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Juan Diego Chavarria Technical Officer WCO



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Neelima Pamulapati Domain Coordinator



Project updates

Sustainable and Digital Trade Facilitation Week



8-12 July 2024



Palais des Nations Geneva



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ASSOCIATION DES UTILISATE DE TRANSPORT DE FRET

European Shippers' Council (ESC)

Established in 1963, the **European Shippers' Council (ESC)** is a non-profit European organisation representing cargo owners – manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers – collectively referred to as 'shippers'.

The ESC represents **freight transport interests** of many companies throughout Europe.

Members are **national shippers' associations**, European trade associations (e.g. chemical, steel) and corporate members.





Näringslivets Transportråd - för transportköpare









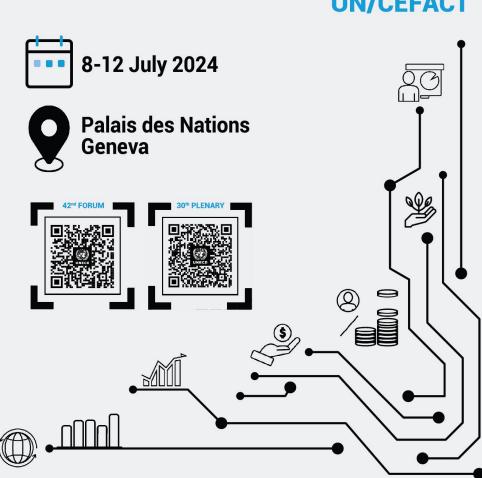














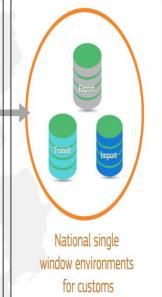
The EU Single Window Environment

- EU Single Window Environment for Customs enacted via Reg. 2022/2399:
 - Part of a wider ambition to modernize customs controls, it defines common rules for a harmonized and integrated EU single window environment for customs. Incremental step to support the EU customs reform;
 - 2 step process: 1) enhance exchanges between governments, businesses and traders to reduce the submission of multiple (paper) documents in multiple systems; 2) At a later moment, "business to government" scheme allowing traders to provide data only once, reducing duplication, time and costs.
 - Components:
 - National single window environments for customs (responsibility of Member-States);
 - The **EU Single Window Certificate Exchange System for Customs** to enable the exchange of information;
 - The EU non-customs systems referred to in Part A of the Regulation's Annex:
 Health Entry Document for animals, products, feed and plants; ozone
 depleting substances license; fluorinated GHGs; import license for cultural
 goods, the use of which is mandatory under Union law;
 - The EU non-customs Union systems referred to in Part B of the Regulation's Annex: Forest law enforcement, governance and trade import licenses; EU export control, brokering, technical assistance, transit and transfers of dualuse items; certificates for international trade in endangered species of wild and flora; info./coms for market surveillance mandatory under Union law;
 - National coordinators to act as national contact point for the Commission.
 - "Synergies" sought with EU Maritime Single Window Environment (Regulation 2019/1239).

EU Single Window Environment for Customs

Framework for cooperation that facilates interoperability between customs and non-customs domains to streamline the electronic exchange of documents and information required for goods clearance





Commission systems

Member States' systems





Why do we need an EU Single Window Environment?

The EU Single Window Environment is an incremental step towards the wider EU Customs Reform (ongoing).

Why do we need to reform EU customs?

Today:

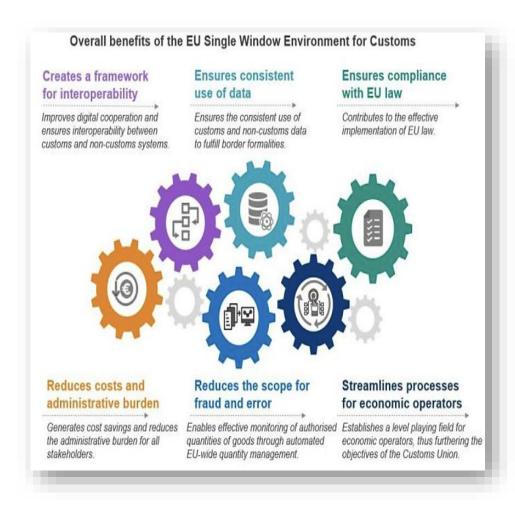
- Customs collect EUR 80 billion annually: 24 billion Customs duties, of which EUR 18 billion Own resources, and EUR 55 billion in excise duties and VAT but much is lost due to Customs fraud and undervaluation.
- Member States develop and maintain 111 separate IT systems – not cost-efficient.
- · No customs duty below EUR 150 threshold.



Reform:

- 1 Single Data system savings for Member States and EU budget of EUR 1-2 billion per year.
- Estimated reduction of compliance costs for traders of more than EUR 2 billion per year
- E-commerce: additional 1-2 billion per year from e-commerce (2021 VAT e-commerce reform already brings EUR 1.5 billion)
- Closing Customs Gap several billions per year.
- Helping to tackle VAT fraud, currently EUR 50 billion per year.

What are the benefits of the EU Single Window Environment?







The EU Single Window Environment: Challenges ahead

- Interoperability of different national systems;
- Alignment of different non-customs and customs formalities (policy);
- Information is required at an earlier stage and at with a higher level of detail (extraterritoriality);
- Alignment of legislation on legislation on prohibitions and restrictions;
- Alignment with the existing EU Maritime Single Window Environment (Regulation 2019/1239);
- Fased implementation over the next years, requiring strong coordination at national level and EU-level;
- Alignment with the EU Customs Reform and the Single Data Hub.





Data Hub

The Customs Reform in the EU will have a number of different pillars:

- Single liable person (more liability for importer/exporter);
- More centralization of the customs clearance (declaration disappears, "event");
- One EU-wide customs clearance system;
- Facilitation based on Trade and Check (T&C);
- T&C requires a real-time access of administration of companies;
- Diminish the pressure of eCommerce-to the system.





Conclusion

Questions to be dealt with:

- Is the alignment between data hub development and single window sufficiently strong;
- Do the Recommendations 33 and 34 still address present days' challenges;
- What influence will the new EU-legislation have on the functionality of the single window;
- How to integrate access in business administrations to single window environments;
- How to deal with access to single windows for other than authorities.



