programme countries. Amid crises disrupting supply chains and escalating logistics costs, in 2023, SPECA participating States adopted the [Roadmap for the Digitalization of Multimodal Data and Document Exchange Along the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor, Using United Nations Legal Instruments and Standards](#), aimed at improving efficiency, reducing costs, enhancing transparency, and enabling better accessibility and data analysis through leveraging UN legal instruments and standards, including the TIR Convention, the CMR Convention, and the UN/CEFACT Package of Standards. This policy dialogue will bring together policymakers, private sector representatives, and the international community to explore the potential of digital transition for regional and global connectivity. It will examine international, regional, and national initiatives, and UNECE legal instruments and UN/CEFACT standards, to enhance trade and transport corridors and address the need to reduce carbon emissions.

OPENING REMARKS

- **Ms. Elisabeth Türk**, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade, UNECE
- **Ms. Angela Ellard**, Deputy Director-General, WTO
- **Mr. Ahliddin Nuriddinzoda**, Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan and Chairperson of the SPECA Working Group on Trade





ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: RELEVANCE OF INTERNATIONAL/REGIONAL/NATIONAL INITIATIVES AND INSTRUMENTS

- **Mr. Norbert Kouwenhoven**, Advisor, Strategy and Innovation Customs, Netherlands
- **Mr. Loh Sin Yong**, Director, Trade, Infocomm Media Development Authority and UN/CEFACT Head of Delegation of Singapore
- **Mr. Ibrahima Nour Eddine Diagne**, Managing Director, GAINDE 2000 and President of the African Performance Institute (API) and UN/CEFACT Head of Delegation of Senegal
- **Mr. Yann Duval**, Chief, Trade Policy and Facilitation, UNESCAP

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: REFLECTIONS ON THE WAY FORWARD

- **Ms. Pamela Mar**, Managing Director, Digital Standards Initiative (DSI), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)
- **Mr. Pierre Sauvé**, Senior Trade Specialist, Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment Global Practice, World Bank Group
- **Ms. Yanying Li**, Legal Officer, International Trade Law Division, UNCITRAL Secretariat

13:00 – 15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00 – 15:30

MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE 29th PLENARY

The UNECE secretariat will report on [Matters Arising Since the Twenty-Ninth Plenary](#) and the activities of the UNECE Economic Cooperation and Trade Division Regional Adviser. These documents provide a summary of UN/CEFACT activities in the period of 2023-2024, including normative work, policy advice and capacity-building.

- **Ms. Kamola Khusnutdinova**, Economic Affairs Officer and Secretary, UN/CEFACT
- **Mr. Mario Apostolov**, Regional Adviser, UNECE

15:30 – 17:00

TECHNICAL DIALOGUE ON GLOBAL SOLUTIONS FOR DIGITAL, SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT VALUE CHAINS IN SUPPORT OF THE GREEN AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATIONS

Over the past two decades, demands for enhanced sustainability and transparency in corporate reporting have intensified, impacting consumer preferences, business norms, capital access, and regulatory measures. Emerging regulations, such as the EU directives on due diligence, green claims, and deforestation, now carry significant consequences. Credible evidence and transparent value chains are essential to combat false sustainability claims, promoting higher sustainability standards. In response to these challenges, UN/CEFACT has advanced initiatives, including [Draft Recommendation No.49: Transparency at Scale](#), proposing solutions like digital product passports and verifiable credentials. This policy dialogue will discuss Recommendation No.49, feedback from the consultation process, and steps towards its finalization for the 2025 Plenary. It will also share progress on the United Nations Transparency Protocol (UNTP) and [the United Nations Digital Product Passport \(UN DPP\)](#). Additionally, the event will highlight findings from the [UNECE-ECLAC-Fashion Revolution Chile Study on Reversing Direction in the used clothing crisis: Global, European and Chilean Perspectives](#), reviewing global flows, regulations, and business models in the EU and Latin America.

17:00 – 18:00

REVIEW OF THE BUREAU AND REGIONAL RAPORTEURS' ACTIVITIES SINCE THE 29th PLENARY





The UN/CEFACT Chair and members of the Bureau will provide [an overview of developments and deliverables](#) since the twenty-ninth session including Bureau decisions, a summary of promotional activities and project activities. The Regional Rapporteurs will [report on activities related to UN/CEFACT in their respective regions](#).

