Background

The Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), in collaboration with the member States of the Eurasian Economic Union, has been working on a Single Window development project and related projects on trade data sharing for years. UNECE and UN/CEFACT experts have collaborated on multiple occasions on these projects. The Single Window is a key trade facilitation mechanism, and the entry into force of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement has fostered even further the engagement of countries in implementing such mechanisms.

Experts from Belarus, in cooperation with international specialists commissioned by the EEC, carried out research on describing a Reference Model of a national Single Window mechanism in the system of regulation of foreign economic activity.

One of the core aspects of implementing a Single Window is to harmonize business processes and streamline data / documentary requirements. The underlying semantic basis of information exchange is a key aspect of this work. To ensure that all stakeholders (sending, receiving or consulting) related to the data exchange understand the same information in the same way, a clearly agreed set of data aligned with international standards should be developed. The comprehension of a data element will be very different depending on the context of the exchange.

UN/CEFACT has been developing new methods of exchange of information, including the Data Pipeline principle (aiming to capture data at its source, improving data quality and allowing the data to be shared earlier in the exchange) and Reference Data Models – a logical subset of data linked to a specific area of activity (transport or supply chain). These tools are aligned to all areas of activity along the entire supply chain and beyond and seek to include all data requirements of any participating economy to ensure that the standards are reusable across borders.

UN/CEFACT has also developed a set of recommendations on Single Window including Rec.34 on data harmonization and Rec.36 on Single Window Interoperability. These guidance documents have proven useful in several economies around the world and have set the basis for a larger, international harmonization of data exchange.

Objective

Through this seminar, UNECE proposes to bring together experts working on Single Window, data sharing and data harmonization from the member States of the Eurasian Economic Union and UNECE-UN/CEFACT to contribute to an international harmonization of information exchange. The seminar will promote the use of internationally agreed standards for data exchange to ensure that data is reusable across borders.

Target Audience

Experts working on Single Window, data harmonization and modelling primarily from Member States of the Eurasian Economic Union and neighbouring countries.

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1 For information contact Mario Apostolov: mario.apostolov@un.org, tel.+41 79 2790936

09:00 – 10:00 Registration

Day One: 10 December 2018

Agenda

10:00 – 10:20 Opening ceremony / Plenary session

“The Single Window: Interoperability, data sharing and digital trade”

Opening statements:
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) objectives of the seminar (Mario Apostolov) (15 minutes)
- Eurasian Economic Commission (Dinara Sekerbayeva) (10 minutes)
- Committee of the Business Council of the Eurasian Economic Union on the digital agenda (Vladimir Basko) (5 minutes)

Note: The target countries of this seminar in Eastern Europe and the Eurasian Economic Union have undertaken significant steps in developing a political and organizational framework for the implementation of Single Window, using UNECE’s best practice Recommendations. Important political and organizational decisions have been made. The technical side, including the implementation of international data exchange standards, is easier but still very important. For this reason, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), the Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), the Government of Belarus and the business community have joined forces to organize this technical cooperation workshop.

10:20 – 13:00 Session 1: Reference Model for national Single Window: principles and approaches of its development (from ideology to implementing in the draft document).

Focus of discussion, key questions:
This session will review the point of view of the EEC and the member states of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) on the draft Reference Model document.

Moderator: Dinara Sekerbayeva, Eurasian Economic Commission

10:20 – 11:00 National Single Window Reference model: from idea to implementation; the EEC vision
   Dinara Sekerbayeva, Eurasian Economic Commission (40 minutes)

11:00 – 11:20 The Reference Model as an instrument for building a national Single Window in the context of international trade facilitation. R&D engineer’s view of the Reference Model.
   Viktor Dravitsa, Center of Identification Systems, NAS of Belarus. (20 minutes)

11:20 – 12:35 Influence of Reference model on further development of national Single Window mechanism:
   vision of member states of the Eurasian Economic Union:
   - Republic of Armenia, Karen Martirosyan (10-15 minutes);
   - Republic of Belarus, the topic of the speech is specified (10-15 minutes);
12:35– 13:00 Discussion. Question to the participants:
What opportunities or risks may arise in the EEU Member States when implementing innovative solutions, including in the implementation of national and EEU digital initiatives, in the transition to paperless trade in cross-border supply chains based on the reference model? (25 minutes)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15:00 Session 2: Regional and global initiatives of international organizations on the development of Single Window and cross-border data exchange in support of paperless trade in the international supply chain.

