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Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (UN/CEFACT)

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Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**REPORT OF THE BUSINESS PROCESS  
ANALYSIS WORKING GROUP (BPAWG)**

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Submitted by the Chair of BPAWG\*

This document is submitted to the Centre for discussion and noting.

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## **REPORT OF THE BUSINESS PROCESS ANALYSIS WORKING GROUP (BPAWG)**

**Submitted by the Chair of BPAWG**

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### **1. Introduction**

The Group was established by the UN/CEFACT Steering Group (CSG) in August 1997 and approved as a UN/CEFACT permanent working group by the UN/CEFACT Plenary during its September 1997 meeting, as the Business Analysis Working Group (BAWG). The title was changed to the Business Process Analysis Working Group (BPAWG) by the UN/CEFACT Plenary in March 1999.

The purpose of the BPAWG is to analyse functional business processes, to identify constraints that adversely impact on the mission and objectives of UN/CEFACT, and to propose appropriate changes to those business processes.

The BPAWG will serve as a catalyst to meet UN/CEFACT's mission to "facilitate international transactions through the simplification and harmonisation of procedures and information flows, and so contribute to the growth of global commerce"<sup>1</sup> by:

- analysing and understanding the key elements of international transactions and working for the elimination of constraints";
- promoting best practices through channels such as government, industry and service associations".

### **2. The Vision**

To simplify, streamline and standardise functional business processes through the use of value chain principles and structured analysis.

### **3. BPAWG Deliverables**

BPAWG deliverables in support of the vision are:

- functional area models (requirements specifications) and diagrams with textual structured information describing the functional business processes and roles of players involved for submission to working groups for further detailed specification;
- proposals to resolve overlaps, redundancies, and bottlenecks identified during review analysis of completed working groups' models;
- reports containing proposals for guidance and use by working groups in developing solutions to discrepancies.

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<sup>1</sup> Trade/R.650 11 October 1996 Recommendations for the Establishment of CEFACT (Centre for the Facilitation of Procedures and Practices for Administration, Commerce, and Transport).

#### **4. The BPAWG Model of the International Supply Chain Domain (CEFACT/2001/BP015.Rev3 – January 2001).**

Work on the BPAWG Model of the International Supply Chain Domain continued during the past year. The latest interim report, cited above, consists of a high-level description of the International Supply Chain Domain expressed as Business Use Cases and Business Objects. The ultimate objective is to provide UN/CEFACT with a reference model which can support more detailed standardization work and trade facilitation actions within UN/CEFACT working groups.

The BPAWG Model of the International Supply Chain Domain (CEFACT/2001/BP015/Rev3) can be downloaded from <http://www.unece.org/cefact/docum/download/01bp015r3.doc> (as pointed out in annex A).

#### **5. Cooperation with UN/CEFACT Working Groups**

##### **5.1 EDIFACT Working Group (EWG)**

The BPAWG attends the two EWG meetings held each year. They were in Taipei in September 2000, and Washington DC in March 2001. A joint BPAWG/EWG Resolution was agreed in Taipei to establish official and joint channels of communication and joint working in agreed areas.

##### **5.2 International Trade Procedures Working Group (ITPWG)**

Delegates from the two working groups attend each others meetings in order to ensure that proper input on trade facilitation issues is made. The BPAWG assisted ITPWG in the revision of UN/CEFACT Recommendation 18.

#### **6. World Trade Organization (WTO)**

A statement on the relevance of the BPAWG's work to trade facilitation was made to the WTO Council for Trade in Goods informal meeting on Trade Facilitation in October 2000.

#### **7. BPAWG Sub-Groups**

##### **7.1 Europe**

The main body of work in BPAWG is still carried out in Europe including most of the input to the International Supply Chain Domain.

Contributions are also received from the EDIEL – EDI in the Electrical Distribution Market Project which is using the same UML methodology developed by the UN/CEFACT Technologies and Methodologies Working Group (TMWG).

##### **7.2 Asia/Pacific**

The AFACT Steering Group set up a Regional sub group of BPAWG at its meeting in June 2000. Input on Vendor Managed Inventory was received from Taiwan and has been incorporated into the BPAWG International Supply Chain Domain Model.

### **7.3 The Americas**

It is noted with regret that there is still no participation from the American continent in BPAWG.

### **8. Future Developments**

The BPAWG intends to organize a Workshop on "eModelling International Supply Chain and International Trade Procedures" in the autumn of 2001.

## **Annex A: The BPAWG Model of the International Supply Chain Domain**

The **url** where the BPAWG Model of the International Supply Chain Domain can be found is

<http://www.unece.org/cefact/docum/download/01bp015r3.doc>

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