C. Substantive segment – Technical dialogue and deliverables

UPDATES FROM THE ADVISORY GROUP ON THE UNITED NATIONS CODE FOR TRADE AND TRANSPORT LOCATIONS

Documents:

- *Report of the United Nations Code for Trade and Transport Locations Advisory Group on its 2024 Meeting* **(ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2024/9)**
  - For endorsement

- *Programme of Work 2024-2025 of the Advisory Group on the United Nations Code for Trade and Transport Location* **(ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2023/23)**
  - For information

- *Decisions Relating to the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business* **(ECE/EX/2024/L.3)**
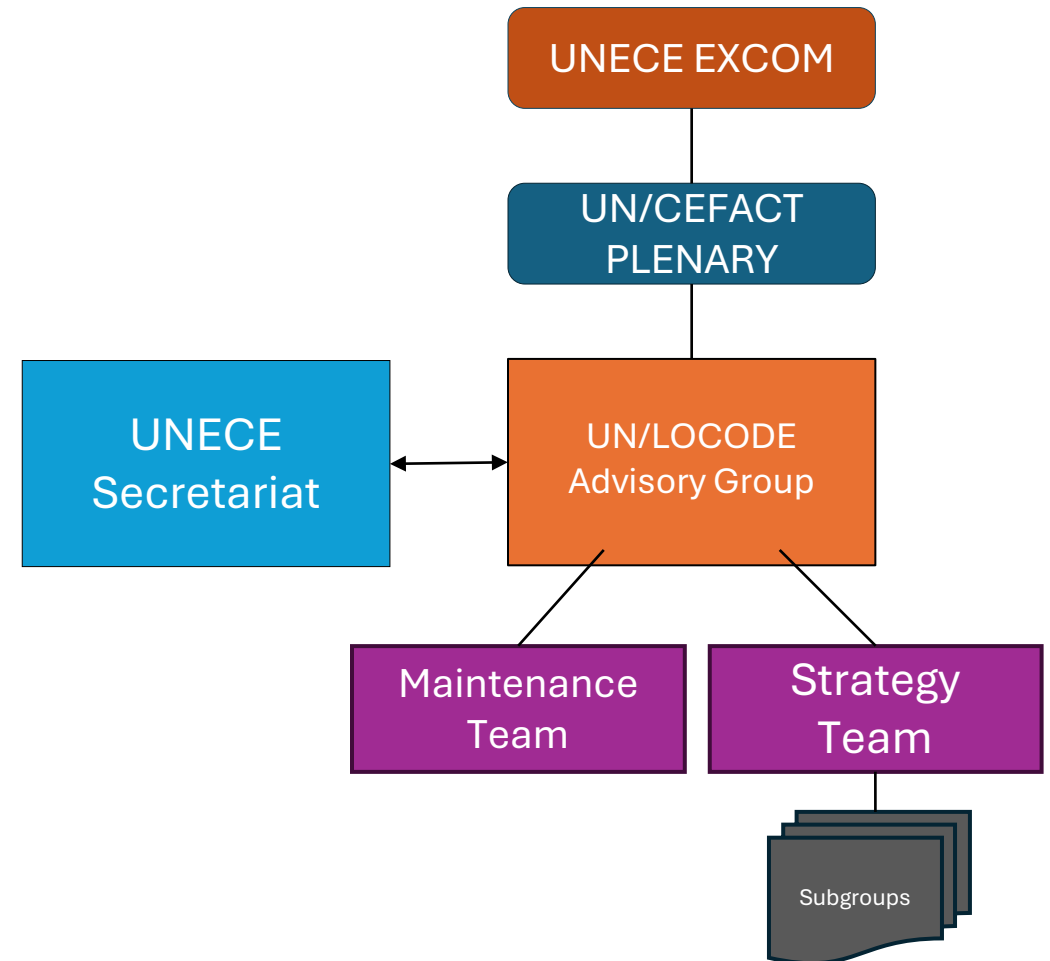 - For information

Appointment of officers

Maria Teresa (Maite) Chavarri
Chair of the UN/LOCODE AG,
Convenor of the UN/LOCODE
Maintenance Team

Tiago Spengler
Vice-Chair of the UN/LOCODE AG
Convenor of the UN/LOCODE
Strategy Team

UNECE EXCOM

UN/CEFACT PLENARY

UNECE Secretariat ↔ UN/LOCODE Advisory Group

Maintenance Team

Strategy Team

Subgroups

Key Publications and Network Enhancements
- Timely release of UN/LOCODE versions **2023-1 and 2023-2**.
- Expansion of the UN/LOCODE Focal Point Network with new nominations from **Indonesia and renominations from Mongolia and the United Kingdom.**
- Report of the 2024 Meeting of the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group **(ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2024/9).**

