



UNECE

United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

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UNECE's role in trade facilitation and its advisory services

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Trade facilitation and its stakeholders



Business associations



Traders & Intermediaries

TRADE FACILITATION

“**Simplification, harmonisation and standardisation** of procedures and associated information flows required to **move goods internationally** from buyer to seller and to **pass payment** in the other direction”

UN/CEFACT

Other Government Agencies



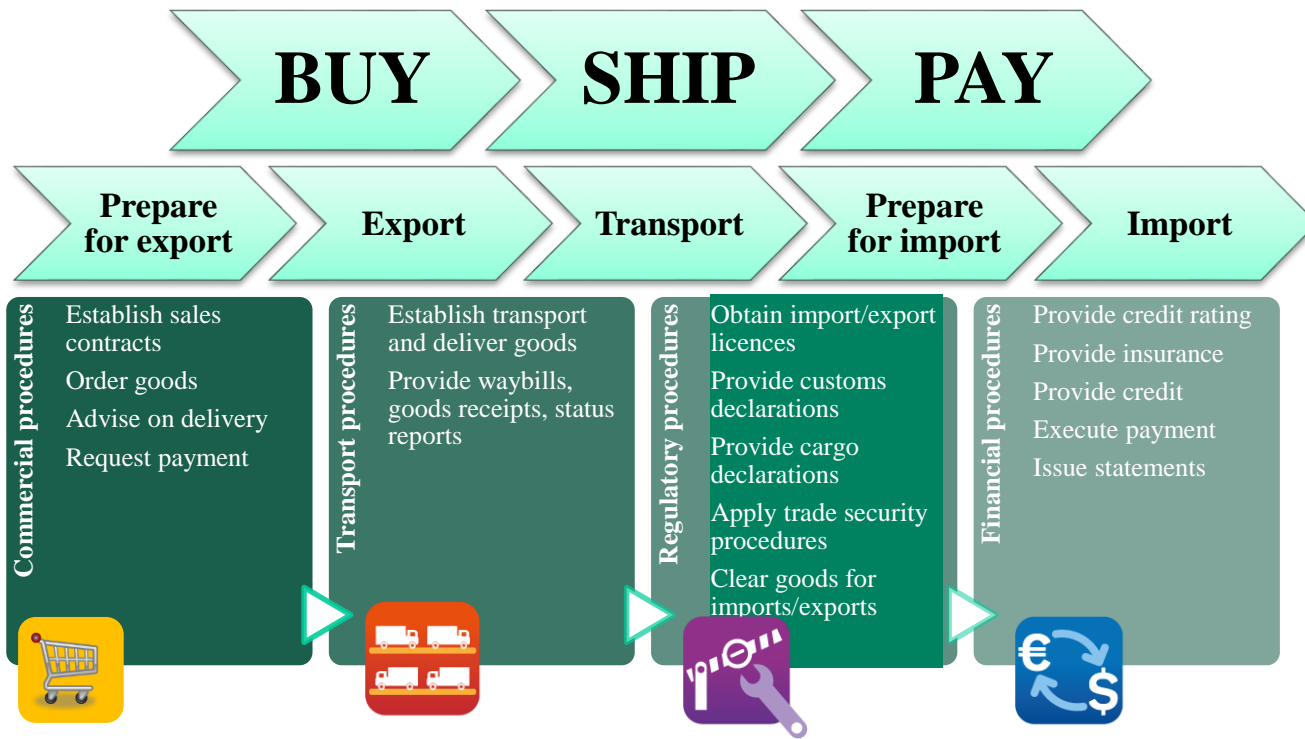
Customs



UNECE: WP 4 Int’l trade procedures; UNCEFACT 30+ Recommendations; UNEDIFACT; SW,



Supply chain perspective to trade facilitation (include all)



The UN/CEFACT Buy Ship Pay Model (Source: UN/CEFACT International Supply Chain Reference Model)



The scope of Trade Facilitation

Trade Facilitation in the International Supply Chain

Trade facilitation in WTO:

- Focus on legal and Customs matters (in order to achieve feasible results in a WTO Agreement)
- WTO TF Agreement measures: transparency, [Customs] procedures, duties and fees, formalities

- Simplification, harmonization, standardization and automation of procedures and processes of trade transactions along the whole supply chain
- Involving a multitude of actors





Trade Facilitation & Int'l Organizations

Legal rules (WTO)

Organizations providing technical assistance :

1. Bilateral development organizations
2. Regional organizations (APEC, EEU, CEFTA2006, etc.)
3. World Bank, other development banks
4. UNCTAD, ITC

Organizations developing international standards:

