### **ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTE	E
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Meeting with the Chair of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

Report by the Chair

## Report from the Chairperson of UN/CEFACT

1. The Chair of the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT), Ms. Sue Probert (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), is pleased to submit her report to the ninety-ninth meeting of EXCOM on 4 July 2018.

#### I. Introduction

- 2. This report describes the main achievements of UN/CEFACT in the period March 2017- May 2018 as well as major activities planned for the remainder of 2018 and 2019. More information is contained in the report of the UN/CEFACT twenty-fourth session, which was held from 30 April to 1 May 2018 in Geneva (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/2).
- 3. UN/CEFACT's activities in the reporting period are based on the Programme of Work 2017-2018, as approved by the UN/CEFACT twenty-third Plenary session on 3 to 4 April 2017 (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2017/19).
- 4. A full list of deliverables during this reporting period is presented in Annex I.
- 5. The current UN/CEFACT organization and the Bureau structure is presented in Annex II.

# II. Achievements over the past twelve months

#### **Trade Facilitation**

- 6. The ratification in February 2017 of the World Trade Organization (WTO) Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) has provided a powerful boost to the political will to advance trade facilitation and to support developing countries' initiatives in this area. UN/CEFACT has continued its commitment to directly support the implementation of the WTO TFA measures. The Agreement provides a legal framework for the implementation of many of the UNECE and UN/CEFACT recommendations, standards and tools developed over the past 50 years, all of which are freely available to Member States.
- The Joint UN Regional Commissions' Second Global Survey on Trade Facilitation and **Paperless** Trade was conducted in 2017. The UNECE Regional Report Report (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/17) as well as the Global (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/18), based on the findings of the survey were launched at a side event during the 11th Ministerial Conference of the WTO in Buenos Aires, Argentina in December 2017. Average implementation rate of trade facilitation measures at the global level was about 69%, which is a seven percentage point increase from the 2015 survey. A total of 36 UNECE member States out of 120 countries participated in the survey.
- 8. Key trade facilitation recommendations were officially published during this period and work on key trade facilitation measures were finalized. The work in partnership with the World Economic Forum on a White Paper on Paperless Trade provides an invaluable backdrop to implementers who need to understand this notion, what it implies and what is available to implement it.
- 9. UN/CEFACT has been at the forefront for several decades of trade facilitation recommendations, especially on single window implementation and national trade facilitation bodies. These measures are integral parts of the WTO TFA. During this reporting period, several conferences were organized by UN/CEFACT and its secretariat on these topics as well as on dematerialized business processes another key aspect of the TFA.
- 10. The UN Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide (TFIG) is a web-based interactive tool that helps countries put in place trade facilitation reforms. Since its inception in 2012, more than one million unique visitors visited this online knowledge platform and there were about six million page views. With about 30,000 pages, available in five languages (English, Arabic, Spanish, French and Russian), TFIG has become a major reference resource for government officials and traders

around the world. At the same time, it is a core tool for trade facilitation planning and training. Over the past twelve months, UNECE and UN/CEFACT have begun to identify content which requires updating as well as new content which is not yet on this website.

#### **Sustainable Development Goals**

- 11. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) put significant emphasis on the role that trade can play in promoting sustainable development, and the work of UN/CEFACT can directly contribute to the achievement of several SDGs, particularly SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, SDG 10 on reduced inequalities, SDG 12 on responsible production and consumption, SDG 13 on climate action, SDG 14 on life below water, SDG 15 on life on land and SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals.
- 12. Overfishing and illegal, unreported or unregulated fishing (IUU) accounts for one-fourth of the fish resources in the oceans and costs a staggering 23 billion USD. As a result, future fish stocks are at risk of depletion, ocean biodiversity is impacted and the economic security of legitimate fishery workers is at stake. This is a global challenge, to which SDG 14 (in particular target 14.4, aimed at ending overfishing and IUU) responds directly. An essential step for an effective management of fish resources is the timely acquisition of information on vessels, stocks and catches, as well as the exchange of such information between stakeholders. In order to advance action to support this target, UNECE has established a Team of Specialists (ToS) on Sustainable Fisheries (EXCOM 92<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 23 June 2017) which has met and proposed a Programme of Work for its activities in 2018-2019.
- 13. UNECE is also seeking to support SDG 5 on gender equality, including through its project on women and trade facilitation. The UN/CEFACT project team completed and published a White Paper on Women in Trade Facilitation, whose findings were presented at an ITC Conference on Women in Trade in April 2017. In Kyrgyzstan in May, a workshop was organized to train women traders on using trade facilitation tools, for example, access to information on import and export procedures or a Single Window. It also helped customs authorities, ministries of trade and other government agencies of Kyrgyzstan to formulate national trade-related regulations and policies, such as simplifying customs procedures that would particularly improve access for women traders.

