

UN/CEFACT Project Proposal

Proposed project name:	Buy/Ship/Pay Data Exchange structures for Trade Finance Facilitation		
Date submitted:	8 February 2023	Project proposed by:	Sue Probert and Hanane BECHA
Date last updated:			

1. Project purpose

Required

The UNECE 70th Commission session launches for 2023-2025 its high-level theme of “digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the ECE region” (ECE/EX/2021/32). Semantic standards support digital and green transformations for sustainable development.

International trade is one of the areas that has been severely disrupted by this global COVID-19 pandemic.

The adoption of electronic documents is a high priority instrument to increase trade facilitation. Standards are needed as well as a change of the legal framework. This project will be focused on developing, maintaining and publishing the semantic foundation to support the UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records (MLETR) implementation by reducing existing trade finance barriers caused by the continued reliance on the exchange of paper documents.

In order to support the implementation of MLETR for title transfer, this project will develop data exchange structures as subsets of the Buy/Ship/Pay Reference Data Model (BSP RDM) to support key trade finance data exchanges as part of the UNECE “digital and green transformations for sustainable development in the ECE region” strategy.

2. Project scope

Required

NOTE: Specify project scope in terms of in-scope and out-of-scope items within the context of the UN/CEFACT Programme of Work. Include a description indicating the relationship between this project and other UN/CEFACT projects, if known. In the case of a project whose deliverables include proposed Recommendations and Standards, include projects outside of UN/CEFACT of which this project could be considered a duplicate, if any, and explain why it is not.

The UN/CEFACT Buy/Ship/Pay Business Requirement Specification and Reference Data Model (based on the UN/CEFACT Core Component Library (CCL)) identify the involved in the international supply chain and provides an overview of the information exchanged between the parties throughout its various processes of trade (Buy), transport (Ship) and payment (Pay).

Trade finance, the cornerstone of international trade requires exchanging information including the following:

- **Supply Chain Reference Data Model (SCRDM) Invoice (CII)**, an itemized account of goods shipped, services performed or work done, an amount expended or owed, and a demand for payment. It may contain a range of other administrative or logistical information and usually states applicable taxes payable and provides a crucial link or pivot between physical and financial supply chains.
- **Negotiable Maritime Bill of Lading (eB/L)** - moving goods require moving as well important trade documents between exporters, shipping agents, banks, importers and other parties is a complex and costly process, which can lead to delays and disruption. The standards in support of electronic Bill of Lading adoption (eBL) offering more efficient, secure and sustainable digital alternative have been developed by UN/CEFACT and adopted by DCSA, BIMCO and FIATA.

- **Buy Ship Pay (BSP) Preferential and Non-Preferential Certificates of Origin (CoO)** that certify that goods in a particular export consignment are wholly obtained, produced, manufactured or processed in a particular country.
- **Documentary Credit Advice (DCA)** a bank guarantee that a buyer's payment to a seller will be received on time and for the correct amount. The Documentary Credit Advice message is used to indicate to the Beneficiary the terms and conditions of a documentary credit that has been originated by the Issuing Bank and received by the Advising Bank (or an Intermediary Advising Bank). Unless otherwise specified, the documentary credit is issued subject to the Uniform Customs and Practices for Documentary Credits, International Chamber of Commerce, Paris, France, which are in effect on the date of issue.
- **Buy Ship Pay (BSP) Export Packing List (PL)**, Export Packing Lists support sellers providing transport services providers with shipment delivery information.
- **Multi Model Transport (MMT) Warehouse Receipt**, a document that provides proof of ownership of commodities (e.g., bars of copper) that are stored in a warehouse, vault, or depository for safekeeping. Can be digital thanks to the standards that were developed in collaboration with FIATA based on MMT eBusiness Standard
- **Multi Model Transport (MMT) Maritime Cargo Insurance Certificate (IC)**, a data exchange which is used for insurance purposes either by the shipper to inform the insurer and/or insurance intermediary about a planned transport, or by the shipper or carrier to inform the insurer and/or the insurance intermediary about a consignment under contract (eB/L) or to convey an Insurance Certificate or Insurance Policy or to provide details of the insurer or the underwriting agent of the insurer to confirm evidence of insurance for a consignment to the shipper, bank or third party.

3. Project deliverables

Required

NOTE: Provide name and description of each deliverable.

Deliverable 1:	BRS and eBusiness Standard for Documentary Credit Advice (DCA)
Deliverable 2:	BRS and eBusiness Standard for Non-Preferential Certificate of Origin
Deliverable 3:	BRS and eBusiness Standard for Maritime Cargo Insurance Certificate
Deliverable 4:	BRS, implementation guideline and CCBDA Subset for Warehouse Receipt
Deliverable 5:	CCBDA Implementation guideline for Trade Finance Subset for Cross Industry Invoice
Deliverable 6:	CCBDA Implementation guideline for Trade Finance Subset for Export packing List
Deliverable 7:	Trade Finance White Paper

4. Exit Criteria

Required

NOTE: For each deliverable, list the criteria that, when met, will indicate the deliverable has been completed.

Exit Criteria for Deliv. 1:	BRS and eBusiness Standard
Exit Criteria for Deliv. 2:	BRS and eBusiness Standard
Exit Criteria for Deliv. 3:	BRS and eBusiness Standard
Exit Criteria for Deliv. 4:	BRS and eBusiness Standard
Exit Criteria for Deliv. 5:	CCBDA Implementation guideline
Exit Criteria for Deliv. 6:	CCBDA Implementation guideline
Exit Criteria for Deliv. 7:	White Paper

5. Project Team membership and required functional expertise

Membership is open to UN/CEFACT experts with broad knowledge in the area of:

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

NOTE: At least three HoD support is required for Technical Standards, Business Standards and UNECE Recommendations – and at the request of the UN/CEFACT Bureau. (See annex IV for an optional template).

NOTE: Projects that require HoD support must obtain this within 6 months of Bureau provisional approval.

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:

Initial contributions include existing descriptions and technical specifications for the UN/CEFACT:

- UN/CEFACT Buy/Ship/Pay Reference Data Model
- UN/CEFACT eBusiness Standard for electronic negotiable Bills of Lading (eB/L)
- UN/EDIFACT DOCADV Documentary Credit Advice UN Standard Message (UNSM)
- UN/EDIFACT IFTMCA Insurance Cargo Advice UN Standard Message (UNSM)
- The UNCITRAL Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records (“MLETR”)
- The UN/CEFACT [Transfer of MLETR-compliant titles](#) White Paper project (under development)
- ICC DSI IAB Trust in Trade document
- ICC DSI IAB Key Trade Documents and Data Elements document

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.

NOTE: If specialized resources are required to complete the project, and such resources are not available within the Project Team, then those requirements should be clearly identified.

Any additional request:

10. Proposed project leadership

Proposed: _____ E-mail: _____

Proposed: _____ E-mail: _____

11. Milestones

Note: repeat for each deliverable, if different.

The following are draft milestones of the overall project.

Yes/No*	ODP Stage	Expected Completion Date (Approval + XX months)
Yes	Project Inception	3 months
Yes	Requirements gathering	9 months
Yes	Draft development	15 months
Yes	Public Draft Review	17 months

Yes	Project Exit	19 months
Yes	Publication	22 months

* NOTE: The following stages are obligatory: Project Inception, Project Exit and Publication. Public Draft Review is obligatory for recommendations, business standards and technical standards. The presence of "Yes" in the field indicates that the stage is required for the project and an expected completion date should be provided.