UNITED NATIONS
CENTRE FOR TRADE FACILITATION AND ELECTRONIC BUSINESS
(UN/CEFACT)

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INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROCEDURES PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT AREA
SINGLE WINDOW DOMAIN

TRADE INFORMATION PORTAL PROJECT

BUSINESS REQUIREMENT SPECIFICATION

SOURCE: TIP Project Team
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Contents

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56 Document History

Phase	*Status*	*Date Last Modified*
Draft for Public Review	draft	25 May 2021
Final Version 1.0	v1.0	

57
Table 1 – Document History

58 Change Log

59 The change log is designed to alert users about significant changes that occurred during the
60 development of the BRS instance.

Date of Change	Version	Paragraph Changed	Summary of Changes

61
Table 2 – Document Change Log

62

63

1 BRS Trade Information Portal

Transparency and predictability are cornerstones of international trade today. In order to trade internationally efficiently and cost effectively, it is necessary to access all of the regulatory requirements prior to the actual sale of merchandise. Having an official, single portal where all of this information can be accessed provides the necessary transparency and predictability. Such a portal also encourages cross-administration cooperation which can carry over to border control requirements or other trade facilitation mechanisms such as a Single Window.

UN/CEFACT Recommendation No. 38 puts forward a base understanding of a Trade Information Portal (TIP) as a trade facilitation mechanism. By nature, it should be an electronic system which is accessible by internet. The main objective is to create a trade facilitation tool which helps the private sector to understand regulations and eventually trade agreements and thus streamline their processes.

The recommendation establishes a base definition of Trade Information Portal, the type of information that should be included, the different types of models that exist as well as the technical requirements.

1.1 Purpose and scope

A TIP is a website that aggregates and publishes all trade related regulatory information originating from the government agencies that perform a control function in relation to imports, exports, transits or trans-shipments and that allows importers, exporters or anyone involved in international trade to easily find and understand any legal requirements and procedures pertaining to specific goods that are necessary to comply with national obligations for clearings goods at the border as well as before or after clearance.

A TIP enables the publication and availability of information related to importation, exportation and transit regulatory requirements and procedures.

1.2 Introduction

The agency in charge of operating the TIP will rely on agreements to receive information to be published from various regulatory agencies involved in controlling import and exports and the movement of goods across the country's borders in order to keep the website up to date with accurate and timely information.

Equally, the agency in charge of operating the TIP may be required to exchange information published on the TIP with regional or international organizations that maintain a centralized trade information repository for the benefit of all member states.

This document seeks to initiate the process to standardise the data elements and message structure to facilitate implementation of an electronic exchange of the data required to populate a TIP and to exchange information between parties.

The outputs will be the harmonized XML schemas to support the information exchange for the business process.

102 The structure of this document is based on the structure of the UN/CEFACT Business
103 Requirements Specification (BRS) document reference.

1.3 References

105 The list of specifications that have substantially influenced the development of the business
106 requirements specification document, including formal standards from UN/CEFACT,
107 OECD and other standards bodies, international treaties or agreements, industry sector and
108 institutional specifications:

109 • *UN/CEFACT Modelling Methodology User Guide (CEFACT/TMG/N093)*

110 • *UN/CEFACT Business Requirement Specification Document Template*
111 *(CEFACT/ICG/005)*

112 • *UN/CEFACT Cross Border Management Reference Data Model*

113

1.4 Objective

115 The objective of this document is to propose a standard for the Business Processes, the
116 Business Transactions and the Business Information Entities used in the process of
117 exchanging data for the purpose of publishing information on a Trade Information Portal.
118 These three terms are taken in the context of the UN/CEFACT Business Requirement
119 Specification template; a Business Transaction therefore refers to the transaction of
120 exchanging information and does not imply any commercial or other transaction.

121 The Business Process is the detailed description of the way participants intend to play their
122 respective roles, establish business relations and share responsibilities to interact efficiently
123 with the support of their respective information systems. Each Business Transaction is
124 realized by an exchange of messages. The context and sequence in which these messages
125 are used is presented as use cases in the document.

126 The business documents are composed of Business Information Entities (BIE), which when
127 available, are taken from the library of reusable BIEs and when not found, are proposed as
128 new BIEs. The contents of the business documents and the BIEs are presented using class
129 diagrams.

1.5 Scope

131 The objective of this project is to standardise the Business Processes, the Business
132 Transactions and the Business Information Entities related to the information to be shared
133 through a Trade Information Portal.

134 The project will describe the business process for the electronic exchange of:

135 - Data required to populate the Trade Information Portal

136 - Date required by regional/international organizations to maintain a centralized
137 trade repository

1.6 Context

Context Category	Description
Business Process	Publishing information on a Trade Information Portal Exchange information with other parties
Product Classification	Trade Information Portal (TIP)
Industry Classification	All sectors involved in cross-border trade in goods (import/export/transit/trans-shipment)
Geopolitical	Global
Official Constraints	None (on the global standard level; may exist in national implementations)
Business Process Roles	National regulator, TIP manager, information consumers
Supporting Role	None
System Capabilities	Database to hold trade related data in structured format Query language to allow users to submit queries and respond General web design capabilities Content management system (CMS) Data encryption and other security features to protect system from hacking or intrusion Multiple language capabilities If possible, integration with NSW environment

139   **Table 3 – Context Categories**

2 Business Requirements Elaboration

2.1 Business Requirements Lists

142 The Business Requirements and key business information is presented in the list below,

Number	Business Requirement Statement
A1	Information to be published on TIP must originate from a trusted source empowered to provide the TIP Managing Agency with such data
A2	Information may be organized as a structured entity (as described at Section 2.5 below) or it may be in plain language, as appropriate
A3	Information must be provided to the TIP Managing Agency for upload to the TIP in a timely manner by the originating Regulatory Agency.
A5	The originating Regulatory Agency supplying information to the TIP Managing Agency must be able to review and approve information uploaded prior to it being published
A4	Information may be exchanged selectively on request or as and when required based on agreements with other national or international organizations.

