A. High-level substantive segment – Policy Dialogue
Policy Dialogue

Documents:

• *Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation ECE Regional Report 2023 (ECE/TRADE/483)*
  • For information

• *Roadmap for the Digitalization of Multimodal Data and Document Exchange Along the Trans-Caspian Transport Corridor Using United Nations Legal Instruments and Standards (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2024/INF.1)*
  • For information

• *UN/CEFACT Package of Standards (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2024/INF.2)*
  • For information
Policy Dialogue

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

Elisabeth Türk
Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UNECE

Angela Ellard
Deputy Director-General, WTO

Ahliddin Nuriddinzoda
Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan and Chairperson of the SPECA Working Group on Trade
Policy Dialogue

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

Norbert Kouwenhoven
Advisor, Strategy and Innovation Customs, Netherlands

Loh Sin Yong
Director, Trade, Infocomm Media Development Authority and UN/CEFACT Head of Delegation of Singapore

Ibrahima Nour Eddine Diagne
Managing Director, GAINDE 2000 and President of the African Performance Institute (API) and UN/CEFACT Head of Delegation of Senegal

Yanying Li
Legal Officer, International Trade Law Division, UNCITRAL Secretariat
Digital Transparency

The role of climate-smart connectivity and digital trade and transport corridors in support of regional and global integration and sustainable development
From Logistic Transparency to Sustainability Transparency

Logistic transparency

Digital is a must

Product components: Lithium, Cobalt,
Production process: ‘Farm to Fork’
- Carbon emission
- Child labour
- Healthy workers environment
- Illegal lumber

Sustainability supervision models and improvement tracks

Production Components
Transport
Use
Dismantling
Cost
Challenges and Solution Avenues

- Different digital/IT maturity levels
- Different Standards
- Many ecosystems
- Transition cost
- Supranational agreements
- Different legislation concepts

EU Regulations
Digital Product Passports
Certificates
WCO standards
UNCefact
WW Agreements ...

Policy dialogue

Item 3
(11:30 – 13:00)
THX for your attention
Policy Dialogue

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Yanying Li
Legal Officer, International Trade Law Division, UNCITRAL Secretariat
UNCITRAL instruments on electronic commerce

- UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Signatures (2001)
The need for negotiable electronic cargo records

- Negotiable electronic cargo records will allow goods being carried by any mode of transport in a multimodal or unimodal context to be sold while in transit (from commodity traders’ perspective);
- The flexibility to sell goods to another buyer while in transit is becoming an important part of building resilience into supply chains by shippers at times of disruption (from shippers’ perspective);
- Banks can mitigate risks in letters of credit requiring negotiable transport documents evidencing ownership by taking these documents as collateral based on the established legal framework, or decreasing banks’ capital requirements depending on applicable regulations (from banks’ perspective);
- A uniform legal framework in the form of an international convention could provide the same legal standards on the recognition and use of negotiable electronic cargo records and thus facilitate interoperability of data exchange models.
Policy Dialogue

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

**Item 3**
(11:30 – 13:00)

**Norbert Kouwenhoven**
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**Yanying Li**
Legal Officer, International Trade Law Division, UNCITRAL Secretariat
Policy Dialogue

(11:00 – 13:00)

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: REFLECTIONS ON THE WAY FORWARD

Pamela Mar
Managing Director, Digital Standards Initiative (DSI), International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

William Gain
Global Lead for Trade Facilitation, World Bank Group

Konstantinos Alexopolous
Chief, Transport Facilitation and Economics Section, Sustainable Transport Division, UNECE

Yann Duval
Chief, Trade Policy and Facilitation, UNESCAP
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TRADE DIGITALIZATION INDEX 2024

A new tool for assessing the global state of play in the digitalization of trade procedures

Dedicated website: tdi.digitalizetrade.org
Framework Agreement on the Facilitation of **Cross-Border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific (CPTA)**

- **A UN Treaty**: enabling and action-oriented
  - Entered into force in 2021
  - Open to interested (53) ESCAP member states

- **Objective**
  - To facilitate cross-border paperless trade (data exchange) among willing ESCAP member states by providing a dedicated intergovernmental framework to develop legal and technical solutions
  - Complementary to the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) as well as (sub)regional efforts

- **Annual Paperless Trade Week**
  - 2nd PTW: **12-16 June 2025, Bkk**

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<th>Participant</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)</th>
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[https://www.unescap.org/projects/cpta](https://www.unescap.org/projects/cpta)
Cross-Border Paperless Trade Readiness Assessment tools

Online Guide
Interactive guide incl. explanatory notes, good practices...
ESCAP-UNCITRAL-EIF
https://readiness.digitalizetrade.org/

National Readiness Assessments

• CBPT Toolkit
• ESCAP-UNCITRAL-WTO
  https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/publications_e/paperlesstrade_2022_e.htm
Cross-Border Paperless Trade (CBPT) Database

- Aims to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and expertise gained from previous and on-going projects and services on cross-border trade digitalization

- ON-GOING CALL FOR PROJECTS/CASES SUBMISSION

www.digitalizetrade.org
Green Trade Facilitation

Environmental goods trade facilitation

Digitalization of trade procedures

Green NTMs compliance facilitation

Green Transport of goods traded

Green Trade Facilitation
Proposed Plenary decision:

Plenary decision 24-04 to be noted:

• The Plenary welcomed the policy dialogue on climate-smart connectivity and trade and transport corridors and highlighted its relevance to inclusive and resilient regional and global trade integration and sustainable development.

• In response to the 70th Commission session and building on existing UN/CEFACT work supporting multimodal data exchange along supply chains, the Plenary encouraged the development of a policy recommendation and accompanying implementation instruments to support United Nations Member States in enhancing digital and sustainable trade facilitation along trade and transport corridors.