



UNECE – United Nations Economic Commission for Europe  
UN/CEFACT – UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and e-Business

# **UN Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)**

## **UN/CEFACT – Overview**

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# UNECE



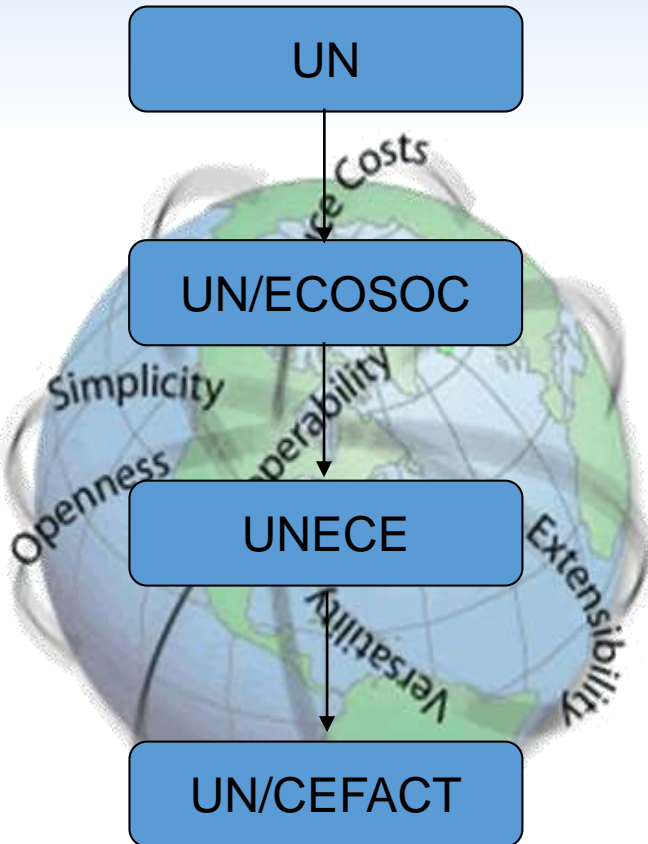


## Trade Facilitation

- One of UNECE's key objective is economic integration
- Trade Facilitation and the efficient trade data interchange are the key tools of UNECE to achieve this objective



# United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)



**Global Remit**

## Objectives

- Simple, transparent and effective processes for global business
- Efficient and automated exchange of information

## Outputs

- Global Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business Recommendations and Standards

## Means

- Public Private Sector Partnership – over 200 experts from government and business
- Meet virtually every week plus two Forums per year



# Mission

- UN/CEFACT's mission is to improve the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transitional economies, to exchange products and relevant services effectively.
- Its principal focus is on facilitating national and international transactions, through the simplification and harmonization of processes, procedures and information flows, and so contribute to the growth of global commerce



