



# Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General  
3 December 2013

Original: English

---

## Economic Commission for Europe

### Committee on Trade

#### Sixth session

10-12 February 2014

Item 8 of the provisional agenda

**ECE contribution to trade development in the region: recent initiatives**

## Cooperation with other organizations

Submitted by the secretariat\*

### Introduction

1. At its first session, in June 2006, the Committee requested the secretariat, the Bureau and the Committee's subsidiary bodies to undertake a cooperative mapping both at the level of the Committee and that of its subsidiary bodies to identify links and synergies with partner organizations and to lay out clearly how UNECE contributes to work in other forums, and vice versa (see decision 5 in ECE/TRADE/C/2006/18).
2. This two-part document is submitted in response to that request. The first part highlights, in narrative form, major cooperative activities during the past year and future challenges for cooperation. The second part presents in the form of a table a comprehensive list of organizations with which the Committee and its subsidiary bodies are cooperating. A list of abbreviations is given at the end of the document.

---

\* This document was submitted late due to delayed inputs.

## Part One

### I. Other regional commissions of the United Nations, and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

3. The Trade Programme is developing enhanced cooperation as part of the "Trade Cluster", a working group under the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (ECESA). This group was created to facilitate joint strategic planning and decision-making among the United Nations agencies dealing with trade, and especially to foster joint activities between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the regional commissions. In particular, information on activities related to Aid for Trade is shared among the participating agencies through the Cluster.

4. UNECE is also part of the United Nations Inter-Agency cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity. Launched in 2007, the cluster is led by UNCTAD and was established to ensure that the issues related to trade and productive sectors and their interface with the Millennium Development Goals are adequately taken into account in the "Delivering as One" and UN-wide coherence process. Current members of the cluster are UNCTAD, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, the International Trade Centre, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the five regional commissions, and United Nations Office for Project Services. The members of the Cluster provide assistance in building the capacity in trade-related areas such as: supply-side capacity; export capacity; capacity to implement trade and trade-related rules; disputes settlement capacity; negotiating capacity; as well as in research and analysis.

5. The five regional commissions cooperate in implementing a United Nations Development Account project on "Strengthening the Capacity of Developing and Transition Economies to link to global supply chains through the reduction of trade obstacles". As part of the project, UNECE organized a global trade facilitation conference on supply chains and Single Windows in the next decade in Geneva, 12-13 December 2011. The project activities in 2012-2013 will include:

- (a) a study on information requirements and challenges in supply chains;
- (b) five regional workshops for developing and transition economies to discuss specific developments in supply chains that will be organized in cooperation with the relevant regional commissions;
- (c) an interregional conference on supply chains in cooperation with ESCAP.

6. UNECE and UNCTAD are also working together on trade facilitation issues, such as:

- (a) an update of the list of trade facilitation committees and Single Window repositories;
- (b) an update of Recommendation 4 on National Trade Facilitation Bodies to incorporate a concept of consultation models;
- (c) a joint Forum on trade facilitation committees and similar platforms and mechanisms in early 2013, subject to financing;
- (d) a revision of the UNCTAD *Hand-book for Trade Facilitation Committees*;

- (e) cooperation in capacity-building activities, e.g. joint delivery of training workshops and development of guidelines and training materials;
- (f) collaboration on UNCTAD's questionnaire on trade facilitation issues in WTO;
- (g) UN Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity.

## **II. Trade facilitation and electronic business (UN/CEFACT)**

7. UN/CEFACT is actively collaborating with other regional commissions in implementing three United Nations Development Account (UNDA) projects:

## **III. Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation**

### **A. Project on “Capacity-building in support of trade integration with emphasis on integrated trade information flow management and trade facilitation in Central Asia”**

8. The project had a significant impact on the strategic plans of national trade control agencies in the Russian Federation and the other members of the Customs Union of Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation. For instance, trade facilitation and the Single Window were included in such major projects as the Integrated Information System for International and Mutual Trade of the Customs Union (IISVVT). The national Single Window project in Kazakhstan and pilot projects in Vnukovo, Ust Luga, Sheremetyevo were launched or received substantive support.

9. Five studies were drafted on the readiness of an airport and the legal and technical systems of the Russian Federation and the Customs Union for trade facilitation and the Single Window. They significantly helped implement international standards and best practices in the changing trade procedures in the Russian Federation and the Customs Union in 2011.