- **Ms. Sue Probert**, UN/CEFACT Chair (outgoing)
- **Ms. Nancy Norris**, UN/CEFACT Chair (incoming)
- **Ms. Hanane Becha**, UN/CEFACT Vice-Chair
- **Ms. Liliana Fratini Passi**, UN/CEFACT Vice-Chair
- **Mr. Nurbek Maksutov**, UN/CEFACT Vice-Chair
- **Mr. Steven Capell**, UN/CEFACT Vice-Chair
- **Mr. Aliakbar Heydarov**, UN/CEFACT Vice-Chair
- **Mr. Hisanao Sugamata**, UN/CEFACT Regional Rapporteur, Asia and the Pacific
- **Ms. Nogaye Toure Diagne**, UN/CEFACT Regional Rapporteur, Africa
- **Mr. Eudardo Leite**, UN/CEFACT Regional Rapporteur, Latin America and the Caribbean

Friday | 12 July 2024 | Day 2

10:00 – 10:15

UPDATES FROM THE TEAM OF SPECIALISTS ON ESG TRACEABILITY OF SUSTAINABLE VALUE CHAINS IN THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY

Presentation of the [Report of the Team of Specialists on ESG Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Circular Economy on its Third Session](#).

- **Mr. Christian Hudson**, Chair, Team of Specialists on Environmental, Social and Governance Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Circular Economy, UNECE
- **Ms. Maria Teresa Pisani**, Chief ad interim, Trade Facilitation Section and Secretary, Team of Specialists on Environmental, Social and Governance Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Circular Economy, UNECE

10:15 – 10:30

UPDATES FROM THE UN/LOCODE ADVISORY GROUP

Presentation of the [Report of the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group on its 2024 Meeting](#) held in Hamburg, Germany on 16 and 17 April 2024.

- **Ms. Maria Teresa Chavarri**, Vice Chair, AG LOCODE, UNECE
- **Mr. Kevin Bishop**, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, AG on UN/LOCODE Secretariat, UNECE

10:30 – 11:45

COOPERATION WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, STANDARD-SETTING BODIES AND OTHER ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE BODIES

Presentation of the activities of international organizations, standard-setting bodies, and other UNECE bodies on matters of potential interest to UN/CEFACT.

- **Mr. Juan Diego Chavarria**, Technical Officer, Compliance and Facilitation Directorate, World Customs Organization
- **Ms. Laura Mathew**, Technical Group Manager, Standardization and Technical Policy, International Organization for Standardization
- **Mr. Pierre Bonthonneau**, Trade Facilitation Adviser, International Trade Centre
- **Ms. Yanying Li**, Legal Officer, International Trade Law Division, UNCITRAL Secretariat





- **Mr. Poul Hansen**, Chief, Trade Facilitation, UN Trade and Development
- **Ms. Maryna Yanush**, Environmental Affairs Officer, Environment Division, UNECE
- **Mr. Konstantinos Alexopolous**, Chief, Transport Facilitation and Economics Section, Sustainable Transport Division, UNECE
- **Mr. Eric Schmidt**, Advisor, Regional Project "Trade Facilitation in Central Asia", Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- **Mr. Pasa Olivier**, Chairman of Data Collaboration Committee, International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)
- **Mr. David Sauv**, Senior Manager Digital Cargo, IATA
- **Ms. Leticia Cherini**, International Trade and Law Officer, FIATA

11:45 – 12:15

PROGRAM OF WORK OF THE UN/CEFACT FOR 2025-2026

Presentation of the [UN/CEFACT Programme of Work 2025-2026](#) for decision.

- **UNECE secretariat and UN/CEFACT Bureau**

12:15 – 13:00

REVIEW OF THE UN/CEFACT STRUCTURE, MANDATE, TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PROCEDURES

Presentation of the [Proposed Amendments to the Consolidated United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business Mandate and Terms of Reference \(Section D – The Bureau\)](#) for consideration and a subsequent decision on the way forward.

- **UNECE secretariat and UN/CEFACT Bureau**

13:00 – 15:00

LUNCH BREAK

15:00 – 15:30

FOLLOW-UP TO THE EVALUATION OF THE ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION SUBPROGRAMME AND THE TRADE SUBPROGRAMME BY THE OFFICE OF INTERNAL OVERSIGHT

Presentation of the key recommendations, the management response and plans on how to implement the relevant recommendations.

- **Ms. Elisabeth Türk**, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

15:30 – 16:00

OTHER BUSINESS

16:00 – 18:00

ADOPTION OF DECISIONS AND THE DRAFT REPORT OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION

Registration:

<https://indico.un.org/event/1007104/>

Further information:

<https://unece.org/trade/uncefact>

Contact:

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