143 **Table 4 – Business Requirement List**

144

Number	Data Domains
B1	Regulatory Information

145 **Table 5 – Data Domains**

146 ## *2.2 Definitions Business Terms*

147 The names and definitions of business terms used in the requirements specification are
148 listed below:

CMS	Content Management System. CMS is software, often off-the-shelf, used to create, format and maintain data to be published on a website.
NSW	National Single Window. A facility providing trade facilitation that allows parties involved in trade and transport to lodge standardized information and documents with a

	single entry point to fulfil all import, export, and transit-related regulatory requirements.
TIP	Trade Information Portal. A TIP is a website that aggregates and publishes all trade related regulatory information originating from the government agencies that perform a control function in relation to imports, exports, transits or trans-shipments and that allows importers, exporters or anyone involved in international trade to easily find and understand any legal requirements and procedures pertaining to specific goods that are necessary to comply with national obligations for clearings goods at the border as well as before or after clearance

149 **Table 6 – Sample Definitions of Terms**

2.3 Business Partners View – Participants and Stakeholders
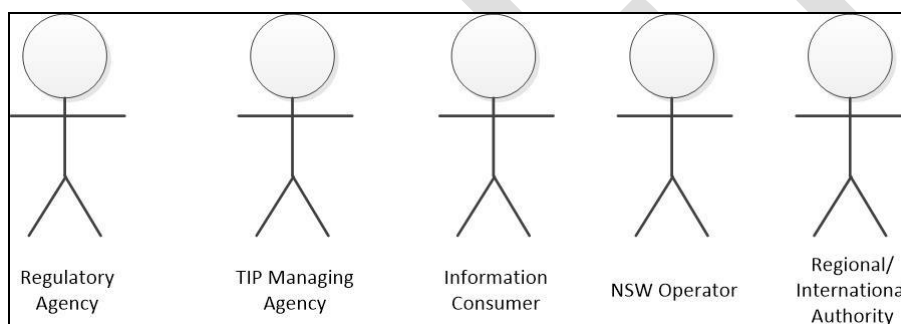
151

152 **Figure 1 – Business Partner View Use Case Diagram**

153 The above diagram shows the actors (participants and stakeholders) involved in the business
154 processes below.

155 *Regulatory Agency* is the government agency that issues regulations relating to trade and
156 has control responsibility over specific aspects of trade. Information related to trade
157 originates from these agencies.

158 The *TIP Managing Agency* is the agency responsible for operating and maintaining the TIP
159 so that it is publicly available for viewing and, therefore, for ensuring that information is
160 collected and uploaded.

161 The *Information Consumers* are traders, academia, other government agencies and, indeed,
162 the public at large who have a need to be provided with the information published on the
163 TIP.

164 The *National Single Window (NSW) Operator* is the organization responsible for operating
165 the facilities of the NSW, where this exists, and needs to synchronize the business rules that
166 drive the operation of the NSW with the business rules published on the TIP.

167   The *Regional/International Authority* is the organization responsible for the operation of a
168   trade information repository which may collect and publish information from member states
169   of a regional trade association or trade area.

170   *2.4 Business Requirements View*

171   An outline description of the artefacts that form part of the BRS is given below using the
172   UN/CEFACT Modelling Methodology (UMM) terminology.

173   *2.4.1 Business Domain View*

174   The business processes that are included in the Business Domain are identified and
175   classified in this view.

176   The Business Domain view is represented by two use case diagrams.

177   **a) Publish Information**
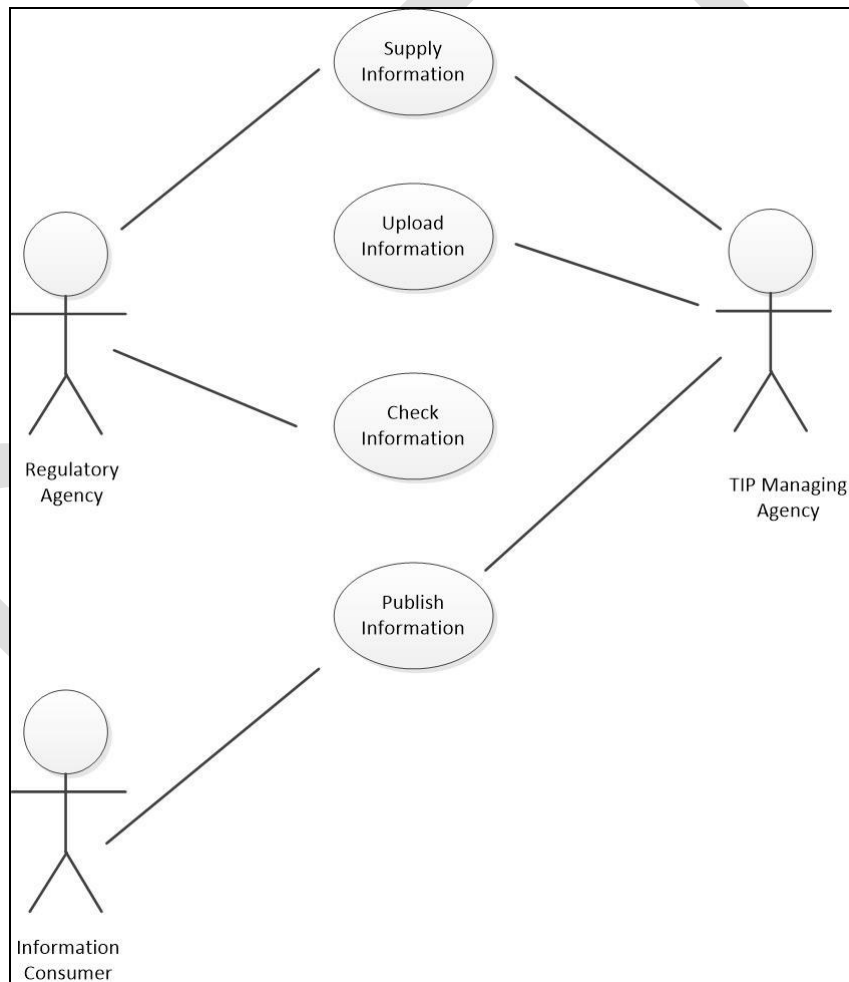
179   **Figure 2 – Business Domain Use Case Diagram 1 – Business Process 'Publish Information'**