# UN/CEFACT's Work

**UNECE  
Policy Rec.s  
UN/CEFACT**



**UNECE  
Standards  
UN/CEFACT**



**UNECE /  
UNNEXT  
Guidelines,  
Briefs, Case  
Studies**



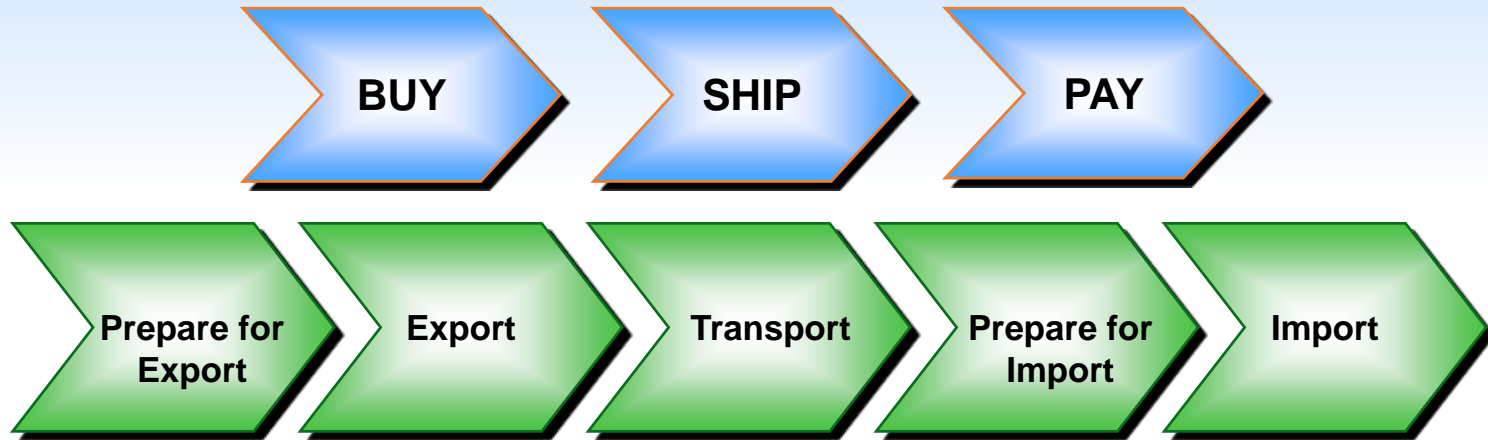


# UN/CEFACT Structure

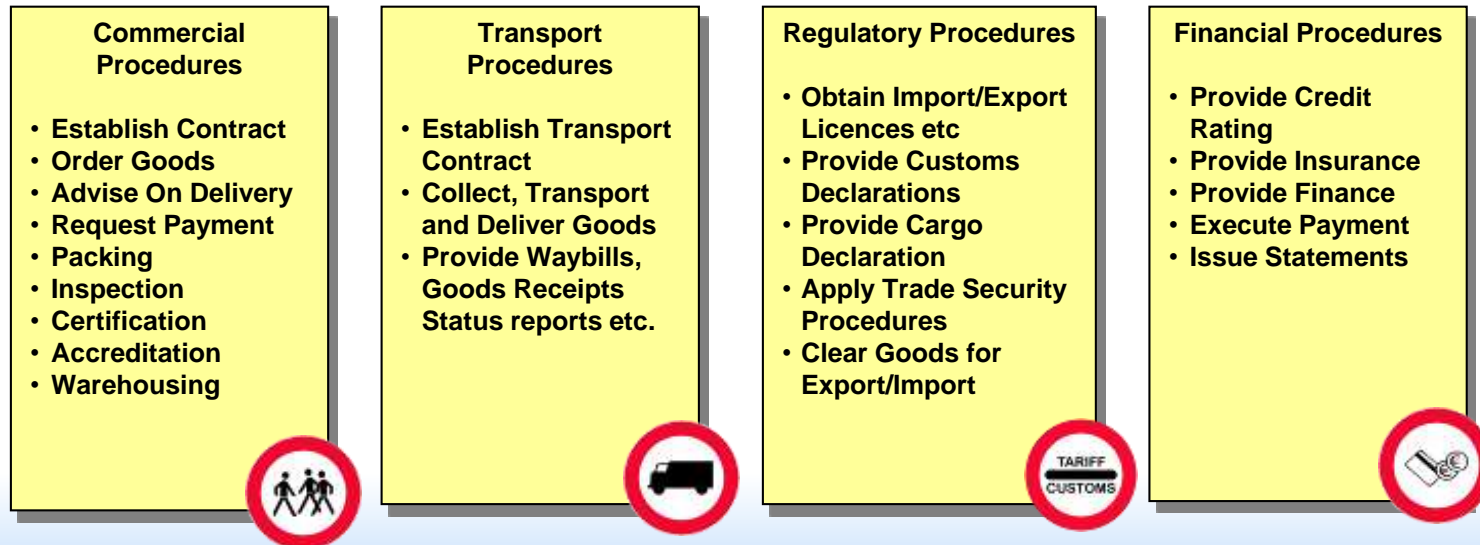




# UN/CEFACT International Trade Transaction Model



## INVOLVES







# UN/CEFACT Deliverables

- Recommendations
  - High level guidance on key points in International Trade
  - Internationally agreed and endorsed by the UN
  - Can also provide code lists for key aspects of trade
- Business Requirements Specifications (BRS)
  - A semantic guide on a given commercial procedure
  - A syntax neutral documentation and conformity rules and requirements for the development of an e-commerce solution
- Requirements Specification Mappings (RSM)
  - A documentation that explains how to construct an electronic message around a specific business need
  - Usually paired with a BRS
- XML Schema, EDIFACT...



