

44th Meeting of the IEC-ISO-ITU-UNECE eB MoU/MG

Report from UN/CEFACT CBM Domain

Background

The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT) Cross Border Management Domain (CBM) concentrates on the regulatory electronic data requirements for cross-border movements of trade-related goods. This is a long-standing domain which was formerly called “eCustoms Domain” and has just been revived with new proposals for projects.

This builds upon the structures and work items formerly established by group (TMG, ATG, ICG) and its predecessor within the UNECE Working Party 4 which was founded in the 1960s.

Current and upcoming activities of UN/CEFACT CBM

Cross Border Management Reference Data Model

Reference Data Models (RDMs) provide a comprehensive subset of the UN/CCL and its associated code lists with all the information pertinent to a sector of activity such as Buy-Ship-Pay (BSP RDM), Supply Chain Management (SCRDM) or Multi-Modal Transport (MMT RDM). Many government agencies already use data from these RDMs and other processes well documented in the UN/CCL. There are also many using other relevant standards for other regulatory processes. Problems of alignment may occur when trying to link UN/CEFACT RDMs and data libraries to data models of other organizations, especially for regulatory purposes. This project is considering all pertinent regulatory UN/CEFACT deliverables and will expand this base data to include all regulatory data which is publicly available – in a first step, this is to the EU Customs Data Model and eventually, the data models of other administrations which are available freely or expressly contributed to this effort. BRS has finished the public review and is published on the website.

Cross-border multimodal digital corridors for regulatory related movement of consignment data and consignment status information for trade facilitation

A multimodal corridor in international trade comprises three base elements relating to cargo moving from place A to B: (1) change of mode of transport; (2) crossing international borders; (3) change of international modal convention (e.g. CIM to SGMS). This project will concentrate on the related regulatory aspects. Movement of cargo through International (air/ocean/land) borders is delayed due to lengthy and complex regulatory clearances. In reality, several research projects have shown large amount of data reusability between origin and destination e.g. customs declarations, carrier manifests etc. If re-usability of data is established and information on cargo status is exchanged between origin and destination, then it removes non-tariff barriers to trade between countries and their respective land/sea ports and airports. The purpose of this project is to create regulatory-related guidance material on multimodal corridor set ups and further build on the existing data pipeline model to create Linkage and establish appropriate standards for exchange of information between ports and airports of two countries.

Draft white paper was circulated to Committee members in September 2022. The member’s comments were collated and included in the white paper before an interim status report was presented at 39th UN/CEFACT Forum. As per the comments received from the committee members, the white paper now incorporates a section on challenges faced by private industry as well as a study of RDMs accepted by UN/CEFACT that can be incorporated in the white paper to provide regulatory guidance.

Current and Future proposed work items:

Final draft of the Cross-border multimodal digital corridors for regulatory related movement of consignment data and consignment status information for trade facilitation white paper was circulated in December 2022 with a view to finalize submit the paper to the UN/CEFACT in January 2023.