

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
**Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Session, 27-28 June 2022**

Agenda item 2: Matters Arising

Ms. Elisabeth Tuerk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade Division



**UNECE**

**75 YEARS OF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION  
AND COOPERATION IN THE REGION**

# ECTD (Economic Cooperation and Trade Division)

**One** Vision: Harnessing Economic Cooperation and Trade for the SDGs

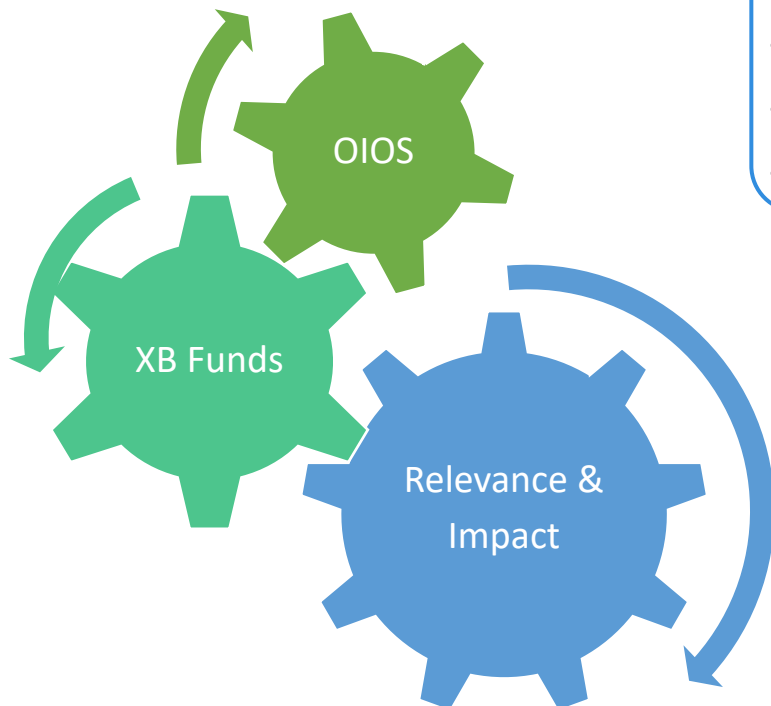
**Two** Sub-programmes

- Sub-programme 4: Economic Cooperation and Integration
- Sub-programme 6: Trade



**Three** Thematic Intergovernmental Areas

- UN/CEFACT – Trade Facilitation
- SCTC – Trade Capacity and Standards
- CICPPP – Innovation, Competitiveness and PPPs



**Four** Sections

- Cooperation and Partnerships Section
- Innovative Policies Development Section
- Market Access Section
- Trade Facilitation Section

# Cycle of inter-governmental meetings

## Autumn 2021:

- SP.6 (Trade): ToS ESG VC CE, WP.6, WP.7
- SP.4 (ECI):ToS ICP WP PPP

## December 2021

- EXCOM: 70th Commission: “Digital and green transformations for SD in the UNECE region”

## Most recently:

- WP.7: 70<sup>th</sup> Fresh Fruit & Vegetables, 16-18 May; 69<sup>th</sup> Dry & Dried Produce, 15-17 June; 49<sup>th</sup> Seed Potato, 17-18 March
- Plus:
  - UN/CEFACT Forum: 16-20 May 2022
  - UNECE RFSD: mid-April 2022
  - WP.6 Forum: 1-10 June 2022

## Forthcoming:

- WP.6: 7-9 November; WP.7: 14-16 November (plus 2 SS).
- SCTCS Agenda items 3 & 4 (WP.6 Chair & WP.7 Vice Chair).