# Examples of Recommendations

- Recommendation 1 - UN Layout Key for Trade Documents (ISO 6422)
- Recommendation 4 on National Trade Facilitation Bodies
- Recommendation 14 on Authentication of Trade Documents
- Recommendation 16 on UN/LOCODE
- Recommendation 18 on Trade Facilitation Measures
- Recommendation 25 on UN/EDIFACT (ISO 9735)
- Recommendation 33 on Single Window
- Recommendation 40 on Consultation Approaches

Plus:

Many are ISO Standards and covered in the WTO Trade Facilitation negotiations



# Examples of latest Standards

- e-Cert
  - Project was finalized, now compiling actual implementation examples
- Animal traceability data exchange
  - Business Requirements out for Public Review,
  - User Guide – under development
- Multi-Modal Transport (MMT) Reference Data Model
- WCO Data Model support
- Recommendation for ensuring legally significant trusted trans-boundary electronic interaction
- Directory Production: UN/EDIFACT, CCL and UN/LOCODE – every 6 months



# Impact of the work – some examples

**Recommendation 25 UN EDIFACT:** The Global EDI Standard for trade. The 12 largest European ports alone process more of 1.8 billion messages annually based on UN/EDIFACT.

**UN/CCL Core Component Library:** The UN/CCL, together with the UNECE Trade Data Element Directory (UN/TDED), forms the basis for the World Customs Organization (WCO) Data Model for the exchange of Customs related information world wide.

**Recommendation 16 UN/LOCODE:** Use of UN/LOCODE helped reduce the costs of imports for a single company in China by almost USD 200 million per year!

**Recommendation 33 Single Window:** *71 economies around the world, including UNECE and non UNECE Member States, have established “Single Windows” (SW) using this recommendation as a basis (World Bank Doing Business Report Data 2014). The use of Single Window saves in some of these countries up to 10% of the value of goods (World Bank study)*



## How to Participate

- Concept of Head of Delegation (HoD) to UN/CEFACT
- Experts must contact their HoD to request participation and if approved by the HoD, they can participate in specific projects
- Experts must agree to the UN/CEFACT IPR Policy and Code of Conduct



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# UN/CEFACT Open Development Process



# Project Process

- Project proposals submitted by plenary delegation, an existing project team or a member of the Bureau
- Need support of 3 Heads of Delegation
- Approval by CEFACT Bureau
- Work undertaken by CEFACT Experts (from public and private sector)



- **Inception:** After Bureau’s approval, “Call for Participation” sent out by project leader
- **Requirements Gathering:** initial contributions and comments collected in a comments log
- **Interim Draft:** draft-projects circulated for comments
- **Public Reviews:** minimum 5 public reviews for publication on UN/CEFACT website
- **Project Exit:** Each project goes through a final quality assurance exercise to verify that the final draft has addressed all the stated requirements of the project. The conclusion of this process is Bureau or project approval and then Publication.
- **Publication:** all drafts published as UNECE documents
- **Maintenance:** changes requested by implementers may lead to new projects

All documents publicly available during the whole process!!





## Approval Process Process

- Recommendations submitted to UN/CEFACT Plenary for approval by member States
- Standards are approved by the Bureau within the context of the Programme of Work
- All UN member States can participate



# Save the dates

- **SWITZERLAND, Geneva 22<sup>nd</sup> PLENARY**
  - 21-22 April, 2016
- **SWITZERLAND, Geneva 27<sup>th</sup> FORUM**
  - 25-29 April, 2016
- **Thailand, Bangkok 28<sup>th</sup> FORUM**
  - 26-30 September, 2016



All UNECE and UN/CEFACT Recommendations, codes, standards and publications are available for free on our website at:

- [www.unece.org/](http://www.unece.org/)
- [www.unece.org/trade](http://www.unece.org/trade)
- [www.unece.org/cefact/](http://www.unece.org/cefact/)

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