10. A website on trade facilitation was developed and put in operation under the general site of the secretariat of the Commission of the Customs Union. An MoU between UNECE and the secretariat of the Commission of the Customs Union for further long-term cooperation on trade facilitation and the implementation of international standards (UNECE, UN/CEFACT, WCO and ISO) was signed on 7 April between the two executive secretaries in Moscow. A revised second edition of the English-Russian *Glossary of Trade Facilitation* was finalized between UNECE and the Commission of the Customs Union as a new standard for Russian-language terminology on trade facilitation.

11. Recommendations on building an enabling legal basis for Single Window systems in the Customs Union were drafted as proposals for amendments in the current version of the Customs Code of the Customs Union, and were supported by the EurAsEC business council. A set of recommendations on developing/amending national legislation was issued by the Interparliamentary Assembly of EurAsEC. The study on the technical standards for information gathering and exchange helped the launch of several pilot projects (including a joint Russian-Finnish project involving the transport ministries of the two countries). The Russian governmental agencies involved in the project increased their work on the alignment with international standards (e.g. implementation of EDIFACT messages by national standardization bodies, and railways)

12. Stage two of the project is focusing on promoting the use of international standards for trade facilitation and the Single Window in the countries of the Customs Union.

## **IV. Technical cooperation and standardization policies**

### **A. Regulatory cooperation**

13. The Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (WP.6) has established a partnership with the International Electrotechnical Commission System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmosphere (IECEX). Together they develop Common Regulatory Objectives (CROs) applying to regulatory cooperation arrangements relating to equipment for use in explosive atmospheres. The project was also backed by the government of Germany through the Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB).

### **B. Risk management**

14. The Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems comprises experts in specific risk-related areas from the private and public sectors, as well as academics and independent consultants. The organizations and institutions to which these experts belong include ISO, ITU, IEC, HEC Paris (France), the University of Toronto (Canada), and the World Bank Group. During the year 2011, the Group of Experts has participated in the preparation of the following:

- Draft-OECD Recommendation on Regulatory policy and Governance.
- “Regulatory Annex” to a new ISO standard aimed at setting forth guidelines on how to implement ISO 31000:2009 on risk management.

### **C. Consolidated Partnerships**

15. Through Working Party 6, UNECE is a permanent observer at the WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade. The WTO Secretariat is also invited to take part in several events organized by WP.6 throughout the year, such as the meetings of the Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries (DCMAS).

16. The Working Party participates in the activities of the International Task Force (ITF) on harmonization and equivalence in organic agriculture, a joint venture between UNCTAD, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements (IFOAM).

17. Representatives of the European Commission and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology (EASC) participate in WP.6 meetings. For four years now, the agenda of the CIS Interstate Council’s annual sessions has included an item on the work of WP.6.

18. The Working Party works closely with ISO and its committees: Committee on Developing Country Matters (DEVCO), Committee on Consumer Policy (COPOLCO) and Committee on Conformity Assessment (CASCO). ISO participates in all WP.6 sessions with an update on its activities.

## V. Agricultural quality standards

19. The Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (WP.7) works closely with the European Commission to maintain the complete harmonization of 10 marketing standards with UNECE standards.

20. It cooperates with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Scheme for the Application of International Standards for Fruit and Vegetables to facilitate the common interpretation of UNECE standards and their application in international trade.

21. It cooperates with the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables in developing new and maintaining existing commercial quality standards. There is a general agreement with the Codex Alimentarius Commission that whenever they start work on a new standard, they base it on a UNECE standard, if one exists.

22. Over the past four years, the Working Party has held about 30 workshops, seminars and training courses to promote agricultural quality standards and to build capacity for their practical application. That was done in close cooperation with host-country governmental and private-sector organizations and enterprises.