**Focus of discussion, key questions:**
*During this session, UNECE and UN/CEFACT experts will make presentations on the ongoing work on modernization and development of new tools supporting the Single Window in the transition to cross-border paperless trade, and on initiatives related to the potential impact of new technologies on international trade.*

**Moderator:** Mario Apostolov, UNECE

14:00 – 14:20 Significance and role of UN/CEFACT Recommendation 33 and its further development (revision); planned results; expected changes in the definition of the Single Window mechanism, approaches and models for its implementation
*Alexei Bondarenko, UN/CEFACT expert (15-20 minutes)*

14:20 – 14:40 Joint data usage in the supply chain of goods. Data sharing methods: data pipeline and data modelling. Influence of new technologies on data sharing. The most successful experience in interaction implementation
*Sue Probert, Chairperson of UN/CEFACT (15-20 minutes)*

14:40 – 15:00 About practical significance of UN/CEFACT Recommendations: №34 on data harmonization and №36 on Single Window Interoperability to ensure successful information interaction among participants of goods supply chain.
*Mario Apostolov, UNECE (15-20 minutes)*

15:00 – 15:20 Coffee break

15:20 – 17:00 Session 3: The future of the customs authorities, as one of the key departments (core) of information B2G interactions within the framework of the Single Window mechanism, when integrated into the digital economy.

**Focus of discussion, key questions:**
*During the session, experts will discuss and answer the question of what “digital customs” is:*

- definition, characteristics, attributes, global trends;
- main objectives and scope;
- tools for its implementation;
- globally networked Customs

Also, what further actions and tasks at the national and regional levels to change management standards and apply new approaches to the regulation of foreign economic activity should be set and resolved to facilitate the digitization of customs procedures in order to simplify the cross-border paperless trade.

 Moderator: Galina Monich, Eurasian Economic Commission

15:20 – 16:10 The approach of Customs services of the EEU member states, state national and departmental programs for the introduction of digital technologies in customs and the application of new approaches to the regulation of foreign economic activity:

   - Republic of Armenia, Lina Hachatrian (10 minutes);
   - Republic of Belarus, the topic of the speech is specified (10 minutes);
   - Republic of Kazakhstan, Asem Kunadilova (10 minutes);
   - Kyrgyz Republic, Iskander Biyaliev (10 minutes);
   - Russian Federation, Vladimir Skiba (10 minutes)

16:10 – 16:30 Project on development of Single Window mechanism in Kazakhstan from the point of view of the developer

   Constantin Ciuta, UNCTAD (15-20 minutes)

16:30 – 16:50 Single Window survey, data sharing and the UN/CEFACT Recommendations

   Guido Boffi, Italian Customs (15-20 minutes)

16:50 – 17:30 Pannel Discussion. Questions for the participants (20 minutes)

   - What existing standards and recommendations (concerning the Single Window) should be reviewed or developed to take into account current trends in the digital economy?
   - How should be organized trade data sharing between the countries of the Eurasian Economic Union and the countries of the European Union?