1. UNECE/UNCEFACT; WCO; ISO (TC154, etc.)
2. Sectorial organizations (e.g. FAO / Int'l Plant Protection Convention)



WTO TF Agreement: 4 areas of UNECE comparative advantage



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- Elimination/decrease of document requirements

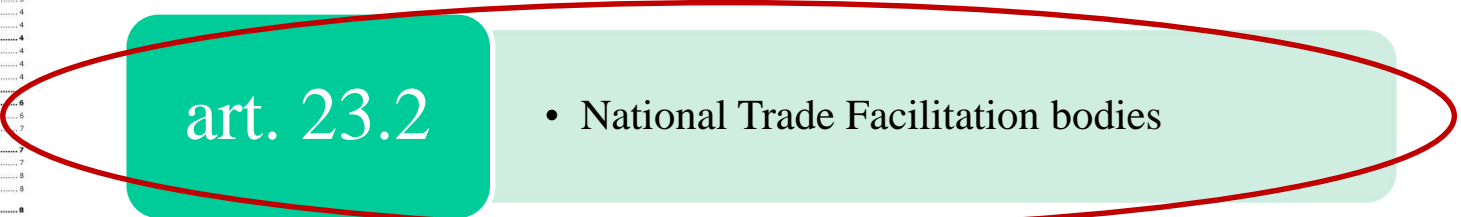
art. 10.3

- Use of international standards (UN Recommendations; UNTDED, WCO Data Model, etc.)

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- Single Window: «involvement of all relevant agencies»; use of IT, use of relevant international standards; step –by–step approach

art. 23.2



- National Trade Facilitation bodies

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION
TN/TF/W/165/Rev.15
27 March 2013
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Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation

DRAFT CONSOLIDATED NEGOTIATING TEXT
Revision

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NTFCs: What is the problem to be fixed?

- Different mandates & goals of various institutions
 - Vested interests: legal and illegal
 - Complexity of international trade
 - Unclear, undefined objectives
-
- Commercial goods and means of transport should conform to various acts and regulations for market entry, exit and conveyance. Different governmental bodies are tasked with ensuring conformity with regulations and intervene in the processes of international trade ⇒
 - balance TF with safety and security for society !

Facilitation & Compliance

Streamline, automate and speed up business processes & movements of goods.

Implement international TF standards to simplify cross-border business processes

Streamline border-crossing procedures

Cut red tape: less paperwork; more efficient filing of documents and information

Increase transparency / publish all relevant laws, forms, procedures

Facilitation

Increase trade security. Provide public goods better. Harmonize & standardize processes across borders – raise efficiency of regulatory agencies;

Simpler but better control of cross-border flows of goods;

Raise efficiency of official controls of trade; raise efficiency of staff;

Better implement regulations and rules to protect society / eliminate corruption;

Governance





What solutions to make agencies work together?

- Strong mandate (binding legal act/decreed), strong lead agency
- Border agency cooperation by coordinating respective mandates,
- Focus on concrete function or deliverable (e.g. Single Window)
- Negotiate the objectives, activities, and outputs; share the benefits.
- Listen to business
- Clear plan agreed by stakeholders (binding distribution of tasks)

Main obstacles for TF committees (UNECE survey)

- Lack of funding and resources (10)
- Lack of knowledge / information on TF (8)
- Lack of cooperation between government and business (8)
- Lack of political will, adverse political situation and corruption (7)



What to look for in an NTFC

Contents/ Focus / Scope

- TF along the Supply Chain
- WTO TFA implementation
- Analyze TF issues and propose solutions for SMEs, business, Governments, IOs
- Be a forum for discussing TF issues and finding solutions
- Produce deliverables: e-documents; guides for border-crossing, training, etc.

Organizational matters

- Mandate / ToR
- Structure:
 - Committee / specialized sub-committees
- CEO
- Regular meetings
- Secretariat

Financing from

- State budget
- business contributions
- NTFC products international project participation



Possible Areas of Focus for the NTFCs

- WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement: self-assessments; TF implementation action plans/roadmaps/strategies; coordination with other programmes and with donors
- Contribute to the legislative process; trade facilitation and compliance
- Single Window implementation / data harmonization / paperless trade
- Time release studies / Business Process Analyses → publishing results
- Focal point for inputs for TF-related indices

Funding and Sustainability: Key Factors

- Government vs business funding
 - a. Governments to provide funding: Government commitment, but also limits
 - b. Business community will support if they see benefit
- Various revenue mechanisms - projects and fees (based on business case)
- One size does not fit all! Should be needs driven and focused

Success factors:

