

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

UN/CEFACT Plenary & Chair Elections

The UN/CEFACT Plenary is planned for 30 April and 1 May in Geneva. The agenda is available at [the dedicated webpage](#) and the rest of the documents are progressively being added. You are reminded that one of the first agenda items will be the election for UN/CEFACT Chair. The deadline for candidatures received from the Mission to the UN in Geneva is 15 March; more information on the procedure is available in the [UN/CEFACT mandate and terms of reference](#), paragraphs 52-73, or you can contact the [UNECE secretariat](#).

Also during the Plenary, we will be presenting a number of deliverables that should be of interest to you, including reports from several recent meetings such as the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group, the Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries and the 4th International conference on Single Window. UN/CEFACT has been working hard on aligning its work to support process-driven exchanges in support of Data Pipeline, Blockchain, Traceability and other recent evolutions. Several Executive Guides are also made available to help the understanding of our technical deliverables.

We look forward to seeing you in Geneva for the Plenary and hopefully also the preceding UN/CEFACT Forum. Reminder that each member of your delegation to the Plenary must be pre-approved by the HoD or – if there is no HoD – the Mission in Geneva.

UN/CEFACT Forum in Geneva

The UN/CEFACT Forum is planned from 23-27 April in Geneva. The weekly schedule and detailed agendas are on line at [the UN/CEFACT Forum dedicated webpage](#) as well as the registration information. There will be many interesting sessions on project development; please see below.

During the Forum, there will be three conferences:

- Single Window: From Border-Crossing Supporting Documents to legally significant data exchange (planned on Monday afternoon, 23 April)
- Internet of Things (planned on Tuesday, 24 April)
- Traceability for Sustainable Value Chains: Textile Sector (planned on Wednesday, 25 April)

Each conference has its own website which you can access from [the Forum dedicated webpage](#).

UN/LOCODE Advisory Group and Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries

The launch meetings of the [UN/LOCODE Advisory Group](#) on 30 November-1st December and the [Team of Specialists on Sustainable Fisheries](#) on 29-30 January were very successful. All documents from these meetings are available on the events' webpages.

Domain Coordinator Nominations

The Bureau nominated two further Domain Coordinators since the last HoD Quarterly report:

- Cross-Border Management Domain: Abdoulaye Basse from Morocco
- Specification Domain: Hisanao Sugamata from Japan
- Harmonization's Domains: Jonathan Koh from Singapore

Bureau evolutions

VC Laughlan has regrettably submitted his resignation. His responsibilities will be covered by the current Bureau members and the secretariat. The Bureau currently consists of seven Vice Chairs; the chairmanship is still held on a rotational basis. The current Acting Chair is Ian Watt.

ONGOING WORK

Recently completed projects

The Transport and Logistics Domain has just completed the eCMR project. This standard eCMR message supports the Additional Protocol to the UNECE CMR Convention and provides a clear model for electronic version of the eCMR. More information available on [the deliverable webpage](#).

Recently approved projects

The Single Window Domain is pleased to announce the launch of the [revision of Recommendation 33 on Single Window Implementation](#). This cornerstone recommendation is referenced in various other standards organizations and national implementations; this revision project aims to update the content, remove dated examples without disrupting the use of the recommendation. This project is seeking one further Head of Delegation support. **Your consideration to support this project would be most welcome.** For more information, please contact [Project Leader Mats Wicktor](#), or [the secretariat](#).

The Transport and Logistics Domain (T+L) is pleased to announce the launch of the [revision of Recommendation 16 on UN Location Codes for Trade, Transport and Administrations \(UN/LOCODE\)](#). This essential coding system is widely used in transport and administrations around the world. Following the creation of the UN/LOCODE Advisory Group at the 23rd Plenary, the experts agreed that it was time to update some of the aspects of this guidance. This project is still seeking one Head of Delegation support. **Your consideration to support this project would be most welcome.** For more information, please contact the [Project Leader Alper Keçeli](#) or [the secretariat](#).

The T+L has launched the [Buy-Ship-Pay Reference Data Model project](#). This project aims to create a subset of the Core Component Library which covers both the SCRDM and the MMT-RDM, in order to ensure continued harmonization between these. This project is seeking one further Head of Delegation support. **Your consideration to support this project would be most welcome.** For more information, contact [Vice Chair Sue Probert](#) or [Project Leader Zisi Palaskas](#) or [the secretariat](#).

The T+L has also launched a [project on IMO FAL messages](#). For the past two or three years, UN/CEFACT teams have been working closely with the IMO FAL, the WCO and ISO groups on the update of the IMO FAL Convention and the electronic messages which will be suggested. Currently, IMO plans to publish the suggested messages from UN/CEFACT, WCO and ISO. This project is to officially map and create these messages. This project is seeking three Heads of Delegation support. **Your consideration to support this project would be most welcome.** For more information, contact [Vice Chair Sue Probert](#) or [the secretariat](#).

The Insurance Domain has launched a [project on Health Claim Reimbursement](#). The project's purpose is to facilitate cross border exchange of data between health care providers and private health insurance for the reimbursement of claims. This project is seeking two more Heads of Delegation support. **Your consideration to support this project would be most welcome.** For more information, contact [Project Leader Andreas Schultz](#) or [the secretariat](#).

The Environmental Management Domain has launched a [Waste Management project](#). Waste management is essential to protecting human health and the environment. It is also a field of economic competitiveness and innovation. This project will create the structured electronic representations in order to manage and control these movements. This project is seeking one further Head of Delegation support. **Your consideration to support this project would be most welcome.** For more information, contact [Project Leader Norbert Pfaffinger](#) or [the secretariat](#).

Reminder that UN/CEFACT has launched a **questionnaire on the use of its deliverables**. We are still compiling statistics for this and would appreciate if you can circulate this to your constituencies and agencies for responses by 15 March on [this survey monkey](#).

NEWS FROM THE UNECE SECRETARIAT

The UNECE Trade Facilitation secretariat has been actively working with UNCTAD, ITC, OECD, ISO, IEC, ITU, ESCWA... Capacity building projects are being developed to assist Kirgizstan, Tajikistan, Albania and other countries. In cooperation with the other UN Regional Commission, a Global report and a [Regional report](#) on facilitating trade are available and will be put forward at the Plenary. The secretariat has also published a comprehensive document on [Textile for SDG 12](#). For more information, contact [the secretariat](#).