APEC Data Harmonization towards Single Window Paperless Environment

APEC-endorsed Project

Co-sponsored by APEC Member Economies

(Thailand, China, and Chinese Taipei)

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Project Background

☐ Report to APEC Leaders [ABAC: 2003] recommends APEC to "implement paperless trading through the development of a single-window system"

☐ APEC's Strategies and Actions toward a Cross-Border Paperless Trading Environment [ECSG: 2004] endorsed at the 16th APEC Ministerial Meeting suggests implementation timelines as follow:

2006: Interested member economies implement ECO and e-SPS Pathfinders for the cross-border transmission of electronic certificates of origin as well as electronic sanitary and phyto-sanitary certificates.

2010: Most member economies establish a domestic paperless trading environment and implement pilots for the cross-border electronic transmission of customs clearance data.

2020: APEC establishes a comprehensive paperless trading environment that enables the electronic transmission of trade related information across the region.

UN/CEFACT Step-by-Step Path to Paperless Trading

Step1: Process Analysis (UMM)

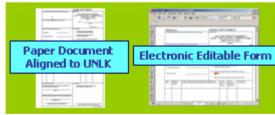**Step 2: Process Simplification and Harmonization (Rec. 4 & 18)**

Step3: National Data Harmonization (Rec. 34, UNTDED and WCO Data Set)

APEC Data Harmonization towards Single Window Paperless Environment (Jan - Dec 2008)

Step 4: Document Simplification and Standardization (UNLK, TF Toolkit and Form Repository)

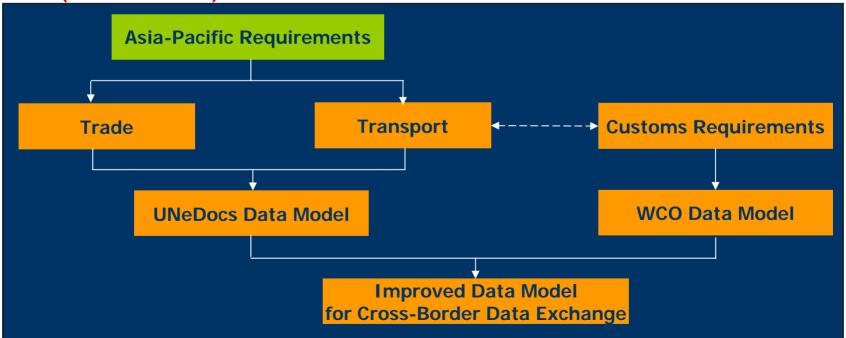**Step 5: Information Framework for Data Exchange (UNeDocs)**

Objectives

- ☐ To build information framework that enables the creation of semantic interoperability among Single Windows based on:
    - ■ WCO Data Model (customs data requirements)
    - ■ UNeDocs (trade and transport data requirements)
    - ■ Data requirements from the Asia-Pacific region

- ☐ To facilitate APEC member economies and enhance their capacity in the following areas:
    - ■ Documents simplification
    - ■ Data harmonization
    - ■ Standardized data set development at both individual and regional level

- ☐ To reinforce the adaptation of internationally accepted standards essential for the development of interoperable Single Windows

- ☐ To formulate the network of practitioners with expertise in message assembly using UNeDocs

Principle Activities

- ☐ Integration of WCO Data Model (version 3) and UNeDocs (Mexico version) with the incorporation of *data requirements from the Asia-Pacific region*

- ☐ Development of holistic data model for cross border data exchange using UN/CEFACT Core Components (CCL07A) according to ISO 15000-5: ebXML Core Components Technical Specification (version 2.01)

Principle Activities

☐ Proof-of-concept demonstration

■ Develop a set of electronic messages used in international trade transaction based on the integrated data model in XML format

■ Develop a set of digital paper documents using the United Nations Trade Documents Toolkit

Paper Document Aligned to UN Layout Key

Electronic Editable Form

Message Guideline and XML Schema

Electronic Message in XML format

Principle Activities

- ☐ Development of application guideline to suggest necessary steps towards data harmonization and single window development

- ☐ Organization of a back-to-back two-day high level conference for policy-makers and three-day technical capacity building workshop

- ☐ Establishment of internet portal to assist APEC member economies through the process of data harmonization:
  - ■ Relevant resources
  - ■ Newsgroup for an exchange of experiences and ideas
  - ■ Virtual working environment for regional expert group

Outputs

- ☐ Improved UNeDocs [UNeDocs (Mexico version) + WCO Data Model (version 3.0)]

- ☐ UNeDocs application guideline

- ☐ A set of digital papers and electronic messages

- ☐ Awareness raising and capacity workshop

- ☐ Virtual working environment for a network of experts

Outcome

- ☐ Increased capacity of APEC member economies in harmonizing data requirements and developing electronic messages for cross border data exchange using UNeDocs

- ☐ Increased UNLK aligned paper and electronic forms resulting from the use of United Nations Trade Documents Toolkit

- ☐ Increased harmonization of trade and transport related data requirements among APEC member economies and development of electronic messages based on UNeDocs

- ☐ Increased number of experts that are willing to make contribution for others in this area

Proposed Timelines

- ☐ Jan 2008 – Detailed Scope & Plan Developed
- ☐ Feb 2008 – Approved Project Plan by APEC ECSG/SWWG (SOM I), Lima, Peru
- ☐ April 2008 – UN/CEFACT Forum – [UNeDocs Mexico Version]
- ☐ 30 April 2008 – Expert Meeting in Jeju, Korea [Draft UNeDocs Application Guide reviewing]
- ☐ 8-12 December 2008 – Capacity Building Workshop, Bangkok
- ☐ Feb 2009 – Final Report to APEC ECSG/SWWG (SOM I)

Thank you

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