RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

28th Forum in Bangkok, Thailand, 26 to 30 September 2016

UN/CEFACT's next Forum will take place in the UNESCAP buildings in Bangkok. All active projects and Domains are expected to have meetings. The preliminary agendas are available on the event website. Following their success at the 27th Forum, the Bureau decided to again organize half-day Mini Conferences on key themes. This idea was met with much enthusiasm and there were more requests than could be accommodated. Best efforts will be made to ensure that those who did not present this time will be able to present next time. The Mini Conferences at the Bangkok Forum will be:

- ITPD: *Women in Trade Facilitation* on Monday afternoon
- Agriculture: *e-Cert* on Tuesday morning
- Supply Chain Management: *Supply Chain Reference Data Model and related Supply Chain projects* on Tuesday afternoon
- Travel and Tourism: *Presentation of Domain activities* on Wednesday morning
- SWD: *Core Principles of the Operation of Single Windows* on Wednesday afternoon
- Agriculture: *FLUX* on Thursday morning
- Environmental Management: *Transboundary Movements of Waste* on Thursday afternoon
- Finance and Payment: *Trade Finance as a Tool for Trade Facilitation* on Friday morning

Each event has a page with a synopsis and detailed agenda, accessible through the Forum website under the "Mini Conferences" tab.

UN/CEFACT very much appreciates the efforts of our partners in Asia, especially Electronic Transactions Development Agency of Thailand (ETDA), UNESCAP and AFACT for their assistance in making this Forum a great success.

More information available at: http://www.unece.org/28thuncefactforum#/

International Single Window Conference in Marrakech, Morocco, 5 to 7 September 2016

The African Alliance for e-Commerce in association with several Moroccan government agencies is organizing the 5th African Single Window Conference in Marrakech from 5 to 7 September (with the participation of delegates from 48 countries). Besides being regular contributors to UN/CEFACT, the organizers have provided the opportunity for UN/CEFACT to organize a side-event to showcase the tools and standards we offer and which can contribute to effective Single Window implementation. The Director of the Economic Cooperation and Trade Division, Virginia Cram Martos, along with the Single Window Domain Coordinator, Andrea Fehr Hampton, will be presenting our work during this roundtable. Prominent experts will also join this table, including the Regional Rapporteur for Africa, Ibrahima Diagne, as well as Jalal Benyahoun and Mario Apostolov.

More information available at: http://www.conferencesw.org/

Semaine Internationale de la Méditerranée in Marseille, France, 2 to 5 November 2016

The 26th UN/CEFACT Forum in Marseille last year closed with a round table event at the Semaine Internationale de la Méditerranée. UN/CEFACT has been invited to organize another roundtable during this annual event and will this year concentrate on actual implementation of UN/CEFACT standards and how similar implementation could help promote interoperability and enhanced exchanges in the Mediterranean region.

The Chair, Lance Thompson, and the Acting Chief of Section, Maria Ceccarelli, will represent UN/CEFACT during this event. Key actors will also present their work on using UN/CEFACT standards on this French-speaking roundtable.

More information available at: (internet link available from 2 September)

Renaming of the Collaborative UN/CEFACT Environment (CUE)

All ongoing work of UN/CEFACT as well as a large part of project archives is shared through an internal system maintained and developed by the UNECE secretariat. This environment is open to UN/CEFACT registered experts and HoDs with an ID-password. If you do not yet have your ID-password, please contact Gianguglielmo Calvi at the UN/CEFACT secretariat.

ONGOING WORK

Launch of new projects

A number of new projects have recently been launched. Your dissemination of this information would be appreciated.

- [Reference Data Model Publication project](#) under the leadership of Ulrike Linde. UN/CEFACT has been working on subsets of its Core Component Library called Reference Data Models and this project will aim to draft how these should be published and at what frequency.
- [Single Window Vocabulary project](#) under the leadership of Abdoulaye Basse. Single Window has become a term which is at times used to describe solutions which do not necessarily fit with the definition of Recommendation 33. This project aims to provide a more precise, controlled vocabulary and establish a consistent approach for this.
- [Core Principles for the Operation of Single Windows project](#) under the leadership of Richard Morton. This project will be studying the risks inherent in Single Windows (legal, exterior disruptions, stakeholders…) and how best to approach these.
- [Transport and Logistics e-CMR project](#) under the leadership of Evgeniya Iafaev of the International Road Transport Union (IRU). This project will create an XML message which will support the Protocol to the Convention on the Contract for the International Carriage of Goods by Road (CMR). Attention will be given to the interaction of this document with other modes of transport, under the umbrella of the Multi Modal Reference Data Model.
- Traceability Framework project under the leadership of Frans van Diepen. This project aims to provide a structured approach to describe a traceability system from a functional point of view which can then be implemented in a technical traceability solution. **This project is still seeking HoD support – could you please consider supporting this?**
- Library Publication Formats project. The UN/CEFACT libraries are officially published as Excel spreadsheets. This makes their reuse and the relations between different parts of the libraries very difficult. This project will put forward new technical specifications for publication in machine-processable format as well as human readable formats. **This project is still seeking HoD support – could you please consider supporting this?**

Public Review / Calls for Comments

- The Supply Chain Reference Data Model (SCRDM) project has entered into Public Review on 29 August for a two-month period. [The deliverables are available on CUE](#).

UPCOMING MEETINGS

International Single Window Conference in Marrakech, Morocco, 5 to 7 September 2016

See above in "Recent developments".

28th UN/CEFACT Forum in Bangkok, Thailand, 26 to 30 September 2016

See above in "Recent developments".

Semaine Internationale de la Méditerranée in Marseille, France, 2 to 5 November 2016

See above in "Recent developments".

29th UN/CEFACT Forum in Geneva, Switzerland

The tentative dates are 27 to 31 March 2017, subject to room availability.

23rd UN/CEFACT Plenary in Geneva, Switzerland

The tentative dates are 3 to 4 April 2017, subject to room availability.

We are considering locations for future Forums. If you would like to be a candidate for one of these, please contact the UNECE secretariat.

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