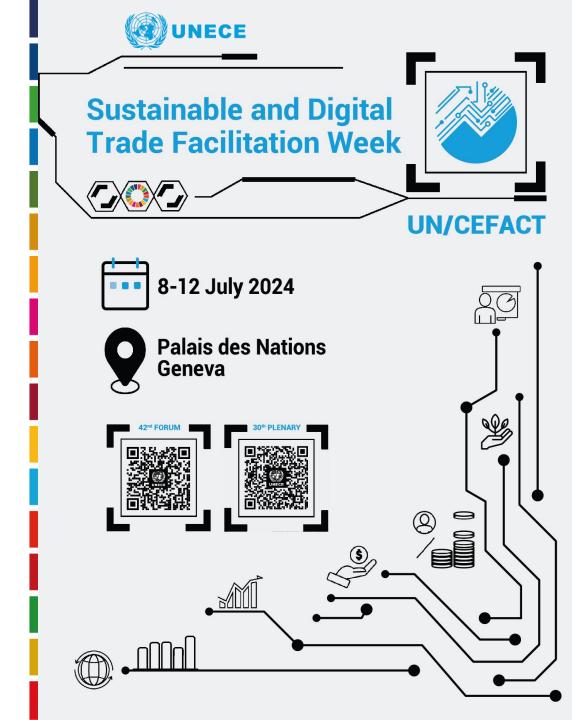
Thank you!

Godfried Smit

Secretary General

European Shippers Council

Date: 09 | 07 | 2024



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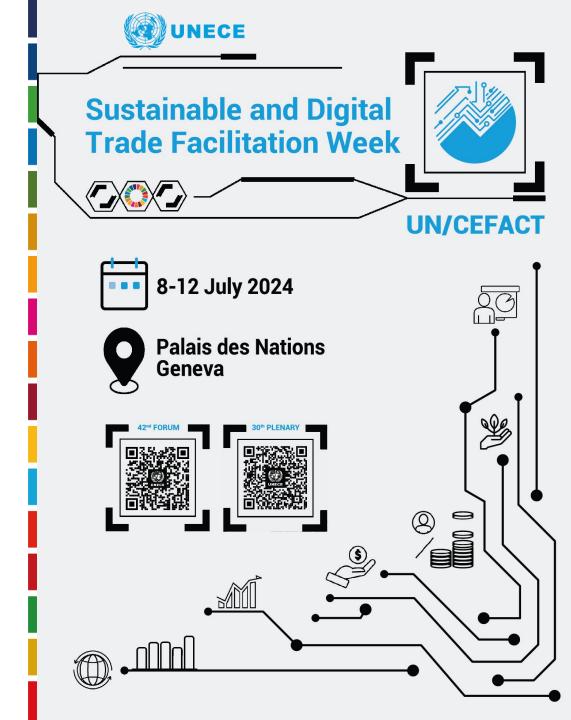


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Single Window Environment

Work in the SADC region







Single Window



Single Window Environment

WCO definition:

Single Window Environment is a cross border, **intelligent facility** that allows parties involved in trade and transport to lodge **standardized information**, mainly electronic, with a **single entry point** to fulfil all import, export and transit-related regulatory requirements

One-time submission

- Incremental submission of data
- Harmonized regulatory declarations
- Sharing of information amongst CBRAs
- Harmonized CBRA response

SW needs to be seen as an "environment" because it is not a monolithic structure, but an ecosystem of interdependent facilities and processes

Single Window Compendium

Each Part focuses on a particular area of the SW Environment, providing comprehensive guidance on building blocks of Single Window implementation



Compendium v.1



Compendium v.2





Update of the Single Window Compendium



- Discussed and provided guidance on the areas that required potential updates within the SW Compendium:
 - Considering the need for consistency and interconnectivity between cross-border regulatory agencies of neighboring Customs administrations
 - Reviewing the optimal set of data used for information exchange
- Agreed on establishing a mini-group focused on the update of the SW Compendium





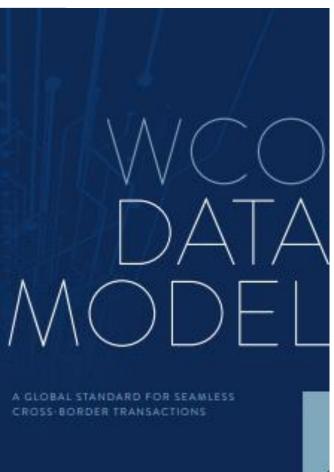


WCO Data Model: A Blueprint for Interoperability



- The WCO Data Model (DM) is the data foundation for global trade interoperability;
- The WCO DM is a universal language for cross-border data exchange enabling the implementation of Single Window systems and fuelling Data Analytics;
- It is a compilation of clearly structured, harmonized, standardized, and reusable sets of data definitions and electronic messages designed to meet the operational and legal requirements of Customs and other cross-border regulatory agencies (CBRAs) responsible for border management.

https://www.wcoomd.org/DataModel







What is the WCO Data Model?



Supply-chain Information

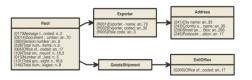




WCO DM Library



Information Model





Attribute Name

Identification issuing country, code (R147)

To achieve a globally unique standardised TIN format for cross-border exchanges, add this separate 2-digit alpha numeric ISO Country Code attribute as a qualifier to the existing national identifier.

Role code ROO5

Code giving specific meaning to a party

Exporter, coded R032

To identify the party who makes, or on whose behalf the export declaration is made, and who is the owner of the goods or has similar rights of disposal over them at the time when the declaration is accepted

Exporter - name R031

Electronic Messages

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?> <xs:schema xmlns="urn:wco:datamodel:WCO:AEI:1"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"</pre> xmlns:ds="urn:wco:datamodel:WCO:AEI_DS:1" targetNamespace="urn:wco:datamodel:WCO:AEI:1" elementFormDefault="qualified"> <xs:import namespace="urn:wco:datamodel:WCO:AEI DS:1"</pre> <xs:documentation>
 <SuperClassID>SC1</SuperClassID> <SuperClassName>RootDocument</SuperClassName> </xs:documentation> <xs:documentation xml:lang="EN"> <WCOClassID>42A</WCOClassID>
<WCOClassName>Declaration/WCOClassName> </xs:documentation> <xs:documentation> <DictionaryEntryName>Content Information Struct <UniqueDecClassID>0001D</UniqueDecClassID> <BIPUsageDeclaration>X</BIPUsageDeclaration> </xs:documentation> </xs:annotation> <xs:complexType> (xs:sequence) <xs:element name="InvoiceAmount" type="ds:Declar</pre> <xs:annotation>