# III. Major activities planned for 2018 and beyond

- 14. UN/CEFACT puts special emphasis on developing standards and guidance material that will assist countries and stakeholders to implement trade facilitation measures, particularly those of the WTO TFA. The major focus over the next twelve month period shall be progressing and finalizing active projects, several of which build upon the single window guidance described above.
- 15. New work items which aim to support assistance to Micro-Small- and Medium-Enterprises (MSMEs) is being pursued. This includes identifying the challenges for MSMEs to enter into international markets and how best to help them to overcome these challenges. E-Commerce platforms are playing a major role in such work and are particularly active in this area.
- 16. Blockchain will remain a major topic for the coming period. A major part of this work has already been circulated for public review (ending on 21 July), which aims to see how UN/CEFACT deliverables may be adapted in order to support this new technology. Building on this work, a second white paper is being prepared in order to identify potential use cases of blockchain technology. A conference on the subject will be organized during the High Level Political Forum in New York on 11 July and a similar subject is being proposed for the WTO Public Forum in October 2018.
- 17. Internet of Things is another new technology of which UN/CEFACT is keeping abreast. A conference on the subject was organized during the 31st Forum and this may lead to a general guidance paper. In the transport area, the "Smart Containers" project will develop the technical specifications to enable "Internet of Things" objects (in this case maritime or air containers) to communicate with the rest of the supply chain and provide up-to-the-moment information on their status and first hand data for analysis by border agencies.

- 18. Traceability will remain another major topic for the coming period. Governments and traders are increasingly looking to traceability standards to confirm that the production, transport and distribution of goods and services is conforming with high-level policy objectives and civil society values, which directly relate to SDG 12. The UN/CEFACT agriculture expert group has already developed an international technical standard to trace important business processes in the animal and fish supply chain. UN/CEFACT is now working on a traceability framework to provide a structured approach for tracking and tracing sustainable textile value chains.
- 19. A project to develop a White Paper on Sustainable Procurement will provide elements to be taken into consideration in order to evaluate a procurement as sustainable and the methods to do so.
- 20. A Green Paper project on "Sustainable Tourism Experience Programmes" will provide guidance on how to stimulate local and rural tourism through experience programs such as mountain climbing, spas, farm-stays, etc. and thus stimulate local economies.
- 21. Several events will also be planned during the next period, including our semi-annual Forum planned 14-19 October in Hangzhou China, a Single Window conference tentatively planned in November in Morocco, a meeting of the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group tentatively planned in November in Geneva and a meeting of the Team of Specialists in Sustainable Fisheries tentatively planned in November in Geneva.
- 22. A complete list of active UN/CEFACT projects is in Annex I.

# IV. Any proposed change to the subsidiary structure of the Committee

- 23. Following the elections of the new chair in May 2018, the Bureau structure was slightly reorganized and is presented in Annex II.
- 24. The Team of Specialists in the area of Sustainable Fisheries has prepared a programme of work 2018-2019 for its activities (document ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/22). This document was approved at the twenty-fourth session Plenary and is submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.
- 25. UN/CEFACT will prepare its Programme of Work 2019-2020 for presentation at the twenty-fifth Plenary session in 2019.