Agricultural  
Quality  
Standards  
(WP.7)



Regulatory  
Cooperation  
and  
Standardization  
Policies  
(WP.6)

# ECTD contribution to UNECE's Regional Forum on Sustainable Development



**REGIONAL FORUM**  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE UNECE REGION

UNECE

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## PEER LEARNING ROUNDTABLES

 <p><b>Wednesday, April 6th, 15:00-17:00</b> Accelerating Digital Development through Multistakeholder Partnerships</p>	 <p><b>Thursday, April 7th, 10:00-12:00</b> Accelerators of gender equality and women's empowerment in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic</p>
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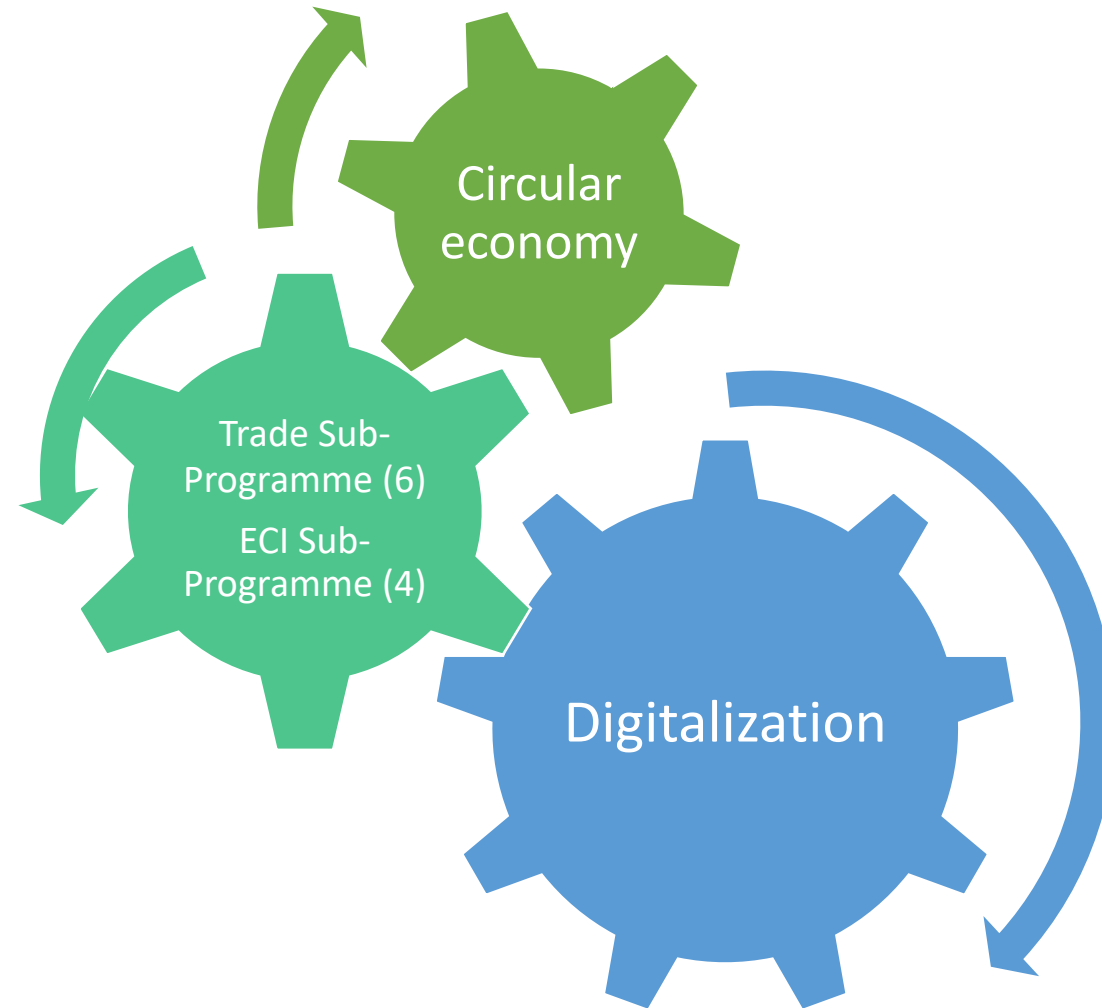
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## SIDE EVENTS

