



Funded by
the European Union

Ready4Trade Central Asia

**Supporting inclusive development
through trade and digitalization**

KAZAKHSTAN

Workshop on

**JSI on E-commerce and implications for
legal reform for Kazakhstan**

Programme

22 - 23 November 2022

Astana, Kazakhstan

Venue: Park Inn by Radisson

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Ready4Trade Central Asia project aims to support the development of intra-regional and international trade in five Central Asian countries. This will be done by enhancing the transparency of cross-border requirements, removing regulatory and procedural barriers, strengthening business capability to comply with trade formalities and standards, as well as by improving cross-border e-commerce. The project is implemented by the International Trade Centre (ITC) in close collaboration with national partners. The project is financed by the European Union.

As part of this project, UNCTAD has been supporting the Government of Kazakhstan in analysing its laws in line with the key areas of the Joint Statement Initiative on E-Commerce. The objective of the project is to provide capacity building on those key areas to better equip the Government to make the reforms it considers necessary.

PROGRAMME

This workshop is part of UNCTAD's assistance and will provide an in-depth overview of the technical components of the report on 'Recommendations for Reform' which was prepared by UNCTAD in July 2022. The recommendations for reform examine the need for, and direction of, legislative reform to facilitate e-commerce and align national law with the current JSI consolidated negotiating text on e-commerce ('JSI Negotiating Text').

The workshop will offer an opportunity to discuss and clarify technical components of the recommendations and their relationship with the sections of the JSI negotiating text. Ultimately, it is expected that the participants can provide feedback on the recommendations to plan the next steps of the projects including further capacity building workshops and the revision of legislation pertinent to e-commerce.

The participants will comprise of government officials from the Republic of Kazakhstan, Members of the Working Group created to develop recommendations on legislation on electronic commerce and paperless trade, the JSC Center for Trade Policy Development (QazTrade), representatives from the private sector will also be in attendance. The event will include presentations given by legal experts and practitioners of digital trade as well as the participation of representatives from UNCITRAL and the WTO.

Timing	Session	Moderator
Day 1: 22 November 2022		
13:30 – 14:00	Registration	
14:00 – 14:30	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Thamara Romero, Legal Officer, UNCTAD - Mr. Jalil Bulatov, National Project Manager, Ready4Trade Central Asia project (ITC) - Mr. Youri Skaskevitch, Programme Manager (Central Asia Regional Programmes, Cooperation Section of EU Delegation) - Representative of the Government of Kazakhstan 	
14:30 – 15:00	Session 1: Introduction to WTO JSI Negotiations	Ms. Antonia Carzaniga Counsellor, Trade in Services and Investment Division, WTO
15:00 – 15:45	Session 2.1: Facilitating electronic transactions & trust and electronic commerce	Prof. Ian Walden
15:45 - 16:30	Session 2.2: The contribution of UNCITRAL texts to digital transformation in Central Asia	Mr. Luca Castellani, Legal Officer, UNCITRAL (online)
16:30 – 16:45	Coffee Break	
16:45 – 17:30	Session 3: Trade facilitation, logistics, customs duties and e-commerce	Ms. Marina Foltea (online)
17:30 - 18:00	Session 4: Continued Facilitation of e-Commerce through electronic data exchange between ASTANA-1 system and KazPost.	UNCTAD, Asycuda (tbc)

Timing	Session	Moderator
Day 2: 23 November 2022		
14:00 – 14:45	Session 5: Service provider liability and limitations	Prof. Ian Walden
14:45 – 15:30	Session 6: Information flows and data localisation	Prof. Ian Walden and Ms. Marina Foltea
15:30 – 15:45	Coffee Break	
15:45 – 16:30	Session 7: Markets access	Ms. Marina Foltea (online)
16:30 – 17:15	Session 8: Telecommunications, including net neutrality	Prof. Ian Walden
17:15 – 17:45	Interactive discussion on way forward	Ms. Thamara Romero
17:45 – 18:00	Conclusions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative of the Government of Kazakhstan - Ms. Thamara Romero

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact person:

Ms. Thamara Romero, Legal Officer, UNCTAD

Tel: +41 229175597

E-mail: Thamara.romero@un.org

Mr. Jalil Bulatov, National Project Manager in Kazakhstan

Tel: +7 701 9606099

E-mail: jalil.bulatov@intracen.org

About Ready4Trade Central Asia:

<https://www.intracen.org/ready4trade/>

About UNCTAD E-commerce and Law

Reform: <https://unctad.org/topic/ecommerce-and-digital-economy/ecommerce-law-reform>