WCO ACCELERATE TRADE FACILITATION PROGRAMME

Coordinated Border Management & Data Standardization for the SADC region

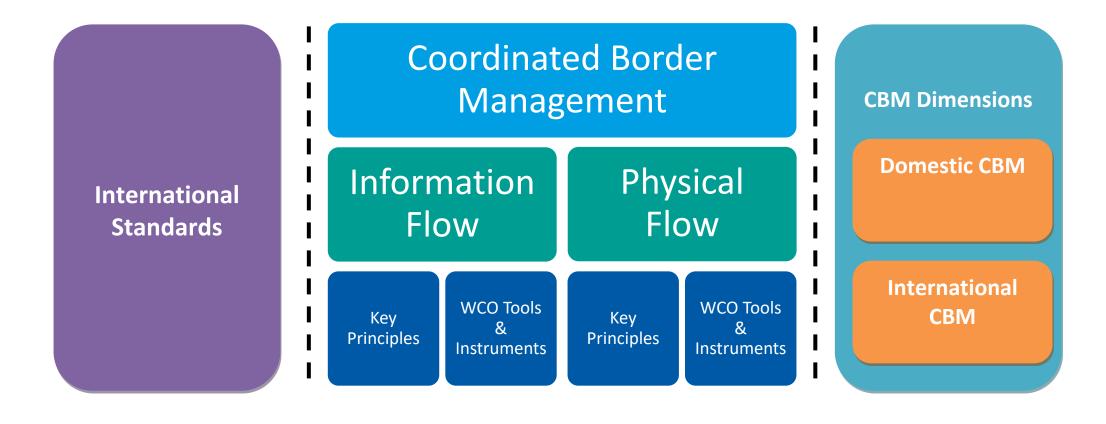
Zambia Revenue Authority

www.wcoomd.org



Two Dimensions - CBM









Background



- Government of Zambia adopted a Resolution for CBM implementation
- NTFC Meeting (17th January 2023) mandated the TWG on CBM: to Compile a document and Recommend reduction of agencies
- Ongoing process to limit border agencies to six key OGAs: Customs, Immigration, Sanitary, Quarantine, Veterinary, Technical Standards
- Previously stationed OGAs delegating authorities to these six agencies.
- Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) responsible for collecting all fees on behalf of OGAs.

1. <u>Identified challenges</u>:

- Interoperability and exchange of information
- Practical knowledge of CBM
- Absence of standardized procedures
- Lack of coordination among border agencies
- Lack of operational methodology: Who is doing what? How? When? Where? etc.

2. <u>Identified Needs</u>

- 1) Standardize Border Agencies Operating Procedures
- 2) Harmonize Data
- **3) Integrated Risk Management** for Border Agencies





WCO Activities in the Region



I. Standardizing Border Agencies Operating Procedures

- For Physical Flow and Information Flow and Clearance of Goods
- Creating a common set of rules, documentation requirements, and data formats for Standard Regulation on CBM.
 - 1. Expected Outcome: <u>Development of an Inter Agency Standard Regulation</u>
 (Framework) on CBM

II. Data Standardization and Harmonization for Border Agencies Systems Interconnectivity and Data Exchange

- The proposed CBM Model, emphasizes a virtually paper free environment using Electronic Single Window and ASYCUDA World
- The WCO proposes to foster the Border Agencies Systems Interconnectivity and Data Exchange by:
 - 1. <u>Data Harmonization and Standardization</u>
 - 2. Business Process Mapping and Re-Engineering





Objectives of the activity



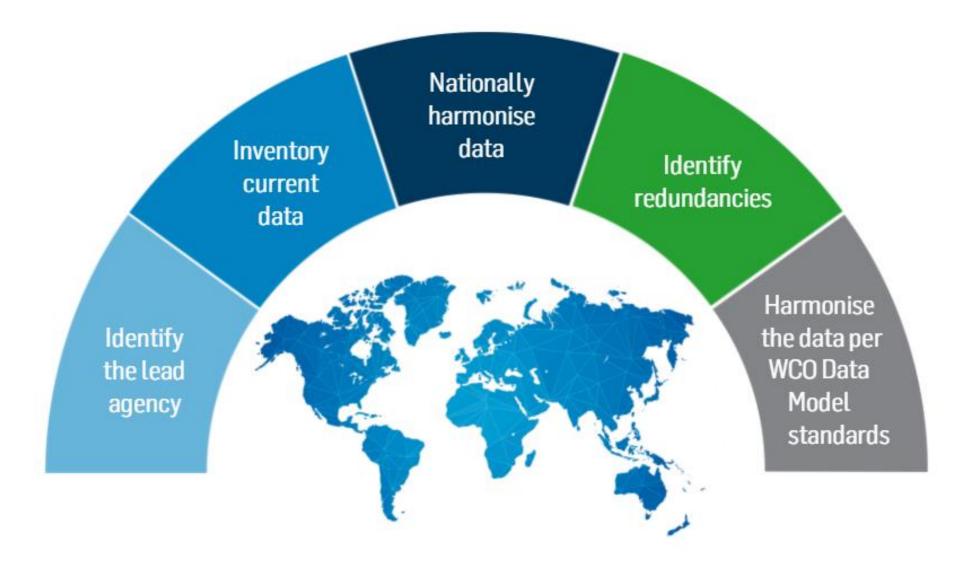
- **1. Building Internal Capacity:** Capacity building of ZRA officers and OGAs on Coordinated Border Management
- **2.** <u>Institutionalizing CBM</u>: Development of an Inter-Agency Standard Regulation (Framework) which would serve as a guide for Standard Operating Procedures for land, railway and air ports.
- 3. Data Standardization: Harmonize Data elements for efficient Data exchange