## Part Two

### Cooperation of the Committee on Trade with other organizations: summary table

<i>Organization<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
<b>Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology (EASC) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)</b>	Representatives of the European Commission and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology (EASC) participate regularly in WP.6 meetings. For four years the agenda of the CIS Interstate Council's annual sessions has included an item on the work of WP.6.	<p>The International Model on Regulatory Harmonization, a set of tools developed by UNECE to help regional trading blocs approximate their regulatory policies, is used extensively by the CIS in their regulatory cooperation efforts, led by the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology (EASC) ). This model is also one of the fundamental bases for the common technical regulations of the EurAsEC Customs Union among Belarus, the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan.</p> <p>WP.6 has a Coordinator for liaison with market surveillance bodies of the Commonwealth of Independent States, which reports on the work of the two organizations in the area of market surveillance.</p>
<b>European Commission (EC)</b>	The EC participates in the UNECE activities related to market surveillance, regulatory cooperation and risk management.	The EC participates in all the annual sessions of WP. 6, providing input into the work and updates on its own activities.
<b>Customs Union of Belarus, Russian Federation and Kazakhstan</b>	With the entry into force of its common Customs Code on 1 July 2010, the secretariat established contacts with the executive body of the Customs Union- Customs Commission and offered expertise and assistance to interested countries and the	The secretariat of the Commission of the Customs Union asked UNECE and UN/CEFACT experts to comment on a number of the Customs Union documents /agreements prepared (agreement on the use of information technologies, on the Customs code; on the concept of an integrated information system; on

<sup>1</sup> A list of abbreviations is given at the end of the table.

<i>Organization<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Mechanisms for cooperation</i>	<i>Current cooperation</i>
	CU from UNECE experts.	uniform conformity certificates, etc.).
<b>Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)</b> <b>Codex Alimentarius Commission</b> [Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme]	Meeting schedules are set in coordination between the secretariats and the secretariats participate in relevant meetings.  Joint workshops.	UNECE standards are circulated to Codex Committee on Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.
		<i>Participation in the trade facilitation Working Group of UN/CEFACT.</i>
	<i>Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and ICC</i>	<i>Many Chambers of Commerce in the member States host UNECE Multiplier Points.</i>
	<i>Participation in meetings and seminars</i>	<i>Joint organization of the elections of the special committee under the 1961 European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration.</i>
	<i>Participation in groups of experts</i>	<i>Discussions on standardization of the documentary credit form.</i>
<i>International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)</i>	<i>Exchange of information</i>	
	<i>Maintenance of the European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration</i>	
<b>International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Telecommunication Union (ITU), International Organization for Standardization (ISO)</b>	Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE, IEC, ISO and ITU.	Ongoing cooperation and coordination between the secretariats.  Each organization acts as secretary to the MoU Management Group on a rotating basis.  Management meetings twice a year between the secretariats, the expert groups and international user groups.  Summit meetings by the Memorandum of Understanding Management group on coordination and standardization issues.
<b>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), IEC, ISO, ITU, World Bank Group, European Risk Forum, International Regulatory Reform Network, Federation of European Risk Management Associations (FERMA), Institute of Risk</b>	Group of Experts on Risk Management in Regulatory Systems	Preparation of the UNECE recommendations on risk management and crisis management.

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)	<p>Memorandum of Understanding between UNECE and ICC</p> <p>Participation in meetings and seminars</p> <p>Participation in groups of experts</p> <p>Exchange of information</p> <p>Maintenance of the European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration</p>	<p>Participation in the trade facilitation Working Group of UN/CEFACT.</p> <p>Many Chambers of Commerce in the member States host UNECE Multiplier Points.</p> <p>Joint organization of the elections of the special committee under the 1961 European Convention on International Commercial Arbitration.</p> <p>Discussions on standardization of the documentary credit form.</p>
<b>Management (IRM) and others</b>		
<p><b>International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) TC 31, the IEC System for Certification to Standards Relating to Equipment for Use in Explosive Atmosphere (IECEX); and Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)</b></p>	<p>Partnership for preparing common regulatory objectives in the sector of “equipment used in environments with an explosive atmosphere”</p>	<p>Publication laying out a complete regulatory framework for this sector (March 2011).</p> <p>International conference on “Equipment and Services in Explosive Atmospheres” was organized was held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (March 2012).</p> <p>Meeting of regulators from major markets, Split, Croatia, in September 2011.</p>
<b>ISO Technical Committee 127</b>	<p>The Chairperson of the ISO/TC 127 is the coordinator of the Sectoral Initiative on Earthmoving Equipment</p>	<p>The UNECE WP. 6 Initiative on Earthmoving machinery is built on the ISO/TC 126 standards and benefits from the expertise of the TC members.</p>
<p>ISO (See also ISO Technical Committees 127, 154, and IEC, ITU and ISO)</p>	<p>Memorandum of Understanding between IEC, ISO, ITU and UNECE.</p>	<p>ISO attends all WP.6 meetings and annual seminars as well as UN/CEFACT sessions</p>
<p>ISO Technical Committee 127 on Earth Moving Machinery (TC 127)</p>		<p>TC 127 contributes to the WP.6 sectoral regulatory project “Earth-Moving Machinery Initiative”.</p>
<p>ISO Technical Committee 154 (See also ISO and IEC, ITU and ISO)</p>	<p>Regular Working Group Meetings</p> <p>Annual Plenary meetings</p> <p>The MoU for UNECE to be Secretary of an ISO Technical Committee is unique of its kind.</p>	<p>UNECE is the maintenance agency of the ISO 7372 Standard (Trade Data Element Directory).</p>