180   The diagram above describes the business domain related to the publishing of information
181   on the TIP. Information is provided by Regulatory Agencies to the TIP Managing Agency.

182   The TIP Managing Agency formats and uploads the information to the TIP in a temporary
183   environment.

184   The Regulatory Agency originating the information checks that the information provided
185   has been uploaded correctly.

186   The TIP Managing Agency publishes the information for public viewing by the Information
187   Consumers.

188   **b) Exchange Information**
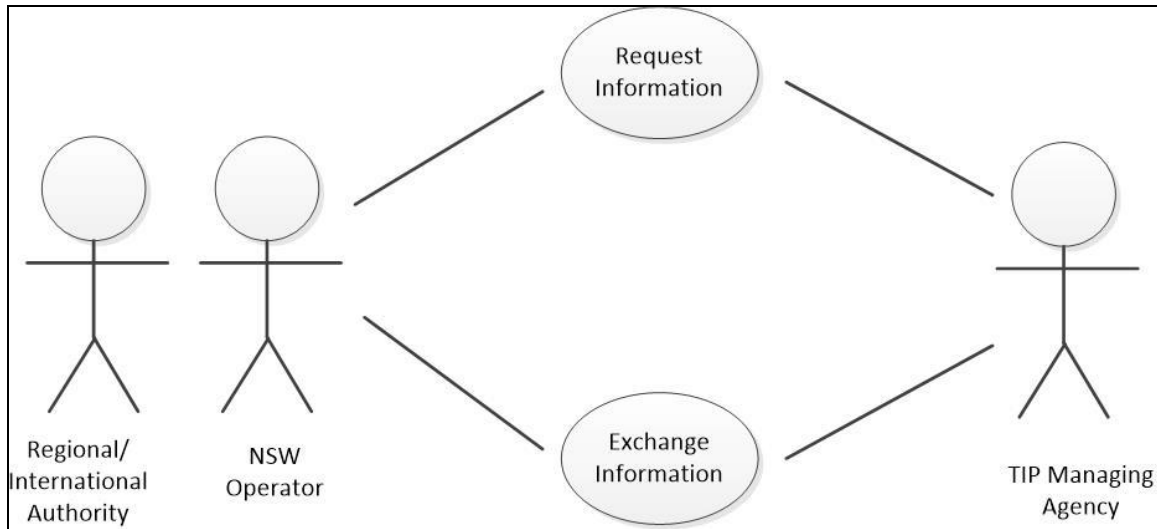
189

190   **Figure 3 – Business Domain use Case Diagram 2 – Business Process 'Exchange Information'**

191   The diagram above describes the domain relating to the exchange of information published
192   on the TIP.

193   The TIP Managing Agency is responsible for publishing information on the TIP, ideally
194   before such information comes into force. The organization responsible for operating the
195   NSW needs to ensure that operation of the NSW is in conformance with any rules in force
196   at any one time and that such rules are built into the data processing services provided.
197   There will therefore be a need for information to be synchronized between the two domains
198   and, ideally, the authorities responsible for each should be notified of any new information
199   at the same time.

200   The TIP Managing Agency may need to comply with international agreements to publish
201   national trade related information on websites typically managed by a multi-national or
202   regional organization representing all member states. The scope, nature and format of the
203   information to be supplied to such a facility may be inscribed in an international agreement.
204   Equally, the TIP Managing Agency may need to publish on the TIP relevant trade related
205   information originating in another country and conveyed via the regional facility.

206   In either of the cases above, the exchange of information may be triggered by a specific
207   request for information from one party to the other.

208 ## *2.4.2 Business Process Activity Diagram*

209 A Business Process Activity Diagram is used to model the dynamics of each business
210 process, to depict a collaborative process involving the Business Partners and to denote
211 important states of business entities that are manipulated during the execution of a business
212 process.

