UNECE trade-facilitation tools and capacity-building

and

The joint approach of the UN Regional Commissions

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Capacity Building Activities

- Demand Driven – UN member States
- UN Development Account projects – with other UN RCs and other agencies – UN ECOSOC
- UNECE Regional Advisor
- Focus on high level assistance to help explain policy options to governments
- Technical training in specific areas, such as document alignment and data harmonization – with experts from UN/CEFACT, WCO, European Commission, etc
Needs Assessments

- Needs assessment - regulatory and procedural obstacles to trade – based in part on the GFP Trade Facilitation Audit methodology

- 2 more needs assessments planned during 2011-12

- Platform for country level and regional discussions in the UNECE Committee on Trade that will feed into the work being done by UN/CEFACT
UNECE - UN/CEFACT

Recommendations/Standards
Development and Maintenance
(These are instruments that can be used for compliance with WTO rules)

UNECE in partnership with other UN RCs and other organizations

Capacity Building
(Helping governments elaborate TF strategies, where appropriate in compliance with WTO rules)

UNCTAD, WB, UNIDO, UNDP, Donors, others

Technical Assistance
(To implement national strategies - Done by other agencies – UNECE does not provide long term Technical Assistance)

WTO
Develops rules such as those for minimum transparency, equal treatment and, perhaps in the future, for simplified procedures (however, WTO does not develop the recommendations and instruments needed for implementation)
Public-Private Partnerships

Partnerships between public and business sectors are critical in enhancing the efficiency and sustainability of transport and trade infrastructures and services. In the current economic condition, public-private partnerships (PPPs) in logistics and trade facilitation play a key role in the provision of new services with a high degree of sophistication using modern information and communication technologies. Single window facilities for international trade are increasingly being developed and operated by the public-private consortiums.

New forms of PPPs in trade facilitation, such as the authorized economic operator (AEO), or trade facilitation negotiation support groups, have emerged at the agency, national or regional level. Read more...
UN Network of Experts UNNext

- Markus Pikart
Joint UN Regional Commissions Approach to Trade Facilitation
Background

- UN Regional Commissions (RCs) work in Trade Facilitation
  - UNECE
  - UN ESCAP (Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific)
  - UN ESCWA (Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia)
  - UN ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean)
  - UNECA (Economic Commission for Africa)

- Original proposal for coordinating mechanism at Meeting of UN Regional Commissions in Beirut, January 2010 – received endorsement from all 5 RCs
Objective

- Present a joint UNRC view on key Trade Facilitation issues – particularly at the regional and interregional level, and especially in relation to capacity building needs and approaches.
Deliverables

- Joint UNRC view …… (on key Trade Facilitation issues – particularly at the regional and interregional level)

- Coordination and cooperation on Trade Facilitation work - especially in relation to Capacity Building – at the Regional and Interregional level

- Dissemination of information on UNRC activities in Trade Facilitation policy papers and reports on key Trade Facilitation issues

- Coordination with other key UN and related agencies on TF
Coordinated Capacity Building

- UN Development Account Project 2010 – 2012 “Strengthening the Capacity of Developing and Transition Economies to Link to Global Supply Chains through the reduction of trade obstacles ”

- UN Development Account Project “Facilitating effective integration of developing countries in the global economy through aid for trade schemes”

- Joint UN RC Single Window Symposium – “Challenges and Opportunities of Single Windows in the next Decade” in 2011
Coordinated Capacity Building …..

- UN Network of Experts (UNNext)
- Establish synergies in developing and delivering capacity building with other agencies (UN Agencies, Donors, Global Facilitation Partnership (GFP), world Customs Organization (WCO), etc)
- Support implementation of TF measures negotiated under WTO Doha Round – at the regional level
Institutional Mechanism

- Includes all UNRCs, each with a designated focal point and alternate
- Operates under the Joint UNRC Consultative mechanism, chaired by the UNRC Executive Secretaries
- Rotating Chair amongst all UNRCs (UNECE to be the Chair until August 2011)
- UNECE to provide Secretariat
Questions / Comments?
THANK YOU

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