Guidelines for SW Harmonization



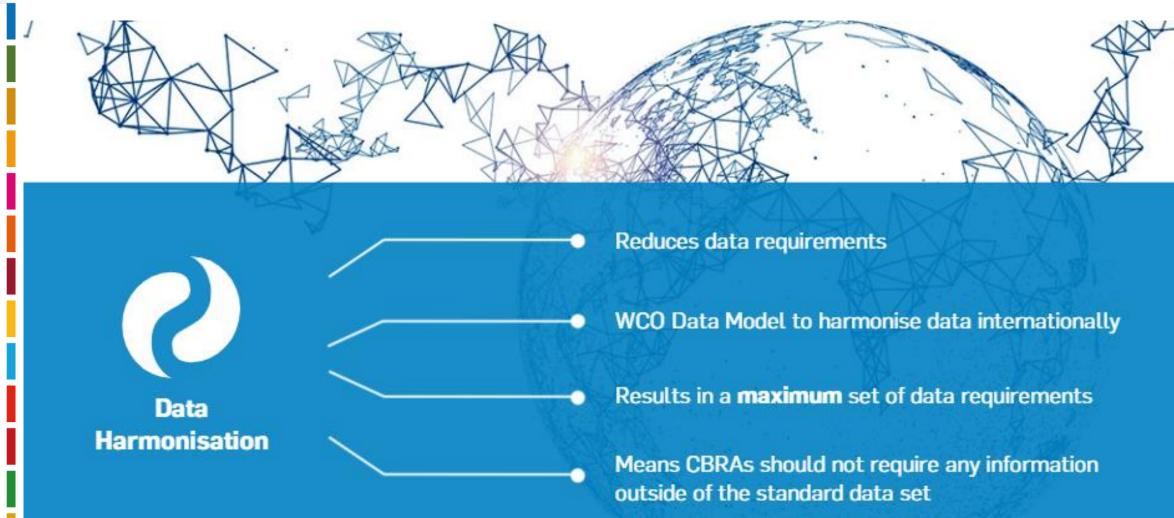






Benefits of SW Data Harmonization







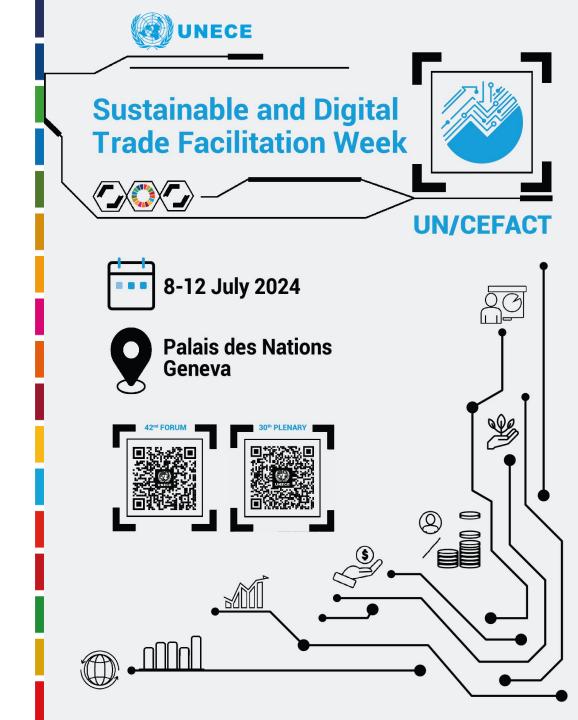
Thank you!

Juan Diego Chavarria
Technical Officer

World Customs Organization

Date: 09 I 07 I 2024





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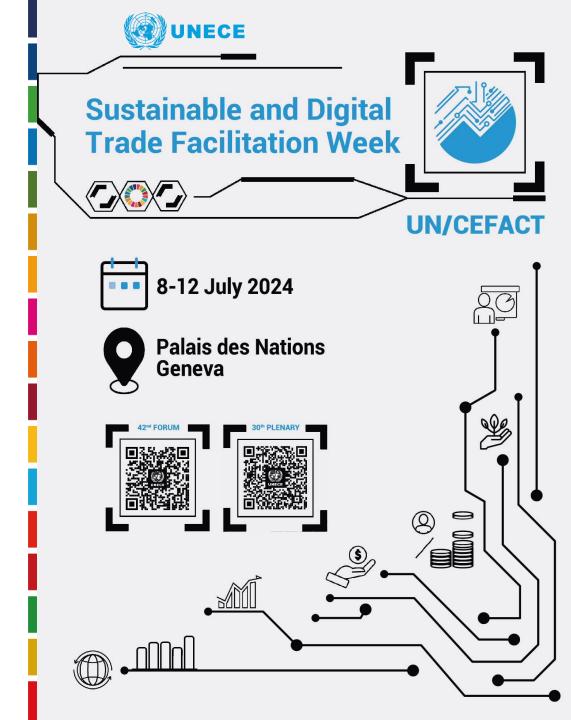
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Transit Portal Concept

for the trans-Caspian international median corridor on the principle of "Single window"





Trans-Caspian international middle corridor







Targets

Data Exchange electronic system

- 1. Establishment of a secure data exchange system:
- 2. Preliminary data analysis and risk assessment
- 3. Exchange of documents required for customs purposes through the portal (*.xml, *.json, *.pdf)





Advantages

- 1. The source of the exchanged information is the competent authorities (customs services)
- 2. Exchange of transit data on maritime, rail, and road transport between the parties
- 3. Electronic exchange of the results of customs control
- 4. Acceptance of a pre-submitted transit declaration as a transit document for the entire route
- 5. Risk identification based on preliminary transit declaration and customs controls data.
- 6. Exchanging any documents related to transit transportation.





Legal framework

- Basic Multilateral Agreement on International Transport for Development of the Europe-the Caucasus-Asia Corridor (TRACECA, Baku 1998)
- Interstate protocols on the information exchange
 - > Azerbaijan-Georgia
 - Baku-Tbilisi-Kars: Data exchange on rail transit between Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Turkey
 - Azerbaijan Kazakhstan
 - Azerbaijan Uzbekistan
 - Uzbekistan Kyrgyzstan
 - Etc.
- Significant documents signed at the Samarkand Summit of the Organization of Turkic States





Management board

- To manage the Portal's entire life cycle, we propose creating a Management Board.
- The managment board will include one member each from the countries participating in the Middle Corridor.
- The Chairman is appointed by rotation from the Board for 6 months
- Meetings of the managment borad are held every 2 months online, as well as once a year in one of the participating countries.
- The secretary of the Board is selected in order to address day-to-day concerns and coordinate operations.





Customs authority functions

Administrator

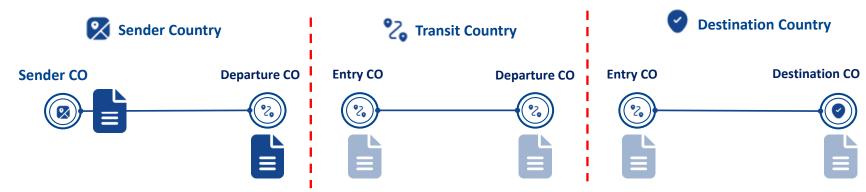
- Each country will assign an administrator role
- Registration of customs authorities in the system
- Registration of customs officers (Operator) in the system
- Issue of privileges in line with the operators' obligations

The role of customs officials (Operator):

- Start, finish, and termination of passage through the country's territory
- Input on the portal data about Customs office of Destination
- Adding information about seals
- Entering customs inspection results

^{*} Via the portal, customs officers could access the transit information relevant only to their country and the customs authority for which they work.

