UN/CEFACT, the United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business, supports activities dedicated to improving the ability of business, trade and administrative organizations, from developed, developing and transition economies, to exchange products and relevant services effectively. Its principal focus is on facilitating national and international transactions, through the simplification and harmonization of processes, procedures and information flows, and so contributing to the growth of global commerce.

UN/CEFACT has a global mandate. Participation in the UN/CEFACT Forum is open to all. There are some 300 experts representing every region in the world.

Within the framework of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) serves as the focal point for trade facilitation recommendations and electronic business standards, covering both commercial and government business processes that can foster growth in international trade and related services. In this context UN/CEFACT was established, as a subsidiary, intergovernmental body of the UNECE.

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The WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement is a multilateral agreement aiming to streamline border processes and cut red tape. It entered into force on 22 February 2017. UN/CEFACT can help implementation of these articles among others.

**Art.10.1. Formalities and Documentation Requirements**
Recommendation 1 on UN Layout Key provides a standard format and methodology of document management since the 1970s. Recommendation 18 provides a comprehensive set of recommendations regarding best practices and standards for the facilitation and harmonization of trade transactions.

**Art.10.3. Use of International Standards**
UN/CEFACT offers a number of eBusiness standards in all trade domains covering transport, supply chain, procurement, finance, accounting, agriculture, energy, tourism, among others. The UN/EDIFACT syntax is the only centrally maintained and developed message exchange standard widely used since the 1980s. UN/CEFACT XML messages, each accompanied by their business process standards provide a standard and stable alternative in the plethora of syntaxes available. UN/CEFACT Code Lists are used by nearly every major international standards organization and contribute to mutual comprehension of data across language barriers.

**Art.10.4. Single Window**
UN/CEFACT developed the first guidance material on Single Window which is widely used by other standards organizations as their basis and by many economies for their implementations. A suite of four recommendations have been developed to cover additional points like data harmonization, creating a legally enabling environment and interoperability. UN/CEFACT continues to develop guidance material in this area.

**Art.23.2. NCTF**
Since 1974, UNECE has provided guidance on the benefits, the potential structures and roles of National Trade Facilitation Committees. The most recent revision of this Recommendation 4 in 2015 aimed specifically at orienting the guidance to support the implementation of the WTO TFA.

**Art.2.2. Consultation**
Recommendation 4 on National Trade Facilitation Bodies and Recommendation 40 on Consultation Approaches provide frameworks and strategies for to implementing effective and comprehensive consultation.

These are some examples of UN/CEFACT’s deliverables. The full list can be found and downloaded free of charge on our website: www.unece.org/cefact