

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Geneva 25th Forum April 20 to 24 2015 – Project development

The Forum was overall acclaimed as very fruitful. It was attended by more than 130 experts from over 30 countries from around the world, with participants coming from the private sector, public-sector administrations, non-governmental organizations, and universities. The Bureau held open meetings where each domain and project provided updates. Some of the progressions on projects during the week included:

- International Trade Procedures Domain finalized two draft recommendations and decided to launch a revision of Recommendation 1 (UN Layout Key), pending internal consultation;
- Single Window Domain finalized a draft for G2G Single Window Interoperability and launched an internal review of the text;
- Finance & Payment Domain continued its work on the “Purchase Orders” and “Trade Finance into TF” projects, while launching a revision of the “Cross Industry Remittance Advice” project;
- Transport & Logistic Domain advanced its work on the Multi-Modal Transport project and is preparing a new project on an e-BOD (Bill of Delivery) for Logistics
- Accounting & Audit Domain progressed its work on the e-Journal project and closely studied the work which is being proposed within ISO on Audit
- E-Government Domain continued its work on the Trusted Transboundary project
- Agriculture Domain continued its work on its four active projects (Animal traceability data exchange, Rapid alert system for food and feed, e-Laboratory observation report, Fisheries catch data) and launched a proposal for a new project on eCrops

Geneva 25th Forum April 20 to 24 2015 – Other developments

Several key topics were discussed during the Forum week. The first was within the Bureau and with all of the Domain Coordinators in order to finalize a Terms of Reference for ‘Domains’ and ‘Domain Coordinators.’ This was completed and approved by the Bureau.

Another major topic was addressed, the core component technical specification (CTS). For the past several years, UN/CEFACT has listed two separate CTS on its website. The Methodology and Technology group organized an open meeting during the Forum in order to decide on a way forward in order to clarify this situation and eventually promote one single specification. The discussions hosted key members from all of the Programme Development Areas and a consensus of the experts was reached. The discussions are now being taken up in the Bureau to finalize a position. This will be announced in the weeks ahead.

There was a parallel event on UNLOCODEs on the Friday 24th. This was well attended and proposed some very informative presentations. Two initial outcomes from this event include the establishment of UNLOCODE contact points nationally and a proposed terms of reference for this and secondly, a proposition to revise Recommendation 16 on this topic.

Domains

A terms of reference for domains was finalized during the 25th Forum. The next step will now be to select/confirm the leadership for each of these domains. Compliant to the Terms of Reference (TORs), an announcement will be published to allow all suitable candidates to put forward their candidatures during the month of June. Please direct any potentially interested candidate to the UNECE Secretariat (maria.ceccarelli@unece.org) and they will be sent the appropriate procedure.

ON-GOING WORK

Public Review / Calls for Comments

Two draft recommendations have entered into public review until the end of June. We would appreciate if you would quickly circulate these documents to the pertinent experts:

- Revision of Recommendation 4 on National Trade Facilitation Bodies
 - <http://www1.unece.org/cefact/platform/download/attachments/56688806/Rec4+and+Guidelines+Revision+Public+Review+Version+1.0.pdf>
 - <http://www1.unece.org/cefact/platform/download/attachments/56688806/300415+Rec4+Public+Review+Comment+Template.docx>
- Proposed Recommendation on Public-Private-Partnership in Trade Facilitation
 - <http://www1.unece.org/cefact/platform/download/attachments/55377937/300415+PPPInTF+-+Final+Draft+for+Public+Review.pdf>
 - <http://www1.unece.org/cefact/platform/download/attachments/55377937/300415+PPPInTF+Public+Review+Comment+Template>

We would also note that the proposed Recommendation on Single Window Interoperability is proceeding with an informal internal review also until the end of June.

- http://www1.unece.org/cefact/platform/download/attachments/48562914/150424+Rec36+Internal+Review+v1_1.pdf

Other projects / domains

During the 25th Forum, some of the project teams and domains requested assistance in attracting experts. Any suggestions or assistance that you can provide for any of the following would be greatly appreciated:

- Travel and Tourism Domain (contact Akio Suzuki: akioszk@jtrec.org)
- Utilities Domain (contact Shingo Sakaguchi or Cornelis [Kees] Sparreboom)
- Experts in technical specifications, syntax, data libraries... (contact Vice Chair Anders Grangard: anders.grangard@gs1.org)

UP-COMING MEETINGS

26th UN/CEFACT Forum, Marseille France November 2-6 2015

The 26th UN/CEFACT Forum will be held in Marseille France from November 2nd to 6th. Information concerning this forum will shortly be available on the UN/CEFACT website under the Meeting page.

22nd Plenary, Geneva March 10-11 2016

The dates of the 22nd Plenary have been requested and confirmed.

27th UN/CEFACT Forum, Geneva March 14-18 2016

The 27th Forum will be held the week following the Plenary in order to facilitate the travel of delegations from regions outside of the ECE.

28th UN/CEFACT Forum

The Bureau and the Secretariat are now considering locations for the 28th Forum in the Autumn of 2016. If you would like to propose your country's candidature, please let the Secretariat or the Chair know quickly.

Project Team Multi Modal Transport (Transport & Logistics Domain)

The MMT project team will hold a face-to-face meeting in Paris, France in the offices of Conex from July 1st to July 3rd. If you would like to join, please contact the Transport & Logistics Domain Coordinator Dominique Vankemmel: dvankemmel@wanadoo.fr or the MMT project editor Sue Probert: sue.probert@dial.pipex.com

For any further information, do not hesitate to contact the relevant Project Teams, the Secretariat or the Chair. Thank you for your continued support and participation.
<http://www.unece.org/cefact.html>