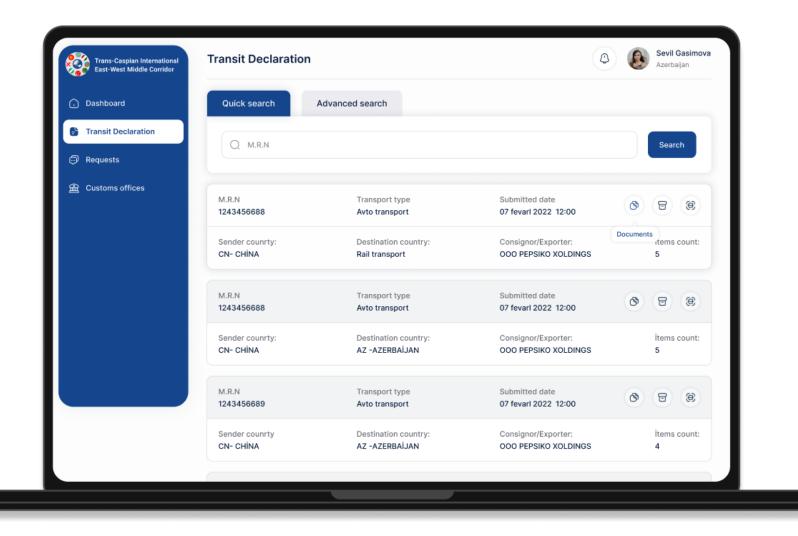








Trans-Caspian International Middle corridor "East-West"



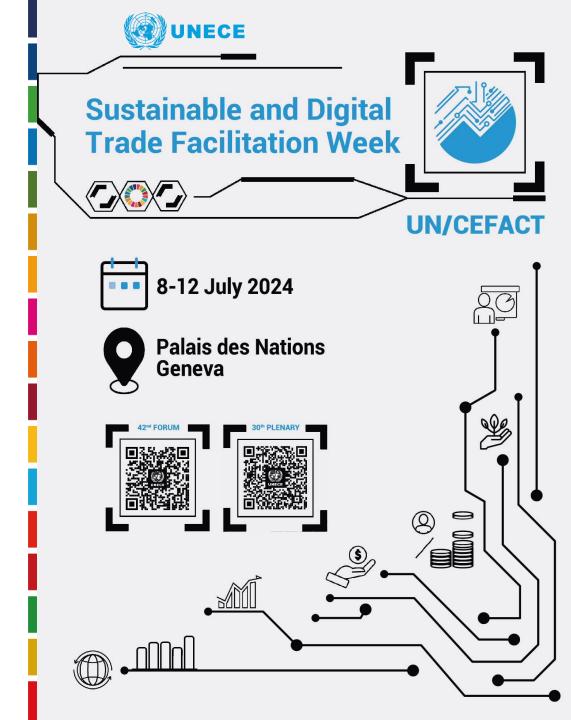


Thank you!

Aliakbar Heydarov

Head of customs analytics division
The State Customs Committee of the Republic of
Azerbaijan

Date: 09 I 07 I 2024



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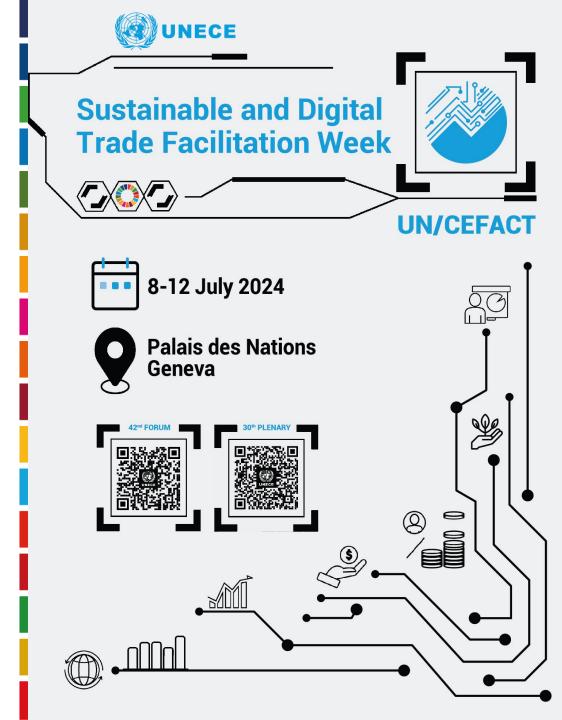
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How Pakistan Single Window (PSW) is driving regional integration and collaboration.

Single Window Domain

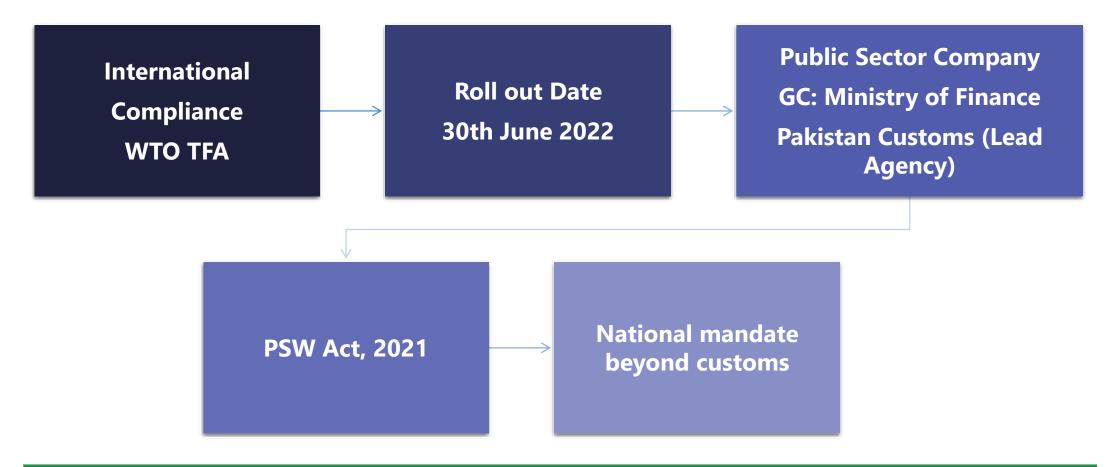
Regional Single Window Initiatives
Discussing Experiences, Challenges and Project
Updates





Pakistan Single Window: Quick Facts





Single Electronic Platform that connects customs, trade regulators, banks, and traders/clearing agents for single submission of data to reduce time and cost and enhance











Banks PSI Companies Treatment Providers

AGENCIES

11,756 Registrations Business, Products, and **Premises**

+000,08 **Subscriptions** Importers, Exporters, **Clearing Agents**

400,000+ **LPCOs** Import Permits, Release Orders, **Phytosanitary Certificates**

No physical footprint





Regional Integration: Way forward for Public and Private Sector

Reasons for PSW's aggressive regional trade integration :

Under Invoicing



Reduces tax revenue, created unfair competition and leads to resource misallocation.

