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Item 6: Evolution of the international trading system and its trends from a development perspective

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The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the UNCTAD
TRADE

Unlocking the Potential for Sustainable Development

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UNECE’s Trade Interventions and the SDGs

Goal 2: End hunger, food security, nutrition, sustainable agriculture

Goal 3: Healthy Lives

Goal 8: Sustainable Economic Growth

Goal 9: Resilient infrastructure, industrialization and innovation

Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production patterns

Goal 17: Means of implementation and revitalize global partnership
Increased Trade Transparency and Efficiency
One UNECE key contribution to the SDGs

Standards
Harmonization
Simplification
Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business

The UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) has produced more than 480 standards and recommendations for trade facilitation and electronic business.

Overview of the Buy-Ship-Pay Model
UN Trade Facilitation Implementation Guide

A web-based interactive tool in a *wikipedia* style available in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish

**Purpose:**
Present concepts, standards and recommendations that can help simplify trade throughout the International Supply Chain.

**Target:**
Policymakers, technical experts, from governments, businesses and international organizations
Example: Greece
UNECE Technical Assistance for Trade Facilitation Implementation

• Since 2012, Greece has improved its ranking in the World Bank Doing Business study by 39 positions from **position 100 to 61** in 2014.

• The competitive position of Greece in the Logistic Performance Index has improved by 25 positions. The concrete results for Customs are overwhelming with an improvement by 52 positions, from **94 to 42**.

• The **time to export and import** has been **reduced by 25% and 44%** respectively.

• The **cost to export and import** has gone down by approximately **10%**.
Example: Export of Cotton Fibres from Tajikistan

1. Buy: Conclude sales contract
2. Buy: Obtain confirmation receipt payment letter from bank
3. Ship: Obtain quality certificate from ginnery
4. Ship: Arrange transport
5. Ship: Obtain conformity certificate
6. Ship: Loading
7. Ship: Obtain certificate of origin
8. Ship: Arrange inspection and fumigation
9. Ship: Obtain confirmation of tax payment
10. Ship: Arrange customs clearance
11. Ship: Delivery of goods

Source: UNECE Study on Regulatory Barriers to Trade in Tajikistan 2014
Agricultural Quality Standards

More than 100 international agricultural quality standards

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

Dry and Dried Produce

Seed potatoes

Meat

Fresh Fruit and Vegetables

Dry and Dried Produce

Seed potatoes

Meat
Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization

- More than 15 recommendations on standardization and regulatory cooperation
- Regulatory cooperation
- Risk Management in Regulatory Frameworks
- Education on standards-related issues
- Market surveillance
Studies on Regulatory and Procedural Barriers to Trade

Tajikistan 2014
Kazakhstan 2013
Belarus 2012
Promoting Innovation and Competitiveness

Innovation enables stronger economic growth with less ecological impact

=> SDG 9 (and others)

BUT: innovation needs a nurturing eco-system => policy support for it to emerge
Innovation and Competitiveness Policies

Exchanges of Experience

Good Practices & Policy Recommendations

Policy Advice & Capacity Building
Mega trend 1 – Global connectedness

2.8 Billion Mobile Broadband Subscriptions
150 Billion Worldwide App Downloads
9,300 ExaByte Worldwide Data Creation
$17,900 Billion Worldwide eCommerce Transactions
Mega trend 1 – Global connectedness
Megatrend 2: Center of economic gravity

Merchandise Exports (2013)
- Over half of merchandise exports from developing economies are sent to other developing economies

Merchandise Exports to LDCs (2013)
- Developing economies’ exports to least-developed countries (LDCs) in 2013 grew by 8 per cent, compared with 10 per cent in 2012.
- Developed economies’ exports to LDCs grew by 3 per cent following stagnation the previous year

Commercial Services (2013)
- Since 2000, exports of commercial services from least-developed countries (LDCs) have grown by 14 per cent per year on average, a much higher growth rate than in other economies (9 per cent on average)

Source: World Trade Development (2013):
https://www.wto.org/english/res_e/statis_e/its2014_e/its14_highlights1_e.pdf
Megatrend 2: Center of Economic Gravity

1990 Low and Middle Income Countries = 20% of GDP

2013 Low and Middle Income Countries = 40% of GDP
Mega trend 3: Technological change and its adoption

Mobile Phone Subscription (Per 100 habitants)

Per 100 inhabitants

- Developed
- Developing
- World
Mega trend 3: Technological change and its adoption

Solar PV generation and projection by region

Mega trend 4: Urbanization and Demographic Trends

A Graph of World Population Growth

Mega trend 5: The Impact of Human Activity – Climate Change

Of the 15 hottest years since record keeping began 130 years ago 14 occurred between 2000 and 2015
THANK YOU

You are invited to contact us at trade@unece.org