<i>National, regional and international metrological bodies</i>	<i>The Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM) participates actively in the meetings of the WP. 6.</i>	<i>BIPM is evaluating a possible use of the Recommendation L in the field of legal metrology. The WP. 6 secretariat gave a presentation at the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting of the German national metrology body Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB) in 2012.</i>
National, regional and international <b>SQAM institutions</b> , including: the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM), International Committee of Weights and Measures (CIPM), International Accreditation Forum (IAF), International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Laboratory Accreditation Co-operation (ILAC), International Organization of Legal Metrology (OIML), International Committee for Legal Metrology (CIML), ISO, ITU and UNIDO	All these organizations attend the meetings of the “Network on Metrology, Accreditation and Standardization for Developing Countries” (DCMAS).	WP.6 is part of DCMAS and has acted as the secretariat for this Group since 2010.
Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RC) and the CIS Inter-State Council on Standardization, Metrology and Certification	Regional Commonwealth in the field of Communications (RCC) is a coordinating body of the ministries of communications of 12 CIS states, with a secretariat in Moscow.  CIS Inter-State Council on Standardization, Metrology and Certification is one of the effective, functioning inter-regional CIS organizations/bodies that unites standardization bodies from all 12 CIS member states.	The capacity-building and awareness-raising events organized by the secretariat in these organizations have led to new UNECE projects. In November 2011, at the meeting of heads of national standards-setting bodies, UN/CEFACT standards (EDIFACT and UN Layout Key) were included into the CIS programme for interstate standards for 2012.  In February 2012, the RCC took part in the UN/CEFACT Plenary and presented a proposal for transboundary confidence building in information exchange which might lead to a joint RCC-UN/CEFACT project

<p>National, regional and international standards-making bodies</p>	<p>A number of standards-making bodies, including CEN, CENELEC, GSI, IEC, ISO and ITU, take part regularly in the annual session of WP. 6 and provide updates on their activities, and contribute throughout the year to the progress of these activities.</p> <p>The secretariat also is invited to attend meetings of national, regional and international standards-making bodies.</p>	<p>WP. 6 works closely with IEC, its Conformity Assessment Board and its three Conformity Assessment Systems (IECEE, IECEX and IECQ) and its TC 31 on the project "Equipment for explosive atmospheres.</p> <p>The IECEE attended several UNECE meetings and participates in the work of the Group of Experts on Risk Management.</p> <p>The UNECE secretariat attends and gives presentations or updates on the WP. 6 activities in the context of ISO/CASCO</p> <p>A partnership has been established with the ISO Committee on Consumer Policies (COPOLCO).</p>
<p><b>Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)</b></p>	<p>The two organizations regularly exchange information through their secretariats and attend one another's meetings when practicable.</p>	<p>UNECE participated in the OECD work on risk management and in the preparation of the OECD Recommendation on Regulatory policy and governance.</p> <p>UNECE attended the Workshop on Product Risk Assessment in 2012 under the auspices of the OECD Working Party on Consumers Safety.</p>
<p><b>OECD Scheme for the application of international standards for fruit and vegetables</b></p>	<p>Meeting schedules are set up in coordination between secretaries and secretariats actively participate in each other's relevant meetings. Joint organization of capacity-building events.</p>	<p>OECD adopts UNECE standards.</p> <p>The UNECE meetings, the OECD Plenary meeting and both secretariats work closely together on updating and interpreting the standards.</p>
<p><b>Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)</b></p>	<p>Joint seminars and workshops</p> <p>Contributions to analytical work</p>	<p>UNECE contributes to trade-related parts of reviews and activities under the OSCE economic dimension.</p>