Thick Borders



Redundant regulatory checks, delays, and inconsistent regulations.

Diversion of Transit Trade Goods



 Diversion of transit goods into the domestic market, resulting in revenue loss and unfair competition.

Low Quantum of Regional Trade



Huge Potential of regional trade but low quantum due to multiple factors





FSW co-hosted 'Peer Learning Initiative' under the EU funded R4TCA project from 12th-14th of October 2022 in Islamabad

- Coordination, Collaboration, Coordination
- PSW co-hosted the interactive and engaging event on single window implementation and management at Islamabad Serena from the 12th-14th of October 2022
- Round Table Public and private sector customs and trade experts from Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan as
- Resulted in SW Regional Integration and Private Sector collaboration







Regional and International Integrations



China Single Window

- Scope comprises of 3 Use Cases:
 Export Declaration, Phytosanitary
 Certificate and Animal Health
 Certificate
- Integration Document agreed between the two countries and development in-progress.
- Connectivity established between test and product environments over Public IP (with IP whitelisting)

State Customs Committee of

- The Technical Conditions Document for exchange of Advance Declaration has been signed-off by the two countries and development initiated.
- Connectivity through VPN is in progress

Customs Service of Tajikistan

- Scope comprises of electronic exchange of Export Declaration comprising of REST APIs in JSON format.
- The Interface Control Document has been exchanged and agreed by the two countries.
- Development has been completed and Integration Testing will commence on establishment of

UNECE

connectivity.



Regional and International Integrations



Egypt Nafeza (NSW)



- The Business Requirement Specification for send Trader (Exporter) Profile information agreed between the technical teams and APIs tested on Sandbox environment.
- Waiting for formal agreement between the two countries for exchange of data.

IPPC e-Phyto Hub



- PSW successfully integrated with IPPC ePhyto HUB for exchange of SPS e-certificate in November 2023.
- The system transforms the data elements from Phytosanitary Certificate issued by Pakistan NPPO, into XML messages based on the IPPC/ISPM 12 standard.
- Messages are sent to IPPC's ePhyto HUB via the SOAP based Web Services over internet.

Global E-Commerce Alliance (PAA) PAA net

- PSW has been granted the Associate Member status of the Pan-Asian E-Commerce Alliance (PAA)- an international grouping of customs and trade service providers
- PAA aims to promote and provide secure, trusted, and reliable valueadded IT infrastructure and facilities for efficient global trade and logistics services.





Challenges in Regional Integration

- Slow Bureaucratic/Diplomatic approval procedures
 - Emails are indeed a faster way of communication
- Multi-stakeholder collaboration (Inter-agencies)
 - Exchange of LPCO requires additional coordination with Regulatory Authorities from both sides; increasing the time, approval process and complexity of communication.
- Language barriers
 - Especially in virtual meetings discussing technical details
- Data standardization
 - Not every country is following WCO data Model
 - Integration Services must be customized based on each country's preference.
 - E.g. some prefer SOAP Web Services in XML, some use REST APIs in JSON, while others prefer to adopt EDI file formats.
- Lack of National Data Sharing Policies/Frameworks
 - Reluctance in agreement to data elements for integration





What's next?



- Regional Peer Learning Initiatives
- Private Sector to lead automation of B2B Services
- Maritime Single Window (Port Community System)
- e-TIR Multi-modal transit
- E-Transport-Logistics
- Digitization of COO
- Dedicated Women Entrepreneur Program "Khadija"
- Foreign Language helpline/customer support



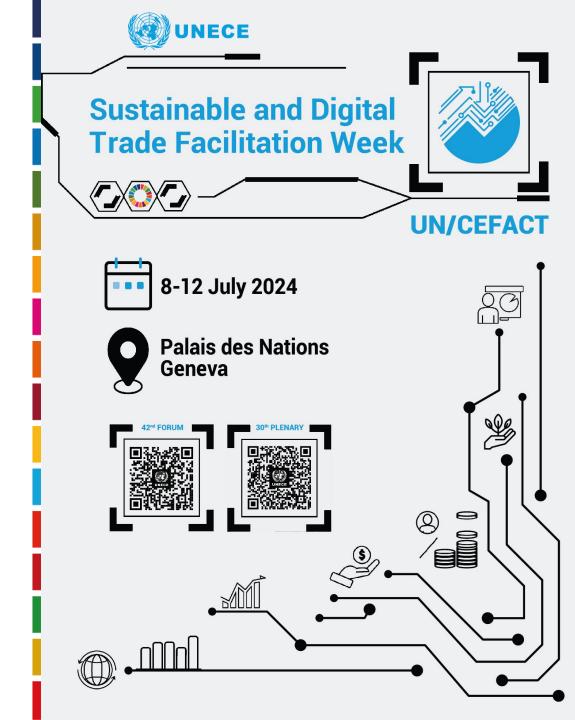


Thank you!

Umair Mahmood Siddiqui

Domain Officer Pakistan Single Window

Date: 09I 07I 2024



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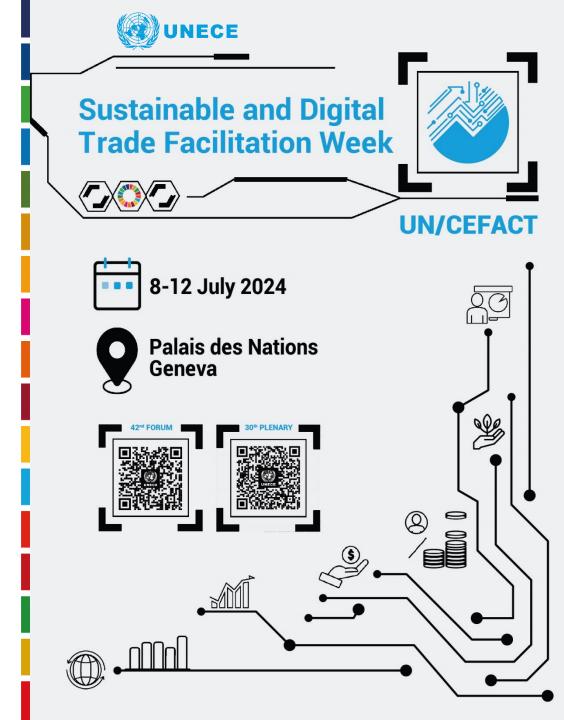
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"Guidelines on establishing a Regional Single Window"

