

UN/CEFACT REPORT TO HoD

December 2021

1. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

i 37th UN/CEFACT Forum 4-15 October 2021

The [37th UN/CEFACT Forum](#) took place virtually. During this Forum, each domain met to discuss the current projects and brainstorm the future ones. In total, there were 42 meetings serviced by UNECE with two webinars: one on [Strengthening Private Sector participation in National Trade Facilitation Bodies \(NTFB\)](#) and [Launch of the UNECE Regional Report on UN Global Survey on Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation 2021](#). Key sessions were held on application programming interfaces, traceability within all domains and single window. The event was very successful and was attended by 350 participants from 62 countries.

i First meeting of the Team of Specialists on Environmental, Social and Governance Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Circular Economy 10 November 2021

First meeting of the Team of Specialists on ESG Traceability of Sustainable Value Chains in the Circular Economy took place virtually on 10 November 2021 with over 170 experts attending. Ms. Maylis Souque of the Ministry of Economics and Finance of France was appointed as Chair, and Ms. Nathalie Bernasconi of IISD Europe and Mr. Harm Jan van Burg of Burgcomm consulting as Vice Chairs of the Group. Participants discussed approaches and perspectives for advancing ESG performance in value chains through traceability, and the Programme of Work for 2021-2023.

i UN/CEFACT Standards maintenance and update

Recently, UN/CEFACT has published the UN Core Component Library (UN/CCL) [21b](#) and accompanying XML Schema [D21B](#), the United Nations Rules for Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT) Directory [D.21B](#) and the United Nations Code for Trade and Transport Locations (UN/LOCODE) [2021-2](#) release. Streamlined presentation of UN/CEFACT standards is available [on this webpage](#).

i Changes in the UN/CEFACT Bureau

Vice Chair Benno Slot resigned from UN/CEFACT Bureau effective November 2021. As per Bureau decision and Terms of Reference, his work was distributed among other Vice Chairs. UNECE thanks Mr. Benno Slot and Harm Jan van Bourg, that temporarily replaced Benno, for their contribution to the UN/CEFACT.

2. Reminder to submit commitments to using UN/CEFACT standards

i Invitation to stakeholders to submit the commitments to using UN/CEFACT standards

[A Call to Action for Improved Digitalization Through the Use of UN/CEFACT Standards](#) recognizes the importance of digitalization to improve processes, save time, reduce rekeying data and reduce human contact. Any stakeholder can submit a commitment to record future plans or past achievements of digitalization with the use of UN/CEFACT standards. More information on [the website](#).

As a part of [Traceability for Sustainable Garment and Footwear](#) project, UNECE launched "[The Sustainability Pledge](#)" inviting governments, garment and footwear manufacturers and industry stakeholders to pledge to apply UNECE toolkit of measures and take a positive step towards improving the environmental and ethical sector credentials.

3. Save the date

i 38th UN/CEFACT Forum 16-20 May 2022

i 28th UN/CEFACT Plenary 1-2 June 2022

4. UN/CEFACT Active projects

i The following projects are currently active as of December 2021 within UN/CEFACT; participation in their development is welcome. Your assistance as Head of Delegation / Mission in Geneva to suggest experts for these projects is most welcome.

- TPF** – [Engaging the Private Sector in National Trade Facilitation Bodies](#) shall provide a white paper to further guide countries complimentary to Recommendations 4 and 40.
- TPF** – [Revision of Recommendation 2](#) project has updated [UN/CEFACT Recommendation 2 on Semantic information and codes in international trade data exchange](#), which is in **public review** until 11 January. **New**
- SWD** – [Information Portals](#) has published its [Recommendation](#) and [eBusiness standard](#).
- SWD** – [Single Window Assessment Methodology](#) will prepare a white paper to help evaluate the level of development of Single Window and will analyse case studies. **New**
- BUY** – [Transfer of Model Law on Electronic Transferable Records Titles](#) project shall develop guidance on the electronic exchange of negotiable financial instruments and demonstrate implementation with Blockchain.
- BUY** – [Cross Industry Supply Chain Track and Trace](#) project is proposing a general standard for physical track and trace of assets, compatible with all existing Supply Chain and Transport & Logistics standards.
- BUY** – [eNegotiation](#) project has developed an [eBusiness standards](#) for the negotiation process.
- BUY** – [Cross Industry Invoice \(CII\) Light Version](#) project will develop a subset of the CII as a generic invoice that would be used as a simplified basis for international trade operations. **New**
- T+T** – [Business Standards for Sustainable Tourism](#) project builds upon the Green Paper on Sustainable Tourism and shall produce definitions standards and guidelines on the topic.
- T+T** – [Experience Program Technical Artefacts](#) project will develop the necessary technical deliverable to allow the exchange of experience program information as outlined in the Green Paper.
- SHIP** – [Dangerous Goods](#) project will develop the eBusiness standards for this process.
- SHIP** – [International Maritime Organization \(IMO\) Convention of Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic \(FAL\) Mapping](#) project shall create an XML version of the FAL messages.
- SHIP** – [Transport Modal Views of Multi-Modal Transport \(MMT\)](#) is providing modal specific procedures in line with the MMT Reference Data Model (RDM).
- PAY** – [Open Finance for Trade Facilitation](#) project has prepared a [White Paper](#) guidance on the subject, which is in **public review** until 22 January.
- A+A** – [Accounting and Audit Reference Data Model](#) will propose a harmonized data set.
- eDATA** – [Cross border inter-ledger exchange for Preferential Certificate of Origin using Blockchain](#) project is proposing to develop guidance and standards for inter-ledger exchanges. [eBusiness Standard](#) is out for **public review** until 22 January.
- eDATA** – [Internet of Things for Trade Facilitation](#) project has prepared two White Papers and will prepare one more to describe the base principles of this technology. [One white paper](#) is in **public review** until 28 December.
- eDATA** – [Digital Identity for Trade Facilitation](#) project will prepare two White Papers to explore existing Digital ID systems and to guide on the development of such systems.
- eDATA** – [UN/CEFACT Chain](#) project is developing guidance on relevant framework/mechanism.
- eDATA** – [Artificial Intelligence for Trade Facilitation](#) will prepare White Papers on this topic.
- CBM** – [Cross Border Management Reference Data Model \(CBM-RDM\)](#) project published [an eBusiness standard](#) and will produce a comprehensive subset of the UN/CCL to support all regulatory procedures at borders.
- CBM** – [Digital Corridor](#) will create a white paper for exchange of data through multimodal digital corridors. **New**
- AGRI** – [eQuality Certificate](#) project is continuing its work in order to develop an implementation guide.
- AGRI** – [Code list and identifiers guide for the garment and leather sector project](#) will publish a reference guide for code lists and identifiers. **New**
- AGRI** – [Textile Business Requirement Specification \(BRS\) Extension](#) will update and publish the Textile and Leather BRS. **New**
- AGRI** – [Sustainable Development and Circular Economy RDM](#) will provide a RDM as a view on the top-level BSP RDM. **New**
- ENV** – [Waste Management and Waste Analysis](#) aims to define electronic data formats for waste management related data.
- M+T** – [API Town Plan](#) project is developing an internal guidance on standardization of API.
- M+T** – [API Technical Specification](#) will develop a standard for Application Programming Interfaces. **New**
- M+T** – [JSON-LD web vocabulary](#) project will develop a technical specification for JSON-LD vocabulary. **New**