 <p><b>Friday, April 1, 10:00-13:00</b> Cross-Cutting Session: Digital Transformation beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic</p>	 <p><b>Wednesday, 6 April, 17:15-18:30</b> Institutional Arrangements for the Circular Economy and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources</p>
 <p><b>Thursday, 6 April, 13:15-14:30</b> IBC event: Sustainable Food Systems to Build Back Better in Europe and Central Asia</p>	 <p><b>Wednesday, 6 April, 17:15-18:30</b> Standards as a Catalyst for Achieving the SDGs</p>

join ECTD for the #RFSD2022 - info and registration on [regionalforum.unece.org](https://regionalforum.unece.org)

# Cross-cutting work of UNECE Economic Cooperation and Trade Division



# Circular Economy and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources (69<sup>th</sup> Commission)

[#Traceability](#) of products - from raw component to purchase - can be a key enabler for companies to manage [#sustainability](#) risks & formulate sustainability claims based on reliable production data: [@DMariyasin](#) in Ellen MacArthur Foundation [#circulareconomy](#) [#Innovation](#) workshop



# Circular Economy and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources



## Institutional Arrangements for the Circular Economy and the Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

The role of governance in the circular transition

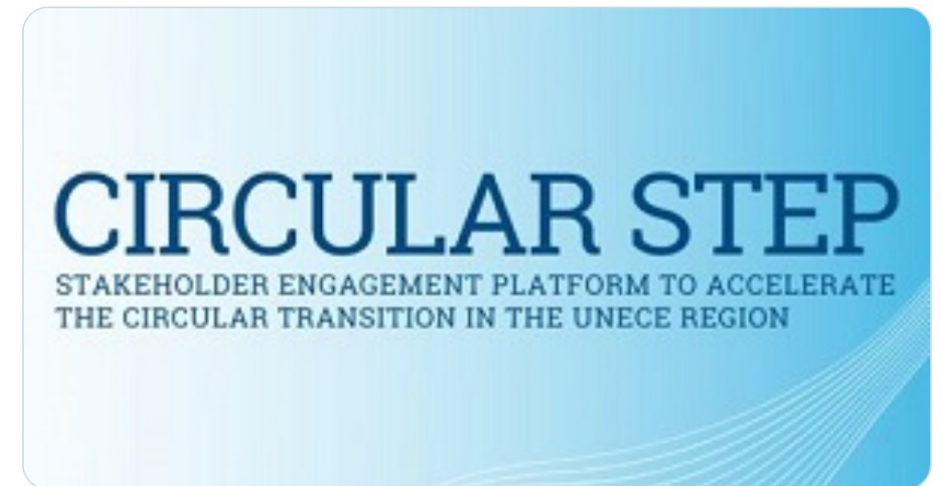


06 April 2022, 17:15 - 18:30 CEST  
English-Russian interpretation



@UNECE is launching a new platform – CIRCULAR STEP – to exchange experience, share best practices & engage stakeholders in the #circulareconomy transition 🔄

Read how [▶ unece.org/circular-economy](https://unece.org/circular-economy)  
#UNECE4circularity



UN Geneva and 9 others

# Digitalisation (70<sup>th</sup> Commission, forthcoming)

Development through digital transformation is a complex issue that touches on many enablers, incl. broadband availability, sectoral e-strategies, and programs fostering digital inclusion or developing innovation communities. Register to join @ITUEurope & @UNECE tomorrow #RFSD2022

The image shows a Twitter post from the ITU Office for Europe (@ITUEurope) dated March 28. The tweet promotes a session on April 1, 10:00-13:00 CEST, featuring Jaroslaw Ponder (Head of ITUEurope) and Elisabeth Tuerk (Director of Economic Cooperation and Trade at UNECE). The session will discuss innovative approaches to digital transformation beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. A registration link is provided: bit.ly/3pUByTy. The tweet includes hashtags #RFSD2022 and #recoverbetter.