PROJECT LEAD

Neelima Pamulapati

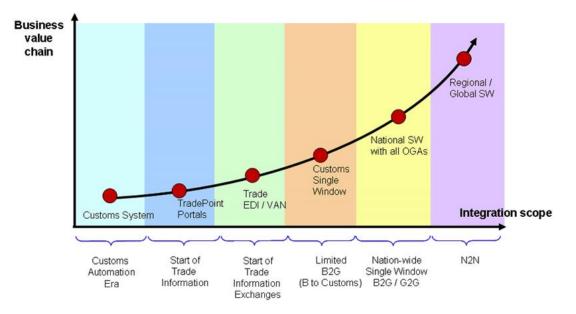
Alejandro Rinaldi





Original objective of the paper

- Outline four levels of RSW evolution:
 - 1. Regional NSW Working Groups
 - 2. Exchange of Commercial Information
 - 3. Transactional Information Exchange
 - 4. Comprehensive RSW for Private Sector





Approach for the Establishment of a RSW

RSW as next steps of NSWs

- 4 dimensions of a RSW
 - Governance, Legal, and Financial framework
 - Simplification, Standardization, harmonization and Translation of Business process and Data
 - Technical Capabilities Assessment
 - Public Awareness and Stakeholder Engagement





Main strengths of the group of experts

- Global view
- Different types of RSW
- Successful experiences... and also others not so successful





Main achievements

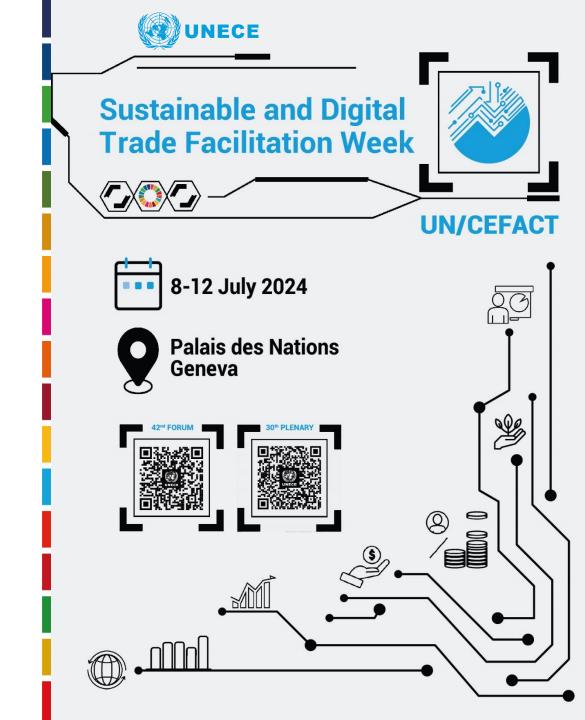
- High level view, but also with practical approach
- Based on many experiences worldwide
- Review of Recommendation 36



Thank you!

Alejandro Rinaldi

Date: 9 | July | 2024



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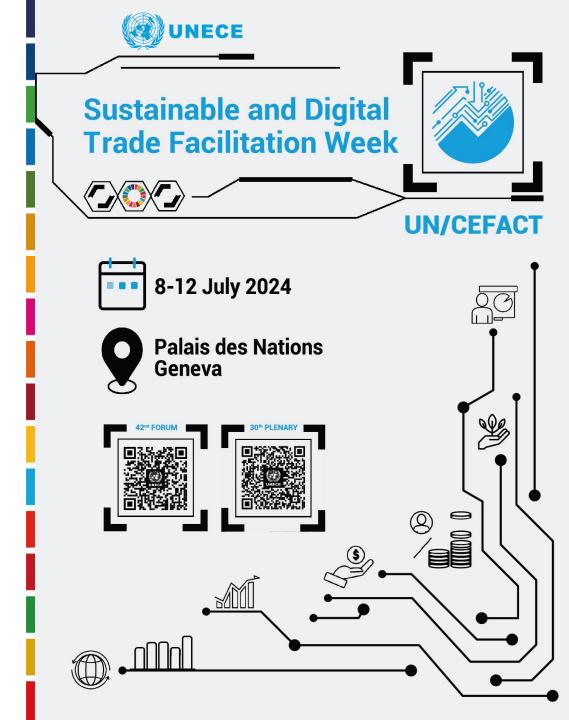
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Some insights on Regional Single Window (RSW)

on the paper and topic





What is RWS?

There has been much discussion regarding the definition of RSW:

- RSW is a network of NSWs (close in meaning to "integration of NSW systems in multilateral, regional and bilateral contexts" or "Interconnection and integration of NSWs into a bi-lateral or regional cross-border einformation exchange platform");
- RSW is not just a SW for trade, it is more general to cover maritime, logistics and other activities in the region. It is not limited to NSWs but providing a NSW service to island countries connected to the RSW;
- RSW is a digital framework that integrates and harmonizes trade-related procedures, documents, and clearance processes across multiple countries within a specific geographic area or economic block. But it doesn't exclude other possibilities.





The environment where RSW can operate

- Political drivers for establishing RSW exist, e.g. integration project, common market goal, expedite customs clearance for traders, seamless movement of goods across borders etc.
- Each country has NSW and uses digital documents in trade procedures
- There is a clear understanding of RSW benefits, obligations and implementation costs (capital and operational, funding model)
- Formal treaties or agreements and mandate; member countries are committed to fulfill its provisions and protocols
- RSW governance structure is organised and sustained (through committees, working groups, forums etc.)
- National regulatory, technology and data exchange procedures are harmonized and standardized
- Financial procedures are aligned among RSW countries
- NSWs of member states support interoperability
- Inclusion of all modes of transport in RSW
- Geographical coverage ("multilateral, regional and bilateral")
- Digital infrastructure is well developed to support RSW functioning





RSW Dimensions

The dimension is a necessary enabler of RSW, which has its own characteristics and must have a certain level of maturity.