<i>Regional commissions of the United Nations</i>	<i>Meetings Joint projects</i>	<i>Coordination meetings with all four regional commissions on trade and on trade facilitation  The five Commissions are implementing a United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project on Strengthening the Capacity of Developing and Transition Economies to link to global supply chains through the reduction of trade obstacles"  UNECE and UNESCAP support actively the UN activities with the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA).</i>
<b>UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development)</b>	<p>UNECE is a signatory to an MoU with the Global Facilitation Partnership since 2005. It is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), OECD and the International Road Transport Union (IRU).</p> <p>Participation in each other's meetings, seminars and forums, joint organization of seminars and mutual contribution to projects.</p> <p>The United Nations Trade Facilitation Network is an inter-agency group comprising World Bank, ITC, WTO, UNCTAD and UNECE.</p> <p>An MoU has been signed for the Global Facilitation Partnership for Trade and Transport.</p>	<p>UNECE and UNCTAD cooperate closely on providing support to countries in trade facilitation implementation and preparation for negotiations at the WTO. This includes participation in each other's workshops on the topic.</p> <p>UNCTAD participates in the UN/CEFACT programme development area for trade and transport facilitation.</p> <p>UNECE has provided support to the UNCTAD secretariat for work with the Trade Point programme.</p> <p>UNCTAD participates in WP.6 sessions.</p>
<b>United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)</b>	<p>UNECE is a signatory to a MoU with GFP since 2005. UNECE is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, OECD and IRU.</p>	<p>Participation in joint meetings on trade facilitation implementation with other organizations.</p> <p>UNIDO participates in WP.6 sessions.</p>
<b>World Customs Organization (WCO)</b>	<p>UNECE-WCO MoU, signed in 2001.</p> <p>UNECE signed a MoU</p>	<p>WCO participates in UN/CEFACT meetings and expert groups.</p>

<p>Regional commissions of the United Nations</p>	<p>Meetings Joint projects</p>	<p>Coordination meetings with all four regional commissions on trade and on trade facilitation</p> <p>The five Commissions are implementing a United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project on Strengthening the Capacity of Developing and Transition Economies to link to global supply chains through the reduction of trade obstacles"</p> <p>UNECE and UNESCAP support actively the UN activities with the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA).</p>
	<p>with GFP in March 2005. UNECE is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, OECD and the IRU .</p>	<p>WCO contributes to UNECE work on the Supply Chain Model.</p>
<p><b>World Bank (WB)</b></p>	<p>The United Nations Trade Facilitation Network is an informal inter-agency group comprising WB, ITC, WTO, UNCTAD and UNECE.</p> <p>UNECE signed a MoU with the Global Facilitation Partnership for Trade and Transport (GFP) in March 2005. UNECE is a core partner and Steering Committee member of the GFP, along with the World Bank, WCO, UNCTAD, UNIDO, OECD and the IRU.</p> <p>Support by WB to a variety of UNECE capacity-building activities and reciprocal support from the UNECE to WB goals and objectives, particularly in the area of trade and transport facilitation.</p>	<p>UNECE participates actively in and contributes substantial materials to the GFP website.</p> <p>WB participates in the trade and transport facilitation PDA of UN/CEFACT meetings.</p> <p>WB has selected the UNECE Single Window Recommendation as the base for its projects in this area.</p>
<p><b>UN Inter-Agency Cluster on Trade and Productive Capacity (UNCTAD, UNIDO, FAO, ILO, UNCITRAL, ITC, WTO, UNDP, the five</b></p>	<p>The members of the Cluster provide assistance in building the capacity in the areas of trade and productive policies, in particular in supply side capacity; export capacity;</p>	<p>The Cluster designs and implements joint programmes. UNECE has been involved in activities undertaken in its member countries, including Azerbaijan, Belarus, Serbia and Ukraine.</p>

