



# 41<sup>st</sup> UN/CEFACT FORUM

2-5 OCTOBER 2023 | BANGKOK | THAILAND

## Recommendation No.48: Private Sector Participation in National Trade Facilitation Bodies

<https://unece.org/trade/cefact/uncefact-29th-plenary>

# Introduction

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**Economic Commission for Europe**

**Executive Committee**

**Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business**

**Twenty-ninth session**

Geneva, 9 and 10 November 2023

Item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda

**Recommendations, standards, and deliverables supporting implementation:**

**Recommendations**

## **Recommendation No. 48: Private Sector Participation in National Trade Facilitation Bodies**

<https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2023-09/ECE-TRADE-C-CEFACT-2023-07E.pdf>

# Introduction

Emphasis on active engagement of the private sector in National Trade Facilitation Bodies (NTFBs).

Recommendation No. 4 (1975 & 2015): NTFBs should include views of all stakeholders.

Importance of active private sector engagement for success of NTFBs.

# Purpose and Scope

Investment in NTFBs globally: 101 out of 142 economies have established NTFBs.

Motivation: Implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (2017).

Importance of balanced membership from both public and private sectors.

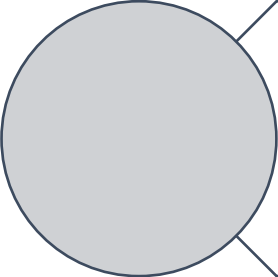
# Benefits of Private Sector Engagement

- Leads to holistic solutions addressing actual trade needs.
- Provides direct knowledge of bottlenecks and inefficiencies.
- Promotes public sector innovation and fresh thinking.
- Encourages compliance and contribution to decision-making.
- Promotes gender-responsive approach.
- Importance of a strong NTFB Secretariat.
- Boosts acceptance and legitimacy of decisions.

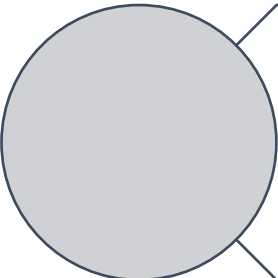
# International Standards



Complements UNECE  
Recommendation No. 4 & No. 40.



Importance of diverse private  
membership in NTFBs.



Six principles for trade facilitation  
consultation approaches.

# Recommendation Highlights

Ensure significant private sector representation in NTFB.

Offer flexible channels for broad participation, including SMEs and women-led businesses.

Prioritize business orientation for shaping agendas and decision-making.

Recognize NTFB as the primary body for expert advice on trade facilitation.

# Guidelines - Barriers to Overcome

Different priorities & perspectives between public and private sectors.

Mistrust and fear of repercussions.

Alignment of goals and building credibility.

Knowledge and language gaps:

- Limited awareness of WTO matters in the private sector.
- Public sector's limited understanding of actual business operations.

Communication challenges: Reputation, political commitment, and success stories.



# Conclusion

Essential for governments to actively engage the private sector in NTFBs.

Achieving a balance between public and private interests is key to the success of NTFBs.

Addressing barriers and promoting inclusivity will enhance the effectiveness of trade facilitation efforts.



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**Thank you!**

**Mr. Aleksei Bondarenko**  
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Date: 02 | 10 | 2023