- Political (common drivers and motivation for close economic cooperation of states across the geographic area)
 - Economic growth due to integration of states, trade facilitation
 - Common market, currency, economic space,
 - Common customs union
- Legal (framework)
 - Multilateral legislative acts (agreements, protocols) that promote harmonization of national laws
 - Governance model (under auspices of bodies established within the economic block, association, alliance or community)
 - Organisational structure and Financial model
- Technical (framework)
 - ICT infrastructure
 - Interoperability model, standardization
 - Ecosystem of trust and security
- Capacity building and public awareness
 - Skills development, strategical planning, organisational strength, networking and partnerships
 - Education, communication, engagement, willingness to policy changing, information dissemination channels





Categories of economic cooperation between countries

- Union-level (strict compliance with supranational legal acts, Union Customs Code (UCC), common tariff, close integration in many sectors of economy, common information space, use of SAD)
 - European Union (EU)
 - Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU)
- Community/association/block/alliance-level (national legislation is harmonized and aligned with multilateral community treaties, focus on single market, economic integration, harmonized customs procedures, integrated NSWs, common tariff and product classification system, possible use of SAD and community electronic platform, no community customs code)
 - ASEAN Single Window (ASW)
 - CARICOM Maritime Single Window (CMSW)
 - Pacific Alliance (PA): uses the concept of enhanced VUCEs (NSWs) to guarantee interoperability between VUCEs (RedVUCE forum)
 - MERCOSUR Common Nomenclature, no community SW
 - East African Community (EAC) Customs Union, Community Treaty, Customs Union Protocol & RSW
 - Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration (SIECA): Digital Trade Platform (PDCC), Customs Union and SW
- Country-level (bilateral agreements for trade facilitation, NSWs)





RSW Legal framework

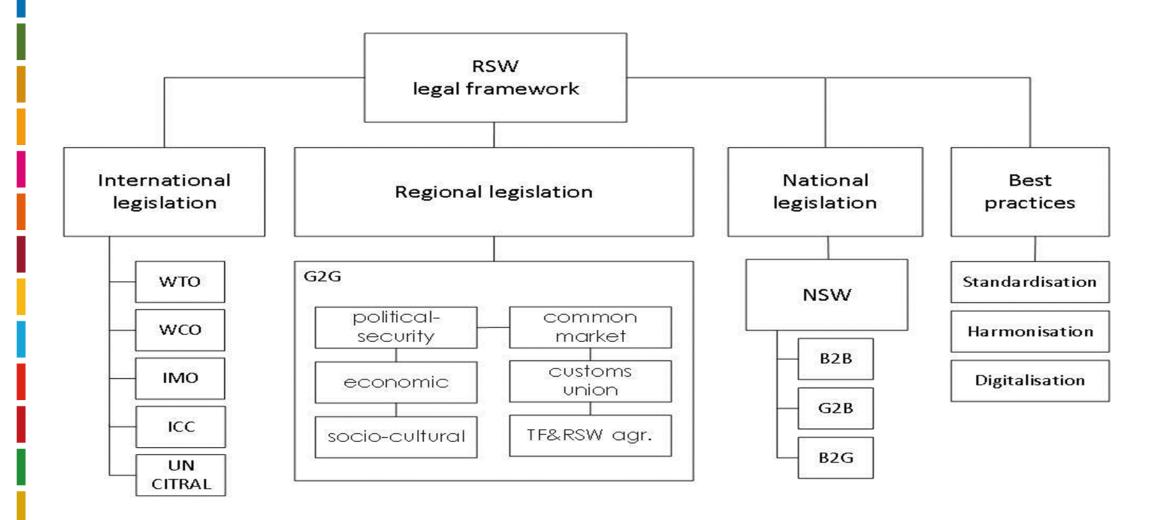
What is the necessary and sufficient set of documents?

- Examples of legal documents for establishing RSW include formal treaties or agreements among participating countries
 - ASEAN Single Window (ASW) is established through agreements such as the Protocol on the Legal Framework to Implement the ASEAN Single Window
 - The Pacific Alliance (PA) has created agreements that support the interoperability of their NSWs
- EU's Single Window environment is supported by EU regulations and directives that mandate member states to integrate their customs procedures
- Specific emphasis is on standardization and adoption of legal instruments offered by international institutions for trade facilitation (WTO TFA, WCO framework and guidelines, UN Conventions etc.)





Proposed basis for the RSW legal framework







Technical framework

RSW technical framework is expected to ensure:

- Protection of data and privacy (compliance with GDPR requirements)
- Smooth electronic transactions and ecosystem of trust (mutual recognition of electronic signatures)
- Reliable mechanism for electronic exchange of Licenses, Permits, Certificates and other types of documents (LPCO) issued by trade regulatory agencies through:
 - 1. RSW interoperability platform
 - 2. International data standard, but no an interoperability mechanism
 - 3. Documents are provided rather by the private sector then by a Government agency
- The interoperability at a business process level (ideally NSWs to support interoperability at methodology, dataset, business process and message levels)
- Use of open standards
- Business process integration
- An efficient technological model such as Peer to Peer, Centralized or Hybrid
- Electronic exchange of commercial documents (e.g. by using the data pipeline concept)





Capacity building and public awareness

In relation to RSW, each member country systematically promotes:

- Strategical planning, organisational strength, development of skills, networking and partnerships
- Communication, engagement, willingness to policy changing
- Continuous improvement of RSW
- Innovation management through practitioner networks (e.g. customs, border control and other agencies)
- Projects dedicated to customs (border management) needs
- Education and training initiatives and programmes across member states through academic and research institutions
- Information dissemination channels to public society

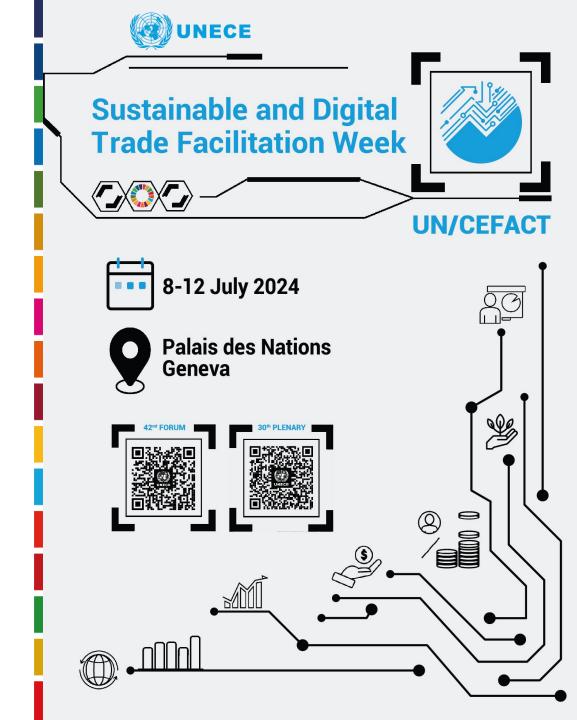


Thank you!

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Date: 9 | 7 | 2024



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