213 **a) Publish Information**

214 The following diagram is a generic model of the activities involved in the Business Domain
215 'Publish Information' described in Section 2.4.1 above.
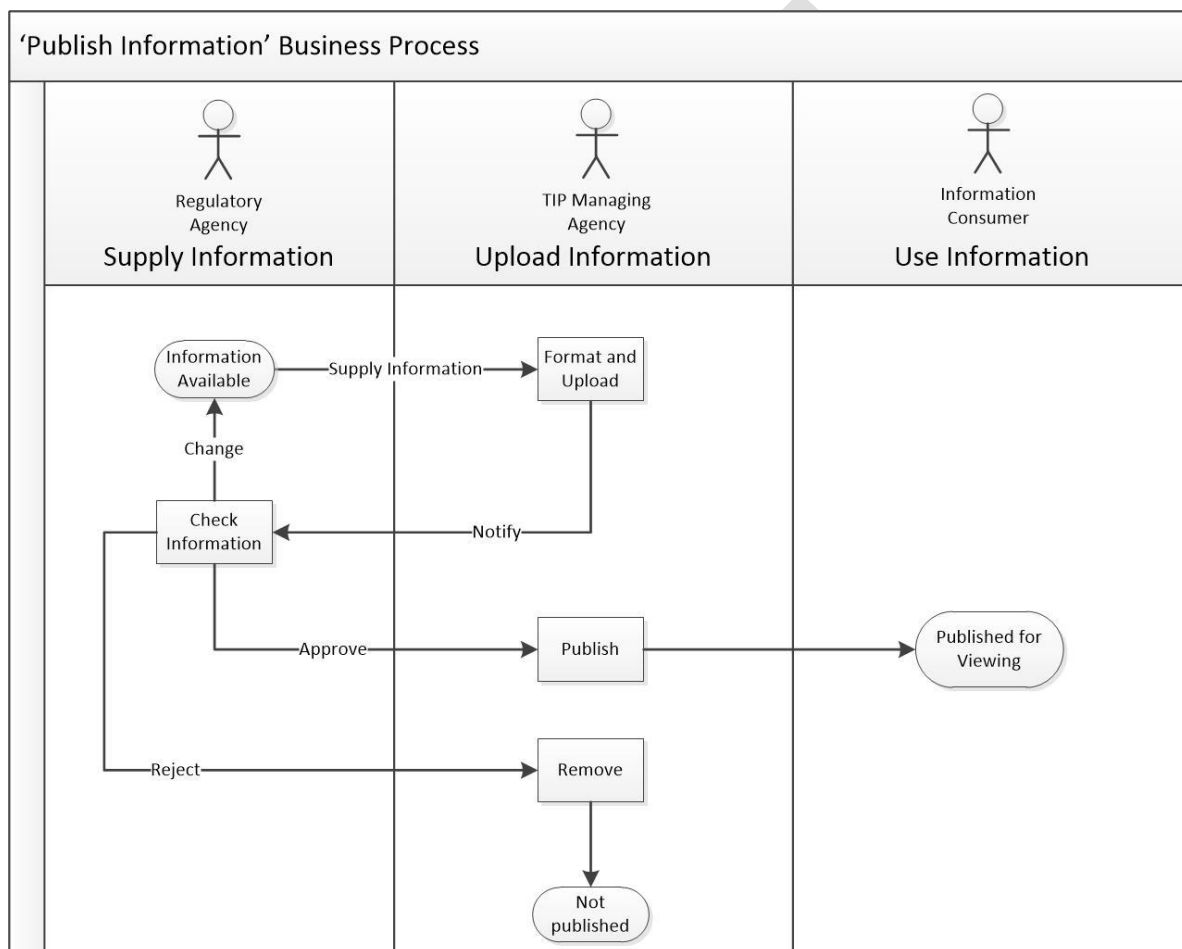
216

217 **Figure 4 - 'Publish Information' Business Process Activity Diagram**

218 **List of activities in the business process 'Publish Information'**

1 Supply Information	This phase is usually initiated by the Regulatory Agency when new information that needs to be published on the TIP becomes available, e.g. a new regulation, a change in procedures, etc.
	The agency where the information originates notifies the TIP Managing Agency by means of a message containing

13

		the information to be published.
2	Upload Information	On receipt of the information to be published, the TIP Managing Agency proceeds to upload it to an interim environment and formatting in the way required by the system.
3	Notify	The TIP Managing Agency notifies the originating agency that the information received has been uploaded and they can proceed with checking it. Notification may be by electronic means.
4	Check Information	The originating Regulatory Agency checks that the information has been uploaded and formatted correctly.
5	Approve	The originating Regulatory Agency notifies the TIP Managing Agency that the information has been uploaded correctly and indicates its approval to publish it. Notification may be by electronic means.
6	Change	Alternatively, if changes are required, it will send the information back with the changes re-starting the process from Step 1 above. Notification may be by electronic means.
7	Publish	On receipt of instructions above, the TIP Managing Agency publishes the information for public viewing.
8	Use Information	Information is available on the website for use by Information Consumers.
9	Reject	The Regulatory Agency may decide, for whatever reason, that the information should not be published in which case it will send a message to the TIP Managing Agency requesting the information should be removed.
10	Remove	If the information is rejected by the Regulatory Agency, the TIP Managing Agency will remove it from the interim environment or ensure that it is not published.

219   **Table 7 – Publish Information**

220

221   b)   **Exchange Information**

222   The following diagram is a generic model of the activities involved in the Business Domain
223   'Exchange Information' described at Section 2.4.1 above.
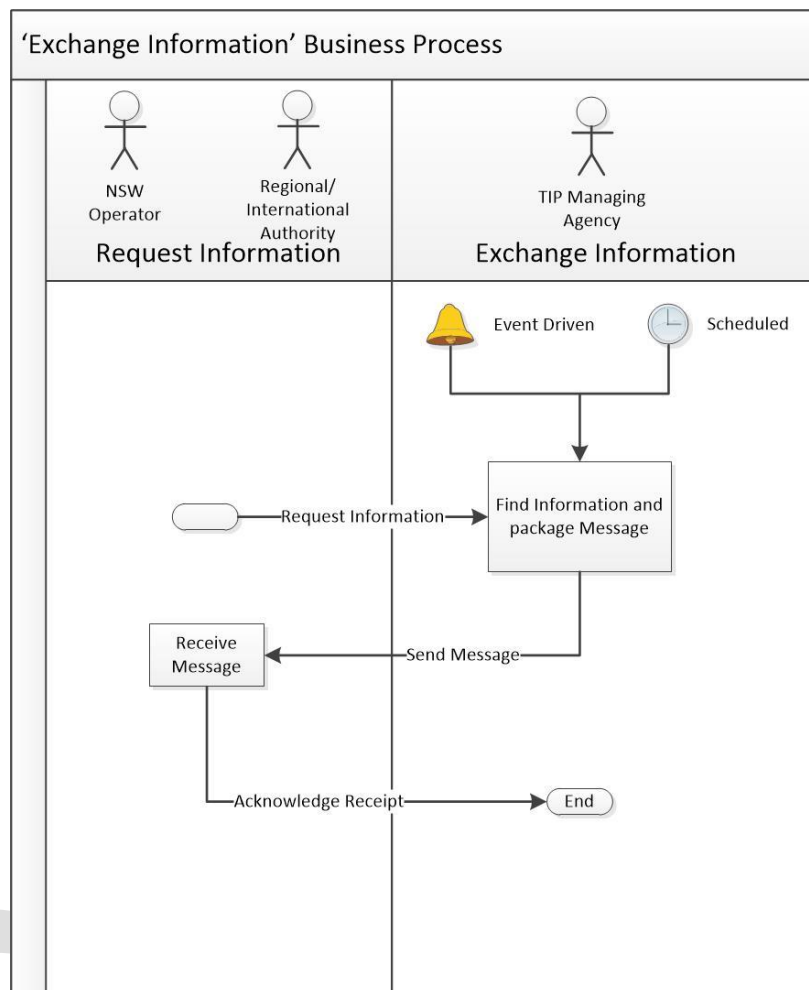
224