# V. Intersectoral activities: new activities and/or progress in existing intersectoral activities

- 26. UN/CEFACT has a very close cooperation with the UNECE Transport Division, specifically on Transport Facilitation (TIR and Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods Conventions); Road Transport (CMR Convention) for which UN/CEFACT has developed the eCMR standard and now is working on a new standard on insurance Green Card; Dangerous Goods for which UN/CEFACT has developed a standard on transboundary movements of waste and is now working on a project on waste management and waste analysis.
- 27. Within the Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, UN/CEFACT has a close cooperation with the Innovation, Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) and Market Access Sections to support Circular Economy and SDG 12. During the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region, in March 2018 in Geneva, they jointly organized the well-attended event "Towards a circular economy: innovation for sustainable value chains". For the Agricultural Standards Section, UN/CEFACT is now developing the eQuality standards, and together with the PPPs Section, UN/CEFACT has developed Recommendation n°41 on PPPs in Trade Facilitation.
- 28. In 2017, UNECE joined the multi-stakeholder initiative "eTrade for All" of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), which brings together 22 international

organizations to support developing countries' efforts for trade development. UN/CEFACT represents UNECE in the "eTrade for All" initiative and organized several side events, in 2017 and 2018, during the UNCTAD eCommerce week, including the "E-Commerce and Trade Logistics: New Challenges, Opportunities and Solutions for International Transport and Trade Facilitation" that was jointly organized with UNCTAD, the International Trade Centre (ITC) and the World Customs Organization (WCO).

- 29. The United Nations Regional Commissions have taken a joint approach to trade facilitation. In 2017, the UNECE jointly with the other Regional Commissions, conducted the Second Global Survey, which covered 120 countries from the five regions of the world and whose results were presented at a joint event during the WTO Aid for Trade Global Review, held in Geneva in July 2017, and at the 11<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Conference of the WTO in Buenos Aires, Argentina in December 2017. The Global Report was presented to the twenty-fourth Plenary of UN/CEFACT (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/18) as was the Regional Report covering the results from the UNECE region (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/17). A third report is planned for 2019, showing progress since the first report was published in 2015.
- 30. UN/CEFACT, through its secretariat, also collaborates with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to support member States to implement Single Window and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to enhance paperless trade in their region and to support Dry Port through the use of UN/LOCODE.

# VI. Capacity building and technical cooperation activities

- 31. The UNECE Secretariat has done extensive work to support the WTO TFA. Multiple UN/CEFACT projects directly support the implementation of the TFA (see above). The UNECE has also:
  - Continued to have an active role in the meetings of the Annex D+ Organizations organized by the WTO to coordinate the efforts of international organizations to support the TFA implementation;
  - b) Continued to collaborate in the organization of the Global Facilitation Partnership Steering Committee;
  - c) Further developed its role in the multi-stakeholder E-Trade for All platform, an information hub to help developing countries to connect with potential partners, learn about trends and best practices, and access up-to-date e-commerce data in order to drive development through e-commerce.
- 32. During 2017, UN/CEFACT and its secretariat supported the UNCTAD Empowerment Programme for National Trade Facilitation Committees (NTFCs) in Cameroon, Gabon and Benin (May and August 2017).
- 33. In cooperation with the Market Access Section, a technical cooperation project titled 'Strengthening the national capacity of trade-support institutions of Kyrgyzstan' has been implemented. The project includes activities such as developing training materials for trade support institutions and familiarizes traders and government officials with international and national trade-related regulations (supply chain, single window, risk management, market surveillance) and conducting train the trainers' workshops for government officials and traders.
- 34. Also in cooperation with the Market Access Section, a project entitled 'Supporting the Removal of Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade in the Republic of Tajikistan' has been launched to assist Tajikistan in establishing a National Trade Facilitation Committee (NTFC) in line with the recommendations emerging from the UNECE study on regulatory and procedural barriers to trade in Tajikistan.

- 35. Another project entitled 'Strengthening the capacity of Central Asian countries to implement trade facilitation measures and better integrate into the international rules-based trading system' is being undertaken with the objective of strengthening national capacities of the beneficiary countries to implement trade facilitation measures and better integrate into the international rules-based trading system.
- 36. A United Nations Development Account project entitled 'Evidence-based trade facilitation measures for economies in transition' is underway. The project aims at supporting countries using the UNECE trade facilitation policy recommendations, standards and tools for the development of evidence-based policy coherence to support implementation of provisions of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) including articles on NTFC, documentary formalities, use of international standards and Single Window.
- 37. UN/CEFACT and its secretariat have been actively participating in meetings of partner organizations in order to disseminate the recommendations and standards work of UN/CEFACT, especially in view of greater trade facilitation implementation. These meetings can be grouped into six different types of events, all of which are presented in more detail in Annex I:
  - a) Events to support Single Window implementation and Trade Facilitation in general,
  - b) Events to support National Trade Facilitation Body Implementation,
  - c) Events related to e-Commerce,
  - d) Events related to digitalization of documents,
  - e) Events related to semantic interoperability and data models,
  - f) Events related to traceability.