Below the tweet is a flyer for the "Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region". The flyer features the title "Cross-cutting session: Digital transformation beyond the COVID-19 pandemic" and the date "1 April 2022 | 10:00-13:00 CEST". It lists "Opening and closing remarks" and provides social media information: "Follow us on Twitter @ITUEurope @ITUCISRegion" and "Join us online!" with a QR code. Two speakers are featured: Ms. Elisabeth Tuerk, Director of Economic Cooperation and Trade at UNECE, and Ms. Jaroslaw Ponder, Head of ITU Office for Europe at ITU. The flyer also includes logos for contributing organizations (WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, UN Women, UNITAR) and the organizing body (ITU Digital Transformation Group for Europe and Central Asia).



# Digitalisation

Proud that @UNECE contribution is so significantly reflected in @wto @iccwbo toolkit through many references to UN/CEFACT with its trade facilitation recommendations & electronic business #standards  
[unece.org/trade/uncefact](https://unece.org/trade/uncefact)

@UKMissionGeneva @usmissiongeneva @tichy\_e @EU\_UNGeneva

 **WTO** @wto · Mar 15

The ICC @iccwbo and the WTO have just launched a toolkit to assist companies and government agencies in adopting available standards to accelerate the digitalization of trade processes. Access the joint publication here [bit.ly/3J7UCFr](https://bit.ly/3J7UCFr)




To learn more on #digital trade check @UNECE work on digitalisation of multimodal #transport data  
[unece.org/media/press/36...](https://unece.org/media/press/36...)

And on standardisation emphasised in newly published @wto & @iccwbo Standards Toolkit  
[bit.ly/3E2Co6C](https://bit.ly/3E2Co6C)

 **WTO** @wto · Apr 12

TODAY at 3pm CET: Join us live to learn more about the major challenges to the global adoption of #TradeTech and how trade agreements can be part of the solution.

 [bit.ly/3r82b8f](https://bit.ly/3r82b8f) @wef




WTO-WEF report launch  
**The promise of TradeTech:  
Policy approaches to harness  
trade digitalization**

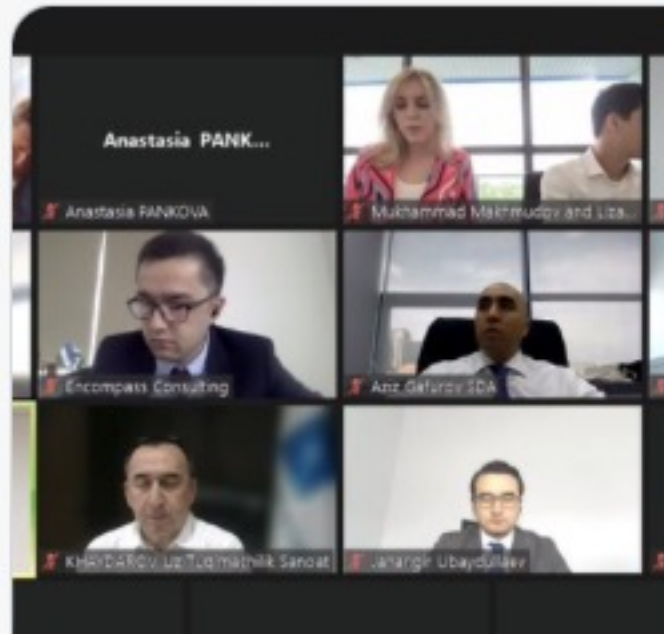
# Circular economy & digital solutions: UNECE work on traceability

Very happy I had the chance to thank and congratulate the organizers, participants, and hosts in Tashkent. Great opportunity to strengthen the fruitful collaboration on [#TheSustainabilityPledge](#) to promote [#digital](#) and [#sustainable](#) transformation.