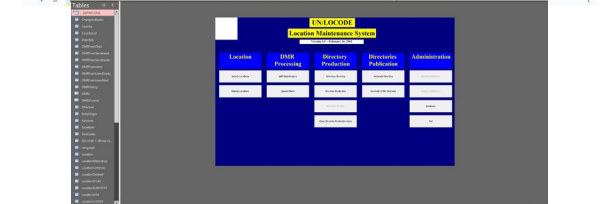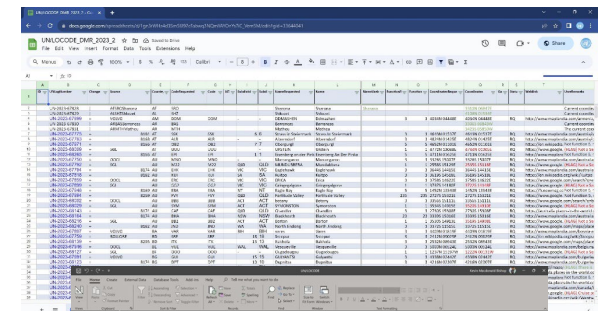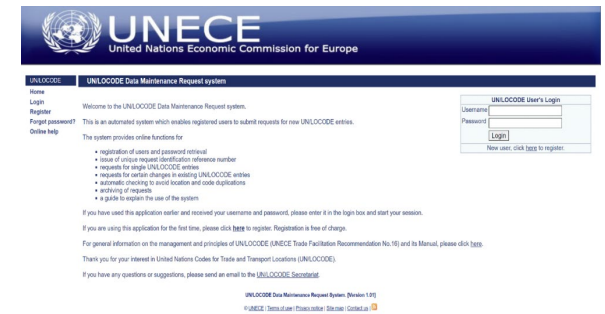**Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities**
- Successful resolution of critical cybersecurity issues and passing of the UN/OICT Cybersecurity Audit; **deployment of the fixed system on 18th June 2024.**
- Discovery of additional vulnerabilities in subsystem 1 and mitigation of legacy software issues in subsystem 3.

Policy and Organizational Changes
- Appointment of a new Chair and Vice Chair of the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group.
- Initiation of the UN/LOCODE Strategy Team to address new policy issues and system re-engineering.
- Appointment of a new Secretary of the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group.
- Adoption of a new organigram for the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group, including the formation of the Maintenance Team and the Strategy Team.
- Initiation of the UN/LOCODE Strategy Team to address new policy issues and system re-engineering.

Future Workplan and Fundraising Efforts
- Adoption of the Programme of Work for 2025 – 2026 **(ECE/EX/2024/L.3).**
- Funding raising proposal for a sustainable funding mechanism to support the continuous enhancement and maintenance of the UN/LOCODE system. **(UNLOCODE-AG/2024/INF.5).**

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SWOT Analysis of the UN/LOCODE

S	Strengths	Opportunities	O
	1.Global Standardization: UN/LOCODE is widely recognized and used internationally, providing a standardized system for identifying trade and transport locations, facilitating seamless global trade and logistics. **2.Comprehensive Database**: It includes a vast number of locations worldwide, ensuring extensive coverage and detailed location data. **3.Interagency Collaboration**: Strong partnerships with various international organizations, governmental agencies, and private sector entities enhance the system's reliability and relevance. **4.Continuous Improvement**: Regular updates and maintenance cycles ensure that the data remains current and accurate, addressing user needs and emerging challenges.	**1.Technological Upgrades**: Re-engineering the system and adopting new technologies like Git-based open-source solutions can enhance performance, transparency, security, and user experience. **2.Expanded Use Cases**: Integrating UN/LOCODE with other location identifiers (e.g., GS1 GLN) and expanding its application in areas like geofencing and sustainable fisheries management can increase its value and utility. **3.Enhanced Data Quality**: Collaborations with entities like, EMSA to improve data accuracy and completeness can elevate the system's reliability. **4.Funding and Partnerships**: Exploring diverse funding avenues and strengthening partnerships can secure the resources needed for sustainable development and innovation of the UN/LOCODE ecosystem.	
W	**Weaknesses** **1.Aging Infrastructure**: The existing system infrastructure is outdated, requiring significant re-engineering to meet modern standards, business and cybersecurity requirements. **2.Limited Resources**: The secretariat faces constraints in terms of funding and staffing, affecting the ability to maintain and improve the system efficiently. **3.Complexity in Management**: Managing the large and complex dataset, along with coordinating numerous stakeholders, presents logistical and operational challenges. **4.Dependence on External Funding**: Reliance on extra-budgetary resources makes the sustainability of ongoing projects and improvements uncertain.	**Threats** **1.Cybersecurity Risks**: As with any large-scale data system, UN/LOCODE faces potential cybersecurity threats that could compromise data integrity and user trust. **2.Resource Allocation**: Competition for limited resources within the United Nations and among international organizations might limit the funding available for UN/LOCODE. **3.Regulatory Changes**: Changes in international trade regulations and standards could impact the system's alignment and relevance, necessitating continuous updates and adaptations. **4.Stakeholder Coordination**: Ensuring consistent collaboration and agreement among diverse stakeholders can be challenging, potentially affecting the implementation of new initiatives and improvements.	T

Volume of Data Maintenance Request

2023

1st Cycle - Tab 1	DMR
Approved	156
Postponed	152
Rejected	85
Withdrawn	-
TOTAL	**393**