## VII. Cooperation with other organizations

- 38. In order to ensure the coherence of guidance provided by UN bodies in the spirit of the "One UN" principle, UN/CEFACT works closely with other UN bodies such as UNCTAD, ITC, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Universal Postal Union (UPU), International Maritime Organization (IMO), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- 39. of UN/CEFACT seeks, an integral part its Strategy (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2016/20/Rev.1) and Programme of (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2017/19), to cooperate with other organizations both within the UN family (see above) and with other standards setting organizations. UN/CEFACT aims to be the semantic hub for international trade standards and in this perspective has continued its cooperation with other standards setting bodies such as the WCO and the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- 40. UN/CEFACT through its secretariat is also a very active member of the e-Business Memorandum of Understanding (eB-MoU) partnership signed in 2000 between UNECE, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), the ITU and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). The four signatories are studying how to enhance their inter-organizational information sharing through this eB-MoU.
- 41. UN/CEFACT has been cooperating with several European Commission Directorate Generals (DGs) over the past years. UN/CEFACT participated in the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG-MOVE) Digital Transport and Logistics Forum (DTLF) sub-group workshops, which looked into the documentary requirements in transport and logistics and their dematerialization. DG-MOVE was invited to present their work at the fourth UNECE Single Window Conference. Moreover, the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG-

MARE) has been actively engaging with the work of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries. The UN/CEFACT secretariat is currently working on a joint project proposal with ITC and the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO) to develop a traceability framework in the garment sector.

- 42. UN/CEFACT cooperates with the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC) and organized several joint events such as the conference on Single Window implementation in Moscow in December 2017, and a series of workshops for training trade agencies on supply chain management, simplification of import and exports procedures.
- 43. Cooperation at the regional level has also been a key objective of UN/CEFACT and its secretariat. Following the signing of the MoU with the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT), several exchanges have been successfully put in place and mutual representation at the others' meetings ensured. UNECE has also continued to collaborate with the African Alliance for E-Commerce, supporting their Single Window events and the publication of their new Single Window guide.

## Annex I

# **Key deliverables and events of UN/CEFACT** and its secretariat

#### Deliverables and events during this period that support the WTO TFA

- The official publication of the revised Recommendation n°1 on the UN Layout Key (ECE/TRADE/432).
- 2. The official publication of the Recommendation n°36 on Single Window Interoperability (ECE/TRADE/431).
- 3. The official publication of the Recommendation n°42 on Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism (ECE/TRADE/437).
- The maintenance and publication of the Core Component Library versions D.17B and D.18A and the associated XML schemas, Business Requirement Specifications (BRS) and Requirement Specification Mappings.
- 5. The maintenance and publication of the UN/EDIFACT directories versions D.17A and D.18A
- 6. The maintenance and publication of relevant code lists.
- 7. The development of the White Paper on Paperless Trade (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT2018/6) developed in partnership with the World Economic Forum.
- 8. The development of the electronic Consignment Note (eCMR) developed in partnership with the UNECE Transport Division and multiple agencies such as the International Road Transport Union.
- 9. The update of all of the Cross-Industry family of supply chain messages.
- 10. The White Paper on Data Pipeline (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/8).
- 11. Events organized by UN/CEFACT and its secretariat that supported Trade Facilitation during this period include
  - a) the 4<sup>th</sup> UNECE International Conference on Single Window of October 2017 (see ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/15);
  - b) the third UN/LOCODE Conference (see ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/16);
  - c) the first UN/LOCODE Advisory Group meeting of December 2017 (see ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/20);
  - d) the side event during the eCommerce Week on "Fostering Effective Trade Logistics in a Digital World" on 19 April 2018;
  - e) the parallel conferences during the 30<sup>th</sup> UN/CEFACT Forum on "30 years of UN/EDIFACT" on 5 October 2017 and on "Blockchain" on 4 October 2017;
  - f) the parallel conferences during the 31<sup>st</sup> UN/CEFACT Forum on "Internet of Things (IoT)" on 24 April 2018, on "Single Window and Document requirements" on 23 April 2018, and on "Blockchain for Trade Facilitation" on 20 April 2018.