225   **Figure 5 - 'Exchange Information' Business Process Activity Diagram**

226   **List of activities in the business process 'Exchange Information'**

1 Request Information	A request for an exchange of information may be initiated by the NSW Operator or by the Regional/International Authority in charge of the regional trade repository. The request for information may be by means of an electronic message. Alternatively, the exchange of information may be triggered by an agreed schedule of updates (e.g. weekly, daily, etc.) or by specific triggers built into the system, e.g. as and when a new item of information becomes available or a change takes place that modifies existing information.

2	Find Information	On receipt of the request or the alert, the TIP system will extract the required information and package a message to be sent to the requesting party in the agreed format.
3	Send Message	The message containing the requested information is sent to the requesting party by means of the agreed message exchange protocol.
4	Received Message	The message is received by the requesting party.
5	Acknowledge Receipt	A message is sent to the TIP Managing Agency's system to acknowledge receipt of the message and that terminates the process.

227 **Table 8 – Exchange Information**

228

229 ### *2.4.3 Class diagram*

230 This model represents the set of data that would typically be represented in a TIP and which
231 could be subject to the exchange between parties as described in this document. Data is
232 exchanged via messages and each message may carry a payload of data derived from the
233 various database entities.

234 The message being carried may be an individual data entity or it may be a composite query
235 combining different data elements from related entities.
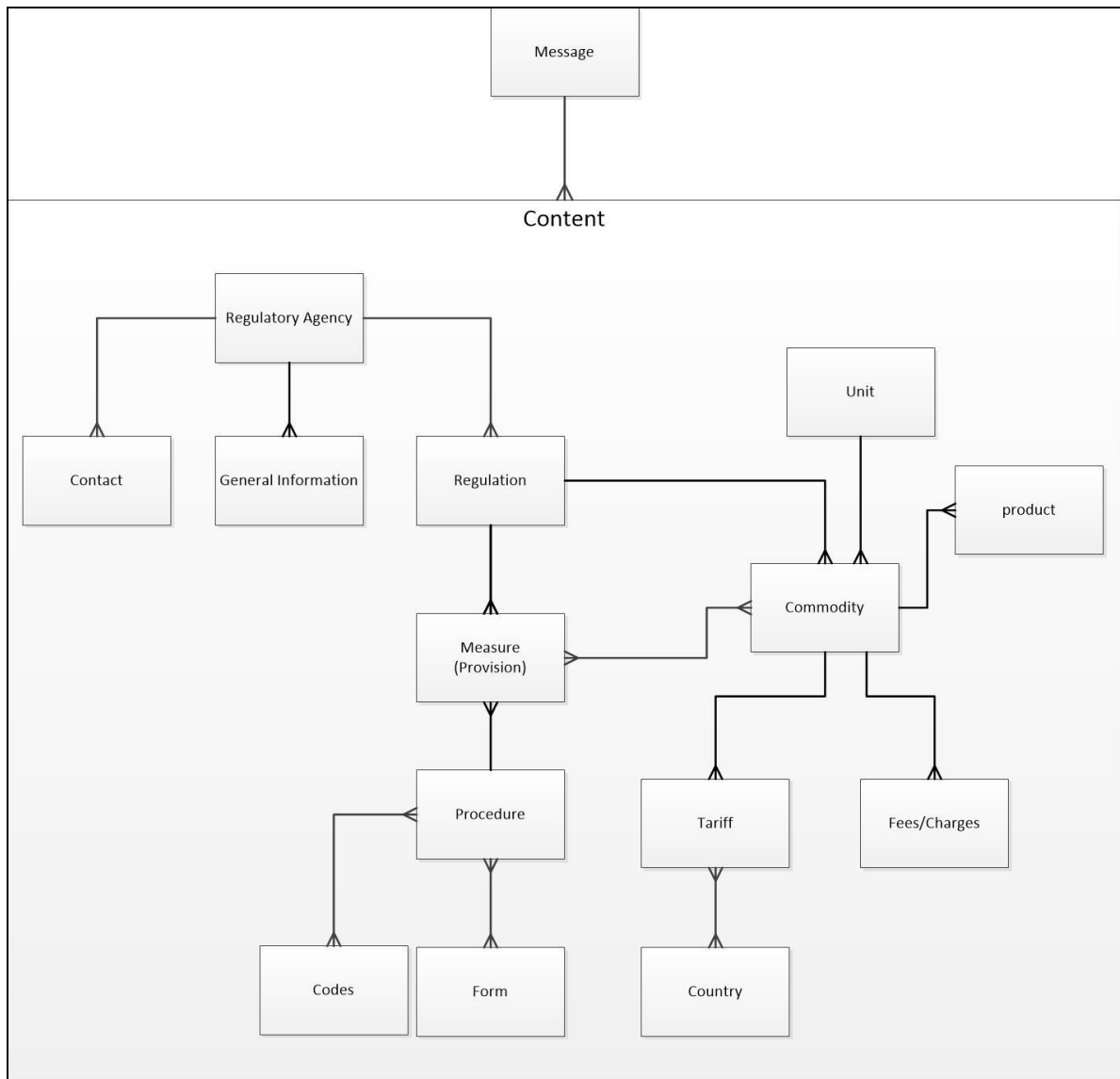
236

