Forthcoming Studies for Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan

**Demand-Driven Initiatives:**

Studies conducted upon request by member states to support economic diversification.

Focus on reducing regulatory and procedural barriers to trade.

**Support for Economic Diversification:**

Both studies aim to assist countries in establishing robust institutional and legislative frameworks.

Focus on successful integration into the global economy.
## Forthcoming Studies for Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan

### Azerbaijan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Request Initiation:</th>
<th>Requested during the seventh session of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity on <strong>June 27-28, 2022</strong>.</th>
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<td>Aim:</td>
<td>Strengthen capacity to reduce regulatory and procedural trade barriers. Support trade reforms as part of WTO accession process.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Approval:</td>
<td>ECE Executive Committee approved the project in <strong>December 2023</strong>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donor</td>
<td>Funded by Azerbaijan with potential for expansion based on additional funding.</td>
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### Turkmenistan

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**Fothingtom Studies' Objectives**

**Azerbaijan**

**Main Goal:**
- Establish institutional and legislative frameworks for successful GVC integration

**Focus Areas:**
- Trade patterns and economic context
- Regulatory and procedural barriers to trade
- Digital economy and 4th Industrial Revolution technologies

**Turkmenistan**

**Main Goal:**
- Align trade regime with international best practices and enhance market access

**Focus Areas:**
- Economic analysis and trade profile
- Trade-related laws and strategies
- Quality infrastructure and trade facilitation measures
Forthcoming Studies' Outlines: Azerbaijan

Introduction

- Overview of the economic context
- Country's performance regarding trade-related SDGs
- Trade patterns, including imports and exports.

Chapters I & II: Overview of the current trade regime of Azerbaijan

- Review of the current regime of Azerbaijan vis-à-vis:
  - technical barriers to trade (including technical regulations, standards, conformity assessment procedures and accreditation),
  - trade facilitation measures (including digital trade facilitation, such as paperless trade, cross-border paperless trade) and
  - legislation that supports or hinders the adoption of the fourth industrial revolution (4SI) technologies in trade processes (e.g., data protection laws, digital document recognition and cross-border data flow policies).

Recommendations for the way forward

- Recommendations for further enhancing the trade regime, with a particular focus on available ECE tools (i.e., WP. 6, WP.7 and UN/CEFACT).
**Forthcoming Studies' Outlines: Turkmenistan**

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**Introduction**
- Economic and trade profile from a historical and comparative perspective
- Country's main trade patterns and general business climate (e.g., key import and export industries and trade partners)
- Key drivers of export growth and potential to join regional and global value chains.

**Chapter I: Overview of the current trade regime of Turkmenistan**
- Overview of trade-related laws and strategies
- Ongoing regional integration processes of relevance to Turkmenistan and potential avenues for regional cooperation through the SPECA
- Trade-related framework for digitalization in Turkmenistan.

**Chapters II & III: Removing regulatory and procedural barriers to trade***
- Review of the current regime of Turkmenistan vis-à-vis:
  - regulatory and standardisation conditions (i.e. standards, technical regulations, conformity assessment procedures and related quality infrastructure) and
  - trade facilitation measures (including digital trade facilitation, such as paperless trade and cross-border paperless trade measures).

**Recommendations for the way forward**
- Recommendations for further enhancing the trade regime, with a particular focus on available ECE tools (i.e., WP. 6, WP.7 and UN/CEFACT).

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* Both chapters consider WTO requirements and identify areas that require legal amendments and institutional reforms to enhance trade efficiency, including integration into global and regional value chains.
Next Steps

Methodology:
• Desk research and stakeholder interviews
• Workshops for discussing findings and gathering diverse perspectives

Key Recommendations:
• Legal amendments for trade efficiency
• Institutional reforms for GVC integration
• Benchmarking against international best practices
• Alignment with WTO accession requirements
• Digital transformation in trade processes
• Trade regime enhancement using ECE tools