#### Deliverables and events during this period that support the UN SDGs

- 12. The maintenance and publication of Animal Traceability version 1.2 standard.
- 13. The maintenance and publication of Traceability of Primary Natural Products version 1.0 standard.
- 14. The publication of the UNECE secretariat study "Transparency in textile value chains" (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/23).

- 15. The publication of the Briefing note from the secretariat on contributions to SDG 12 (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/25).
- 16. The maintenance and publication of an updated Fisheries Language for Universal eXchange (FLUX) version 1.1.
- 17. The publication of the "White Paper on Women in Trade Facilitation" (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/10).
- 18. The publication of a Briefing note prepared by the UNECE secretariat on Blockchain for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals" (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2018/25).
- 19. Events organized by UN/CEFACT and its secretariat that supported the UN SDGs during this period include
  - a) the side event during the 6<sup>th</sup> Global Review of Aid for Trade on "Implementing Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade for Sustainable Growth" on 12 July 2017;
  - b) the side event during the UN Ocean Conference on "Traceability for fish and seafood in supply chains" on 7 June 2017;
  - c) the parallel conference during the 31<sup>st</sup> Forum on "Traceability for Sustainable Value Chains: Textile and Leather Sector" on 24 April 2018;
  - d) the parallel conference during the 30<sup>th</sup> Forum on "Ethical and informed choices for sustainable clothing Tracking and tracing textile supply chains" on 3 October 2017

#### Major activities planned in the future short and medium term

- 20. The revision of the corner-stone Single Window guidance, Recommendation n°33, aiming to modernize the content while remaining stable for the organizations which have referenced its base principles; this will likely be ready for presentation at the Plenary in 2020.
- 21. The "Core Principles in the Operation of Single Window" is looking at the various risks inherent in Single Windows and how to resolve these, also likely for presentation at the Plenary in 2020.
- 22. The "Single Submission Portal" project should be ready for the 2019 Plenary and provides guidance on private-sector initiatives that could propose facilitations similar to those of a National Single Window, and which could support access of MSMEs to international markets.
- 23. The "Integrated Services for MSMEs to International Trade" project (ISMIT) will develop a White Paper outlining such examples of SSPs.
- 24. The "Mapping Project to the International Maritime Organization (IMO) FAL Compendium" will provide a concrete data model which will support the dematerialization of the FAL Forms and which is being proposed as the basis of the IMO Single Window initiative.
- 25. Finally, the "Data Pipeline" project seeks to produce a model to capture data at its source in order to improve data quality for border agencies; this has been studied as a possible model for Single Window in some countries.
- 26. The "Blockchain" project will continue to work on a second White Paper which will capture potential use cases of blockchain technology, supplementing the abovementioned White Paper currently in Public Review.
- 27. Work has begun to revise the "Recommendation 16" on Location Codes for Trade and Transport (UN/LOCODE) and should likely be ready to be presented to the 2020 Plenary.
- 28. The "Purchase Order Finance" aiming to develop technical standards to streamline financing requests.
- 29. The "Cross-Industry Invoice repository" grouping together examples of use of the UN/CEFACT electronic invoice standard to guide users on its possible implementations.

- 30. The "Waste Management" project aiming to develop technical standards for measuring and managing waste and reinforcing our existing standard on Cross Border Movement of Waste (Basel Convention).
- 31. The "Smart Containers" project shall develop the technical specifications to enable "Internet of Things" objects (in this case maritime or air containers) to communicate with the rest of the supply chain and provide up-to-the-moment information on their status and first hand data for analysis by border agencies.
- 32. The "Buy-Ship-Pay" Reference Data Model project aiming to create an overarching model to supply chain and transport/logistics in order to ensure continued harmonization as well as the "Canoncial Models" project aiming to harmonize the BRSs are both introspective and will ensure long term harmonization of our work and compatibility of our standards between each other.
- 33. UN/CEFACT work also aims to support the SDGs with a number of projects currently being developed, including:
- 34. Traceability will continue to be a major topic pursued during the next twelve month period, including further guidance on sustainable textile (especially skins and agri-based textiles).
- 35. The White Paper on "Sustainable Procurement" project will provide elements to be taken into consideration in order to evaluate a procurement as sustainable and the methods to do so.
- 36. The Green Paper on "Sustainable Tourism Experience Programs" will provide guidance on how to stimulate local and rural tourism through experience programs such as mountain climbing, spas, farm-stays, etc. and thus stimulate local economies.
- 37. An "e-Quality Certificate" project has just been launched, responding to an identified need for standard electronic messaging to certify the quality of meats, fruits, vegetables and potentially also consumer products.
- 38. The Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries will also continue to study the FLUX standard to see if it may benefit from further adjustments.

