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UN/CEFACT structure, mandate, terms of reference, and procedures

Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Sustainable Fisheries Team of Specialists

Summary

The Mandate and Terms of Reference of the Sustainable Fisheries Team of Specialists (ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2017/16) was approved by the twenty-third UN/CEFACT Plenary in April 2017. It was then presented to the ninety-second session of the UNECE Executive Committee (EXCOM), which approved the document with minor changes that are reflected in this document.

This document details the objectives and activities of the “Team of Specialists”, along with its composition, membership and participation in its meetings, and its reporting requirements.

Document ECE/TRADE/C/CEFACT/2017/16/Rev.1 is submitted to the twenty-fourth UN/CEFACT Plenary for information.

A. Mandate

1. The establishment of a Sustainable Fisheries User Community was proposed at the twenty-seventh UN/CEFACT Forum on 27 April 2016 in Geneva. The Agricultural Domain of the UN/CEFACT supported and approved this proposal and decided to create the community as a Team of Specialists.

B. Objectives and activities

2. The objective of the Team of Specialists is to promote, facilitate and support the implementation of the Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (FLUX) standard or other appropriate sustainable fisheries standards on a global scale.

3. To achieve this objective, the Team of Specialists will:

- (a) Further develop and actively promote the FLUX standard and other appropriate sustainable fisheries standards at both policy and technical level;
- (b) Share experiences on the implementation of the FLUX standard and other existing sustainable fisheries standards;
- (c) Develop and share best practices on sustainable fishery standards;
- (d) Advise and assist on implementation issues of the FLUX standard or other sustainable fisheries standards to promote interoperability of standards;
- (e) Proposes changes to the standard to the Agricultural Domain.

C. Composition, its membership and participation in its meetings

4. The Team of Specialists will be composed of specialists with the collective expertise to address the specific tasks defined for it and should be drawn from:

- (a) Governmental institutions;
- (b) Business;
- (c) Civil society;
- (d) Consumer organizations; and
- (e) International organizations.

5. Participation in the Team of Specialists will be on a voluntary basis. All members of the Team of Specialists must register as experts of UN/CEFACT, in accordance with relevant procedures.

6. The Chair of the Team of Specialists will be recommended by the UN/CEFACT Bureau and his/her nomination will be endorsed by the UNECE Secretariat for a mandate of two years.

7. The Team of Specialists will meet virtually at least once every two months, and face-to-face at least once per year, preferably in conjunction with an official UN/CEFACT meeting such as the Forum.

8. The Team of Specialists can establish sub-groups of specialists to prepare projects requiring specific expertise, which are expected to become a part of general activities of the Team of Specialists.

9. The UNECE Secretariat provides necessary support to the Team of Specialists and its sub-groups within available resources.

D. Reporting

10. The Team of Specialists will report to the UN/CEFACT Plenary on an annual basis via the Bureau and will further report to the Bureau, on an inter-sessional basis, as necessary.