- Political will (chaired by a Minister); programme linked to government/business priorities; high level representatives; dynamic; link to international work

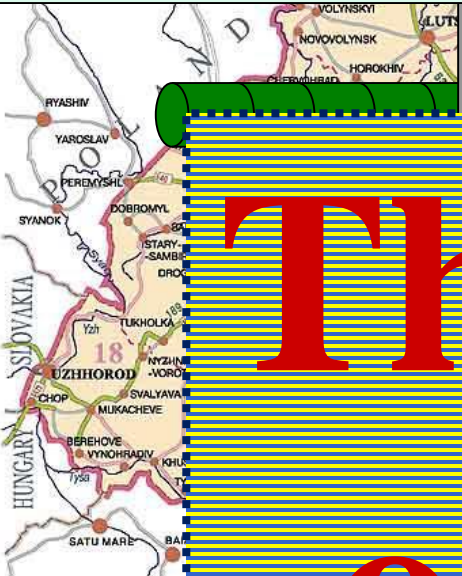


UNECE advisory services and capacity-building

- General trade facilitation (TFIG- Jun' 16 Dushanbe, with OSCE)
- Single Window technical assistance (Irpen/Kiev, Oct.2016, with EC, WCO) +
- TFA readiness assessments for Ukraine, Kazakhstan, now Azerbaijan
- Capacity building (w. USAID, WB) on 4 items of the WTO TFA, in which UNECE and UNCEFACT have comparative advantage (Belgrade Nov. 2016)

**Interagency TF
Working Group**

**National TF
Strategy**

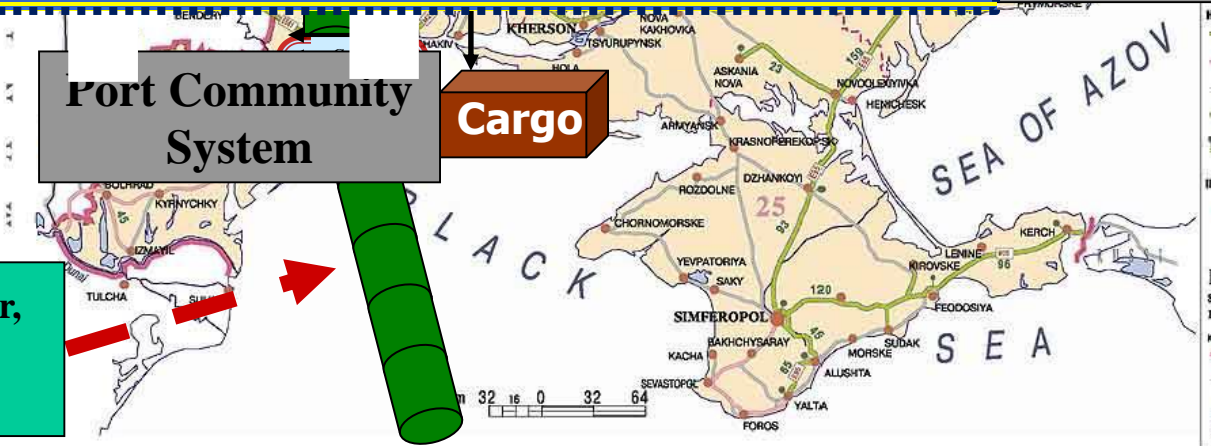


The example of Ukraine

**Port Community
System**

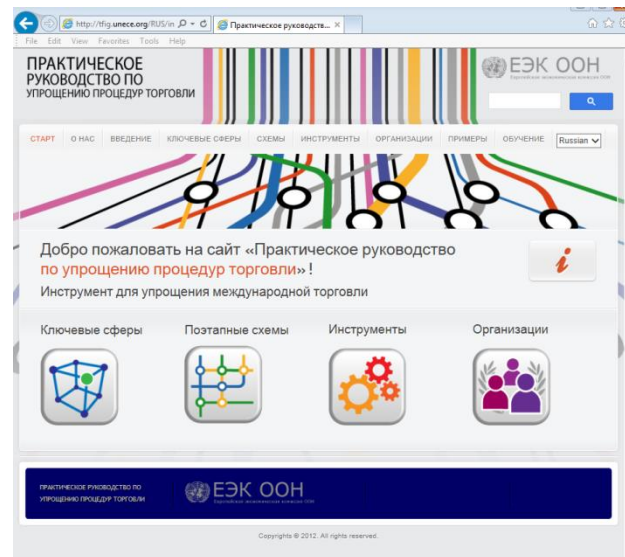
Cargo

**Consignor, exporter,
consignee, freight
forwarder**





Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide →



Thanks !

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