237 **Figure 6 – Class diagram for Trade Information Portal**

238

2.5 *Business Information Entities*

240 This section contains the data (business information entities) which are planned as part of
241 the data sets which will accompany this BRS. Each table has five columns:

242   • a unique identification number (UID) which is for the purposes only of this BRS

243   • the business name

244   • the cardinality (crd) (if the information is obligatory or optional (1 or 0 respectively
245   for the character) and if it can repeat or not (* or 1 respectively as the second
246   character); the cardinality is only provided in the context of the individual tables –
247   and not in terms of an overall standard message.

248   • the type of data, i.e. if it is an identifier, codified, date/time or text

249   • a brief description in its business context

2.5.1 Message

251 A Message is the means of exchanging information between parties.

252 A Message may be stand-alone and self-contained if it is simply used to convey
253 instructions, give an acknowledgement, notify of a rejection, etc.

254 Alternatively, a Message acts as the accompanying header for sets of data that need to be
255 exchanged between parties. The data sets that could be carried as part of the Message
256 payload or that can be used to extract queries that could be carried as part of the Message
257 are described in Section 0 *Table* 9 – Message Business Information Entity

258 Content below.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-001	Identification	1..1	Identifier	The unique identifier of this exchanged Message.
TIP-002	Originator	1..1	Code	Code identifying the sender of the Message.
TIP-003	Recipient	1..1	Code	Code identifying the intended recipient of the Message.

TIP-004	Type	0..*	Code	Describes the type of exchange and data set/s being exchanged, e.g. "request to publish", "acknowledgement", etc.
TIP-005	Action	0..*	Code	The code specifying the action to be taken, e.g. "upload content", "remove content, "amend content", etc.
TIP-006	Message Date	1..1	Date/Time	Date and time of the Message.
TIP-007	Language	0..1	Code	Code specifying the language of the content of the Message (the Code may be a composite of country/language).
TIP-008	Message Text	1..*	Text	Additional descriptive textual information.

259 **Table 9 – Message Business Information Entity**

260 2.5.2 Content

261 This section describes various data sets that are likely to be the constituent parts of a
262 structured database of trade related data where the data entities can be cross-referenced
263 through relational data.

264 Unstructured data (e.g. regulatory text, news items in plain language, generic website pages
265 with graphics and text, etc.) may also be part of the TIP data set and, therefore, be published
266 on the website or exchanged with other parties. This data is described in the entities "**0**
267 **Table 11** – Contact Business Information Entity

268 **General Information**" and "**d) Regulatory text**" below.

269 **a) Regulatory Agency**

270 This is a government agency that performs a regulatory function in relation to import/export
271 trade in goods and, therefore, is likely to provide information to be published on the TIP.
272 Most data elements and content will be related to a Regulatory Agency either as the agency
273 responsible for issuing the information or the agency responsible for enforcing the
274 provisions being described.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-009	Agency Name	1..1	Text	The Regulatory Agency's full name, e.g. "Ministry of Finance".
TIP-010	Short Name	0..1	Text	Regulatory Agency's usual abbreviation, e.g. "MOF".
TIP-011	Address	0..1	Text	Full postal address of the Regulatory Agency.
TIP-012	Department Responsible	1..1	Text	Department/division responsible for data collection and operation of TIP.
TIP-013	Person Responsible	0..*	Text	Name of person responsible for matters relating to TIP (focal point).
TIP-014	Telephone No.	0..*	Text	
TIP-015	Fax No.	0..*	Text	
TIP-016	Email Address	0..*	Text	
TIP-017	Description	0..1	Text	Description of the functions of the Regulatory Agency.

275 **Table 10 – Regulatory Agency Business Information Entity**

276 **b) Contact**

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-018	Regulatory Agency	1..1	Identifier	Relates to Regulatory Agency parent key.
TIP-019	Branch/Division	0..1	Text	Name of branch, division,

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
				department, etc.
TIP-020	Person Responsible	0..1	Text	Name of person responsible for matters relating to TIP (focal point).
TIP-020	Telephone No.	0..*	Text	
TIP-022	Fax No.	0..*	Text	
TIP-023	Email Address	0..*	Text	

277 **Table 11 – Contact Business Information Entity**

278 **c) General Information**

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-024	Regulatory Agency	1..1	Identifier	Relates to Regulatory Agency parent key. Agency issuing this content.
TIP-025	Type	1..1	Code	Code defining the type of content, e.g. "news", "announcement", "publication", "general page", etc.
TIP-026	Content	1..1	Text	Content to be published in Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) format.
TIP-027	Date of Issue	1..1	Date/Time	Date and time content was issued.
TIP-028	Person Issuing	0..1	Text	Person responsible for issuing content.
TIP-029	Associated	0..*	PDF/Word/etc.	Downloadable document associated with content

| | Document | | | item, i.e. additional reading, brochure, or printable version of content.