2nd Cycle - Tab 1	DMR
Approved	83
Postponed	5
Rejected	71
Withdrawn	2
Blank	369
TOTAL	**530**

1st Cycle - Tab 2	DMR
Approved	101
Postponed	199
Rejected	18
Withdrawn	-
TOTAL	**318**

2nd Cycle - Tab 2	DMR
Approved	229
Postponed	3
Rejected	62
Blank	40
TOTAL	**334**

1st Cycle - TOTAL	DMR
Approved	257
Postponed	351
Rejected	103
Withdrawn	-
TOTAL	**711**

2nd Cycle - TOTAL	DMR
Approved	312
Postponed	8
Rejected	133
Withdrawn	2
Blank	409
TOTAL	**864**

TOTAL YEAR 2023	DMR
Approved	569
Postponed	359
Rejected	236
Withdrawn	2
Blank	409
TOTAL	**1,575**

Volume of Data Maintenance Request (by countries and companies)

2023

TOP 10 COUNTRIES

Jan – June

1st cycle_tab 1

COUNTRY	DMR
UNITED KINGDOM	99
FRANCE	65
UNITED STATES	41
SPAIN	20
ITALY	14
GERMANY	12
POLAND	10
AUSTRIA	9
CANADA	8
TURKEY	7

1st cycle_tab 2

COUNTRY	DMR
GERMANY	75
UNITED STATES	27
FRANCE	26
SPAIN	22
INDIA	12
GREECE	11
NETHERLANDS	9
CZECH REP	9
AUSTRIA	8
SERBIA	7

Sep – Dec

2nd cycle_tab 1

COUNTRY	DMR
INDIA	78
FRANCE	64
GERMANY	35
SPAIN	28
CZECH REPUBLIC	27
UNITED STATES	26
RUSSIA	20
ITALY	20
POLONIA	15
AUSTRIA	14

2nd cycle_tab 2

COUNTRY	DMR
FRANCE	71
UNITED STATES	29
INDIA	28
CHINA	26
CZECH REP	19
BRASIL	17
GERMANY	15
ITALIA	13
SPAIN	10
GREECE	7

TOP 10 COMPANIES

Jan – June

1st cycle_tab 1

COMPANY	DMR
INTTRA	125
GB	96
BOLLORE	22
OOCL	20
HLAG	18
8146	18
VOLVO	12
8174	11
8169	9
SGL	8

1st cycle_tab 2

COMPANY	DMR
HLAG	100
OOCL	29
8174	29
BOLLORE	16
VOLVO	11
8169	11
STOLT	9
SGL	8
INTTRA	8
PORTINFO	7

Sep – Dec

2nd cycle_tab 1

COMPANY	DMR
HLAG	109
8174	90
OOCL	53
8169	42
SGL	34
BOLLORE	24
8166	23
STOLT	14
VOLVO	11
8184	11

2nd cycle_tab 2

COMPANY	DMR
(blank)	212
HLAG	37
8174	10
4941	7
OOCL	7
7715	6
MM	6
SGL	6
DE	5
5302	4

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Volume of Data Maintenance Request (by countries and companies)

2023

Type of Requests

Jan – June

1st cycle_tab 1

Requests	DMR
+	257
|	112
x	3
#	21
Grand Total	393

1st cycle_tab 2

Requests	DMR
+	198
|	104
x	10
#	6
Grand Total	318

1st cycle 2023

TOTAL Type of Requests	
Requests	DMR
+	455
|	216
x	13
#	27
Grand Total	711

Sep – Dec

2nd cycle_tab 1

Requests	DMR
+	447
|	70
x	10
#	3
Grand Total	530

2nd cycle_tab 2

Requests	DMR
+	215
|	57
x	30
#	24
|	8
Grand Total	334

2nd cycle 2023

TOTAL Type of Requests	
Requests	DMR
+	662
|	127
x	40
#	27
|	8
Grand Total	864

Type of Requests:
+ Addition
\| Modification
X Delete
Name Change

GRANDTOTAL Type of Requests	
Requests	DMR
+	1117
|	343
x	53
#	54
|	8
Grand Total	1575

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UPDATES FROM THE ADVISORY GROUP ON THE UNITED NATIONS CODE FOR TRADE AND TRANSPORT LOCATIONS

Proposed Plenary decision:

Plenary decision 24-10 to be noted:

- The Plenary expressed satisfaction with the work undertaken by the Advisory Group on the United Nations Code for Trade and Transport Locations (UN/LOCODE).

- It recognized the group's critical role in facilitating global trade and transport logistics and endorsed the report from its 2024 meeting **(ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2024/9).**

- Additionally, the Plenary took note of the EXCOM Decisions relating to the UN/CEFACT **(ECE/EX/2024/L.3)** to extend the mandate of the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group for the period 2024 – 2025.

- The Plenary noted the funding proposal and will explore modalities to mobilize additional resources to support the UN/LOCODE system enhancement **(UNLOCODE-AG/2024/INF.5)**.