## Blockchain pilot in Uzbekistan

 [@UNECE](#) plans to scale-up the uptake of [#blockchain](#) [#technology](#) with the use of solutions such as DNA markers and RFIDs in [#Uzbekistan](#). Based on a successful pilot implemented with [@IFC\\_org](#) and Indorama group

[@DMariyasin](#) [@\\_MTPisani](#) [@SdaUzbekistan](#)



### for Due Diligence and Traceability

scale-up the uptake of blockchain technology with use of solutions such as DNA markers and RFIDs

Its customization and integration

Coaching on the use of the Blockchain System

Review of policy and legal regulatory requirements



piloted with **60+** major brands, manufacturers and raw materials providers in **23** countries

# Circular economy & digital solutions: UNECE work on traceability

Delighted for @UNECE to speak today @OECD Forum @amfori\_intl  
Traceability+transparency in value chains are key in 🇺🇸 & 🇮🇳 industry. We need ➡ affordable #technology solutions ➡ more incentives ➡ capacity-building ➡ transition time allowing countries to comply with new legislations

**2022 OECD Forum on Due Diligence in the Garment and Footwear Sector**

**The Other End of the Chain: The Prospect of HREDD Legislation and its Impact on Producing Countries**

**Panelists:**

- **European Commission** – Carsten Sorensen, Deputy Head of of the private sector, trade and employment unit in the European Commission's International Partnerships Directorate
- **UNECE** – Elisabeth Tuerk, Director, Economic Cooperation and Trade
- **Confederation of Indian Industry** – Pranav Kumar, Head International Trade Policy Division
- **Partners in Change** – Viral Mehta, Advisor
- **Is-Tranka** – Juliane Michel, Head of Corporate Responsibility
- **Moderator: amfori** – Natasha Majumdar, Network Representative, India



# Trade SP (6): countries acceding to WTO

Delighted for @UNECE to have hosted the exchange and experience-sharing on the WTO accession process for Turkmenistan. Looking forward to joining hands with @WTO for this important and very timely work!



Very pleased @UNECE contributed to session on #digitalization of information flows for #Azerbaijan

Great discussions on the potential for #digital corridors in the region – UN/CEFACT tools can play important role

Thanks to Ambassador Israfilov @galib\_is for this invitation



# Trade SP (6): countries acceding to WTO

Delighted to participate in @wto Chair launch for University of World Economy and Diplomacy in #Uzbekistan. Lots of interesting trade-related topics for research - #sustainable trade #digitalisation trade facilitation #innovation & NTMs. Look forward to cooperating in these areas



Permanent Mission of Uzbekistan to the UN and 7 others

# Trade SP (6): SPECA

Very happy to co-host the side-event to [#WTO](#) MC12 for [#SPECA](#) countries with the Mission of Tajikistan 🇹🇯 Look forward to taking many work streams further, including digital connectivity, NTMs & sustainable trade. Thank you for [#UNECE](#) DES [@DMariyasin](#) for supporting this work!



# SCTCS 7<sup>th</sup> session today



**75** |  **UNECE**  
7TH STEERING COMMITTEE ON TRADE  
CAPACITY AND STANDARDS

# 27 June

hybrid, 15.30-16.30

**COVID-19 Impact  
Assessment for  
Female-owned MSMEs:  
Findings & Recommendations**



**75** |  **UNECE**  
7TH STEERING COMMITTEE ON TRADE  
CAPACITY AND STANDARDS

# 27 June

hybrid, 11.00-12.00

**Regulatory &  
Procedural Barriers to Trade  
in the Republic of Uzbekistan:  
Needs Assessment**

UN in Uzbekistan and 7 others



**75** |  **UNECE**  
CIRCULAR STEP SIDE-EVENT  
TO THE 7TH STEERING COMMITTEE ON  
TRADE CAPACITY AND STANDARDS

# 27 June

hybrid, 12.30-14.00

**Accelerating the Circular  
Economy Transition:  
Policy Options for  
Harnessing the Power of  
Trade and Economic Cooperation**



 **WTO**  @wto · Jun 23

 Uzbekistan reaffirms commitment to intensify WTO accession efforts #WTOaccessions [dlvr.it/SSjh1w](https://dlvr.it/SSjh1w)



# THANK YOU!

This slide show includes, among others, a selection of recent trade-related activities carried out by UNECE's ECTD, that might be relevant for the SCTCS.  
The inclusion of specific activities in this slide show does imply that it would fall under the mandate of the SCTCS.