The document could be in various formats. |

Table 12 – General Information Business Information Entity

d) Regulation

Regulations are the legal instruments issued by government and government agencies that
provide the basis for the control exercised by them over trade. Regulations comprise
primary legislation (e.g. laws or acts of parliament) as well as implementing regulations
which may have different names in different countries (e.g. decrees, sub-decrees, etc. or
simply "regulation") and that could be issued by ministries, including any instructions of a
binding nature as may be issued by specific departments.

Many elements of data in a TIP relate to a specific regulation which gives them force in
law.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-030	Regulatory Agency	1..1	Identifier	Relates to Regulatory Agency parent key. Agency issuing this content.
TIP-031	Type	1..1	Identifier	Type of Regulation, e.g. law, decree, instruction, etc.
TIP-032	Title	1..1	Text	Title of Regulation.
TIP-033	Issuing Agency	1..1	Code	Relates to Regulatory Agency parent key. This is the agency or government entity that issued the regulation. "Issued" in this sense is the legal value of "issue", i.e. the date when the regulation was made public.
TIP-034	Responsible Agency	0..1	Code	Relates to Regulatory Agency

				parent key.
				This is the agency responsible for enforcing the provisions in the Regulations and may be different from above.
TIP-035	Date of Issue	1..1	Date	Date when the Regulation was issued, i.e. when it was officially adopted and made public.
TIP-036	Date of Coming into Force	1..1	Date	Date when Regulation comes into force. This may be different from Date of Issue above.
TIP-037	Date of Expiry	1..1	Date	Date when the Regulation expires, if time bound. NULL if not time bound.
TIP-038	Status	1..1	Code	E.g. "in force", "rescinded", "suspended", etc.
TIP-039	Text	1..1	Text	Text of the Regulation.
TIP-040	Associated Document	0..*	PDF/Word/etc.	Downloadable document associated with content item, i.e. the full legal text as published in an official journal.

289 **Table 13 – Regulation Business Information Entity**

290 **e) Measure**

291 A Measure is a provision described in a regulation (either primary or implementing) that
292 puts an obligation on traders to comply. This could be a prohibition, a restriction of any
293 sort (e.g. having to use a specific transit route or border post), a quota, a requirement to
294 obtain a permit or license, a requirement to submit the goods to inspection, etc. Measures
295 are sometimes referred to as "non-tariff measures" or NTMs. Technical standards, such as
296 chemical composition, labelling requirements, etc. are also measures if they are compulsory
297 according to the law.

298 A Measure is therefore related to the regulation that stipulates it and a regulation may give
299 rise to several measures.

300 A Measure is usually associated with specific commodities, though some Measures may
301 apply to all commodities. A commodity may be subject to more than one Measure.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-041	Regulation	1..1	Identifier	Relates to Regulation parent key. The regulation that gives rise to the measure.
TIP-042	Regulatory Agency	1..1	Identifier	The Regulatory Agency responsible for enforcing the Measure.
TIP-043	Measure Name	1..1	Text	A descriptive name for the Measure
TIP-044	Description	1..1	Text	Description of the Measure (derived from text in the regulation)
TIP-045	Valid from	1..1	Date	Date when Measure came into force.
TIP-046	Valid to	0..1	Date	Date when Measure may expire (some Measures have limited time validity).
TIP-047	Type	1..1	Code	Type of Measure, e.g. sanitary/phyto-sanitary (SPS), Quota, etc.
TIP-048	International Code	0..*	Text	Reference to international standard, if required, especially for technical conformance measures.
TIP-049	UN Code	0..*	Code	Optional reference to international classification of

				Non-Tariff Measures (e.g. UNCTAD).

302   **Table 14 – Measure Business Information Entity**

303   **f) Procedure**

304   A Procedure is a prescribed way of discharging an obligation dictated by a Measure, i.e. if a
305   Measure requires a permit to be obtained for certain products, regulations or instructions
306   will also exist to prescribe how to obtain the permit. A Procedure is typically described as a
307   sequence of steps. Each step may require documents to be handed over or forms to be
308   submitted (either physically or electronically) in order to proceed to the next step.

309   The same Procedure may apply to different Measures, e.g. in order to obtain a license to
310   import motor vehicles the steps are the same as those to obtain a license for fuel.

311   A Procedure may involve the handling (submitting or receiving) of physical documents,
312   although a copy of these may be delivered electronically. The physical document may have
313   been replaced by electronic messages which fulfill the same purpose and have the same
314   validity in law.

315   A Procedure may also describe all the steps required to comply with all Measures related to
316   the import or export of a commodity.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-050	Identification	1..1	Identifier	The unique identifier of this Procedure.
TIP-051	Name	0..1	Text	Procedure Name
TIP-052	Step 1 … NNN	0..*	Text	Description of Steps 1 through NNN (as required)
TIP-053	Form/…	0..*	Identifier	Form/or forms required in each corresponding Step

317   **Table 15 – Procedure Business information Entity**

318   **g) Form**

319   Forms may be used in Procedures in order to submit information to the regulatory authority
320   or for the regulatory authority to convey information to a trader (e.g. issuing a license).
321   Forms may be in paper format or electronic facsimiles (PDF).

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-054	Identification	1..1	Identifier	The unique identifier of this Form.
TIP-055	Form Name	1..1	Text	Name of the Form.
TIP-056	Regulatory Agency	1..1	Identifier	The Regulatory Agency responsible that uses the Form in the Procedure.
TIP-057	Form	0..*	PDF	Downloadable facsimile of Form.

322 **Table 16 – Forms Business Information Entity**

323 **h) Codes**

324 Codes are codified information that may be required to complete Forms or to discharge the
325 Procedure (e.g. customs procedure code [CPC] codes).

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-058	Identification	1..1	Identifier	The unique identifier of this Code.
TIP-059	Code Type	0..1	Identifier	Identifies the Code set
TIP-060	Code	1..1	Code	Code
TIP-061	Description	1..1	Text	Description of the Code

326 **Table 17 – Codes Business Information Entity**

327 **i) Unit**

328 Unit is the table of Codes used to identify the unit of measure for each Commodity (e.g.
329 kilogram, liter, unit, etc.).