17:30 - 18:00 Conclusions of the first day
DAY TWO: 11 December 2018

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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| 09:00 – 11:25 | Session 4: Data sharing and harmonization in digital trading. | Moderator: Mario Apostolov, UNECE | 09:00 – 09:15 Objectives of the second day, Mario Apostolov, UNECE *(15 minutes)*  
09:15 – 09:35 Role of international standards of identification, labelling, and electronic exchange of data in the development of digital trade  
*Viktor Dravitsa, State Enterprise "Center for Identification Systems" (15-20 minutes)*  
09:35 – 09:55 Technological basis for the harmonization of rules and algorithms of control of electronic documents  
*Ekaterina Zelenskaya, GK CIT (15-20 min)*  
09:55 – 10:15 The UNECE approach; UN/CEFACT standards; reference data models, Core Components Library  
*Sue Probert, Chairperson, UN/CEFACT (15-20 minutes)*  
10:15 – 10:35 On the development of a coordinated position of the EAEU business community in relation to data turnover on digital commerce  
*Vladimir Basko, Committee on the digital agenda of the Business Council of the Eurasian Economic Union, Digital Business Confederation (15-20 minutes)*  
10:35 – 10:55 Electronic Data Interchange in Belarus-Russia business relations: practical view and pilot projects  
*Sergey Tumel, LLC “Modern Technologies of Trade” and partners (15-20 minutes)*  
10:55 – 11:15 Coffee break |
| 11:15 – 13:00 | Session 5: Data sharing and harmonization from a logistics point of view | Moderator: Sergey Tumel, EDI-provider LLC “Modern Technologies of Trade” | 11:15 – 11:45 UN/CEFACT Multimodal Transport Reference Data Model and other data models.  
UN/CEFACT transport and logistics standards. Consignment note as an electronic document (eCMR); UN/CEFACT standards in a cargo XML scheme  
*Sue Probert, Chairperson, UN/CEFACT (30 minutes)*  
11:45 – 12:00 Main results of the project on creation of national system of paperless trade  
*Juan Navas-Sabater, World Bank (15 minutes)*  
12:00 – 12:15 Concept of digital transport corridors. Applicability in programs and projects of the Republic of Belarus  
*Sergey Prokopenko, IBA IT Park (15 minutes)* |
12:15 – 12:30 The eCert project  
Mario Apostolov, UNECE (15 minutes)

12:30 – 12:45 eCert: Actual experience of use between Belarus and Russia for the purpose of cross-border trade in food products subject to veterinary supervision  
Gennady Volnisty, SE "Center for Identification Systems" (15 minutes)

12:45 – 13:00 Trusted source of trade data as a key infrastructure element for aligning processes in the Buy-Ship-Pay model  
Evgeny Yakushkin, SE “Center for Identification Systems” (15 minutes)

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 14:40 Practical demonstration: Aligning a document (e.g. the SAD) to the UN Core Components Library (UN/CLL) and UN/CEFACT Buy-Ship-Pay Reference Data Model (BSP-RDM) standards  
Sue Probert, Chairperson of UN/CEFACT (40 minutes)

14:40 – 17:30 Session 6: Recommendations for data sharing and their harmonization in the EEU. (The session includes a collective discussion of questions).

Moderator: Vladimir Anischenko, Committee for the Development of digital markets of the association "Infopark"

Key panelists:
- Mario Apostolov, Regional Adviser UNECE;
- Sue Probert, Chairperson UN/CEFACT;
- Vladimir Basko, Chairman, Committee on the digital agenda of the Business Council of the Eurasian Economic Union, Association “Digital Business Confederation”,
- Viktor Dravitsa, Chariman SE "Center of Identification Systems";
- Elena Suslina, Division of information and unification of electronic documents of the Department of Information Technologies of the EEC
- representatives of governmental regulatory bodies.

Focus of discussion, key questions:
- In which areas? Customs, logistics, agriculture?
- How to establish data sharing? Which data models and standards to use?
- What overall recommendations on the use of international standards already exist?

Further recommendations: what will be the best way to proceed for a cross-border agreement to use international standards for data sharing?

Development of conclusions and recommendations document of the event with a focus on data exchange at the international / cross-border / interregional levels.
Moderator: Mario Apostolov, UNECE

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<td>United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Eurasian Economic Commission (EEC), the Belarusian Government in cooperation with the Committee on the digital agenda of the Business Council of the Eurasian Economic Union, Digital Business Confederation and the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus</td>
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