

## RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

### UN/CEFACT Secretariat

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The UN/CEFACT Bureau, on behalf of the larger UN/CEFACT community, would like to thank Yuri Saito and Gianguglielmo Calvi for over one year of very productive and dedicated service. They are both leaving the UNECE Secretariat in December 2017 and will be greatly missed.

Since mid-November, we have a **new Chief of Section** in our secretariat. Congratulations to Maria Ceccarelli who after having temporarily filled this position for over a year has been confirmed. We look forward to working with her to enhance our trade facilitation work.

### Preparations for the Plenary

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Two major documents will be up for approval at the Plenary, the Program of Work for the next two years and a proposed consolidation of our base Mandate/Terms of Reference, which aims to simplify the reference documents of UN/CEFACT.

There are also a number of Trade Facilitation Recommendations for which the Bureau will be seeking approval; these include a recommendation on “Trade and Transport Facilitation Measuring Mechanisms”, the long awaited “Rec36-Single Window Interoperability” and a revision of the “Recommendation 1- UN/Layout Key.” The Bureau will also report on the advancement of work items of the various project teams, listing all of the projects which have gone to Project Exit.

The creation of two groups of experts will also be considered. The first for UN/LOCODE follows up on the very successful conferences the group has had over the past two years and responding to a real need for international coordination on the subject. The second for Sustainable Fisheries corresponds to the Sustainable Development Goal on fisheries, the FLUX (Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange) deliverables of UN/CEFACT and the need for international coordination on the subject.

Experts that would like to attend the Plenary as member of the official national delegation are reminded that they must have expressed approval from their Head of Delegation. Participation in the discussion is only possible by or via the HoD. Do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat if you have questions or concerns.

### Elections 2017

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The six Vice Chairs' mandates finish at the upcoming Plenary. There will therefore be elections for Vice Chairs for a term of three years. This will be announced three months prior to the election (end of December) and candidatures must be submitted 45 days before the election (mid-February). The details and exact dates will be announced by the UNECE Secretariat in the coming weeks. If there are interested parties on your delegation and you would like more information, do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat.

The positions of Rapporteurs will also be up for election at the Plenary.

### Collaborative UN/CEFACT Environment (“CUE”)

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CUE continues to evolve and ensures that all of UN/CEFACT's ongoing work is shared and available to all registered experts. There are now pages under the Bureau section to access all of these Quarterly Reports (under the “Topic Sharing”). If you are not yet registered to use CUE, please request your ID and password on its top page to take advantage of all the information available to experts.

<https://www2.unece.org/cefact>

## ONGOING WORK

### Launch of new projects

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Following the UN/CEFACT Forum in Bangkok, a number of new projects have recently been launched. Your dissemination of this information would be appreciated.

- Transport and Logistics has launched a project on logistics data pipeline as a subset of the Multi-Modal Transport Reference Data Model. This project is seeking to get better quality data from the source of that data as described in several EU projects including Cassandra and CORE.
- Following up on the Supply Chain Reference Data Model and the process-driven approach within this, the Supply Chain Management Domain is launching a revision of the majority of Cross-Industry deliverables in order to ensure that they are covered under this reference data model and that they all evolve harmoniously. **This project is seeking two further HoD supports.**
- Methodology and Technology PDA has launched three new projects. **All three projects are seeking three HoD supports:**
  - A project to find best ways to represent geo-spatial coordinates within the UN Core Component Library.
  - An updated “Standard Business Document Header”, which is intended to be aligned with OASIS Business Document Envelope, BDE.
  - A project defining the procedures and methodologies for code list creation, management and maintenance.

### Public Review / Calls for Comments

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- The Trade and Transport Facilitation Monitoring Mechanisms (TTFMM) project has completed its proposed recommendation and guideline. The Public Review is open until December 14<sup>th</sup>. These documents are available on CUE.
- The Single Window Domain’s “Technical Note on Terminology for Single Window and Other Electronic Platforms” has completed its final draft. The Public Review is open until December 14<sup>th</sup>. This document is available on CUE.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### 29<sup>th</sup> UN/CEFACT Forum in Geneva, Switzerland

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27<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

### UN/LOCODE 3<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting in Geneva, Switzerland

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This event will be during the UN/CEFACT Forum. The exact date is not yet decided, but will likely be either the Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March or the Wednesday and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> March.

### 23<sup>rd</sup> UN/CEFACT Plenary in Geneva, Switzerland

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3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017.

We are considering locations for future Forums. If your country is considering to host a future UN/CEFACT Forum, please contact the UNECE secretariat.

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