---

		<p><i>Coordination meetings with all four regional commissions on trade and on trade facilitation</i></p> <p><i>The five Commissions are implementing a United Nations Development Account (UNDA) project on Strengthening the Capacity of Developing and Transition Economies to link to global supply chains through the reduction of trade obstacles"</i></p>
	<p><i>Meetings</i></p>	<p><i>UNECE and UNESCAP support actively the UN activities with the Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia (SPECA).</i></p>
<p><i>Regional commissions of the United Nations</i></p>	<p><i>Joint projects</i></p>	
<p><b>Regional Commissions, UNEP and UNOPS)</b></p>	<p>capacity to implement trade and trade related rules; disputes settlement capacity; negotiating capacity; as well as in research and analysis.</p>	

---

<p><i>World Trade Organization (WTO)</i></p>	<p><i>The United Nations Trade Facilitation Network is an inter-agency group comprising WB, ITC, WTO, UNCTAD and UNECE.</i></p> <p><i>WTO sees the GFP as the core mechanism for coordinating the delivery of capacity building support to countries in trade facilitation.</i></p> <p><i>UNECE and WTO staff meet regularly outside the inter-agency group.</i></p>	<p><i>WTO representatives regularly attend meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Committee on Trade.</i></p> <p><i>Through WP.6, UNECE is a permanent observer at the WTO CTBT.</i></p> <p><i>UNECE Trade Division attends some WTO committee sessions (as representative of the regional commissions of the United Nations).</i></p> <p><i>UNECE will assist WTO with training seminars and conferences in transition economies.</i></p> <p><i>UNECE works with WTO on the implementation of Trade Facilitation in transition countries.</i></p> <p><i>WTO attends the trade facilitation group of UN/CEFACT meetings.</i></p>
	<p>Through WP.6, the UNECE is a permanent observer at the WTO TBT. The WP. 6 participated in all the meetings of the WTO TBT and provided updates on each activities at each of them.</p> <p>Through WP.6, the UNECE is a permanent observer at the WTO TBT. The WP. 6 participated in all the meetings of the WTO TBT and provided updates on each activities at each of them.</p> <p>The WTO Secretariat takes part regularly in the annual session of WP.6.</p>	<p>At the TBT Committee session in March 2012, UNECE WP. 6 has additionally provided a report on its activities in written form. This practice will continue to be followed at all subsequent WTO TBT meetings.</p> <p>The WP.6 and the secretary of WP. 29 were invited to share their expertise at a WTO workshop on “Regulatory Cooperation” in November 2011.</p> <p>In 2010, there was an exchange of correspondence between the Chair of WP.6 and the Chair of the NAMA Group, to highlight the potential relevance of the CROs (Common Regulatory Objectives) for the ongoing negotiations.</p>
<p><b>World Trade Point Federation (WTPF)</b></p>	<p>In 2004, the UNECE signed a MoU with the WTPF.</p>	<p>UNECE and WTPF cooperate in promoting each other's activities, to encourage regular contacts between WTPF and UNECE subsidiary bodies and to share contacts in order to further develop their networks.</p>

## List of abbreviations

ARSO	African Organization for Standardization
ASYCUDA	Automated SYstem for CUstoms DAta
CEI	Central European Initiative
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States
EASC	Euro-Asian Interstate Council for Standardization, Certification and Metrology
EC-ESA	Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs
EEC	Eurasian Economic Community
eSEE Europe	e-South Eastern Europe Initiative (eSEE) of the Stability Pact for Southeast
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FITPRO	Facilitation of International Trade Procedures
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GFP	Global Facilitation Partnership for Transportation and Trade
IEC	International Electro-technical Commission
IFOAM	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
IRU	International Road Transport Union
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ISO TC 154	ISO Technical Committee on Process, Data Elements and Documents in Commerce, Industry and Administration Committee 154
ISO TC 127	ISO Technical Committee 127 on Earth Moving Machinery
ITC	International Trade Centre
ITF	International Task Force

ITU	International Telecommunication Union
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAMA	Non-Agricultural Market Access
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OSCE	Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe
SECI	Southeast European Cooperation Initiative
SECIPRO	Association of National PRO Committees in Southeast Europe
SPECA	Special Programme for the economies of Central Asia
TTFSE	Trade and Transport Facilitation in Southeastern Europe
UN/CEFACT	United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
UN/EDIFACT	United Nations Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
WB	World Bank

WCO	World Customs Organization
WHO	World Health Organization
WP.6	[UNECE Trade Development and Timber Division] Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies
WP.7	[UNECE Trade Development and Timber Division] Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WTO	World Trade Organization
WTO CTBT	World Trade Organization's Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

---