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description

TIP-062	Code	1..1	Code	The unique identifier of this Code.
TIP-063	Description	0..1	Text	Description of the Code

330 **Table 18 – Units Business Information Entity**

331 **j) Country**

332 Country is the table of Codes used to identify countries.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-064	Code	1..1	Code	Country Code
TIP-065	Name	0..1	Text	Country name

333 **Table 19 – Country Business Information Entity**

334 **k) Language**

335 Language is the table of Codes used to identify languages.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-066	Code	1..1	Code	Language Code
TIP-067	Name	0..1	Text	Language name

336 **Table 20 – Language Business Information Entity**

337 In order to identify the language/s to be used in a multi-language version of the TIP, it may
338 be necessary to use a combination or Country and Language where national variants exist of
339 the same Language.

340 **l) Commodity**

341 Commodity is the entity that describes goods and is organized by the Commodity Code.
342 The Commodity Code is typically the Harmonized System (HS) Code which follows the
343 standard of the World Customs Organization (WCO). The WCO standard prescribes
344 classification of goods at 3 levels: Chapter (2 digit), Sub-Chapter (4 digits) and Sub-

345 Heading (6 digits). Most countries adopt this classification but then, not always, go on to
346 further classify goods with additional digits.

347 The database should be such that the economy's methods of Commodity classification is
348 adequately represented.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-068	Chapter	1..1	Text	First two digits of the WCO HS Code.
TIP-069	Sub-Chapter	1..1	Text	First four digits (Chapter + 2 additional digits) of the WCO HS Code.
TIP-070	Sub-Heading	1..1	Text	First six digits (Sub-Chapter + 2 additional digits) of the WCO HS Code.
TIP-071	Commodity Code	1..1	Text	The national unique identifier for a Commodity (first six digits based on the WCO HS Code and additional digits defined for an economy's needs).
TIP-072	Description	0..1	Text	Description of the Commodity. This may be a long text field containing special characters.
TIP-073	Unit	0..1	Code	Unit of measurement. Relates to Unit above.

349 **Table 21 – Commodity Business Information Entity**

350 **m) Product**

351 A Commodity description for a 6+ digit code may not be sufficient to identify a Product as
352 it may be identified by attributes beyond the scope of the Commodity description (e.g.
353 colour, additional accessories, trim, etc.). Indeed, many government agencies do not use the
354 HS classification to identify the products they deal with but use brand names or scientific
355 names instead (e.g. for pharmaceuticals). This entity allows creation of a list of Product
356 names to be associated with a Commodity Code so that users can be informed of the Tariff/s
357 or any Measures without necessarily knowing the Commodity Code.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-074	Identification	1..1	Identifier	The unique identifier of this Product.
TIP-075	Product Name	0..1	Text	Name of the Product.
TIP-076	Product Family	0..*	Text	Product family, e.g. "painkillers", "motor vehicles", etc.
TIP-077	Technical Name	0..*	Text	Technical/Scientific name of Product, if any.
TIP-078	Brand Name	0..*	Text	Brand name, if any.
TIP-079	Commodity Code	0..*		Relates to Commodity.

358   **Table 22 – Product Business Information Entity**

359   **n) Tariff**

360   A Commodity will be associated with a Tariff, i.e. duty payable on import. The Tariff is the
361   rate of customs duty payable for a specific Commodity and it may vary according to where
362   the Commodity originates (on imports) or other factors.

363   Some Tariffs reflect a trade agreement made with another country or group of countries.

364   Different Tariffs may therefore apply to a Commodity.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-080	Commodity Code	1..1	Identifier	Relates to a Commodity record at the most detailed level describing a commodity.
TIP-081	Tariff Type	1..*	Code	A Code identifying the tariff, e.g. whether it is Most Favoured Nation (MFN – the base rate defined in a country's accession agreement to the World Trade Organization which must be

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
				applied to all other WTO members that do not have a trade agreement or are part of a Customs union with the country) or specific to a country or to a Trade/Free Trade Agreement.
TIP-082	Rate	1..*	Text	Rate expressed as ad-valorem percentage (e.g. 20%) or as a unit price (e.g. $10/kg) or any different combination (e.g. 20% + 50c/KG/MIN $10), etc.
TIP-083	Valid from	1..*	Date	Date when Rate takes effect.
TIP-084	Valid to	1..*	Date	Date when Rate expires.
TIP-085	Legal Basis	0..*	Identifier	Relates to Regulation parent key. The Regulation that determines the coming into effect of this Tariff.

Table 23 – Tariff Business Information Entity

o) Fees/Charges

Various Fees or Charges may be applicable to a Commodity over and above the Tariff duty rates, such as value added tax (VAT), excise (EXC), environmental levy, etc.

UID	Business term	crd	Type	Description
TIP-086	Commodity Code	1..1	Identifier	Relates to a Commodity record at the most detailed level.
TIP-087	Fee Type	1..*	Code	A Code identifying the fee or charge, e.g. VAT, EXC, etc.
TIP-088	Rate	1..1	Text	Rate expressed as ad-valorem percentage (e.g. 20%) or as a unit price (e.g. $10/kg) or any different combination (e.g. 20% + 50c/KG/MIN $10), etc.

TIP-089	Valid from	1..1	Date	Date when Rate takes effect.
TIP-090	Valid to	1..1	Date	Date when Rate expires.
TIP-091	Legal Basis	0..*	Identifier	Relates to Regulation parent key. The Regulation that determines the coming into effect of this duty/charge.

369 **Table 24 – Fees/Charges Business Information Entity**

370