

UN/CEFACT Project Proposal

Project Name:	Recommendation: Encouraging Private Sector participation in NTFB		
Date submitted:	28 April 2022	Proposed by:	Birgit Viohl

1. Project purpose

Required

A defining factor for successful trade facilitation initiatives is to bring in the private sector as stakeholder, and partner. The purpose of a NTFB is precisely to ensure public-private partnership in trade facilitation. Over the past years' governments worldwide have invested into establishing NTFB.

The majority of existing NTFB have private sector representatives as members. But membership alone does not necessarily mean that there is an active participation of the private sector in the work of an NTFB. It takes more to shape an NTFB into a trusted and effective collaborative partnership between the public and private sector. Insignificant participation from the private sector is a risk to the credibility, impact and sustainability of NTFBs.

The UN/CEFACT White paper on this topic provided insights on the barriers for effective private sector participation including differences in perspective, knowledge and terminologies, and perception as well as organizational challenges such as costs of transportation, effectiveness of meetings, representation, and lack of feedback. The White Paper went on to identify recommended actions that can be taken to encourage more active participation.

The purpose of this project is to transform the findings from the White paper into a policy recommendation that complements UNECE Recommendation 4 on National Trade Facilitation Bodies¹ and Recommendation 40 on Consultation Approaches.

2. Project scope

Required

The project contributes to develop recommendations for effective and efficient international trade procedures and customs aspects of trade facilitation and electronic business (ITP PDA). More specifically it relates to the topic of National Trade Facilitation Bodies and their composition. UN/CEFACT recommended setting up National Trade Facilitation Bodies since the 1974 and this recommendation has been emulated, albeit in slightly different wording, by the WTO Trade Facilitation agreement Article 23.

3. Project deliverables and 4. Exit Criteria

Required (check all that apply)

Please note that the Bureau may reassess and change a deliverable after its completion at its discretion.

	Project deliverables	Exit Criteria
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Policy Recommendation	Public Review logs demonstrating all comments have been satisfactorily resolved; Final document ready for publication.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business Requirement Specification	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Specification	Final document ready for publication.
<input type="checkbox"/>	White Paper	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Green Paper	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Requirement Specification Mapping	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Core Component Business Document Assembly	

¹ United Nations Recommendation No. 4: National Trade Facilitation Bodies, New York and Geneva, 2015 (ECE/TRADE/425)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Guidelines	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Executive Guide	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Brochure	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Entries/alignment to the Core Component Library	Final deliverable ready for publication.
<input type="checkbox"/>	XML Schema	
<input type="checkbox"/>	UN/EDIFACT message	Final document ready for Bureau approval.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Internal UN/CEFACT Document	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify)	

5. Project Team membership and required functional expertise

Membership is open to UN/CEFACT experts with broad knowledge in the area of: Trade procedures, Public administration

In addition, Heads of Delegations may invite technical experts from their constituency to participate in the work.

Experts are expected to contribute to the work based solely on their expertise and to comply with the UN/CEFACT Code of Conduct and Ethics and the policy on Intellectual Property Rights.

6. HoD support

Required for Technical Standards, Business Standards and UNECE Recommendations. And at the request of the UN/CEFACT Bureau. A request for HoD support will be circulated to all HoDs in these cases. If you have verbal confirmation from specific delegations of their support, please list these here. Projects that require HoD support must obtain this within 6 months of Bureau provisional approval.

Required

7. Geographical focus

The geographical focus of the project is global

8. Initial contributions

The following contributions are submitted as part of this proposal. It is understood that these contributions are only for consideration by the Project Team and that other participants may submit additional contributions in order to ensure that as much information as possible is obtained from those with expertise and a material interest in the project. It is also understood that the Project Team may choose to adopt one or more of these contributions “as is”.

List any initial contributions:

- White paper on Encouraging Private Sector participation in NTFB
- UNECE Recommendation Number 4 NTFB

9. Resource requirements

Participants in the project shall provide resources for their own participation. The existence and functioning of the project shall not require any additional resources from the UNECE secretariat.

Any additional request:

10. Proposed project leadership

(subject to Bureau approval)

Proposed:	Christy Robinson	E-mail:	christyrobinson@hotmail.com
Proposed:		E-mail:	

11. Milestones (repeat for each deliverable, if different)

The following are draft milestones of the project.

	ODP Stage	Expected Completion Date	
Yes	Project Inception	1 month	
Yes / No	Requirements gathering	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 month
Yes	Draft development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 months (Very quick)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	6 months (Quick)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	12 months (Normal)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	18 months (Normal)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	24 months (Long)
Yes / No	Public Draft Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	2 months
Yes	Project Exit	1 month	