# Events during this reporting period where UN/CEFACT and/or its secretariat were presented:

- A. Events to support Single Window implementation and Trade Facilitation in general
  - a) May 2017, meeting on Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, the Single Window Interoperability and the Mutual Recognition organized by EXCAP and EEC in Cholpon Ata,
  - b) August 2017, Empowerment programme for developing the National Roadmap for TF implementation in Benin,
  - c) September 2017, Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum in Yogyakarta,
  - d) September 2017, World Congress on Information Technology organized by the World Information Technology Services Alliance (WITSA) in Taipei,
  - e) September 2017, World Bank workshop on international standards on Single Window from UN/CEFACT and World Customs Organization (WCO) perspective in Tivat,
  - f) September 2017, 16th Customs Cooperation Committee Meeting organized by Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) in Dushanbe,
  - g) September 2017, Regional Single Window conference with the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) in Istanbul,
  - h) October 2017, African Alliance for Electronic Commerce (AACE) Single Window conference in Accra,
  - i) October 2017, WCO Information Management Sub-Committee in Brussels,

- j) December 2017, ECE-EEC-ESCAP SW Conference in Moscow,
- k) December 2017, Moroccan annual SW Conference in Rabat,
- 1) December 2017, EU DG TAXUD SW Working Group meeting in Sofia,
- m) January 2018, UNESCWA training on SW with the NTFB of Iraq in Beirut.
- B. Events to support National Trade Facilitation Body Implementation,
  - a) April 2017 in Moldova,
  - b) April 2018 in Tajikistan,
  - c) July 2017 in Kazakhstan, Moldova and Belarus, in cooperation with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).
- C. Events related to e-Commerce,
  - a) WCO eCommerce working group, October 2017 in Brussels, January 2018 in Brussels, February 2018 in Beijing,
  - b) July 2017 Event on "E-Commerce Facilitation Best practices and case studies" jointly organized by WTO-WEF in Geneva,
  - c) October 2017, UNCTAD eCommerce in Geneva,
  - d) October 2017, UNESCAP meeting on Cross-Border Trade in Bangkok,
  - e) April 2018 organized by UNCTAD-ITC-UNECE in Geneva.
- D. Events related to digitalization of documents
  - a) EU DG-MOVE Digital Transport and Logistics Forum (DTLF), April 2017, September 2017, October 2017, November 2017, March 2018,
  - b) May 2017 organized by ZUGFeRD in Brussels,
  - c) July 2017 United Nations Regional Commissions joint side event "Implementing Trade Facilitation and Paperless Trade for Sustainable Growth" during the event on "Digital Trade-Related Provisions in Regional Trade Agreements" organized by International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)-International Development Bank (IDB) in Geneva.
- E. Events related to semantic interoperability and data models
  - a) WCO Data Model Project Team meetings, September 2017, February 2018,
  - b) June 2017 Semantic Interoperability Conference (SEMIC) in Malta,
  - c) June 2017 European Digital Assembly in Malta.
- F. Events related to traceability
  - a) June 2017, OCEAN Conference, joint side event on FLUX with the mission of Switzerland,
  - b) July 2017, Lecture on the 2030 agenda, the SDGs and UNECE and UN/CEFACT work on traceability, including the Sustainable Procurement Project in Bacconi,
  - October 2017, Blockchain event organized by the Fédération Nationale des Transports Routiers (FNTR) Workshop, in Paris,
  - d) October 2017, Focus Group on Application of Distributed Ledger Technology organized by ITU in Geneva.

Annex II Organizational structure of UN/CEFACT and its Bureau



